

Alameda County Government Services & Operations Climate Action Plan

Online Feedback Forum Summary | April 19 to May 17, 2022

Forum Objective

Alameda County released an [online feedback forum](#) via the Consider.It platform designed to obtain public input and priorities regarding a selection of draft Alameda County government operations and services climate action plan measures likely to be of interest to the public.

Methodology

This summary reflects the following forum data post-processing:

- Participants who registered, rated, or made comments on draft measures of their choosing from 6 tabs reflecting the plan's 6 action areas (community resilience, built environment, sustainable materials management, transportation, green economy and recovery, climate leadership and governance).

Forum Details

- **Duration:** April 19 to May 17, 2022
- **Individuals who viewed site:** over 350
- **Registrants:** 113 (does not include Alameda County Office of Sustainability or Cascadia Consulting Group staff)
- **Participants:** 80 (individuals who rated or made a point/comment)
- **Actions offered for review:** 109
- **Participants who rated:** 79
- **Points (pros/cons) made:** 191
- **Comments (replies to pros/cons) made:** 17
- **Proposals for new actions from participants:** 30

Promotion

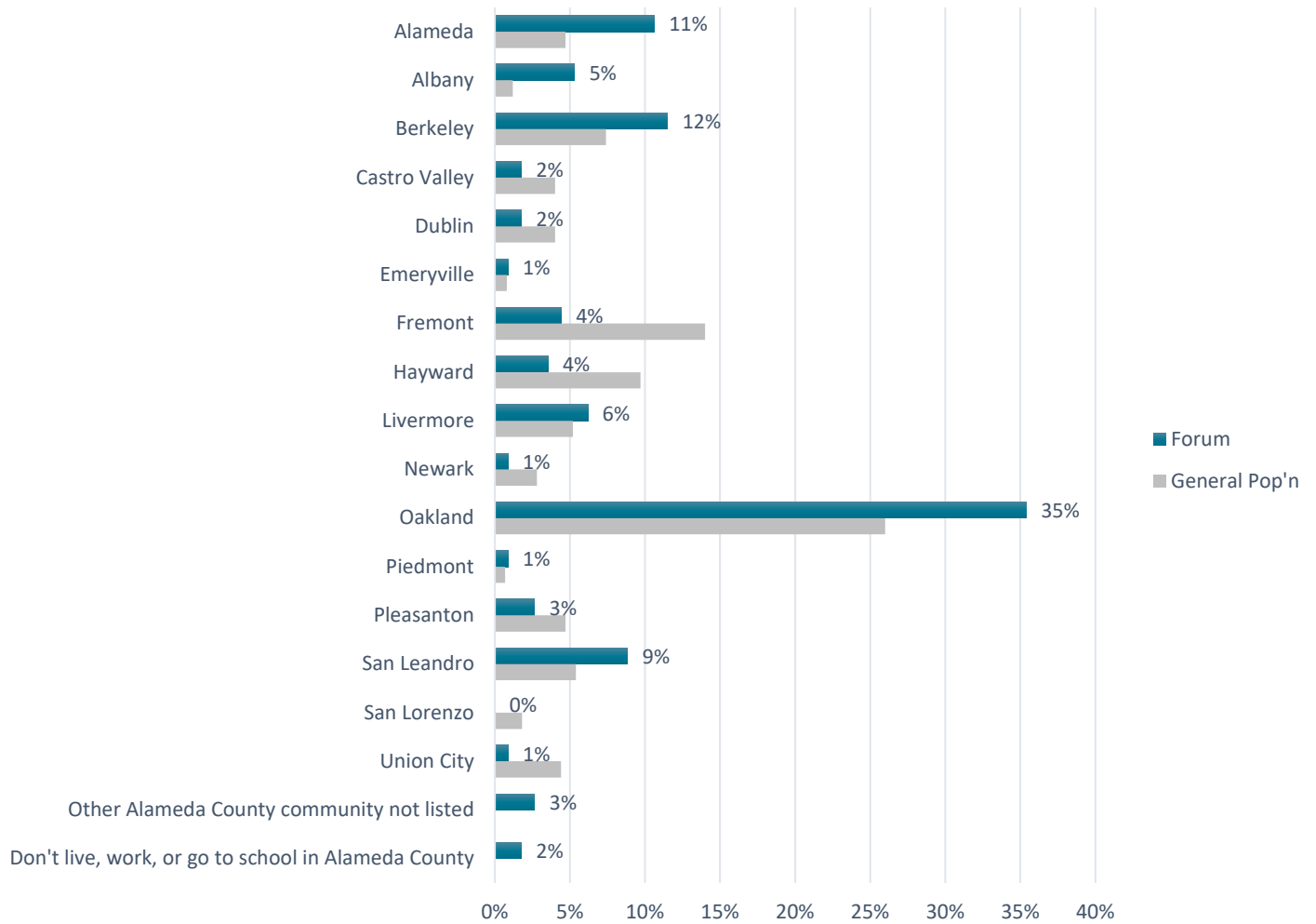
The online feedback forum was promoted in conjunction with the second virtual community workshop. The County shared forum and workshop invitations with community organizations and relevant experts by direct email and through County websites, newsletters, and social media accounts

In order to increase participation, outreach communication noted that participants would be entered into a raffle for a \$100 gift card. A soft launch of invited participants ensured the site had comments and ratings prior to launch.

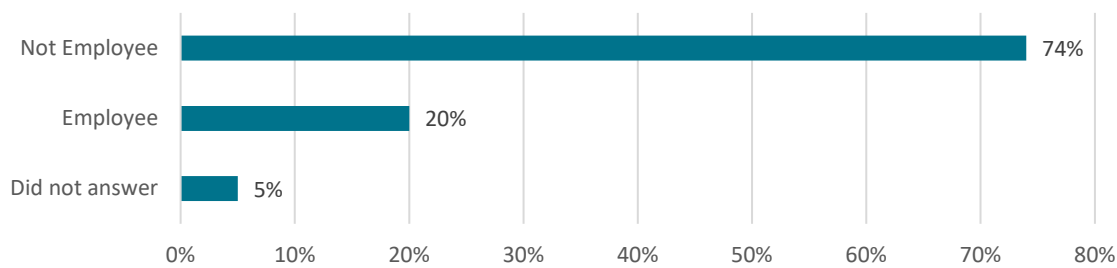
Flyers and social squares were created in English, Spanish, and Traditional Chinese. Through Google Translate, the forum was available in 98 languages.

Demographic Summary

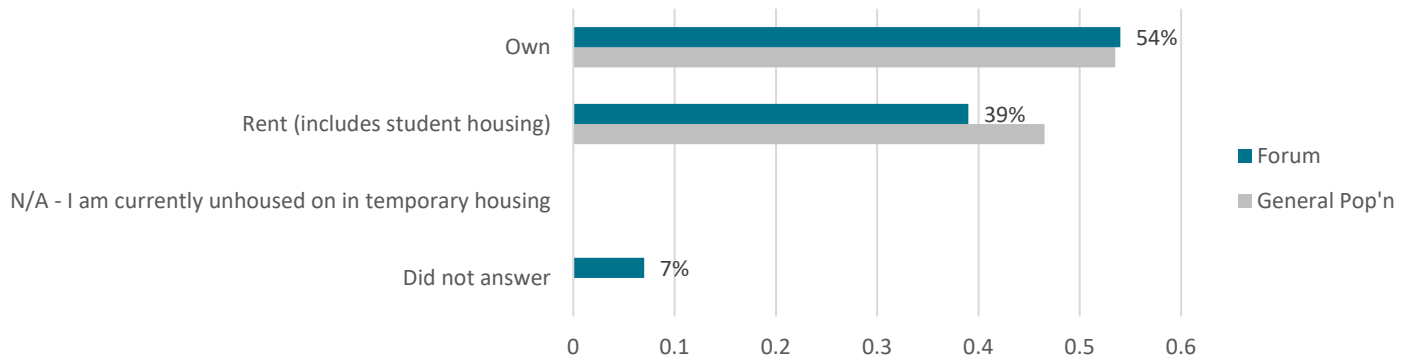
Relationship to Alameda County (mandatory - 113 responses)



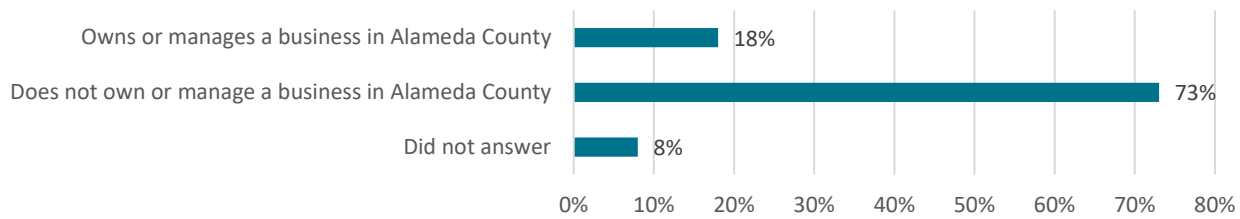
Employee (optional - 107 responses)



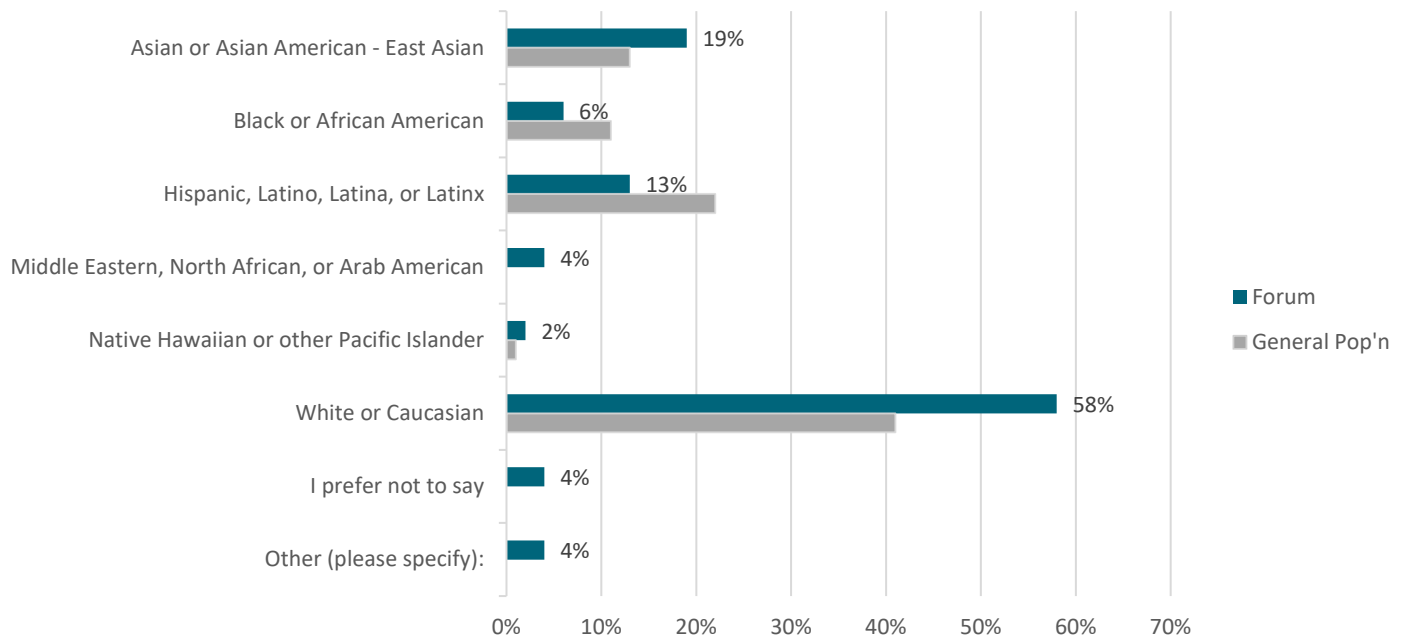
Home Ownership (optional - 105 responses)



Business Affiliation (optional - 103 responses)



Race/Ethnicity (optional - 109 responses)



Overarching Feedback and Takeaways

Participants were presented with 7-15 draft actions for 6 action areas – community resilience, built environment, sustainable materials management, transportation, green economy and recovery, and climate leadership and governance. Participants could rate measures by priority, add pros and cons, and respond to other participant’s pros and cons. Participants were also able to contribute their own ideas to each action area.

The priority ratings are on a scale of -100 (low priority) to +100 (high priority). Therefore, items will appear to have a lower rating than if the rating scale was 0 to 100.

The images of ratings shown in the Priority Ratings chart below are samples of one subsection for each action area.

Key themes are summarized below and in the table that follows:

- Community Resilience
 - o Participants were generally **supportive** of **prioritizing community preparedness**.
- Built Environment
 - o **Carbon reduction and sequestration strategies** and **water conservation** were a **high priority** for participants.
 - o Participants wanted to see even **more ambitious building electrification** and **tree planting plans**.
- Sustainable Materials Management
 - o Participants were generally **very supportive** of **sustainable materials management measures**, particularly relating to **food recovery, reuse, and source reduction**.
- Transportation
 - o Participants were generally **supportive** of **prioritizing employee commutes** relating to **parking and incentives** and were **very supportive** of **electric vehicles in the County fleet**.
- Green Economy & Recovery
 - o **Procurement** and **workforce development** were high priorities for participants.
 - o Participants wanted to see **additional GHG assessments** and support for **climate-related career opportunities**.
- Climate Leadership & Governance
 - o Participants were **highly supportive** of **public outreach** and **telework**.
 - o Participants wanted **more ambitious climate action planning and budgeting** within County processes.

Topic	Priority Ratings
Community Resilience	<p>Community resilience feedback:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Communication Channels (56% average priority rating on scale of -100 to +100) - Public Resilience Training (55% average) - Assessing Priority Populations (55% average) - Hazard Vulnerability Assessments (44% average) - Resilience Kiosk (11% average) - Neighborhood-Based Resources (61% average) - Supply Distribution (54% average) - Support for Disabled and Older Adults (57% average) - Resilience Center Network (49% average) - Mental Health Support (56% average) - Sea Level Rise in Flood Infrastructure (62% average) - Flood Control Infrastructure (56% average) - Wildfire Fuel Reduction (49% average) - Community Leadership (61% average) - Regional Coordination (54% average) <p> County System Preparedness </p> <div data-bbox="362 787 1523 1417"> <p>sort: Trending ▾</p> <p>All opinions Just you Custom view</p> <p>3. Assessing Priority Populations Conduct assessments to identify the populations within the County that are most vulnerable to climate-related emergencies. Share and work cross-agency to include assessments in emergency planning so that emergency response will meet community needs. <small>4/2/2022 7 pros 5 cons closed</small></p> <p>1. Communication Channels Reach people with information about climate-related events and protective actions who have not historically been reached by County communications channels including but not limited to, unhoused populations, Limited English Proficiency (LEP) populations, and those without technology access or proficiency. 1) Share information through the "Community Partners" Subscription housed in AC Alert so participating community partners can disseminate the information. 2) Partner with trusted community-based and faith-based organizations, the County Office of Education, schools, childcare, and youth programs to communicate. 3) Employ non-traditional communication methods. <small>4/2/2022 7 pros 5 cons closed</small></p> <p>2. Public Resilience Training Augment trainings for the public in community safety, emergency preparedness, and response with appropriate inclusion of climate-related threats. <small>4/2/2022 8 pros 5 cons closed</small></p> </div>
Built Environment	<p>Built environment feedback:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - All Electric New Construction (72% average priority rating on scale of -100 to +100) - Procure Renewable Electricity (76% average) - Maximize Energy Efficiency (77 average) - Distributed Energy Resources (70% average) - Phase Out Small Natural Gas Fired Equipment (61% average) - Update Ordinances to Support Resilience (65% average) - Use Climate Resilience Decision Tools (63% average) - Develop Climate Resilience Decision Tools (51% average) - Sequester Carbon with Tree Planting (76% average) - Low-Carbon Accessibility of New Facilities (66% average) - Embodied Carbon in Construction (68% average) - Water Use Efficiency (87% average)

Electrification and Energy Efficiency

sort: Trending

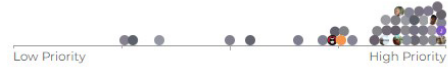
All opinions Just you Custom view



1. All Electric New Construction

Require all new facility construction funded by the County to be all-electric. Ensure design meets load requirements for current and future electric vehicle infrastructure needs for County and public use.

4/7/2022 8 pros 6 cons closed



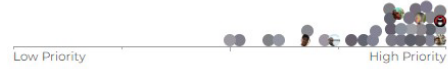
41 opinions
72% average



2. Procure Renewable Electricity

Procure renewable electricity for buildings and facilities.

4/7/2022 3 pros 6 cons closed



34 opinions
76% average



3. Maximize Energy Efficiency

Develop and implement operational procedures to maximize energy efficiency and generation potential of renewable energy generation resources and storage, in alignment with industry best practices such as Title 24 or ASHRAE standards, with the goal of optimizing efficiency and extending the equipment lifetimes. Create policies for set points for major building systems. Establish training program and performance accountability within building maintenance operations to meet these goals.

4/7/2022 5 pros 6 cons closed



31 opinions
77% average

Sustainable Materials Management

Sustainable materials management feedback:

- Edible Food Recovery (82% average priority rating on scale of -100 to +100)
- Sustainable Food Operations (74% average)
- Job Training (Repair) (69% average)
- Job Training (Litter Clean Ups) (52% average)
- Reuse (Regional) (61% average)
- Reuse (Online Database) (72% average)
- Strengthen Purchasing Policy (51% average)
- Reuse Policy (53% average)
- Reuse (Rental/Leasing) (46% average)
- Zero Waste Events (58% average)
- Construction and Demolition (61% average)

Implementation of Sustainable Materials Management Goals

sort: Trending

All opinions Just you Custom view



1. Edible Food Recovery

Implement a plan to recover high-quality, edible food in current and future municipal food operations to benefit food-insecure populations, where there is opportunity to do so. Update building design guidelines to reflect capacity planning requirements for future food-generating County facilities.

4/5/2022 5 pros 6 cons closed



28 opinions
82% average



2. Sustainable Food Operations

Facilitate operational changes to prevent the use of unnecessary single-use disposables and promote the sustainable use of reusable, high quality, and durable products, such as reusable dishware in food service.

4/5/2022 2 pros 6 cons closed



25 opinions
74% average



3. Job Training (Repair)

Explore development of a repair job training initiative as part of a re-entry program for individuals facing barriers to traditional employment.

4/5/2022 3 pros 6 cons closed



21 opinions
69% average

Topic	Priority Ratings
Transportation	<p>Transportation feedback:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Parking Buy Back Program (65% average priority rating on scale of -100 to +100) - Parking Policies (61% average) - Parking Spot Allocation (58% average) - Parking Revenue (48% average) - Alternative Commute Incentives (80% average) - Active Travel Support (50% average) - Local Rideshare Partnership (44% average) - Shuttle Services for Employees and the Public (66% average) - Efficient Mobility (30% average) - Electric Vehicles (77% average) <p> Employee Commutes - Parking </p> <div data-bbox="358 606 1451 1050"> <p>sort: Trending ▾</p> <p>All opinions Just you Custom view</p> <p>2. Parking Policies Decrease single-occupancy commutes in gas vehicles through altering parking policies and offering alternative commute incentives. 4/2/2022 4 pros 6 cons closed 23 opinions 61% average</p> <p>1. Parking Buy Back Program Re-engage parking buy-back program in Oakland that reimburses employees on days they do not use their parking space, thereby increasing land-use efficiency and encouraging clean commuting. 4/2/2022 3 pros 6 cons closed 20 opinions 65% average</p> <p>3. Parking Spot Allocation Dedicate an increasing amount of parking throughout County-owned parking lots for carpools, low emission vehicles (LEV), or zero emission vehicles (ZEV) only. This measure will apply to County parking lots that are also available to the public. 4/2/2022 2 pros 6 cons closed 21 opinions 58% average</p> </div>
Green Economy & Recovery	<p>Green economy & recovery feedback:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Sustainable Operations Incentives (64% average priority rating on scale of -100 to +100) - Protective Actions Support (63% average) - Vendor Capacity (43% average) - Reuse/Repair (Regional Collaborative) (68% average) - Procurement and Food Security (Strategic Plan) (68% average) - Reuse/Repair (Pilot Program) - Procurement and Food Security (Purchasing) (57% average) - Workforce Development (74% average)

Topic **Priority Ratings**

▼ **Procurement**

sort: Trending ▼

All opinions Just you Custom view

1. Sustainable Operations Incentives
 Explore and implement contract mechanisms or other incentives to encourage vendors to advance sustainability in their operations, such as becoming certified by the Alameda County Green Business Program. Encourage businesses to produce sustainable goods locally when possible
 4/2/2022 3 pros 5 cons closed 18 opinions 64% average

2. Protective Actions Support
 Explore new incentives, requirements, mechanisms and funding for contracted service providers serving populations disproportionately impacted by climate change to support clients' uptake of appropriate protective actions and health services needed before, during, and after climate shocks
 4/2/2022 0 pros 5 cons closed 18 opinions 63% average

3. Vendor Capacity
 Support the resilience and sustainability capacity of current and prospective county vendors and contracted service providers in their operations
 4/2/2022 0 pros 5 cons closed 14 opinions 43% average

Climate Leadership & Governance

Climate leadership & governance feedback:

- Legislative Advocacy (59% average priority rating on scale of -100 to +100)
- Public Outreach (70% average)
- External Sharing (54% average)
- Vision and Strategic Planning (71% average)
- Resources for Implementing Staff (68% average)
- Targets and Metrics (63% average)
- Expanding Telework (79% average)
- Employee Safety (72% average)
- Equipping Employees for Climate Response (56% average)

▼ **Advocacy and Outreach**

sort: Trending ▼

All opinions Just you Custom view

1. Legislative Advocacy
 Advocate at state and federal levels for resources for communities most affected by climate impacts, and advocate that climate solutions be co-created with communities.
 3/23/2022 2 pros 6 cons closed 22 opinions 59% average

2. Public Outreach
 Use channels such as websites, social media, newsletters, public spaces (e.g., County facilities where the public visits), and existing community group partnerships to inform local residents about the County's climate action process. In addition, share information on city and unincorporated community climate action plans and steps the public can take.
 3/23/2022 3 pros 6 cons closed 17 opinions 70% average

3. External Sharing
 Share lessons and exchange information with other organizations through publishing case studies, speaking at conferences, and contributing to research on the field.
 3/23/2022 1 pro 0 con closed 15 opinions 54% average

Topic	Other Ideas from Participants
Community Resilience	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - <i>“Free emergency kits for low-income residents”</i> - <i>“Plant Trees / Get Rid of Lawns in City & Private Landscaping”</i> - <i>“Please consider adding Pets and Wildlife as a community who also require a strategy and plan for climate resilience and assistance.”</i> - <i>“Require new construction to include greywater stub outs and rainwater harvesting”</i> - <i>“Building with Carbon Negative concrete and DAC space.”</i>
Built Environment	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - <i>“Phase out fossil fuels in all county facilities”</i> - <i>“Preserve and properly manage open space to secure watersheds and minimize wildfire risks.”</i> - <i>“Projects should include Climate Change Analysis in Staff Reports.”</i> - <i>“Require rainwater harvesting and greywater stub outs in all new construction and in building upgrades”</i>
Sustainable Materials Management	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - <i>“Plant-Based Food Forward”</i> - <i>“In order to be sustainable, it’s essential that you check the materials used to make the piece, how the material is sourced and how it will decompose at the end of its life are important factors to consider.”</i>
Transportation	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - <i>“Zero-emission County fleets”</i> - <i>“Provide transit passes to low-income residents”</i> - <i>“Allow county employees with flexibility for remote work where feasible”</i> - <i>“Accelerate adoption of EVs in the county fleet”</i> - <i>“Provide Zero Emission Bicycle Fleet”</i> - <i>“Provide funding to county residents towards the purchase of electric vehicles.”</i>
Green Economy & Recovery	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - <i>“If you don’t measure it, you can’t manage it When it comes to climate policy-making and related investments, we need to have a multi-dimensional approach, aimed not just at cutting greenhouse gas emissions, but raising GDP, creating jobs.”</i>
Climate Leadership & Governance	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - <i>“Support youth and develop their leadership capacity”</i> - <i>“Work with other departments and entities that operate in Alameda County”</i> - <i>“Support getting a measure on the ballot to provide Climate Action Funding.”</i> - <i>“Reduce tourism’s carbon footprint to address the sector’s contribution to climate change”</i>