



COUNTY OF SANTA CRUZ

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NEWS RELEASE



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ENVIRONMENT COMMISSION TO DISCUSS ELIMINATING FOSSIL FUEL USE IN BUILDINGS, BATTERY ENERGY STORAGE SYSTEMS

The Santa Cruz County Commission on the Environment is hosting another in a series of presentations regarding the County's Climate Action and Adaptation Plan (CAAP) to increase the Central Coast region's resilience to climate change impacts, including major weather events.

On March 26 from 5-7 p.m., the Commission will hear a presentation from County staff regarding critical strategies and objectives in the CAAP, including ways to reduce or eliminate fossil fuel use in new and existing residential and commercial buildings; and reducing vehicle miles traveled through greater density zoning or housing development along transit corridors and optimizing the use of remote work.

In addition, Central Coast Community Energy will provide an overview regarding Battery Energy Storage Systems (BESS) and their relationship to renewable energy and decarbonizing the grid.

"The public needs to be informed regarding the relationship between Battery Energy Storage Systems, expanding our use of renewable energy sources, decarbonizing the grid by meeting our regional goal of 100 percent renewable electricity by 2035 and reducing the impacts to our regional grid from climate related disasters," said Commission on Environment Chair Kris Damhorst.

Community members wishing to learn more are invited to attend the meeting at the County Governmental Center, 701 Ocean St., 5th Floor Board Chambers, Santa Cruz, or via Zoom at <https://santacruzcounty-us.zoomgov.com/j/1600303421>.