



# Office of Climate Action & Sustainability

## 2024 Work Plan



## City Leadership & Funding

The City Council adopted the Long Beach Climate Action Plan (LB CAP) in August 2022, which includes climate action goals aimed at reducing greenhouse gas emissions and climate change adaptation goals that focus on the negative impact climate change has on infrastructure, services, and the well-being of the community. The Office of Climate Action & Sustainability (OCS) 2024 Work Plan details the next steps City staff will be taking to implement the LB CAP and support sustainable programming.

## Climate Action Plan

- Greenhouse Gas Emissions Dashboard
  - Publish 2021 Greenhouse Gas (GHG) Inventory Dashboard
  - Begin the collection of data for a 2023 GHG inventory
  - Work with the Technology & Innovation Department on the expansion of the CAP dashboard to show action item progress, to be released in 2025
- Continue working with Climate Champions and the Climate Mobilization Team
  - Continue to meet with Climate Champions and Mobilization Team to progress implementation of the the LB CAP
  - Collect updates and track action item progress using a new data medium: Microsoft Lists
  - Publish the annual report for FY23 accomplishments towards implementing LB CAP action items
- Target Grant Funding
  - Identify external funding opportunities to support LB CAP implementation
- Incorporate LB CAP in City Legislative Agenda
  - Develop and implement state and federal legislative agendas to help implement and develop LB CAP strategies
  - Explore support for additional funding for CAP actions and climate-related projects
  - Participate in the development of a regional Climate Action Plan (LA/Orange Counties)
- Establish Staff Communications and Training
  - Work with a consultant to develop and implement a media strategy plan and develop educational materials/promotion for the LB CAP



## Climate Action Plan (continued)

- Begin work on the following LB CAP Actions assigned to OCS:
  - Building and Energy
    - BE-1. Provide Access to Renewably Generated Electricity
    - BE-2. Increase Use of Solar Power
    - BE-3. Promote Community Solar and Microgrids
    - BE-4. Develop a Residential and Commercial Energy Assessment and Benchmarking Program
    - BE-5. Provide Access to Energy Efficiency Financing, Rebates, and Incentives for Building Owners
  - Transportation
    - T-5. Develop an Electric Vehicle Infrastructure Master Plan
  - Extreme Heat
    - EH-1. Increase Presence of Cool Roofs and Cool Walls
    - EH-3. Enhance and Expand Urban Forest Cover and Vegetation
    - EH-5. Identify Future Vulnerability Potential for Power Outages Related to Extreme Heat and Develop Plans to Prevent Such Outages
  - Air Quality
    - AQ-2. Encourage Urban Agriculture Practices that Reduce Air Quality
    - AQ-3. Support the Development of the Long Beach Airport Sustainability Plan
  - Drought
    - DRT-1. Continue Development and Implementation of Water Use Efficiency Programs and Implement Additional Water Conservation Programs
    - DRT-2. Enhance Outreach and Education Related to Water Conservation
    - DRT-3. Expand Usage of Green Infrastructure and Green Streets
    - DRT-4. Expand Usage of Recycled Water and Greywater for Non-Potable Use
    - DRT-5. Incorporate Increased Rainfall Capture and Other Actions to Maximize Local Water Supplies and Offset Imported Water
  - Sea Level Rise and Flooding
    - FLD-3. Establish a Flood Impacts Monitoring Program



## Policies, Programs, and Services

### Disadvantaged Community GHG-Reduction Program

**Partners:** Long Beach Utilities, Energy Resources

**LB CAP Sector/Stressor:** Extreme Heat, Building & Energy, Air Quality

- Launch a residential greenhouse gas reduction program to benefit residents located in disadvantaged community census tracts.

### Edible Landscapes

**Partners:** Food Finders, Long Beach Public Libraries, Conservation Corps of LB

**LB CAP Sector/Stressor:** Air Quality

- Establish a community orchard at Willow Springs Park. Provide support for the creation of edible garden landscapes by local organizations. Continue to provide Edible Garden workshops to educate residents about growing their own food.

### Green Business Recognition Program

**Partners:** Economic Development, Long Beach Utilities, Public Works, Energy Resources, Community Development

**LB CAP Sector/Stressor:** Drought, Building & Energy

- Continue a free program to certify businesses through the California Green Businesses Network (CAGBN) and connect businesses with any resources and incentive programs available to help them go green. Expand outreach and support to BIPOC-owned and disadvantaged businesses through community partnerships. Transition program to the Economic Development Department to be incorporated into their local business support services.

### LEED for Cities

**Partners:** Public Works, Parks, Recreation & Marine, Long Beach Utilities, Development Services, Health and Human Services, Office of Equity

**LB CAP Sector/Stressor:** Air Quality, Drought, Building & Energy

- Coordinate the LEED for Cities certification process and establish a baseline for continuous monitoring of city performance.

### Mulch Delivery and Pick-up

**Partners:** West Coast Arborists, Conservation Corps of Long Beach

**Sector/Stressor:** Air Quality, Drought, Waste

- Continue the mulch delivery and pick-up programs that benefit residents and local organizations. Implement streamlined reservation and delivery strategies to clear backlog. Establish a permanent location and signage at Willow Springs Park.



## Policies, Programs, and Services (continued)

### Tree Planting

**Partners:** Public Works, Conservation Corps of Long Beach

**Sector/Stressor:** Extreme Heat, Air Quality, Flood

- Continue parkway tree plantings upon request through Tree Planting Program. Coordinate monthly community tree plantings during planting season (Oct-Jun). Work with Conservation Corps of Long Beach to plant additional trees in high priority areas. Develop Urban Forest Master Plan and hire Urban Forest Coordinator to implement plan using federal grant award funding.

### Urban Agriculture Initiatives

**Partners:** Community Development, Health and Human Services

**Sector/Stressor:** Air Quality

- Administer the Urban Agriculture Incentive Zone program, conduct outreach, and provide matchmaking services to encourage adoption on vacant lots in Long Beach.
- Develop a micro-grants program to support urban farms, teaching gardens, and community gardens.

### Watershed and Urban Forestry Initiatives

**Partners:** Public Works, Conservation Corps of Long Beach

**Sector/Stressor:** Extreme Heat, Air Quality, Drought, Flood

- Identify and implement multi-benefit stormwater quality improvements within targeted sub-watersheds along the Los Angeles River through the planting of street trees and other best management practices.

### Green Workforce Development

**Partners:** Bay Area Community Resources (BACR), CA Volunteers, Pacific Gateway

**Sector/Stressor:** Extreme Heat, Air Quality, Drought, Flood

- Host California Climate Action Corps Fellows and Youth Climate Corps Fellows who support and lead projects focused on urban greening in frontline communities most impacted by the effects of climate change. Our fellows support our tree planting program, outreach, workforce development program, host monthly Willows Walk at the park, our social media campaigns, and other public education programming.

### Green Infrastructure

**Partners:** Community Development, Parks, Recreation & Marine, Public Works, Utilities

**Sector/Stressor:** Extreme Heat, Air Quality, Drought, Flood, Building and Energy, Waste

- Explore opportunities for green infrastructure policies and procedures including, but not limited to, permeable pavement, bioswales, tree planting/removals, waste goals, and other sustainable construction materials. Begin to revisit prior-adopted green policies to determine effectiveness and determine appropriate updates. Evaluate adoption of green rating systems designed to meet CAP actions (LEED for Cities, WELL, etc.)



## Special Events, Education, and Outreach

### Environmental Education and Special Events

**Partners:** Friends of Willow Springs, Library Services, Parks, Recreation & Marine, Long Beach City College, Health and Human Services, Public Works, LB Recycles, Southern California Edison, GRID Alternatives, LB Utilities, LBUSD, CSULB

- Coordinate expanding opportunities for sustainability education and special events, including Earth Month activities, workshops, online features, etc.

### Ranchos Walk

**Partners:** Public Works, Community Development, Health and Human Services, Walk Long Beach

- Coordinate the planning and execution of the Ranchos Walk in partnership with City departments and community partners.

### Website Updates and Social Media Campaigns

**Partners:** Public Affairs, Technology and Innovation

- Plan and execute an update to the City's website to include Climate website information and update Sustainability information. Plan and execute a variety of social media campaigns promoting our events, partnerships, and restoration efforts. Develop storytelling opportunities for residents and community partners who are engaging in sustainable behaviors and participating in City programs. Develop video content and programming series to increase community education.

## Willow Springs Programming, Events, and Stewardship

### Environmental Stewardship

**Partners:** Friends of Willow Springs, Leadership Long Beach, Aquarium of the Pacific, Conservation Corps of LB

- Provide public engagement and service through participatory fieldwork at Willow Springs Park (MLK Day of Service, Monarch Day of Action, Restoration Fridays). Identify opportunities to engage youth, families, and seniors.

### Events

#### City Nature Challenge

**Partners:** Friends of Willow Springs, Leadership Long Beach, Aquarium of the Pacific, Conservation Corps of LB

- Plan and coordinate the largest event hosted at Willow Springs Park. Support partners in providing crafts, resources, and interactive games to highlight the outdoors while promoting their services and programs. Encourage visitors to become community scientists by observing and recording local flora and fauna for further scientific research via the iNaturalist app.

## Willow Springs Programming, Events, and Stewardship (continued)

### Monarch Day of Action

**Partners:** LB Recycles, LB Utilities, Aquarium of the Pacific, Conservation Corps of Long Beach, Future LB

- Plan and coordinate spring kickoff event hosted at Willow Springs Park. Incorporate community resources, support relationship building between departments, and invite the community to support restoration efforts to protect endangered and at-risk local fauna.

### Park Support and Native Plant Nursery

**Partners:** Parks, Recreation & Marine, Conservation Corps of Long Beach

**Sector/Stressor:** Extreme Heat, Air Quality

- Support park activation and maintenance through community programs and continue to develop the Native Plant Nursery, support local pollinator populations, develop public art opportunities, and provide Native Plant workshops.

## Climate Resilient & Sustainable City Commission

In 2023, Commission meetings provided comprehensive and holistic presentations on LB CAP topics to provide a baseline understanding of LB CAP concepts. In 2024, Commission meetings are planned to revisit these LB CAP topics with a focus on progress on LB CAP actions and potential policy discussions.

Month	Climate Action Plan Topic	Admin Items
January	Year in Review Commission Retreat	Work Plan Presentation Commission Training
February	Sea Level Rise & Flooding	Work Plan Review
April	Earth Month Celebration	
June	Drought	Chair/Vice Chair Elections
August	Extreme Heat, Air Quality	
October	Building & Energy, Waste	
December	Transportation	