

Climate Action Plan (CAP) Development Checklist

The Bay Area Air Quality Management District (BAAQMD) has analyzed the requirements for new land-use development projects to support California’s long-term climate goal of reaching carbon neutrality by 2045. Based on this analysis, the Air District has determined that a new land use development project initiated today must incorporate specific design elements to contribute its “fair share” toward achieving carbon neutrality by 2045. The full document “Air Quality Guidelines Appendix B: CEQA Thresholds for Evaluating the Significance of Climate Impacts From Land Use Projects and Plans” can be found [HERE](#).

Thresholds for Land Use Projects (Must Include A or B)

- A. Projects must include, at a minimum, the following project design elements:
 - 1. Buildings
 - a. The project will not include natural gas appliances or natural gas plumbing (in both residential and nonresidential development).
 - b. The project will not result in any wasteful, inefficient, or unnecessary energy usage as determined by the analysis required under CEQA Section 21100(b)(3) and Section 15126.2(b) of the State CEQA Guidelines.
 - 2. Transportation
 - a. Achieve a reduction in project-generated vehicle miles traveled (VMT) below the regional average consistent with the current version of the California Climate Change Scoping Plan (currently 15 percent) or meet a locally adopted Senate Bill 743 VMT target, reflecting the recommendations provided in the Governor’s Office of Planning and Research’s Technical Advisory on Evaluating Transportation Impacts in CEQA:
 - i. Residential projects: 15 percent below the existing VMT per capita
 - ii. Office projects: 15 percent below the existing VMT per employee
 - iii. Retail projects: no net increase in existing VMT
 - b. Achieve compliance with off-street electric vehicle requirements in the most recently adopted version of CALGreen Tier 2.
- B. Projects must be consistent with a local GHG reduction strategy that meets the criteria under State CEQA Guidelines Section 15183.5(b).

Thresholds for Plans (Must Include A or B)

- A. Meet the State’s goals to reduce emissions to 40 percent below 1990 levels by 2030 and carbon neutrality by 2045; or
- B. Be consistent with a local GHG reduction strategy that meets the criteria under State CEQA Guidelines Section 15183.5(b).