

City of Watsonville Climate Action and Adaptation Plan 2030			
	Area	Draft Strategy/Initiative	Timeline Short (next 2 years) Medium (2 - 6 years) Long (6 years +)
1	Transportation	Improve alternative and active transportation infrastructure for individuals (primarily active transportation such as protected/separated bike lanes, bike storage, multi-use trails, pedestrian improvements) to Reduce Vehicle Miles Traveled (VMT)	Ongoing
2		Consider a telecommuting policy for City staff to cut commuting carbon emissions to Reduce Vehicle Miles Traveled (VMT)	Short
3		Participate in programs encouraging Electric Vehicle purchasing among low-income residents that include support with applying for rebates and financial assistance.	Ongoing
4		Collaborate with regional organizations to improve public/mass transportation infrastructure and options to Reduce Vehicle Miles Traveled (VMT)	Ongoing
5		Revise City Fleet policy to mandate more Electric Vehicles and look for funding	Medium
6		Create regularly scheduled open streets events in Watsonville	Medium
7		Look into and Encourage Bike loan/financing membership program for Watsonville residents.	Short
8		Create EV charging facilities in public parking areas (City owned lots)	Short
9		Implement eBike Share/eScooter Share programs and provide safety education and support programs	Medium
10		Discounted bus pass for Watsonville residents and students	Medium
11		Advocate for City residents in regional alternative transportation programs and connections - public transportation	Ongoing
12		Incentivize City employee carpool program	Short
13		Develop programs to assist residents in telecommuting	Short
14	Energy	Collaborate with regional organizations to upgrade home electrical sub-panels (breaker panels) of multifamily/low-income households to be ready for any future energy-efficient upgrades like replacing natural gas appliances with electric ones, installing solar panels, or plugging in an electric vehicle.	Ongoing
15		Explore and encourage Vehicle to Grid (V2G) charging stations to bring more storage to the energy grid - potentially very beneficial and cost-effective if City pursues large electric vehicles (garbage trucks, etc.)	Medium
16		Utilize bond financing (and other financing mechanisms) to develop solar and battery backup on public and nonprofit owned facilities	Medium
17		Work with other agencies to increase community preparedness for power outages by developing educational materials and conducting outreach.	Short
18		Make energy efficiency improvements to city-owned water and wastewater infrastructure	Ongoing

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19		Participate in Community Choice Energy (Central Coast Community Energy) to ensure continued commitment to greenhouse gas reduction goals and local re-investment. (higher percentage of power purchase as clean local power)	Ongoing
20		Implement solar and battery storage for resilient power for critical facilities and facilities serving low- income communities.	Long
21		Pass ordinance requiring all new construction to be all-electric	Medium
22		Implement solar and battery storage for resilient power for critical facilities and facilities serving low- income communities.	Long
23		Develop community solar purchase agreement program, allowing residents to go solar	Short
24		Incentivize replacement of fossil gas appliances and equipment with electric equivalents in residential and non-residential buildings	Medium
25		Reduce energy required for cooling by implementing tree planting programs	Ongoing
26		Appoint a staff person to assess solar and storage protection to critical and community-serving facilities.	Long
27		Replace/supplement diesel/gas generators backup power at critical facilities with battery backup	Long
28		Implement additional energy-efficient improvements to street lights	Long
29	Waste Water & Solid Waste	Increase diversion of food waste from going to the landfill and continue to meet State mandates that require all food waste to be collected and composted. The current plan is for all food waste to go to a facility in Monterey while preserving community composting options.	Ongoing
30		Eliminate single-use plastics and prioritize reuse in food preparation, distribution, and sale.	Short
31		Retrofit Wastewater Treatment Plant to accept food waste (leads to renewable biogas fuel production, increased biosolids to be used as fertilizers, and potentially biochar to improve soil fertility among other benefits)	Long
32		Explore converting renewable biogas fuel into electrical energy through fuel cells at the wastewater treatment plant.	Short
33	Housing Building Codes & Ordinances	Create Vision (study session/workshop) for City and based on this examine height limits for buildings, parking space minimums, and decoupling parking and new developments.	Short
34		Improve sustainable building practices	Short
35		Require tree planting by ordinance (i.e. for every number of squared feet there needs to be a tree planted within city limits.) for new development and redevelopment	Short
36		Explore incentives for climate change related activities - solar systems, ADUs, - foster rapid transition.	Medium

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37		Adjust/Modify Carbon fund to remain viable (changes in code requirements have lead to less fees being levied and fewer contributions to fund)	Short
38	Agriculture Food & Water	Partner with PV Water and RCD to verify that the most efficient water delivery and irrigation systems and conservation practices are in use for farms.	Ongoing
39		Develop a regional agriculture plan to preserve agricultural land and publicize resources, grants, programs, and technical assistance for regional climate-smart practices.	Short
40		Expand lawn rebate program to include replacing lawns with food gardens	Short
41		(Advocacy) Work with County to create an ordinance that ensures workers are provided with adequate breaks/working conditions to accommodate health and safety concerns (during emergencies in particular)	Ongoing
42		Pilot project to promote regenerative agriculture	Medium
43		Launch an "Eat Local" initiative to inform the public, restaurants, and local businesses of the benefits to sourcing locally grown food.	Short
44		Explore allowing the use of vacant land for community gardens. Identify and remove barriers to encourage more urban agriculture like vertical gardens, raising chickens, etc.	Short
45		Explore joining regenerative agriculture initiatives in collaboration with local agricultural organizations such as RCD, Farm Bureau, Land Trust, PVWMA	Short
46		Expand Resource Conservation Center (formerly known as the Nature Center) to teach about disaster preparedness and access to needed resources; individual climate actions and access to resources for waste reduction, water, and energy conservation; pollution prevention, and food production and food waste reduction	Medium
47		Identify and remove barriers to vendors that sell local food.	Short
48		Support the Land Trust in exploring options and opportunities to return land stewardship to indigenous people.	Long
49	Restoration & Sequestration (removing carbon dioxide from the atmosphere)	Incentivize tree planting on public and private property to sequester carbon, provide shade and restore habitat.	Short
50		Develop a tree ordinance to protect existing trees.	Short
51		Coordinate meeting series with indigenous groups to discuss best practices on restoration strategies and actions.	Ongoing
52		Implement "Adopt a Tree" program (look at examples in SF and Berkeley)	Medium

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53		Research and explore the possibilities to develop a regional biochar facility (where we can use biosolids from the wastewater facility to create energy and soil amendments).	Ongoing
54	Financial	Research and potentially switch to public banking or a credit union for city finances that keeps investments local and does not invest in fossil fuels.	Short
55		Support principles for responsible investment (PRI) for city funds.	Medium
56	Neighborhood & community Strategies	Collaborate with partner organizations to develop neighborhood pods/networks for increased connection among neighbors and resiliency.	Ongoing
57		Support the creation of repair workshops and a tool library.	Medium
58		Invest in a regional broadband network to provide city-wide broadband access	Long
59	Policy & Public Health Strategies	Increase community education around the health impacts of climate change and disaster preparedness.	Short
60		Create a green purchasing policy for the City.	Short
61		Develop a local purchasing guide that gives preference to local businesses that promote sustainable and fair labour practices	Short
62		Create Regional Climate Action Plan (PVWMA, County, Central Coast)	Medium
63	Equitable & Green COVID Recovery	Collaborate with regional partners to support the creation of green jobs training programs.	Short