



FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

Why do we need a CAP?

The City of Livermore (City) is creating a Climate Action Plan (CAP) to take responsibility for the greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions produced by the Livermore community and outline steps that will lessen future emissions. Reducing GHGs will not only benefit the Livermore community by making it a more healthful place to live, work and play, but will also support the statewide goal of GHG reductions under Assembly Bill 32, the California Global Warming Solutions Act of 2006. These collaborative efforts at the local and state level to reduce GHGs will help to reduce the impacts of global warming and climate change.

What will be the focus of the Livermore CAP?

The CAP will outline ways in which the community can make changes that will result in reduced GHG emissions produced within the city. The goal is to reduce GHGs emitted from the city to a level 15 percent below 2008 conditions by 2020, as included in the Climate Change Element of the General Plan. The CAP will include specific incentives, actions, and requirements to reduce GHGs produced by residents, city operations, and public agencies.

What are the funding sources to develop and implement the CAP?

The City has received a federal Energy Efficiency and Conservation Block Grant (EECBG) to develop the CAP and conduct public involvement efforts. EECBG funds are intended to stimulate the economy and create and retain jobs, and are appropriated by the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act of 2009 and issued by the Department of Energy.

How will the community be involved?

To ensure consistency with community goals, the City plans to develop the CAP in collaboration with the public through community workshops and stakeholder engagements. Two community workshops will be held during the development of the CAP. One was held in April 2011 and another will be held in January/February 2012. Public input received from these workshops will help inform the CAP and educate City staff more about what is important to Livermore residents related to emission reduction.

What is the timeline for this process?

Below is a tentative schedule for the development of the CAP document.

- **Late 2010/early 2011**—City begins developing CAP
- **April 28, 2011**—First community workshop held to engage the public
- **April-November 2011**—Stakeholder engagement process
- **Winter 2011**—Draft CAP is completed
- **January/February 2012**—Second community workshop held
- **Spring 2012**—Draft CAP is reviewed by Planning Commission
- **Spring 2012**—Draft CAP is reviewed/approved by City Council





What are Climate Change and Global Warming?

Excessive greenhouse gases (GHGs), such as carbon dioxide (CO₂), methane, and nitrous oxide, that are emitted from fossil fuel combustion, deforestation, landfilling of waste, and other human activities have been found to increase the earth's average surface temperature. This condition is known as global warming. Global warming is thought to be the root of notable changes in the climate, including reduced snow packs, changes in rainfall cycles, and sea level change. These effects of global warming are known as climate change.

RESOURCES

Being informed is one of the best ways to help reduce your GHG emissions. Check out these links to learn more about how you can do your part for Livermore and for California.

- City of Livermore Climate Change Element of General Plan**..... www.cityoflivermore.net/civica/filebank/blobdload.asp?BlobID=6103
- Cool California** www.coolcalifornia.org
- California Climate Change Portal** www.climatechange.ca.gov
- California Air Resources Board** www.arb.ca.gov/cc/cc.htm
- California Environmental Protection Agency** www.ca.gov/About/EnvironResources/GreenCA.html
- ICLEI USA** www.icleiusa.org
- Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC)** www.ipcc.ch
- IPCC Fourth Assessment Report: Climate Change 2007** www.ipcc.ch/publications_and_data/publications_and_data_reports.shtml
- City of Hayward Climate Action Plan** www.ci.hayward.ca.us/CAP08/CAP08.shtm
- City of Berkeley Climate Action Plan** www.ci.berkeley.ca.us/ContentDisplay.aspx?id=19668
- City of San Francisco Climate Action Plan** www.sfenvironment.org/downloads/library/climateactionplan.pdf
- City of Pleasanton Climate Action Plan** www.pleasantongreenscene.org
- Presidential Climate Action Project** www.climateactionproject.com

