



# COUNTY OF SANTA CRUZ

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## NEWS RELEASE



**Date:** November 14, 2024

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### ENVIRONMENT COMMITTEE TO SPOTLIGHT \$71M NOAA GRANT

*The public can also learn about home heat pump rebates*

The Santa Cruz County Commission on the Environment is hosting a presentation on a recently awarded \$71.1 million National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration grant to help make the Central Coast region more resilient to climate change.

Led by the Santa Cruz-based California Marine Sanctuary Foundation, the grant was made through a competitive \$575 million program funded under President Biden's *Inflation Reduction Act*. The work will:

- Implement adaptation strategies that create a regional, collaborative approach for addressing flood and wildfire risks;
- Focus on transformative approaches designed to strengthen ecosystem and habitat resilience while protecting human communities;
- Provide meaningful engagement with tribes and marginalized communities;
- Build capacity through workforce development.

"This grant was awarded to the Monterey Bay region because we had over 20 excellent partners who were ready to go with well-designed projects that directly address risks to vulnerable communities from sea level rise, storm surge, river flooding and wildfire. The program will build substantial capacity for regional coordination that will assess risks and develop solutions well into the future," said COE Commissioner John Hunt, Ph.D., a Foundation Science Advisor.

As part of the meeting, Central Coast Community Energy will also highlight its [Electrify Your Home Program](#), which provides renters and homeowners rebates for HVAC and water heat pump installations.

Community members wishing to learn more are invited to attend the meeting on November 20<sup>th</sup> from 5-7 p.m. at the County Governmental Center, 701 Ocean St., 5th Floor Board Chambers, Santa Cruz. They can also join via Zoom at <https://us06web.zoom.us/j/83095924894>. (Webinar ID: 830 9592 4894.)