

COUNTY OF SANTA CRUZ

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NEWS RELEASE



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ENVIRONMENT COMMITTEE TO DISCUSS CLIMATE ACTION GOALS

As part of a series of public meetings to help inform the community of the County's Climate Action and Adaptation Plan (CAAP) goals, the Santa Cruz County Commission on the Environment invites the public to join them September 25 to learn more about disaster response and reslience and adopting a whole community approach to mitigating climate change.

CAAP goals to be discussed include:

- Establishing all-hazard resiliency community centers across the County.
- Protecting at-risk communities from wildfire risk through improved forest health management.
- Providing temporary shelter support during a disaster where needed.
- Creating regional mitigation and resilience programs supported through collective funding opportunities.
- Adapting to community needs and legislative requirements though effective monitoring and evaluation.
- Youth and families engaging effectively with climate change efforts.
- Engaging in State and Federal legislation to achieve climate goals.

The CAAP is a response plan outlining actionable steps to reduce global warming and adapt local communities to withstand the impacts of climate change. The overall purpose of the CAAP is to achieve a 40 percent emissions reduction from 1990 levels by 2030, to achieve carbon neutrality by 2045, and actions to make our communities more resilient.

Community members wishing to learn more about the County's plan to reach carbon neutrality by 2045 are invited to attend the on September 25 from 5-7 p.m. at the Watsonville Public Library, 275 Main Street, Stein Meeting Room (Suite 100). Patricipate online at <u>this link</u> (meeting ID: 238 796 388 229; passcode: oTY8eA).

For more on the CAAP including an interactive storymap, visit <u>https://www.santacruzcountyca.gov/OR3/Resilience/ClimateChange.aspx</u>.