

# EXAMPLE POLICY SUMMARIES

Many cities have enacted policies that reduce greenhouse gas emissions to supplement or replace climate action plans. Because many emission reduction strategies are not housed within a climate action plan, an inventory of applicable policies was conducted focusing on common emission sectors. A selection of these policy areas are included below.

## ALTERNATIVE ENERGY

Alternative energy refers to power derived from sources other than fossil fuels. Two sources of alternative energy that have become increasingly common are solar and wind power. Below are strategies that promote development of these alternatives.

1. Organize rebates for photovoltaic panels on a city-wide basis to provide incentives for solar system installation.

2. Provide property owners with the means to acquire financing through the City for the photovoltaic panels.

3. Establish wind districts through implementation of an ordinance that adds wind power to the list of conditional uses through the delegated district application. Conditional use permits simplify the acquisition of wind power as compared to instances where a variance must be used.

Berkeley FIRST is a photovoltaic panel financing program offered by the City of Berkeley. The program provides property owners with the means to acquire financing through the City's Sustainability Energy Financing District for the photovoltaic panels.

Kern County has established wind districts through implementation of an ordinance, positively contributing to the affordability and lessened time that it takes to build a small scale wind turbine in Kern County.



## PORTS

Ports are some of the largest emissions producers of any industry. Below are strategies concerning emission reductions implemented by cities in California.

1. Alternative Marine Power (AMP) can also be used to reduce the emissions of berthing vessels. This method utilizes on-shore electricity produced from power plants, preferably alternative, rather than burning diesel.



2. Upgrading vessels and yard equipment engines to those which run more efficiently and conversion to alternative fuels such as biodiesel, compressed natural gas, or liquid natural gas.

3. Many ports are also beginning to require that harbor craft be powered by engines meeting EPA tier II or III emission standards. Newer engines with electronic fuel management systems can reduce fuel consumption by 20%.



## WATER

Water conservation will be a major component of emissions reduction because of the energy involved for the production, treatment, and transportation.

1. Convert park and parkway sites to native vegetation, which uses as little as 20% of the water, no chemicals and requires few other resources for maintenance



2. Require a retrofitting process for indoor fixtures to meet current efficiency standards and leak repair for all existing single family and multifamily homes at the time of purchase.

3. Encourage harvesting, collection, and use of rainwater from residential and commercial roof surfaces for on-site landscape irrigation and domestic uses. Rainwater collection should not reduce runoff that would occur naturally before development occurred on the site.



## Benicia Climate Action Plan