

**AGENDA**  
**Yolo County Climate Action Commission**  
**April 25, 2022 | 4:00 PM – 6:30 PM**

**NOTE: This meeting is agendized to allow Commission Members, staff, and the public to participate in the meeting via video/teleconference, pursuant to Government Code section 54953(e)(1) (as amended by Assembly Bill 361).**

**Teleconference Options to join Zoom meeting:**

Please click the link below to join the webinar:

<https://yolocounty.zoom.us/j/87876273446>

Or to join by phone:

(669) 900-6833 passcode 87876273446#

**Government Code section 54953(e)(1) authorizes local legislative bodies to hold public meetings via video or teleconference and to make public meetings accessible telephonically or otherwise electronically to all members of the public. Members of the public are encouraged to observe and participate in the meeting electronically. Further instructions on how to electronically participate and submit your public comments can be found in the PUBLIC PARTICIPATION note at the end of this agenda.**

**COMMISSION MEMBERS:**

Suzanne Reed, District 1 Appointee  
Robin Datel, District 2 Appointee  
Mark Aulman, District 3 Appointee  
Andrew Truman Kim, District 4 Appointee (VICE-CHAIR)  
Adelita Serena, District 5 Appointee  
Chris White, Technical Lead  
NJ Mvondo, Environmental Justice Lead (CHAIR)  
Bernadette Austin, Climate Scientist/Subject Matter Expert  
Pelayo Alvarez, Climate Scientist/Subject Matter Expert  
Mica Benet – At Large  
Ken Britten – At Large

**EX-OFFICIO MEMBERS:**

Sarah Morgan, Yocha Dehe Wintun Nation  
Matt Dulcich, UC Davis

**SUPERVISORS:**

Supervisor Don Saylor, Yolo County Board of Supervisors, District 2  
Supervisor Jim Provenza, Yolo County Board of Supervisors, District 4

- 1. Authorize remote (teleconference/videoconference) meetings by finding, pursuant to Assembly Bill 361, that local officials continue to recommend measures to promote social distancing as a result of the COVID-19 pandemic.**
    - a. Staff recommends the Commission make the following findings:
      - i. The Yolo County Climate Action Commission has reconsidered the circumstances of the state of emergency proclaimed for the COVID-19 pandemic; and
      - ii. Local officials continue to impose or recommend measures to promote social distancing.
  - 2. Land Acknowledgment (*Attachment A*)**
  - 3. Approval of the Agenda**
    - a. Consider approval of the agenda
  - 4. Public Comment** – this item is reserved for public comment on items relating to Commission business that are not on the agenda. Public comment for items on the agenda will be taken when that agenda item is considered
  - 5. Approve March 28, 2022 Commission Meeting Minutes (*Attachment B*)**
  - 6. Staff Announcements/Reports (Staff)**
    - a. Request to Share Grant Funding Opportunities (K. Wraithwall)
    - b. Exploring Additional Communication Pathways (K. Wraithwall)
    - c. Communication Protocol to Consultants (K. Wraithwall)
    - d. Change to Minutes Structure (K. Wraithwall)
    - e. Potential Changes to Brown Act and Post-Pandemic Teleconferencing (K. Wraithwall) (*Attachment C*)
    - f. Update on Ad-Hoc Working Group (M. McCormick)
  - 7. Action Item: Approve Remaining Early Action Project Descriptions (P. Marchand) (*Attachments D, E, F, G, H, I, J, K*)**
  - 8. Presentation on History and Progress of Climate Action Efforts in Yolo County (M. McCormick) (*Attachment L*)**
  - 9. Commission Member Reports, Comments, Future Agenda Items**
  - 10. Long Range Calendar (K. Wraithwall) (*Attachment M*)**
  - 11. Adjournment**
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## **PUBLIC PARTICIPATION INSTRUCTIONS:**

Based on guidance from the California Department of Public Health and the California Governor's Office, in order to minimize the spread of the COVID 19 virus, please do the following:

You are strongly encouraged to observe the Commission meeting Please click the link below to join the webinar:

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If you are joining the meeting via zoom and wish to make a comment on an item, press the "raise a hand" button. If you are joining via telephone, press\*9 to raise your hand. The chair will call you by name when it is your turn to comment. **Speakers will be limited to 3 minutes (subject to change).**

If you choose not to observe the Commission meeting but wish to make a comment on a specific agenda item, please submit your comment via email by 5:00 p.m. on the Monday prior to the Commission meeting. Please submit your comment to the Kristen Wraithwall at [Kristen.wraithwall@yolocounty.org](mailto:Kristen.wraithwall@yolocounty.org) noting in the subject line: For Public Comment. Your comment will be placed into the record at the Commission meeting.

If you are watching/listening to the Commission meeting and wish to make either a general public comment or to comment on a specific agenda item as it is being heard, you may also submit your comment, limited to 250 words or less, to Kristen Wraithwall at [kristen.wraithwall@yolocounty.org](mailto:kristen.wraithwall@yolocounty.org) noting in the subject line: For Public Comment. Every effort will be made to read your comment into the record, but some comments may not be read due to time limitations. Comments received after an agenda item will be made part of the record if received prior to the end of the meeting.

Attachment A – Land Acknowledgment

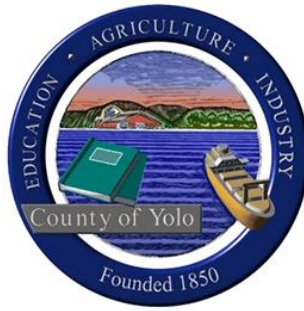
## **Land Acknowledgement Statement**

We should take a moment to acknowledge the land on which we are gathered. For thousands of years, this land has been the home of Patwin people. Today, there are three federally recognized Patwin tribes: Cachil Dehe Band of Wintun Indians of the Colusa Indian Community, Kletsel Dehe Band of Wintun Indians, and Yocha Dehe Wintun Nation.

The Patwin people have remained committed to the stewardship of this land over many centuries. It has been cherished and protected, as elders have instructed the young through generations. We are honored and grateful to be here today on their traditional lands.

*Approved by Yocha Dehe Tribal Council (July 23, 2019)*

Attachment B – 2022.03.28 Commission Meeting Minutes



**MEETING MINUTES**  
**Yolo County Climate Action Commission**  
**March 28, 2022 | 4:00 PM – 6:30 PM**

**COMMISSION MEMBERS:**

Suzanne Reed, District 1 Appointee  
Robin Datel, District 2 Appointee (*not in attendance*)  
Mark Aulman, District 3 Appointee  
Andrew Truman Kim, District 4 Appointee (**VICE-CHAIR**)  
Adelita Serena, District 5 Appointee  
Chris White, Technical Lead  
NJ Mvondo, Environmental Justice Lead (**CHAIR**)  
Bernadette Austin, Climate Scientist/Subject Matter Expert  
Pelayo Alvarez, Climate Scientist/Subject Matter Expert  
Mica Benet – At Large  
Ken Britten – At Large

**EX-OFFICIO MEMBERS:**

Sarah Morgan, Yocha Dehe Wintun Nation (*not in attendance*)  
Matt Dulcich, UC Davis

**SUPERVISORS:**

Supervisor Don Saylor, Yolo County Board of Supervisors, District 2 (*not in attendance*)  
Supervisor Jim Provenza, Yolo County Board of Supervisors, District 4

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**MEETING ACTION ITEMS**

**Yolo County Staff Action Items**

- K. Wraithwall to amend the February 28, 2022 Commission meeting minutes per the requested changes by Commission Member Reed, noted in item 5 below.
  - Staff to update and amend Early Action Project Descriptions.
  - K. Wraithwall to update Long-Range calendar.
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## MEETING MINUTES

1. **Authorize remote (teleconference/videoconference) meetings by finding, pursuant to Assembly Bill 361, that local officials continue to recommend measures to promote social distancing as a result of the COVID-19 pandemic.**

**Decision:** Approve

**Moved By: / Seconded By:** S. Reed / K. Britten

**Ayes:** Reed, Aulman, Kim, Serena, White, Mvondo, Austin, Alvarez, Bennet, Britten

**Noes:** None

**Abstain:** None

**Absent:** Datel

2. **Land Acknowledgement**

- Read by A. Serena.

3. **Approval of the Agenda**

**Decision:** Approve

**Moved By: / Seconded By:** S. Reed / A. Serena

**Ayes:** Reed, Aulman, Kim, Serena, White, Mvondo, Austin, Alvarez, Bennet, Britten

**Noes:** None

**Abstain:** None

**Absent:** Datel

4. **Public Comment**

- No public comment.

5. **Approve February 28, 2022 Meeting Minutes**

**Decision:** Approve

**Moved By: / Seconded By:** N. Mvondo / S. Reed

**Ayes:** Reed, Aulman, Kim, Serena, White, Mvondo, Austin, Alvarez, Bennet, Britten

**Noes:** None

**Abstain:** None



**Absent:** Datel

**Additional Comments/Action Items:**

- S. Reed requested an amendment. Clarified that Commission should receive a presentation on Yolo County Climate-Related Planning Efforts and based on that presentation, decide if County should host a workshop.
- K. Britten inquired about revising the EV Master Plan Early Action to include essential bikes.

**6. Introduction of Kristen Wraithwall (T. Echiburu)**

**7. Staff Announcements/Reports (Staff)**

- M. McCormick reported that the Ad Hoc Working Group met in March to discuss the history of climate related efforts in Yolo County.
- Next Ad Hoc Working Group meeting will discuss best practices/findings based off interviews with other jurisdictions and the relationship/role of the Commission and Ad Hoc Working group.
- S. Reed requested a timeline on concluding the work of the working group and preparing the RFP/Draft Plan as well as the selection of a consultant.

**8. Action Item: Approve Project Descriptions (P. Marchand)**

**8.1. Recommend Carbon Farming Partnership Project Description to Board of Supervisors for Approval**

**Decision:** Approve with one amendment:

- Performance metrics to be added into section on GHG emissions.

**Moved By: / Seconded By:** K. Britten / A. Kim

**Ayes:** Reed, Aulman, Kim, Serena, White, Mvondo, Austin, Alvarez, Bennet, Britten

**Noes:** None

**Abstain:** None

**Absent:** Datel

**Additional Comments/Action Items:**

- K. Britten asked how GHG reduction was calculated.
  - P. Marchand clarified that this project does not itself reduce GHG emissions, it is a plan.
  - P. Alvarez clarified nature of Carbon Farming Plan is to focus on carbon capture, not GHG reduction.

- P. Alvarez proposed implementation of previously existing plans.
  - J. Wirka from Center for Land Based Learning (CLBL) stated their focus is on partnership with RCD and Carbon Cycle Institute and that these plans are living documents with implementable projects. If Commission requests the addition of implementation elements to the proposal, it would not fit within the proposed budget.
- S. Reed supported moving forward as all early action projects are in flux and subject to future conditions.
- M. Bennet asked if there is data on degree of uptake of carbon farming with or without incentives but was OK with the approval of this action knowing this project description could be amended to include this information.
  - P. Marchand noted possibility of adding project to measure potential sequestration if plan is implemented, pending approval of CLBL.
    - Recommend adding to motion for approval.
- There was discussion of programs/plans that could accelerate project implementation.

**Public Comment:** Tracy DeWit asked Commission to remember the farmer while setting expectations in these matters.

## **8.2. Recommend Electric Retrofits and Natural Gas Appliance Replacement Rebates Project Description to Board of Supervisors for Approval**

**Decision:** Approve with the following amendments:

- Remove “natural gas appliance” from title and throughout document and change wording to focus on electrification (or natural gas appliance removal).
- Include outreach to contractors.
- Update phone number in personnel section.
- Remove references to Grid Alternatives from description.
- Make broad enough to include other electrification rebates.

**Moved By: / Seconded By:** M.Aulman / M. Bennet

**Ayes:** Reed, Aulman, Kim, Serena, White, Mvondo, Austin, Alvarez, Bennet, Britten

**Noes:** None

**Abstain:** None

**Absent:** Datel

**Additional Comments/Action Items:**

- C. White stated that rebate program would be administered through HVAC contractors and we need to engage with contractors equally with homeowners.

- K. Britten asked if rebate is for improving natural gas appliances or whether it would be exclusively for electrifying existing fossil fuel-powered heating units.
  - C. White clarified it is a fuel switching program and will not upgrade natural gas appliances.
  - K. Britten recommended amendment to clarify that rebates are only for electrification.
- S. Reed stressed importance of staying informed on State capacity to generate electricity and the status of transmission systems relative to distributed energy sources.
- C. White noted typo in Rebecca’s phone number.
- K. Britten noted lifespan of natural gas equipment would lock in emissions associated with new appliances.
- There was discussion about pivoting this early action to an educational campaign and what communication and nonprofit collaboration would look like. P. Marchand noted that staff would ensure language is broad in describing the elements of the outreach campaign.
- C. White recommended removing mention of Grid Alternatives in project description.
- M. Aulman stressed importance of clarifying that we are replacing the fuel source in this project description. ‘Natural gas’ replacement could create a loophole; ‘electrification’ or ‘electric only’ is clearer.

**Public Comment:**

- M. Sears from Valley Clean Energy supported effort of energy efficiency and electrification. Encouraged Commission to speak on energy related issues especially with regards to low-income households.
- C. Schewmaker, Citizen of Woodland, stressed importance of educating contractors on this issue.

**8.3. Recommend 100% Renewable Energy Accounts Project Description to Board of Supervisors for Approval**

**Decision:** Approve

**Moved By: / Seconded By:** M. Aulman / M. Bennet

**Ayes:** Reed, Aulman, Kim, Serena, White, Mvondo, Austin, Alvarez, Bennet, Britten

**Noes:** None

**Abstain:** None

**Absent:** Datel

**Additional Comments/Action Items:**

- C. White stated that PG&E has a renewable energy rate and that all of Yolo County Buildings should be enrolled in most green program available regardless of energy provider.
- Staff agreed to add language to clarify the County will also enroll accounts for buildings outside of Valley Clean Energy’s territory in Pacific Gas and Electric’s green energy program.

**Public Comment:**

- C. Schewmaker, Citizen of Woodland, noted confusion on policies from the Energy Section of the 2011 CAP and the CCA program. Recommended naming project “100% Renewable Electricity”.
- M. Sears noted that VCE territory includes Clarksburg and PG&E does have companion program for 100% renewable energy.

**8.4. Recommend Home Energy Labeling Project Description to Board of Supervisors for Approval**

**Decision:** Approve on the condition that the Commission’s concern about the project potentially creating a burden for low-income families would be relayed to the Yolo County Board of Supervisors.

**Moved By: / Seconded By:** N. Mvondo / B. Austin

**Ayes:** Reed, Aulman, Kim, Serena, White, Mvondo, Austin, Alvarez, Bennet, Britten

**Noes:** None

**Abstain:** None

**Absent:** Datel

**Additional Comments/Action Items:**

- Staff added language stating the County will develop a system for measuring greenhouse gas emission reduction from this project.
- There was discussion about whether other Counties have deployed a similar scorecard program, and how these Counties have conducted outreach.
- C. White shared home energy score website (homeenergyscore.gov).
- P. Alvarez recommended the inclusion of data that shows that this would lead to more energy efficient households.
  - C. White responded that BayREN data is referenced in the project description and that CPUC data has lagged due to the pandemic.
- There was discussion about the impact of this proposal on low-income community members, and the importance of emphasizing lower cost upgrades and subsidies.

**Public Comment:** No public comment.

**9. Action Item: Review Additional Early Action Prioritization & Recommended Additional Early Actions (P. Marchand)**

**9.1 Approve County Staff Recommendation for Prioritization of Carl Moyer Early Action Decision**

**Decision:** Approve

**Moved By: / Seconded By:** S. Reed / P. Alvarez

**Ayes:** Reed, Aulman, Kim, Serena, White, Mvondo, Austin, Alvarez, Bennet, Britten

**Noes:** None

**Abstain:** None

**Absent:** Datel

**Additional Comments/Action Items:**

- K. Britten recommended the prioritization of electric tractors when appropriate for the scale of the farm receiving subsidy.

**Public Comment:**

- C. Shewmaker, Citizen of Woodland, is happy to see ag retrofit program added and questioned the withdrawal of the Resiliency Hub Project.

**9.2. Approve moving presentation of project descriptions to BOS in May, grant strategy to Commission in June, and back to BOS for approval in July**

**Decision:** Approve

**Moved By: / Seconded By:** S. Reed / K. Britten

**Ayes:** Reed, Aulman, Kim, Serena, White, Mvondo, Austin, Alvarez, Bennet, Britten

**Noes:** None

**Abstain:** None

**Absent:** Datel

**10. Action Item: Consider Recommending the Board Endorse Climate Safe California (T. Echiburú)**

**Decision:** Approve

**Moved By: / Seconded By:** K. Britten / S. Reed

**Ayes:** Reed, Aulman, Kim, Serena, Mvondo, Austin, Alvarez, Bennet, Britten

**Noes:** None

**Abstain:** White

**Absent:** Datel

**Additional Comments/Action Items:**

- M. Aulman in favor.

- A. Serena supported as this is in line with carbon-negative goals.
- S. Reed was supportive and wanted to point out that the Commission needs to be mindful of how specific goals would be taken to heart in the development of the County's CAP.

**Public Comment:** S. Allen thanked Commission for considering request.

**11. Presentation on History and Progress of Climate-Related Efforts in Yolo County (M. McCormick)**

- Presentation Moved to April Meeting.

**12. Commissioner Reports, Comments, Future Agenda Items**

**13. Long Range Calendar**

- K. Wraithwall provided update on Long Range Calendar.
- In April, the "Recommend Early Actions to BOS (tentative)" will be removed and replaced with "BOS Considerations of Early Actions" in May. Will add "Early Action Grant Strategy" to June.

**14. Adjournment**

Meeting Adjourned at: 6:30 PM

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Attachment C – County Counsel Memo on Post-Pandemic Teleconferencing



# COUNTY OF YOLO

Office of the County Council

*Philip J. Pogledich*  
County Counsel

625 Court Street, Room 201 • Woodland, CA 95695  
MAIN (530) 666-8172 • FAX (530) 666-8279  
www.yolocounty.org

## MEMORANDUM

TO: All Local Legislative Bodies subject to the Ralph M. Brown Act

FROM: Philip J. Pogledich, County Counsel  
Eric May, Senior Deputy County Counsel

DATE: March 30, 2022

SUBJECT: Post-Pandemic Teleconferencing and Meeting Considerations

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This memorandum provides updated guidance regarding remote meetings pursuant to the Ralph M. Brown Act (“Brown Act”).<sup>1</sup>

As explained below, the changing public health situation may soon compel an end to remote meetings using the simplified approach authorized by Assembly Bill 361 (“AB 361”). The County Health Officer is not expected to reissue social distancing recommendations in April, narrowing the circumstances for meeting remotely under AB 361. Also, if the Governor ends the pandemic emergency proclamation,<sup>2</sup> local legislative bodies will no longer be able to rely on AB 361 and must instead return to in-person meetings or, if feasible, authorize continued remote meetings using the original, less practical teleconferencing provisions of the Brown Act discussed below. “Hybrid” meetings that offer both in-person and teleconference (video or call-in) options for participation are also an option—and indeed, may become the “new normal” for public agency meetings—so long as all Brown Act requirements for an in-person meeting are satisfied and no technological constraints exist.

As background, in 2021, AB 361 amended the Brown Act to add simplified procedures that make it easier to hold remote meetings during a state of emergency proclaimed by the Governor (a local emergency is insufficient). *See* Gov. Code § 54953(e). Additionally, the legislative body must find either of the following circumstances is present:

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<sup>1</sup> The Brown Act applies to “legislative bodies,” which the Act defines as including (i) a governing body of a local agency or local body created by state or federal statute, (ii) a commission, committee, board, or other body of a local agency, whether permanent or temporary, decision-making or advisory, created by a legislative body. *See* Gov. Code § 54952.

<sup>2</sup> We cannot predict when an announcement may occur, but a continued decline in case rates could prompt a change in the near future.



- State or local officials continue to impose or recommend measures to promote social distancing; or
- As a result of the declared emergency, the legislative body finds by majority vote that meeting in person would present imminent risks to the health or safety of attendees.

A previous memorandum from this Office (dated September 30, 2021) explained the process for initiating AB 361 compliance for remote meetings and the need to thereafter (ever 30 days or so) renew compliance by making essentially the same findings mentioned above.<sup>3</sup>

Most agencies subject to the Brown Act have relied on the Health Officer's social distancing recommendations described in a monthly memorandum in implementing AB 361 (also available at the link included in footnote 3). With declining COVID-19 infection rates, many Health Officers (including in Yolo County) will no longer recommend social distancing. If this occurs, local legislative bodies *may still meet remotely pursuant to AB 361* only if:

- (1) the Governor's pandemic emergency proclamation remains in force; *and*
- (2) each such body finds by majority vote "that meeting in person would present *imminent risks* to the health or safety of attendees."

It is unknown whether the Governor will maintain his emergency proclamation for much longer. If it is repealed, new AB 361 authorizations will be legally impossible and all existing AB 361 determinations will sunset on the 30<sup>th</sup> day after their adoption.

For so long as the Governor maintains the emergency proclamation, each local legislative body may consider the "imminent risks" determination if it wishes to still hold remote meetings under AB 361. This is a matter for each legislative body to decide in its discretion; the County Health Officer is not expected to issue any guidance bearing on such a determination. Factors such as local infection rates, meeting duration, expected attendance, facility air filtration technology, and the potential for attendance by vulnerable populations are among those that may be appropriately considered by a legislative body.

Procedurally, those intending to consider such a determination are advised to schedule a special meeting for this purpose, with no other agency business on the agenda. Such a limited purpose meeting can be held remotely pursuant to the AB 361 rules. If this is not feasible, the "imminent risks" finding may be considered as the first item of business on the meeting agenda for a regular meeting. If the meeting is held remotely pursuant to AB 361 and the finding is *not* made by majority vote, however, the meeting must adjourn and all remaining items must be continued *unless* the meeting also complies with the various requirements of the Brown Act's original teleconferencing provisions.

If AB 361 compliance is no longer possible—either because an "imminent risks" finding is not made or because the Governor's emergency proclamation sunsets—local legislative bodies will have to return to in-person meetings or invoke the original teleconferencing provisions of the Brown Act. The prior memorandum by this Office illustrated some of the key differences between AB 361 and the other teleconferencing provisions as follows (with a few additions):

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<sup>3</sup> Posted online at: <https://www.yolocounty.org/government/board-of-supervisors/advisory-bodies/resources-for-local-governing-and-advisory-body-members>,

Brown Act Requirements (“Old Rules”)	AB 361 Rules
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Agendas <b>must</b> be posted at each teleconference location where a legislative body member is present</li> <li>All teleconference locations must be listed on the agenda</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Agendas <b>do not</b> need to be posted at each teleconference location</li> </ul>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Each teleconference location <b>must</b> be accessible to the public, and the public <b>must</b> be allowed to offer comments from each location<sup>4</sup></li> <li>Additional teleconference locations may also be offered for the convenience of participants.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Local agencies <b>do not</b> need to allow public participation at each (or any) teleconference location, but instead must “clearly advertise” how members of the public can participate on the agenda</li> <li>Public participation <b>must</b> allow for either a call-in option or an internet-based service option to directly address the body in real-time during public comment</li> <li>In the event the meeting broadcast is disrupted, the meeting <b>must</b> pause until it is restored</li> </ul>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>At least a quorum of the legislative body <b>must</b> be present within the agency’s territory</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Legislative body members <b>may</b> participate from anywhere</li> </ul>

As this summary shows, even without AB 361’s simplified requirements teleconference meetings are possible with some advance planning and coordination. Indeed, many meeting attendees are comfortable using Zoom (and similar technologies) and will now likely chose to participate remotely rather than travel to a teleconference or in-person meeting site to participate. That said, it is still necessary to accommodate the public at each teleconference location under the original Brown Act teleconferencing rules, including private residences or locations where technological constraints may exist. The reason for this is explained in one guide on Brown Act teleconferencing:

The right of individuals to attend the public meetings of local agencies and be face-to-face with their elected or appointed public officials is viewed as sacrosanct, only able to be abrogated in the most extraordinary of circumstances. Under normal conditions, local agencies are required to allow members of the public to participate in a public meeting from the very same teleconference locations that other board members are using to attend that meeting. (*AB 361 Implementation Guide*, California Special Districts Association, p. 6 (2021).)

A somewhat different approach is to hold a “hybrid” meeting, with all legislative body members appearing in-person and the public is afforded the option of appearing in-person or attending via video or call-in technologies. The increased convenience of this approach promotes additional public engagement while also reducing in-person attendance. Presently, the Brown Act does not regulate this

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<sup>4</sup> In addition, all teleconference locations must be ADA-accessible.

March 30, 2022

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approach. This Office encourages legislative bodies offering “hybrid” meetings to ensure any limitations to virtual participation are clearly described on the agenda (for example, if remote attendees are not able to offer comments). And consistent with the original Brown Act teleconferencing rules, all legislative bodies members must either attend in-person or comply with the teleconferencing rules if they opt to participate remotely. Put simply, if a legislative body members participate remotely under the original rules, the public must be offered the same participation opportunity in the same location(s).

It is possible that changing circumstances surrounding the COVID-19 pandemic will require legislative bodies to adapt again in the future. The County Counsel’s Office will continue to provide updates as significant changes occur. Additional information about Brown Act compliance and other resources can be found on the County’s website, at <https://www.yolocounty.org/government/board-of-supervisors/advisory-bodies/resources-for-local-governing-and-advisory-body-members>.

Any questions about this memo or can be directed to:

Phil Pogledich  
County Counsel  
[Philip.pogledich@yolocounty.org](mailto:Philip.pogledich@yolocounty.org)

Or to:

Eric May  
Senior Deputy County Counsel  
[Eric.may@yolocounty.org](mailto:Eric.may@yolocounty.org)

While e-mail communications are preferred, you may also call 530-666-8172 and ask to speak with either of the above attorneys.

Attachment D – Early Action Project Descriptions Staff Report

# STAFF REPORT

**DATE:** April 25, 2022

**TO:** Yolo County Climate Action Commission

**FROM:** Taro Echiburú, Director, Department of Community Services  
Kristen Wraithwall, Sustainability Manager  
Petrea Marchand, President, Consero Solutions

**RE:** Receive and file four final early action project descriptions and approve three new early action project descriptions

## RECOMMENDED ACTION

1. Receive and file four final early action project descriptions
2. Approve remaining three early action three project descriptions
  - a. Feasibility Study to Remove Fossil Fuels from Yolo County Operations
  - b. Zero Emission Vehicle Master Plan
  - c. Yolo Agricultural Equipment Retrofit Program

## REASON FOR RECOMMENDED ACTION

The recommended action will provide final direction from the Commission to the Board of Supervisors on implementation of seven priority early actions to reduce greenhouse gas emissions and sequester carbon in unincorporated Yolo County.

## BACKGROUND

At the February 2022 Commission meeting, the Commission approved seven early action priorities: 1) Zero Emission Vehicle Master Plan; 2) Carbon Farming Partnership; 3) Electric Retrofits and Natural Gas Appliance Rebates; 4) 100% Electric Accounts; 5) Mandate Home Energy Labeling; 6) Removing Fossil Fuels from Yolo County Operations; and 7) Microgrid Future Proof Proposal. On March 7<sup>th</sup>, the project applicant withdrew the Microgrid Future Proof Proposal application. The Commission recommended the Yolo Agricultural Equipment Retrofit Program as an additional priority at the March 2022 Commission meeting, for a total of seven priority early actions. The Commission recommended the Board of Supervisors approve four early action project descriptions at the March 2022 Commission meeting with some amendments, including changes to the names of some projects. Staff updated the four project descriptions consistent with the Commission's motions and made other changes based on staff recommendations outlined in this staff report. Staff also completed project descriptions for the remaining three early action proposals the Commission identified as priorities for Commission consideration at the April 2022 meeting.

## **FINAL PROJECT DESCRIPTIONS**

Staff will bring the following four final project descriptions to the Board of Supervisors at the May 24, 2022 meeting. The project descriptions are provided for information only. Staff changed the names of the projects to reflect Commission input.

### **1. Carbon Farming Partnership (Attachment E)**

The Commission voted to recommend the Board of Supervisors approve this project description on March 28, 2022 with a change to add language stating the applicant will develop a process to measure carbon sequestration. Staff separately added language regarding the carbon uptake benefits of carbon farming and information on financial incentives to promote carbon farming practices.

### **2. Electrification Retrofit Rebate Outreach Program (Attachment F)**

The Commission voted to recommend the Board of Supervisors approve this project description on March 28, 2022 with the following changes: 1) remove the words “natural gas appliance” from the title and throughout the document; 2) focus solely on electrification; 3) include outreach/training for contractors; 4) correct Mitch Sears’ phone number, and 5) remove references to Grid Alternatives; and 6) broaden the outreach campaign to include other electrification rebates. Staff added language stating the County will develop a system for measuring greenhouse gas emission reduction from this program.

### **3. 100% Renewable Energy Electricity Accounts (Attachment G)**

The Commission voted to recommend the Board of Supervisors approve this project description on March 28, 2022 with no changes. Staff added language to clarify the County will also enroll accounts for buildings outside of Valley Clean Energy’s territory in Pacific Gas and Electric’s green energy program.

### **4. Home Energy Labeling (Attachment H)**

The Commission approved this project description on March 28, 2022 on the condition their concern about the project creating a burden for low-income families would be relayed to the Yolo County Board of Supervisors. Staff added language stating the County will develop a system for measuring greenhouse gas emission reduction from this project.

## **NEW PROJECT DESCRIPTIONS**

The Commission approved authorizing County staff to develop a project description for the Yolo Agricultural Equipment Retrofit Program at the March 2022 meeting. County staff developed the remaining two project descriptions for priorities selected at the February 2022 Commission meeting: 1) Zero Emission Vehicle Master Plan; and 2) Inventory and Feasibility Study to Remove Fossil Fuels from Yolo County Operations project

descriptions. The following are the three project descriptions recommended for Commission approval by County staff:

**1. Inventory and Feasibility Study to Remove Fossil Fuels from Yolo County Operations (Attachment I)**

When the Commission selected this project a priority February 2022, the project described the removal of all fossil fuels from Yolo County operations. Yolo County staff discussed the proposal internally and realized Yolo County needs an inventory of all fossil fuel uses in County operations as well as the existing electrical system service capacity in County buildings before the County can commit to remove all fossil fuels. The County also needs to conduct a feasibility study which will include an evaluation of building readiness to electrify based on current electrical capacity and total energy requirements, priorities for electrification, cost estimates, a proposed process for measuring greenhouse gas emission reduction, potential funding sources, and a proposed timeline.

**2. Zero Emission Vehicle Master Plan (Attachment J)**

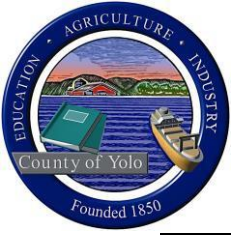
The Zero Emission Vehicle Master Plan integrates the “ZEV Master Plan” and the “Electric Vehicle Charging Stations and Outreach” proposals, which proposed the County would add electric vehicle charging stations at locations in unincorporated areas of the County and take other actions to encourage the adoption of zero-emission vehicles. This project also incorporates the “Essential Electric Bicycle” access for farm workers and rural residents.

**3. Yolo Agricultural Equipment Retrofit Program (Attachment K)**

The Yolo Agricultural Equipment Retrofit Program will supplement the Yolo-Solano Air Quality Management District’s work to implement the FARMER program to reduce greenhouse gas emissions from agricultural equipment by providing additional funding to implement the program in Yolo County.

Attachment E – Carbon Farming Partnership Project Description





# County of Yolo

## DEPARTMENT OF COMMUNITY SERVICES

Taro Echiburú  
DIRECTOR

**Planning & Public Works**  
292 West Beamer Street  
Woodland, CA 95695-2598  
(530) 666-8775  
FAX (530) 666-8156  
[www.yolocounty.org](http://www.yolocounty.org)

**Environmental Health**  
292 West Beamer Street  
Woodland, CA 95695-2598  
(530) 666-8646  
FAX (530) 669-1448  
[www.yolocounty.org](http://www.yolocounty.org)

**Integrated Waste Management**  
44090 CR 28H  
Woodland, CA 95776  
(530) 666-8852  
FAX (530) 666-8853  
[www.yolocounty.org](http://www.yolocounty.org)

## CARBON FARMING PARTNERSHIP

Proposed Early Action to Implement Resolution No. 20-114 Related to the Climate Crisis

### PROPOSED ACTION

The proposed action will provide Yolo County (“County”) growers, including growers who identify as Black, Indigenous and People of Color (BIPOC) and new farmers with tools, training, and technical assistance to develop and implement Carbon Farm Plans and other practices to reduce carbon emissions and sequester carbon. The Center for Land-Based Learning (“Center”) would lead this project, in partnership with the Yolo Resource Conservation District, the Carbon Cycle Institute, and the Yolo Land Trust.

This proposed action would rapidly increase the pace and scale of carbon farm planning and implementation in the County, including completing three model carbon farm plans and educating growers about the climate and soil health benefits of proven conservation practices, including the Conservation Reserve Program, over the next two years. In addition to providing technical assistance and training to growers in carbon farming principles, the Center will integrate direct feedback from experienced growers, as well as new BIPOC farmers, into the County’s new Climate Action and Adaptation Plan process, ensuring the new plan is supported by the agricultural community. The Center would also integrate climate and carbon farm planning into the Center’s California Farm Academy to provide education to new and BIPOC farmers. Lastly, this action would engage the broader public and agricultural community about carbon farming practices through outreach, including site tours, social media and targeted outreach to BIPOC farmers. The Center would develop metrics to track uptake of carbon farming in the County.

### BACKGROUND

According to the Carbon Cycle Institute, agricultural and natural lands are the most valuable tool to massively scale up rates of carbon sequestration across the globe while also building climate resilience and ecological health. The Institute asserts carbon sequestration must become the next

value-added agricultural product. The County has been a leader in agricultural land conservation for over 150 years and is poised to become a leader in helping growers address climate change impacts as well. With 85 percent of County lands designated for agricultural use, agricultural lands are arguably the County's most valuable resource for increasing carbon sequestration and mitigating climate change.

Carbon farming involves implementing practices known to improve the rate at which carbon dioxide is removed from the atmosphere and converted to plant material and/or soil organic matter. Practices such as hedgerows, cover cropping, reduced tillage, and habitat restoration all have demonstrated carbon benefits. A set of online tools (COMET) developed by researchers at Colorado State University, the Natural Resource Conservation Service, the Climate Change Institute, and the Marin Carbon Project, allows the quantification of greenhouse gas emission reduction benefits. Enhancing working land carbon, whether in plants or soils, results in beneficial changes in a wide array of system attributes, including soil fertility, water holding capacity, biodiversity, and resilience to drought and flood. Increasing carbon capture on working lands also helps to slow rising levels of carbon dioxide and other greenhouse gases in the atmosphere. According to an August 2020 report by scientists at the Lawrence Livermore Laboratory, California can increase the uptake of carbon on natural and working lands. The report estimates California can remove over 25 million metric tons of carbon dioxide by 2045, of which California's soils could store 3.9 million metric tons through carbon farming implementation.<sup>1</sup>

The California Department of Food and Agriculture (CDFA) administers programs that promote carbon farming practices. CDFA's Healthy Soils Program (HSP) has two components: the HSP Incentives Program and the HSP Demonstration Project. The HSP Incentives Program provides financial assistance for implementation of conservation management that improves soil health, sequesters carbon and reduces greenhouse gas emissions. Between 2017 and 2020, the Incentives Program funded 604 projects that yielded 109,089 MT CO<sub>2</sub>e reductions.<sup>2</sup> During that same period, the Demonstration Projects resulted in 71 projects with associated 3,900 MT CO<sub>2</sub>e reductions. In 2021, CDFA received 1,328 applications for HSP incentives requesting \$90.52 million and 12 applications for HSP Demonstration Projects requesting \$2.02 million.

The Center for Land-Based Learning has already implemented a suite of carbon-beneficial practices at its Maples Farm north of Woodland and has identified others in its current draft Carbon Farm Plan. Practices implemented to date include over 2,500 feet of native plant hedgerows, a pollinator bioswale, perennial conservation cover, cover cropping, and compost

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<sup>1</sup> Baker, S. E., et al. (2020). Lawrence Livermore National Laboratory, LLNL-TR-796100. Retrieved from [https://www-gs.llnl.gov/content/assets/docs/energy/Getting\\_to\\_Neutral.pdf](https://www-gs.llnl.gov/content/assets/docs/energy/Getting_to_Neutral.pdf)

<sup>2</sup> Healthy Soils Program. (2021). Incentives Program 2017-2020 Summary by the Numbers. California Department of Food and Agriculture. Retrieved from [https://www.cdfa.ca.gov/oefi/healthsoils/docs/HSP\\_Incentives\\_program\\_level\\_data\\_funded\\_projects.pdf](https://www.cdfa.ca.gov/oefi/healthsoils/docs/HSP_Incentives_program_level_data_funded_projects.pdf)

application. Additional practices in the planning stages, or pending funding, include a 5-acre olive orchard with a research component using biochar and compost treatments, alley cropping, riparian restoration on Cache Creek frontage property, field trials using microbial inoculant and other soil amendments, perennial grain cropping, tree and shrub establishment, windbreaks, and additional hedgerows and perennial conservation cover. All these practices are designed as demonstration sites for training and educational purposes and all incorporate ecological monitoring to track changes in soil health (including soil carbon) and biodiversity.

## **CONSISTENCY WITH EXISTING POLICIES**

Sequestering carbon in agricultural landscapes also supports strategies outlined in *Yolo County Sustainability Plan*. Specifically, the *Yolo County Sustainability Plan* includes the following relevant strategies:

- Strategy EH-1: Update the County’s Climate Action Plan to protect people, ecosystems, community assets, and resources from the anticipated effects of climate change
- Strategy EH-3: Prioritize nature-based solutions
- Strategy AG-1: Preserve Yolo’s agricultural land and ensure a strong local agricultural economy
- Strategy AG-2: Increase carbon sequestration of farmlands
- Strategy ED-1: Raise public awareness of sustainability topics and the public’s role in furthering the County’s sustainability goals

The proposed action also supports the following measures outlined in the 2011 *Yolo County Climate Action Plan*:

- A-6: Sequester carbon in agricultural landscapes
- AD-1: Prepare for the effects of climate change on agriculture

Furthermore, the 2015 *Yolo County Climate Action Plan Status Update Report* recommends that “Soil-Carbon as a form of Sequestration” and “Agricultural Easement and Agricultural Land Conservation Programs” be added to the list of agricultural measures in the next Climate Action Plan.

## **BENEFITS TO DISADVANTAGED/VULNERABLE COMMUNITIES**

This action would benefit BIPOC farmers.

## **GREENHOUSE GAS EMISSION REDUCTION/CARBON SEQUESTRATION**

In the short term, this action will not reduce greenhouse gas emissions or sequester carbon because it is focused on education, planning, and outreach. However, carbon farm planning is a dynamic process, and the Center has already identified priority implementation practices that can serve as demonstration sites for other Yolo County growers. Yolo County expects implementation of the plans developed through this early action to result in carbon sequestration on working lands, although the amount is unknown and carbon sequestration will not directly result from the planning process. The Center for Land-Based Learning will include processes to measure carbon sequestration resulting from implementation, as approved by Yolo County for consistency with the updated Yolo Climate Action and Adaptation Plan, in their model carbon farm plans.

## **CO-BENEFITS**

The proposed action will increase awareness of the role of agriculture in protecting biodiversity and climate. The proposed action may improve local food security, provide greater economic equity and opportunities, strengthen the local agriculture economy, and provide support to new and BIPOC farmers. Other benefits include increased biodiversity, restored habitat, and improved air quality.

## **TRANSFORMATIVE/REPLICABLE ELEMENTS**

This proposed action would create replicable models of Carbon Farming Plans and the Center would create replicable series of climate trainings and associated curriculum which could be adopted by other jurisdictions. The curriculum will also be translated into Spanish.

## **DEGREE OF READINESS**

As the initial work to develop this partnership was completed in the summer of 2021, the Center is ready to begin implementation of this program immediately.

## **COSTS**

The proposed action requests \$149,845.

## **FUNDING**

The County will seek grants for this program and will allocate American Rescue Plan funds as matching funds if needed.

## CONCERNS

COVID-19 may make implementation of this proposed action difficult if in-person gatherings are restricted.

## PARTNERS

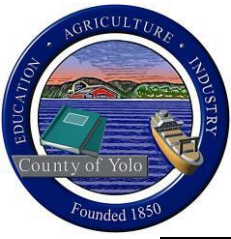
- Center for Land Based Learning
- Yolo Resources Conservation District
- Carbon Cycle Institute
- Yolo Land Trust
- U.S. Department of Agriculture Natural Resource Conservation Service

## PERSONNEL

In the chart below, please list names, role, and contact information for all project leader(s) and project partners.

Name	Role (Lead or Partner)	Email	Phone
Jeanne Wirka	Lead, CLBL	jeanne@landbasedlearning.org	707-322-5387
Heather Nichols	Partner, Yolo RCD	heather@yolorcd.org	530-661-1688; ext. 12
Patricia Hickey	Partner, Carbon Cycle Institute	phickey@carboncycle.org	707-292-5058
Liz Heckles	Partner, Yolo Land Trust	lheckles@theyololandtrust.org	530-662-1110
Kristen Wraithwall	Lead, Yolo County	kristen.wraithwall@yolocounty.org	530-666-8047

Attachment F – Electrification Retrofit Rebate Outreach Program Project Description



# County of Yolo

DEPARTMENT OF COMMUNITY SERVICES

Taro Echiburú  
DIRECTOR

***Planning & Public Works***

292 West Beamer Street  
Woodland, CA 95695-2598  
(530) 666-8775  
FAX (530) 666-8156  
[www.yolocounty.org](http://www.yolocounty.org)

***Environmental Health***

292 West Beamer Street  
Woodland, CA 95695-2598  
(530) 666-8646  
FAX (530) 669-1448  
[www.yolocounty.org](http://www.yolocounty.org)

***Integrated Waste Management***

44090 CR 28H  
Woodland, CA 95776  
(530) 666-8852  
FAX (530) 666-8853  
[www.yolocounty.org](http://www.yolocounty.org)

## ELECTRIFICATION RETROFIT REBATE OUTREACH PROGRAM

Proposed Early Action to Implement Resolution No. 20-114 Related to the Climate Crisis

### PROPOSED ACTION

This proposed action will create a two-year, comprehensive outreach program in partnership with Valley Clean Energy to encourage low-income households in the unincorporated area to access \$1 billion for electrification rebates in the 2022-2023 state budget, as well as other related electrification retrofit rebates for existing residential homes. This is specifically an outreach and technical assistance program and does not include the distribution of energy efficiency rebates. Yolo County would focus primarily on helping low-income households access electrification rebates, as well as training and educating contractors about opportunities to help customers access these rebates. Valley Clean Energy currently possesses confidential data on low-income households in the unincorporated area that encountered difficulty paying their bills during the COVID-19 pandemic. Valley Clean Energy can work with Yolo County to reach out to these households and/or landlords of multi-family dwellings to connect them with information about electrification rebates, help fill out applications, and help manage retrofits if needed. Helping these households reduce ongoing costs by targeting them directly would have long-term economic and environmental benefits. The County could also partner with nonprofit organizations to develop and implement the project. This project also includes the development of a system for tracking households which secure electrification rebates by working with the state and other rebate agencies to provide data related to successful rebate applications in the unincorporated area.

### BACKGROUND

Electrification retrofits lower energy bills, create local jobs, and improve indoor air quality and health-related issues by eliminating natural gas combustion in homes. Homes and buildings where Californians live and work have been one of the largest sources of climate pollution, accounting for over a quarter of the state's greenhouse gas emissions. Yet retrofits are often time-consuming and expensive to implement; the 2011 Climate Action Plan estimates the cost at an average of \$100,000/home. Roughly two-thirds of the greenhouse gas emissions from California's buildings come from gas combustion appliances such as furnaces, water heaters, and stoves. About 90 percent of furnaces and hot water heaters in the state are fueled by gas or propane, and many older homes are built without ductwork for central heating, instead relying on through-the-wall furnaces that burn gas or propane. These old furnaces emit a great deal of

carbon dioxide and particulate matter.

The *2021 Yolo County Sustainability Plan* includes a strategy to electrify existing homes and new residential development (BU-2) by providing incentive programs to encourage electrification of existing homes (BU-2.1). The suggested tracking metric for Action BU-2.1 is the number of existing homes converted to all electric, as well as associated greenhouse gas reduction quantification. Providing education and outreach to low-income County residents regarding existing rebate programs would facilitate implementation of Action BU-2.1.

## **CONSISTENCY WITH EXISTING POLICIES**

This proposal supports Measure E-2: Reduce Energy Consumption in Existing Residential and Non-Residential Buildings of the *Yolo County Climate Action Plan (2011)*. Building electrification also supports strategies outlined in *Yolo County Sustainability Plan*. Specifically, the *Yolo County Sustainability Plan* includes the following relevant strategy:

- Strategy BU-2: Electrify Existing Homes and New Residential Development
  - Action BU-2.1: Provide incentive programs to encourage electrification of existing homes

## **BENEFITS TO DISADVANTAGED/VULNERABLE COMMUNITIES**

Yolo County will work to focus the Electrification Retrofit Rebate Outreach Program on low-income households and disadvantaged communities in particular by working with Valley Clean Energy to reach out to households that encountered difficulty paying their bills during the pandemic.

## **GREENHOUSE GAS EMISSION REDUCTION**

The amount of greenhouse gas emission reduction resulting from this proposal is unknown, although it is likely small because only approximately 20,000 people live in the unincorporated area of Yolo County and not all households will undertake electrification retrofits because of this program. The California Air Resources Board estimates residential and commercial buildings are responsible for 25% of greenhouse gas emissions in California, however, so the program may still result in important emissions reduction. Based on the California Air Resources Board's 2019 Greenhouse Gas Inventory, building electrification in California would result in an average annual savings of approximately 50 million metric tons of carbon dioxide equivalent (MTCO<sub>2e</sub>) through 2045, so this program will ensure Yolo County is doing its share to achieve this goal. Yolo County will develop a system for measuring greenhouse gas emission reduction from this program, including working with state agencies to validate which households or property owners secured rebates and implemented electrification retrofits.



## **CO-BENEFITS**

- Improved air quality and health by reducing hazardous pollutants
- Greater economic equity and opportunity
- Lower energy and water bills over time
- Job creation
- Improved safety and decreased risk of gas leaks, fires, and explosions
- Improved climate resiliency, particularly by providing efficient cooling during heat waves

## **TRANSFORMATIVE/REPLICABLE ELEMENTS**

This project would create replicable models for electrification retrofit rebate programs throughout the County, region, and state. The outreach program would provide template outreach materials which other jurisdictions could use to implement similar programs.

## **DEGREE OF READINESS**

Yolo County must identify partners and funding and develop a program design before implementation of this project can occur.

## **COSTS**

The total cost of this action is \$350,000 to \$450,000 for a two-year outreach campaign. The estimated cost to develop an outreach strategy is \$50,000 and the estimated cost to implement the strategy is \$150,000 to \$200,000/year, including social media, earned media, videos, web site, sponsorships, paid advertisements, and assistance with applications. Therefore, Yolo County anticipates implementation costs close to \$250,000 in the first year.

## **FUNDING**

Yolo County staff recommends allocating \$100,000 of American Rescue Plan funds in beginning stages of this effort and will pursue additional funding strategies for this project that could include ARP funding, grants, or a combination of both.

## **CONCERNS**

Electrification retrofits may be too expensive for some residents, even with the rebates. The County may need to consider providing additional funds to encourage low-income residents on fixed incomes to implement the retrofits.

## **PARTNERS**

- Valley Clean Energy

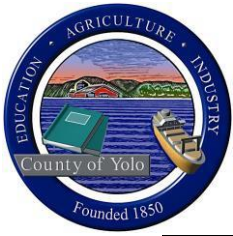
- Pacific Gas & Electric (“PG&E”)
- Yolo-Solano Air Quality Management District (“YSAQMD”)

## PERSONNEL

In the chart below, please list names, role, and contact information for all project leader(s) and project partners.

Name	Role (Lead or Partner)	Email	Phone
Kristen Wraithwall	Lead	kristen.wraithwall@yolocounty.org	530-666-8047
Mitch Sears	Co-Lead, Valley Clean Energy	mitch.sears@valleycleanenergy.org	530-446-2750
Rebecca Boyles	Co-Lead, Valley Clean Energy	rebecca.boyles@valleycleanenergy.org	530-446-2753
TBD	Partner, YSAQMD	TBD	
TBD	Partner, PG&E	TBD	

## Attachment G – 100% Renewable Energy Electricity Accounts Project Description



# County of Yolo

## DEPARTMENT OF COMMUNITY SERVICES

Taro Echiburú  
DIRECTOR

**Planning & Public Works**  
292 West Beamer Street  
Woodland, CA 95695-2598  
(530) 666-8775  
FAX (530) 666-8156  
[www.yolocounty.org](http://www.yolocounty.org)

**Environmental Health**  
292 West Beamer Street  
Woodland, CA 95695-2598  
(530) 666-8646  
FAX (530) 669-1448  
[www.yolocounty.org](http://www.yolocounty.org)

**Integrated Waste Management**  
44090 CR 28H  
Woodland, CA 95776  
(530) 666-8852  
FAX (530) 666-8853  
[www.yolocounty.org](http://www.yolocounty.org)

## 100% RENEWABLE ENERGY ELECTRICITY ACCOUNTS

Proposed Early Action to Implement Resolution No. 20-114 Related to the Climate Crisis

### PROPOSED ACTION

The proposed action would result in the enrollment of all Yolo County electric accounts not covered by existing County solar/renewable projects into Valley Clean Energy's UltraGreen program, which provides 100% renewable and 100% carbon-free electricity for an increase of 1.5 cents/kilowatt hour. Yolo County will enroll accounts for buildings outside of Valley Clean Energy's territory, such as those in West Sacramento, in the similar Pacific Gas & Electric program. Yolo County has installed solar to offset County electricity use and was one of two initial founding members of Valley Clean Energy, a community choice aggregation agency that consolidates the purchase of renewable energy for the City of Davis, the City of Winters, the City of Woodland, and the County of Yolo. A 2019 report to the Valley Clean Energy Board of Directors estimated Yolo County renewable energy projects only cover two-thirds of the County's electric accounts; this action would ensure 100% of Yolo County's electricity is from renewable sources. The action is also essential to ensure Yolo County's related action to remove fossil fuels from Yolo County operations results in a decrease in carbon emissions, since the transition to all-electric appliances and equipment will not result in the maximum potential emission reduction without a complementary move to 100% renewable energy accounts.

### BACKGROUND

Climate scientists have increasingly identified electricity generated by fossil fuels (e.g., natural gas) as a key contributor to greenhouse gas emissions warming the planet. The power sector is the single largest source of carbon emissions at 24 gigatons per year.<sup>1</sup> Yolo County's action will help reduce demand for electricity generated by fossil fuels in Yolo County and will allow the County to lead by example in supporting the UltraGreen option from VCE.

### CONSISTENCY WITH EXISTING POLICIES

This early action is consistent with AQ-1 of the February 2021 *Yolo County Sustainability Plan*.

<sup>1</sup> Doerr, John. *Speed and Scale: An Action Plan for Solving our Climate Crisis Now*. Penguin Business, 2021.

The 2011 *Yolo County Climate Action Plan* does not address the reduction of existing County operations. Specifically, the *Yolo County Sustainability Plan* includes the following relevant strategy:

- Action AQ 1.2. Increase adoption of electric vehicles and equipment

## **BENEFITS TO DISADVANTAGED/VULNERABLE COMMUNITIES**

This action will not benefit disadvantaged or vulnerable communities.

## **GREENHOUSE GAS EMISSION REDUCTION**

Enrolling all of Yolo County municipal electric accounts not covered by existing County solar/renewable projects into Valley Clean Energy's UltraGreen program and/or the similar Pacific Gas & Electric program, would reduce greenhouse gas emissions, although the exact reduction is unknown at this time. Yolo County would work with Valley Clean Energy and Pacific Gas & Electric to estimate the greenhouse gas emission reduction for tracking purposes as part of signing up for UltraGreen.

## **CO-BENEFITS**

The action may help reduce pollution in other areas of the state or country from electricity generated from fossil fuels by reducing demand.

## **TRANSFORMATIVE/REPLICABLE ELEMENTS**

If Yolo County shares the County's decisions to transition to 100% electric accounts with the public through earned media or paid media, the County's action may influence other local jurisdictions to similarly make the transition.

## **DEGREE OF READINESS**

Funding to transition all Yolo County's accounts to 100% electric will be included in the 2023-24 Yolo County budget with the goal of transitioning all accounts by July 1, 2023. Yolo County staff propose ongoing funding for 100% electric in future budgets as well.

## **COSTS**

According to a March 14, 2019 Valley Clean Energy Alliance staff report, it would cost Yolo County approximately \$16,000 per year (about \$1,333 per month) to opt into Valley Clean Energy's UltraGreen for the remaining 1/3 of Yolo County's accounts which are currently not 100% renewable.

## FUNDING

Yolo County will explore funding options for this action, which may include ARP funds, General Fund, Department funds, or a combination of these, to align with the 2023-24 County budget.

## CONCERNS

The Yolo County Administrator’s Office will determine which Departments, if any, will pay for the increased cost of UltraGreen and which funding strategy to apply.

## PARTNERS

Yolo County would work with Valley Clean Energy to implement this early action.

## PERSONNEL

In the chart below, please list names, role, and contact information for all project leader(s) and project partners.

Name	Role (Lead or Partner)	Email	Phone
Kristen Wraithwall	Lead	kristen.wraithwall@yolocounty.org	530-666-8047
Mitch Sears	Partner, Valley Clean Energy	mitch.sears@valleycleanenergy.org	530-446-2750

## Attachment H – Home Energy Labeling Project Description



# County of Yolo

DEPARTMENT OF COMMUNITY SERVICES

Taro Echiburú  
DIRECTOR

***Planning & Public Works***

292 West Beamer Street  
Woodland, CA 95695-2598  
(530) 666-8775  
FAX (530) 666-8156  
[www.yolocounty.org](http://www.yolocounty.org)

***Environmental Health***

292 West Beamer Street  
Woodland, CA 95695-2598  
(530) 666-8646  
FAX (530) 669-1448  
[www.yolocounty.org](http://www.yolocounty.org)

***Integrated Waste Management***

44090 CR 28H  
Woodland, CA 95776  
(530) 666-8852  
FAX (530) 666-8853  
[www.yolocounty.org](http://www.yolocounty.org)

## HOME ENERGY LABELING

Proposed Early Action to Implement Resolution No. 20-114 Related to the Climate Crisis

### PROPOSED ACTION

The proposed action will create a mandatory Home Energy Score Program for homes listed for sale in the unincorporated area. Yolo County would require homeowners to complete a home energy assessment prior to listing a home for sale, which involves a trained technician assessing a home's energy use and assigning a score on a one to ten scale. This score motivates home buyers and sellers to improve the home's energy efficiency and increase the score by installing energy-efficient appliances or making other improvements. The County will work with partners to provide toolkits, checklists, information about rebates/incentives, and other recommendations to homeowners regarding options to improve home energy efficiency. The County would host webinars for real estate agents to educate them about the program and coordinate with local job training centers to train home energy assessment technicians. The County will also evaluate options to subsidize the cost of home energy assessments for low-income households and/or provide additional funding beyond state/federal rebates to increase the energy efficiency of homes for low-income households.

### BACKGROUND

The California Air Resources Board estimates residential and commercial buildings are responsible for 25% of greenhouse gas emissions in California. Therefore, improving the energy efficiency of existing residential buildings has become a priority for the state. Similar Home Energy Score Programs have been implemented in Berkeley, California and Portland, Oregon. While home energy labeling is mandatory at time of home listing in Portland and at time of sale in Berkeley, improving the home energy score is not mandatory. In Berkeley, the Bay Area Regional Energy Network (BayREN) provides incentives to low scoring homes to implement energy efficiency measures and partners with Rising Sun, a job training program, to hire and train technicians. BayREN's Green Labeling Program has two offerings: (1) Regional Home Energy Sector Score (HEScore) that trains assessors to complete a HEScore and provides incentives for scores and (2) continuing education and other opportunities for realtors, appraisers and lenders to increase their ability to understand, market, and evaluate energy efficient and green homes. The primary objective of the program is to establish integrated and aligned green labeling to increase awareness and transparency of residential energy information. In 2020, BayREN, through the Green Labeling program, provided single family homes with 1,626 Home Energy



Scores and \$317,300 in incentives. In Berkeley, home energy assessment fees are paid by the seller. In Portland, assessment fees are paid by the utility.

## **CONSISTENCY WITH EXISTING POLICIES**

The February 2021 *Yolo County Sustainability Plan* includes the following relevant strategies to support this project:

- Action ED 1.1. Support existing County outreach and awareness programs arounds stormwater quality, energy efficiency, water conservation, and waste
- Action ED 1.1. Work with indigenous groups, vulnerable populations, and community-based organizations in creating sustainability outreach and education programs
- Action AQ 2.2 Work with school districts, community colleges, and career technical education providers to develop a green workforce pipeline
- Action BU 2.1. Provide incentive programs to encourage electrification of existing homes

The 2011 *Yolo County Climate Action Plan* includes the following relevant strategies:

- Measure E-2: Reduce energy consumption in existing residential and non-residential units

## **BENEFITS TO DISADVANTAGED/VULNERABLE COMMUNITIES**

This action could benefit low-income households in disadvantaged communities by providing an incentive for homeowners to increase the energy efficiency of homes before placing the home on the market for sale. These energy efficiency improvements will in turn reduce ongoing energy and water costs for low-income households, therefore freeing up limited income for other household needs. To realize these benefits, the County needs to ensure low-income households who are selling their home have sufficient resources to pay for the energy audit required as part of the home energy labeling program, as well as sufficient funding to implement energy efficiency improvements. This program also could provide workforce training opportunities for residents of disadvantaged communities to conduct home energy audits.

## **GREENHOUSE GAS EMISSION REDUCTION**

The amount of greenhouse gas emission reduction resulting from this proposal is unknown, although the California Air Resources Board estimates residential and commercial buildings are responsible for 25% of GHG emissions in California. Implementation of all components of Measure E-2 of the 2011 CAP was estimated to reduce greenhouse gas emissions by 3% by 2030. This measure assumes that 20% of existing (2008) residential units and 10% of commercial buildings in the county would implement energy efficiency improvements that reduce energy consumption by 15%. The number of households that will benefit from this proposal in the unincorporated area is unknown but is likely small given only 20,000 people live in unincorporated Yolo County. However, the transformative nature of the project may encourage other jurisdictions to adopt the program. Yolo County will develop a mechanism to measure greenhouse gas emission reduction as part of this project.

## **CO-BENEFITS**

The program may create “green” jobs by creating training and employment opportunities for people working to assess and retrofit homes. This program also will improve climate resiliency, particularly by providing efficient cooling during heat waves.

## **TRANSFORMATIVE/REPLICABLE ELEMENTS**

If Yolo County successfully implements this program, Yolo County would be one of the first counties to require a Home Energy Score. This action could result in adoption of the program by other local jurisdictions in the area.

## **DEGREE OF READINESS**

Tools to implement this program, including a scoring portal and labeling, already exist and can be accessed for free on the [Department of Energy Website](#). Yolo County must adopt an ordinance to require home energy labeling in the unincorporated area.

## **COSTS**

Yolo County has not yet estimated the cost of developing this program.

## **FUNDING**

Yolo County will seek grants to implement this program (administration, incentives, and/or workforce development), but may also allocate General Fund or American Rescue Plan funds as part of the annual budget process. These funds will be disbursed to the California Energy Commission through the State Energy Program. Yolo County will need to work with the California Energy Commission to understand how to secure funding.

## CONCERNS

This project could be seen as placing an unfair cost/burden on homeowners, especially low-income homeowners. If the County subsidizes the cost of home energy assessment and/or provide additional funding to supplement state/federal rebates, it may help address this concern.

## PARTNERS

Yolo County may collaborate with real estate agents, utility providers, local job training centers, and other units of local government, such as cities to implement this program. To secure funding the County may work with the U.S. Department of Energy and the California Energy Commission to secure funding to support the program.

## PERSONNEL

In the chart below, please list names, role, and contact information for all project leader(s) and project partners.

Name	Role (Lead or Partner)	Email	Phone
Kristen Wraithwall	Lead	kristen.wraithwall@yolocounty.org	530-666-8047

Attachment I – Inventory and Feasibility Study to Remove Fuels from County Operations Project  
Description



# County of Yolo

DEPARTMENT OF COMMUNITY SERVICES

Taro Echiburú  
DIRECTOR

***Planning & Public Works***

292 West Beamer Street  
Woodland, CA 95695-2598  
(530) 666-8775  
FAX (530) 666-8156  
[www.yolocounty.org](http://www.yolocounty.org)

***Environmental Health***

292 West Beamer Street  
Woodland, CA 95695-2598  
(530) 666-8646  
FAX (530) 669-1448  
[www.yolocounty.org](http://www.yolocounty.org)

***Integrated Waste Management***

44090 CR 28H  
Woodland, CA 95776  
(530) 666-8852  
FAX (530) 666-8853  
[www.yolocounty.org](http://www.yolocounty.org)

## INVENTORY AND FEASIBILITY STUDY TO REMOVE FOSSIL FUELS FROM YOLO COUNTY OPERATIONS

Proposed Early Action to Implement Resolution No. 20-114 Related to the Climate Crisis

### PROPOSED ACTION

Yolo County will develop an inventory of all fossil fuels used in Yolo County operations and then assess the feasibility of removing these fossil fuels from use. Yolo County uses of fossil fuels include, but are not limited to, natural gas-powered hot water heaters, furnaces, and heating, ventilation, and air conditioning (HVAC) systems and gasoline-powered landscaping equipment. The inventory component of this project will include an analysis of current fossil fuel uses in County operations (including age and expected lifespan of fossil fuel-powered equipment) along with the existing electrical system capacity and the total energy requirements (assuming full-electrification) of County buildings. The feasibility study will include an evaluation of building readiness to electrify (for example, if buildings have excess capacity built into their electrical infrastructure to electrify all operations and/or install electric vehicle charging stations, or if amperage and/or voltage will need to be upgraded), priorities for electrification, cost estimates, a proposed process for measuring greenhouse gas emission reduction, potential funding sources, and a proposed timeline. This action also includes reviewing and updating, as necessary, existing policies that encourage employees to work at least part-time from home and reduce vehicle miles traveled.

Yolo County may collaborate with the Sacramento Area Council of Governments, Caltrans, and the Yolo-Solano Air Quality Management District to seek funding for both the inventory and the feasibility study. Yolo County also may work with other units of local government (such as cities, school districts, special districts, and UC Davis) to purchase new equipment as part of a consortium to seek reduced prices from companies offering the needed equipment. Yolo County has also proposed an early action to transition all County energy accounts to Ultra Green at Valley Clean Energy, meaning that if adopted, any recommendation to transition County operations to electricity recommended in the feasibility study will be powered almost exclusively by renewable energy.

## **BACKGROUND**

Climate scientists have increasingly identified the production of natural gas as a key contributor to methane emissions, one of the greenhouse gases contributing to global warming. Fugitive emissions from transporting and producing natural gas release methane into the atmosphere. As a result, climate scientists recommend removing natural gas from operations and instead relying on electricity powered by renewable energy, such as wind and solar. If governments power their operations with electricity sourced from renewable energy instead of natural gas, it will help reduce greenhouse gas emissions that contribute to global warming and climate change impacts.

## **CONSISTENCY WITH EXISTING POLICIES**

This proposed action is consistent with a 2008 report prepared for Yolo County by the John Muir Institute for the Environment at UC Davis entitled *Yolo County Government: An Action Plan for Reducing Greenhouse Gas Emissions Associated with County Operations*. The February 2021 *Yolo County Sustainability Plan* includes one of the recommendations from the 2008 report: specifically, the County should increase adoption of electric equipment. The 2011 Climate Action Plan does not include any policies related to removing fossil fuels from County operations, although it does encourage reducing vehicle miles travelled from new development. The *Yolo County Sustainability Plan* includes the following relevant strategies:

- Action AQ 1.2. Increase adoption of electric vehicles and equipment.
- Action AQ 1.3. Increase County employee telecommuting

## **BENEFITS TO DISADVANTAGED/VULNERABLE COMMUNITIES**

This action will not benefit disadvantaged or vulnerable communities.

## **GREENHOUSE GAS EMISSION REDUCTION**

There is no short-term greenhouse gas emission reduction associated with developing an inventory or feasibility study. The long-term greenhouse gas emission reductions benefits are likely low, since Yolo County does not own many buildings. According to March 11, 2021 staff report to the Valley Clean Energy Board of Directors, however, the California Air Resources Board has stated residential and commercial buildings are responsible for 25% of GHG emissions in California. Based on the California Air Resources Board's 2019 Greenhouse Gas Inventory, building electrification in California would result in an average annual savings of approximately 50 million metric tons of carbon dioxide equivalent (MTCO<sub>2e</sub>) through 2045. Yolo County will therefore be fulfilling its responsibility to help achieve this reduction through the development of an inventory, completion of a feasibility study, and implementation of any resulting feasibility study recommendations. Yolo County will develop a process to measure greenhouse gas emission reduction as part of the feasibility study.

## **CO-BENEFITS**

The proposed action will eventually improve indoor air quality by reducing hazardous pollutants and will decrease the risk of gas leaks and associated accidents.

## **TRANSFORMATIVE/REPLICABLE ELEMENTS**

If implementation of the feasibility study recommendations results in discussions with other agencies to jointly purchase new equipment to eliminate gas use, the project may influence other jurisdictions to purchase equipment to reduce use of natural gas.

## **DEGREE OF READINESS**

Per the 2008 *Yolo County Government: An Action Plan for Reducing Greenhouse Gas Emissions Associated with County Operations*, which is still relevant today, Yolo County first needs to develop an inventory, by Department, of all equipment and appliances that utilize natural gas by type and by the age and lifespan of the equipment. According to the 2008 report, the inventory should begin with the most energy-intensive and long-lifetime equipment. Once the inventory is complete, Yolo County can develop a cost estimate and timeline for electrical system upgrades (if necessary) and equipment replacement, as well as work with other jurisdictions to research opportunities to jointly purchase equipment to reduce costs. Given that the County recently made a sizeable investment of heating and air conditioning equipment upgrades, among others, throughout County facilities, a complete phase-out of such equipment will take several years as it is currently in the beginning of its life cycle. Equipment which was not recently updated would be eligible for more accelerated replacement. Yolo County estimates it can contract with an entity to develop the inventory and feasibility study in 2022, complete the inventory and feasibility study in early 2023, and start working with the County's Department of General Services to replace eligible equipment as early as spring/summer 2023, if feasible. The goal would be to start installation of eligible equipment in late 2023 and continue until the phase out of natural gas in Yolo County operations is complete. This project, and the associated costs outlined below, only covers the development of the inventory and feasibility study, not the replacement of equipment.

## **COSTS**

Yolo County estimates the cost of developing the inventory and feasibility study is at least \$250,000. The feasibility study will include cost estimates for implementing recommendations to remove fossil fuels from County operations such as completing electrical system upgrades and replacing equipment.

## **FUNDING**

Yolo County will seek grants to develop the inventory and feasibility study, but may also allocate General Fund or American Rescue Plan funds as part of the annual budget process.

## CONCERNS

According to a March 11, 2021 Valley Clean Energy staff report to the Board of Directors on building electrification, retrofitting buildings may be complicated and potentially expensive unless the building owner is undertaking an extensive remodel. Through the feasibility study, the County will need to evaluate whether to integrate potential electrification improvements into planned retrofits of existing buildings, whether to ensure retrofits of existing buildings are required to remove fossil fuel use, whether to require all new County buildings to remove fossil fuels from operations, and whether to undertake retrofits that remove fossil fuels even if existing equipment has not reached the end of its useful life.

## PARTNERS

Yolo County may collaborate with the Sacramento Area Council of Governments, Caltrans, and the Yolo-Solano Air Quality Management District to seek funding for this project. Yolo County also may work with other units of local government (such as cities, school districts, special districts, and UC Davis) to purchase new equipment as part of a consortium seek reduced prices from companies offering the needed equipment.

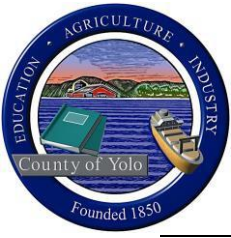
## PERSONNEL

In the chart below, please list names, role, and contact information for all project leader(s) and project partners.

Name	Role (Lead or Partner)	Email	Phone
Kristen Wraithwall	Lead, Yolo County Department of Community Services	kristen.wraithwall@yolocounty.org	530-666-8047
TBD	Co-Lead, Yolo County Department of Financial Services	TBD	TBD
TBD	Co-Lead, Yolo County Administrator's Office	TBD	TBD



Attachment J – Zero Emission Vehicle Master Plan Project Description



# County of Yolo

## DEPARTMENT OF COMMUNITY SERVICES

Taro Echiburú  
DIRECTOR

**Planning & Public Works**  
292 West Beamer Street  
Woodland, CA 95695-2598  
(530) 666-8775  
FAX (530) 666-8156  
[www.yolocounty.org](http://www.yolocounty.org)

**Environmental Health**  
292 West Beamer Street  
Woodland, CA 95695-2598  
(530) 666-8646  
FAX (530) 669-1448  
[www.yolocounty.org](http://www.yolocounty.org)

**Integrated Waste Management**  
44090 CR 28H  
Woodland, CA 95776  
(530) 666-8852  
FAX (530) 666-8853  
[www.yolocounty.org](http://www.yolocounty.org)

## ZERO EMISSION VEHICLE MASTER PLAN

Proposed Early Action to Implement Resolution No. 20-114 Related to the Climate Crisis

### PROPOSED ACTION

The proposed action is to develop a Zero Emission Vehicle Master Plan (“ZEV Master Plan”). The development of a ZEV Master Plan includes the development of a scope of work, a request for proposal to qualified consultants, selection of a service provider to execute the scope of work, and the completion of the plan. At a minimum, the ZEV Master Plan scope of work would include the following components: 1) an analysis of gaps in the existing electric vehicle charging station network and recommendations for siting of additional charging stations; 2) an inventory of the existing County fleet ZEV needs and a timeline for transitioning the fleet to ZEV; 3) a community outreach strategy developed in partnership with community based organizations that would include, at a minimum, advertising the state’s electric vehicles rebate programs and adding interpretive signage at charging stations to educate residents about clean transportation options; and 4) a recommendation regarding whether to establish ZEV mobility services (including electric bikes) in the unincorporated area to enable residents, particularly farmworkers and rural residents, to use clean-mobility options to meet their travel demands. These mobility services may focus exclusively on helping low-income households and disadvantaged communities.

### BACKGROUND

California has a goal to achieve five million ZEVs on the road by 2030 and 250,000 electric vehicle charging stations by 2025 as directed in the Executive Order B-48-18. The California Air Resources Board is further moving forward with regulations to require auto manufacturers to sell only zero-emission passenger cars and trucks in California by 2035. These goals are essential to meeting

California’s air quality and climate change targets since the transportation sector contributes nearly 35% of statewide greenhouse gas emissions.<sup>1</sup>

In 2014, the County participated in the Yolo County-City of Woodland Workplace Charging Partnership (“Partnership”), which resulted in the installation of electric vehicle charging stations in downtown Woodland, providing City and County employees, along with the public, a convenient charging station in downtown Woodland free of cost. The Partnership was made possible through a \$15,000 Clean Air Fund grant award from the Yolo-Solano Air Quality Management District and with County matching funds. The County is currently implementing a Sacramento Area Council of Governments (“SACOG”) grant to install charging stations in key locations around the County by mid-2022.

## **CONSISTENCY WITH EXISTING POLICIES**

Promoting the use of electric vehicles supports strategies outlined in the *Yolo County Sustainability Plan*. Specifically, the *Yolo County Sustainability Plan* includes the following relevant strategy:

- Strategy AQ-1: Reduce Vehicle Miles Traveled
  - Action AQ-1.2: Increase adoption of electric vehicles and equipment.

In addition, at the Board of Supervisor’s direction, County staff is currently developing a purchasing policy that would favor the purchase of electric vehicles over gas-powered vehicles at the time of new purchases or replacement.

## **BENEFITS TO DISADVANTAGED/VULNERABLE COMMUNITIES**

This action may benefit low-income households and disadvantaged communities, depending on the ZEV Master Plan’s recommendation regarding ZEV mobility services.

## **GREENHOUSE GAS EMISSION REDUCTION**

There is no short-term greenhouse gas emission reduction associated with developing a plan. The long-term greenhouse gas emission reduction impact of this action is dependent on the goals set by the ZEV Master Plan, and the implementation of the plan. For example, the City of San Francisco’s EV Roadmap recommends an accelerated path toward electrification of all forms of private transportation with a goal ensuring all transportation in San Francisco emission-free by

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<sup>1</sup> “Transportation Electrification”. *California Public Utilities Commission*, <https://www.cpuc.ca.gov/industries-and-topics/electrical-energy/infrastructure/transportation-electrification>

2040. The ZEV Master Plan will include a process for measuring greenhouse gas emission reduction benefits.

## **CO-BENEFITS**

- Increased awareness of vehicular emissions and strategies to reduce emissions
- Improved air quality
- Improved public health by increasing active transportation opportunities
- Greater economic equity and opportunity

## **TRANSFORMATIVE/REPLICABLE ELEMENTS**

This project would create replicable models for effectively and equitably siting ZEV charging stations and distributing ZEVs to residents.

## **DEGREE OF READINESS**

Work on this project will begin during the 2022-23 Fiscal Year.

## **COSTS**

The development of a ZEV Master Plan is estimated to cost approximately \$250,000, not including the staff time needed to develop the scope of work and request for proposal, as well as the associated interview process to select a qualified consultant.

## **FUNDING**

The County will seek grants for this program from agencies such as SACOG, the California Energy Commission, and federal funding sources, and may decide to allocate American Rescue Plan funds as matching funds.

## **CONCERNS**

COVID-19 may make implementation of this proposed action difficult if in-person gatherings are restricted.

## **PARTNERS**

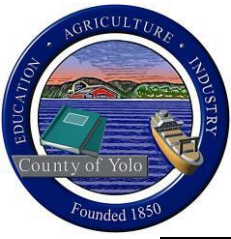
- California Energy Commission (CEC)
- City of Davis

- City of West Sacramento
- City of Winters
- City of Woodland

## PERSONNEL

Name	Role (Lead or Partner)	Email	Phone
Kristen Wraithwall	Lead	kristen.wraithwall@yolocounty.org	530-666-8047
TBD	Partner, CEC		
Kerry Loux	Partner, City of Davis	kloux@cityofdavis.org	
Seamus Laffey	Partner, City of West Sacramento	seamusl@cityofwestsacramento.org	
Kirk Skierski	Partner, City of Winters	kirk.skierski@cityofwinters.org	
Rosie Ledesma	Partner, City of Woodland	rosie.ledesma@cityofwoodland.org	

Attachment K – Yolo Agricultural Equipment Retrofit Program Project Description



# County of Yolo

DEPARTMENT OF COMMUNITY SERVICES

Taro Echiburú  
DIRECTOR

***Planning & Public Works***

292 West Beamer Street  
Woodland, CA 95695-2598  
(530) 666-8775  
FAX (530) 666-8156  
[www.yolocounty.org](http://www.yolocounty.org)

***Environmental Health***

292 West Beamer Street  
Woodland, CA 95695-2598  
(530) 666-8646  
FAX (530) 669-1448  
[www.yolocounty.org](http://www.yolocounty.org)

***Integrated Waste Management***

44090 CR 28H  
Woodland, CA 95776  
(530) 666-8852  
FAX (530) 666-8853  
[www.yolocounty.org](http://www.yolocounty.org)

## YOLO AGRICULTURAL EQUIPMENT RETROFIT PROGRAM

Proposed Early Action to Implement Resolution No. 20-114 Related to the Climate Crisis

### PROPOSED ACTION

The proposed action will expand the Yolo-Solano Air Quality Management District's Funding Agricultural Replacement Measures for Emissions Reductions (FARMER) Program or other programs accomplishing similar objectives by providing additional funding to increase opportunities for Yolo County farmers. The FARMER Program provides funding to reduce greenhouse gas emissions from agricultural harvesting equipment, heavy-duty trucks, agricultural irrigation pump engines, tractors and/or other equipment used in agricultural operations. The expansion will prioritize funding for Yolo County farmers who meet the following criteria: 1) farmers considered historically underserved; 2) farmers most impacted by COVID-19, as demonstrated through a hardship affidavit; 3) small farming operations; and 4) farm operations where equipment retrofitting would have the largest greenhouse gas (GHG) emission reduction impact. By providing additional funds to the FARMER program or similar programs, the County can expand program benefits, including increasing the fuel efficiency of on-farm equipment and reducing harmful exhaust emissions. Program expansion will help the County achieve its 2011 Climate Action Plan goal of reducing fuel consumption by up to 6% in farm equipment, and achieving upgrades for 75% of tractors by 2030, resulting in 2,688 MT CO<sub>2</sub> saved per year. The County will partner with the Yolo County Farm Bureau to conduct outreach to farmers to inform them of this expanded opportunity.

### BACKGROUND

To administer the FARMER Program, the California Air Resources Board allocates funding to local air quality management districts, which then hold competitive solicitations to disburse these funds. The San Joaquin Valley Air Pollution Control District has typically received almost 80% of FARMER funds, with the remaining 20% of funds shared between all other air districts in the state. While these existing state programs are designed to help farmers transition to more sustainable agricultural practices and achieve climate action goals, they are underfunded, and can be inaccessible to historically underrepresented farmers. By providing supplemental funding to expand the FARMER Program, the County can improve accessibility of the FARMER program

and similar programs to help achieve climate action goals.

## **CONSISTENCY WITH EXISTING POLICIES**

Funding agricultural retrofits to reduce greenhouse gas emissions supports strategies outlined in the *Yolo County Sustainability Plan*. Specifically, the *Yolo County Sustainability Plan* includes

- Action EH-3.1: Promote agricultural methods that minimize air, soil, and water pollution consistent with the County's Organic Agriculture Program

The proposed action also supports the following measures outlined in the *2011 Yolo County Climate Action Plan*:

- A-2: Reduce fossil fuel consumption in field equipment
- A-3: Reduce energy use in agricultural irrigation pumping

## **BENEFITS TO DISADVANTAGED/VULNERABLE COMMUNITIES**

This action would benefit historically underrepresented farmers because they would be prioritized for funding for agriculture equipment retrofits, which will reduce fossil fuel consumption in equipment and reduce energy costs.

## **GREENHOUSE GAS EMISSION REDUCTION**

The projects implemented from the expanded grant program will reduce greenhouse gas emissions. The County would work with the Yolo-Solano Air Quality Management District to ensure grant recipients estimate their greenhouse gas emissions reductions.

## **CO-BENEFITS**

The proposed action will reduce repair costs for farmers, improve equipment reliability, and reduce harmful exhaust emissions.

## **TRANSFORMATIVE/REPLICABLE ELEMENTS**

Since the program in which the County would provide additional funding already exists, this proposed action would be easily implementable in other counties.

## **DEGREE OF READINESS**

This project requires an agreement with the Yolo-Solano Air Quality Management District to administer the grant program, and an agreement with the Yolo County Farm Bureau to conduct education and outreach to farmers about the program.



## COSTS

The costs to expand this program are unknown. Yolo County will develop cost estimates as part of developing the partnership with the Yolo-Solano Air Quality Management District.

## FUNDING

County staff may recommend allocating some American Rescue Plan funds to this program.

## CONCERNS

As only a one-time allocation of funds into the FARMER program, once the funds are disbursed, the programs will revert to their limited availability in the County. COVID-19 may make implementation of this proposed action difficult if in-person gatherings are restricted.

## PARTNERS

- Yolo County Air Quality Management District (administer of the funds)
- Yolo County Farm Bureau (education to farmers about the expansion program)

## PERSONNEL

Name	Role (Lead or Partner)	Email	Phone
Kristen Wraithwall	Lead	kristen.wraithwall@yolocounty.org	530-666-8047
Yolo-Solano Air Quality Management District	Co-Lead	TBD	TBD
Yolo County Farm Bureau	Co-Lead	TBD	TBD

Attachment L – Overview of Climate-Related Planning Efforts in Yolo County

# Climate-Related Planning Efforts in Yolo County



APRIL 2022

# Yolo County Climate Action Timeline

- ▶ Yolo County has been planning for climate change, sustainability, and emissions reduction since the 1980s
- ▶ The following slides outline some of the major climate action events of recent years



# Yolo County Climate Action Timeline: 2007

- ▶ Yolo County became one of 12 members to sponsor the Cool Counties Initiative, pledging to collectively reduce GHG emissions 80% below 1990 levels by 2050
- ▶ Yolo County Climate Change Compact
  - Information exchange on how best to analyze and reduce GHG emissions



# Yolo County Climate Action Timeline: 2008

## ► 2008 GHG Inventory

- Total emissions increased 6% between 1990 & 2008
- Unincorporated population grew by 9.8%

Figure ES-2: Greenhouse Gas Emissions by Jurisdiction in 1990

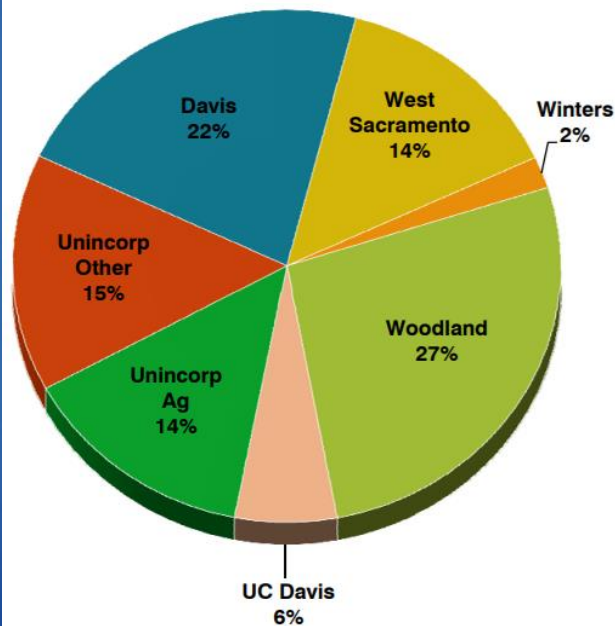
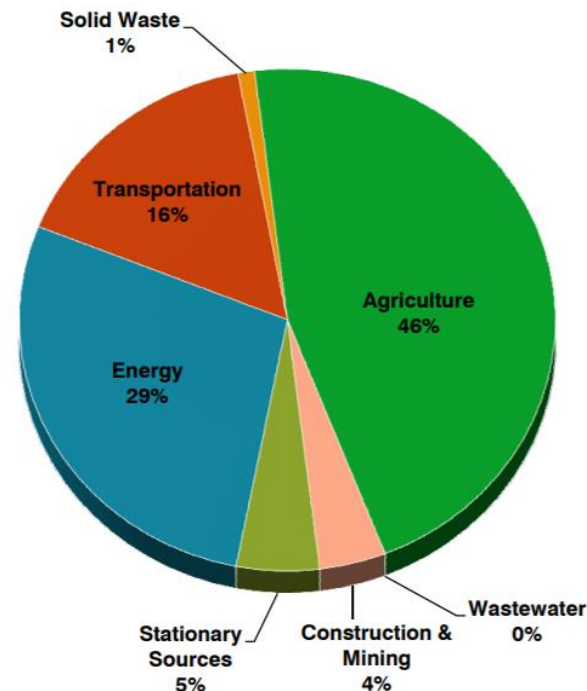


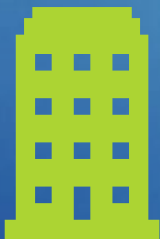
Figure ES-3: Unincorporated Greenhouse Gas Emissions by Sector in 2008



# Yolo County Climate Action Timeline: **2008** cont'd

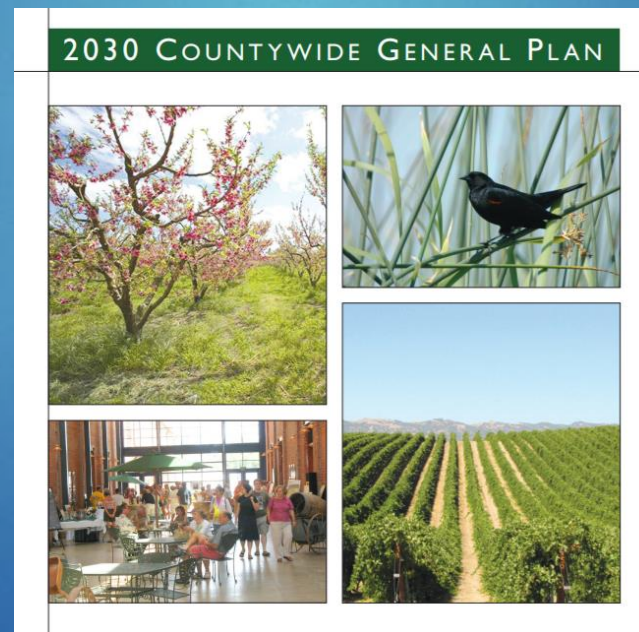
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- ▶ 2008 Action Plan for Reducing GHG Emissions
  - County Operations only
  - Conducted detailed inventory and analysis of three county facilities
  - Summarized general strategies to reduce operational GHG emissions
  - Recommendation for the County to consider adoption of a “no GHG emissions growth” from individual projects” policy



# Yolo County Climate Action Timeline: 2009

- ▶ Adopted 2030 General Plan
  - Contains 350+ policies that pertain to climate change
  - Requires County to develop a Climate Action Plan





# Yolo County Climate Action Timeline: 2011

7

## ► Climate Action Plan

- Goals
  - 1990 GHG levels by 2020
  - 27% below 1990 levels by 2030
  - 53% below 1990 levels by 2040
  - 80% below 1990 levels by 2050
  
- Key Findings on Reductions
  - Agriculture is nearly half of GHG emissions
    - Ag emissions reductions require very large shifts in crop patterns and operations
  - Reductions focuses on energy sector through building efficiency measures and building-scale renewable energy
  - Community Choice Aggregation Program accounts for 45% of GHG reductions



# Yolo County Climate Action Timeline: 2015

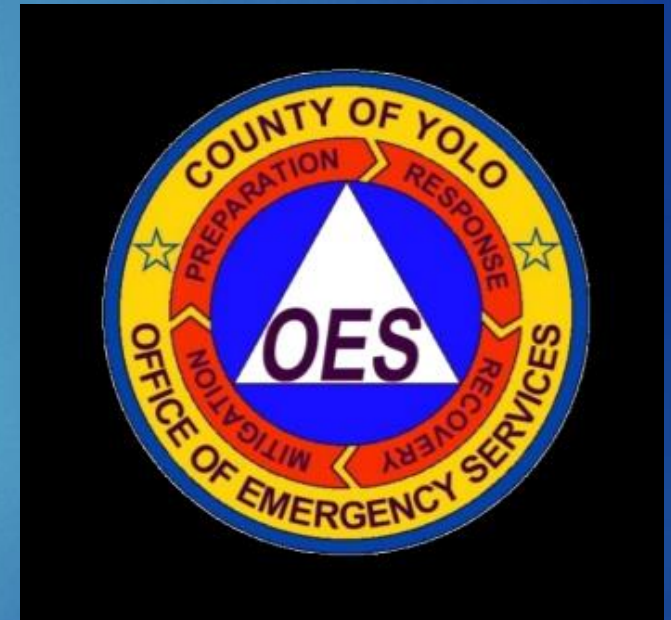
- ▶ CAP Progress Report
  - ▶ Produced by CivicSpark Fellows
  - ▶ Status of Measure Implementation on CAP's five strategies:
    - ▶ Agriculture
    - ▶ Transportation and Land Use
    - ▶ Building Energy
    - ▶ Solid Waste and Wastewater
    - ▶ Adaptation
  - ▶ Barriers to implementation included funding, capacity, staff time, leadership
  - ▶ Recommendations included:
    - ▶ Focusing on implementation, and
    - ▶ Establishing clear monitoring and reporting protocol for CAP progress



# Yolo County Climate Action Timeline: 2018

9

- ▶ Multi-jurisdictional Hazard Mitigation Plan - Yolo County Community Profile
  - ▶ Identifies climate change as a “highly likely” and “critical” hazard
  - ▶ References existing CAP mitigation measures
  - ▶ MJHMP integrated into Safety Element
- ▶ 2nd GHG Inventory
  - ▶ Uses 2016 data
  - ▶ Shows an overall emissions reduction of ~8%



# Yolo County Climate Action Timeline: 2018 cont'd

10

- ▶ Valley Clean Energy Alliance (VCE) was established as the Community Choice Aggregation Program and official electricity provider for Yolo County and provides energy with reduced environmental impacts.
  - Customers can opt out or choose from two level of cleaner energy choices:
    - Standard Green – 75% carbon free and 45% renewable energy sources, or
    - Ultra Green – 100% carbon free and 100% renewable energy sources



# Yolo County Climate Action Timeline: 2020

11

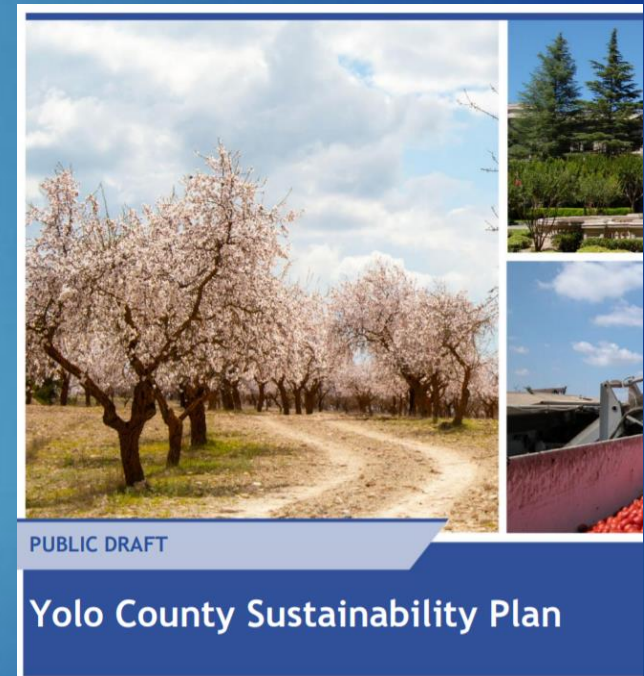
- ▶ Resolution Declaring a Climate Crisis Requiring an Urgent and Inclusive Mobilization in Yolo County
  - Declares climate change a crisis requiring urgent and immediate mobilization of resources
  - Directs creation of Yolo County Climate Action Commission charged with the development of the Yolo County 2022 Climate Action Plan and advising on Plan implementation
  - Carbon neutral, and then negative, by 2030



# Yolo County Climate Action Timeline: 2021

12

- ▶ Yolo County Sustainability Plan
  - Describes foundational policies and programs that support sustainability – roll up document
  - 7-year implementation timeframe
  - List 8 key elements (health, water, air quality, buildings, waste, local food, agriculture, and education)
  - Summarizes and compiles climate planning from the previous years, along with new equity considerations



# Yolo County Climate Action Timeline: 2022

13

- ▶ Yolo County Climate Action Commission
  - Develop Scope of Work for CAP
  - Prioritize Early Actions



Category of Membership	Number of members	Appointment	Voting Status
Supervisory District Community Members	5	Appointed by BOS	Yes
At-large Community Members	2	Appointed by 5 YCCAC members	Yes
Technical Lead (Climate Scientists/Subject Matter Experts)	1	Appointed by BOS with staff recommendation	Yes
Climate Scientists/Subject Matter Experts	2	Appointed by YCCAC	Yes
Environmental Justice Lead	1	Appointed by BOS with staff recommendation	Yes
Total	9 – 11		

# Yolo Lessons Learned

14

- ▶ VCE – significant part of action in the later 2010's
- ▶ Work from the Sustainability Plan to build the CAAP Scope of Work
  - Ensuring assigned leadership and budget
  - Ensure monitoring, reporting, verification
  - Many measures are nascent





# Interviews with Other Jurisdictions

15

- ▶ Interviews on CAP process and Scopes of Work
  - Completed
    - Monterey County
    - Santa Barbara County
    - Ventura County
    - Sacramento County
    - City of Sacramento
    - Napa County
  - Upcoming
    - A jurisdiction outside of California



# CAP SOW Lessons Learned

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- ▶ CAP needs dedicated staff at the senior level
- ▶ Half are doing CEQA-compliant CAPs for streamlining, half are not, for time efficiency
- ▶ High interest in a regional approach but time and capacity constraints
- ▶ Consultant involvement varied
- ▶ Adaptation included or in supporting documents



Attachment M – Long Range Calendar

## Yolo County Climate Action Commission

Long Range Calendar 2022

**UPDATED – April 20, 2022**

<b>Month</b>	<b>Topics</b>
February	Early Action Prioritization CAP Working Groups
March	Ad-Hoc Working Group Meets CAP Scope of Work Review Early Actions with Associated Budgets (Part I) Consider recommending the Board endorse Climate Safe California
April	Ad-Hoc Working Group Meets Review Early Actions with Associated Budgets (Part II) Presentation on Climate Action Efforts in Yolo County
May	Ad-Hoc Working Group Meets CAP Request for Proposals (Part I) CAP Communications Plan (BOS Consideration of Early Actions)
June	CAP Request for Proposals (Part II) Commission's Roles in State/Federal Advocacy Early Action Grant Strategy CAP Request for Proposals Recommendation to BOS (if needed)
July	(BOS Consideration of Early Action Grant Strategy) (Release of RFP)
August	Recommendations regarding best practices for evaluating the climate impact of proposed development projects
September	(Contract for CAP award)
October	CAP Process
November	CAP Kickoff
December	