

SCAG Climate Action Resolution

Year One Update

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January 6, 2022

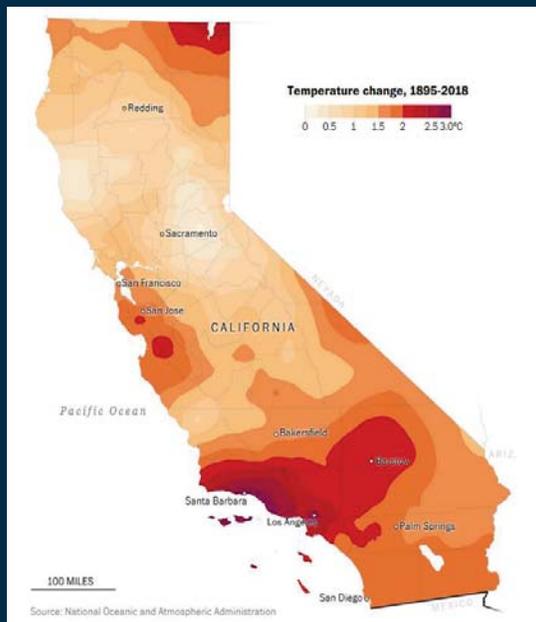
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Climate Change Impacts in the SCAG Region



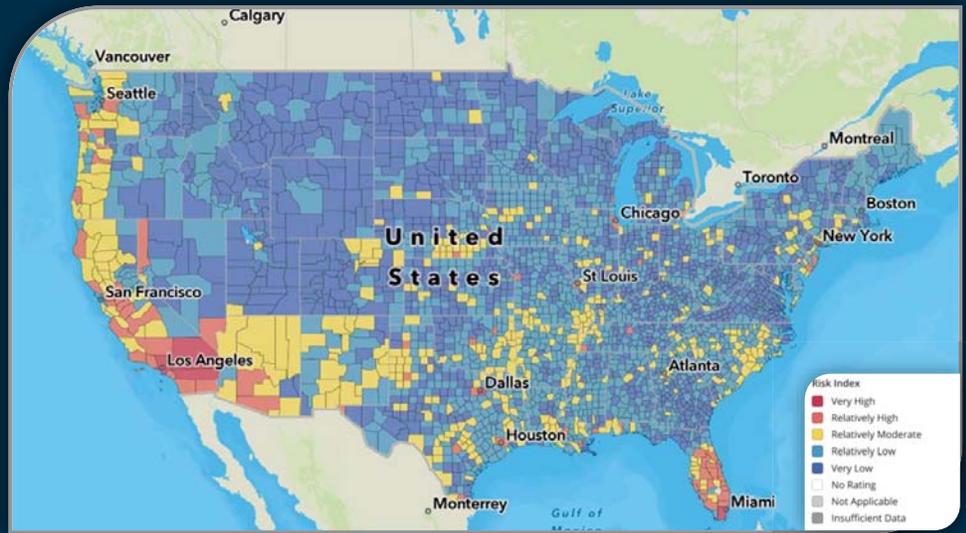
-  *Extreme Heat*
-  *Sea Level Rise/Coastal Flooding and Erosion*
-  *Severe Storms/Wind*
-  *Inland Flooding*
-  *Drought*
-  *Wildfire*
-  *Air Quality and Vector Borne Diseases*
-  *Landslides*
-  *Pests and Ecological Hazards*



FEMA National Risk Index



- In October 2020, FEMA identified Southern California as one of the most vulnerable areas in the U.S. due to natural hazards
- Los Angeles County is the most at-risk nationwide
- Riverside County and San Bernardino County are amongst the 10 highest at-risk counties in the U.S.



Climate Change Action Resolution – adopted January 7, 2021



- Regional Resilience Framework
- Climate Planning Network
- Regional Advanced Mitigation Program (RAMP)
- Accelerated Electrification
- Inclusive Economic Recovery Strategy
- Climate Adaptation & Mitigation Analysis and Strategies in the 2024 RTP/SCS
- Partnership Potential
 - *Climate Action Plans*
 - *Urban Greening*
 - *Safety elements*
 - *Hazard mitigation infrastructure financing*
 - *Urban heat mitigation*
 - *Wildlife corridor restoration & greenway connectivity*
 - *EV permitting*



Stakeholder Outreach



Local Jurisdiction Practitioners

- Two focus groups with 8 different jurisdictions
- Online survey tool to seek input from all jurisdictions
- Interviews with jurisdictions for case study analysis



Broader Group of Stakeholders

- Interviews with 8 CBOs
- Quarterly Climate Adaptation Working Group Meetings
- Two Public “Toolbox Tuesday” Trainings on SCAG’s Climate Adaptation Framework & Tools
- Five Public Pop-Up Climate Talks Events



Elected Officials

- Subregional COG Presentations
- Presentation to SCAG’s Energy & Environment Policy Committee
- Presentation to SCAG’s Regional Council



Climate Talks Public Outreach Events



Redondo Beach Pier Summer Concert Series, 08/24/19



Taste of Baldwin Park, 08/29/19



Climate Resolve Keep LA Cool Day @ Hansen Dam, 09/07/19



Open Arts & Music Festival, 09/15/19



Urban Hive Market Long Beach, 09/28/19

Outreach Findings Highlights



Local Jurisdiction Practitioners

- Lack of dedicated staffing resources for climate planning
- Activities should cross departments
- High turnover and lack of champions or oversight is challenging
- Jurisdictions need more tools and datasets to track performance and would like to coordinate with counterparts

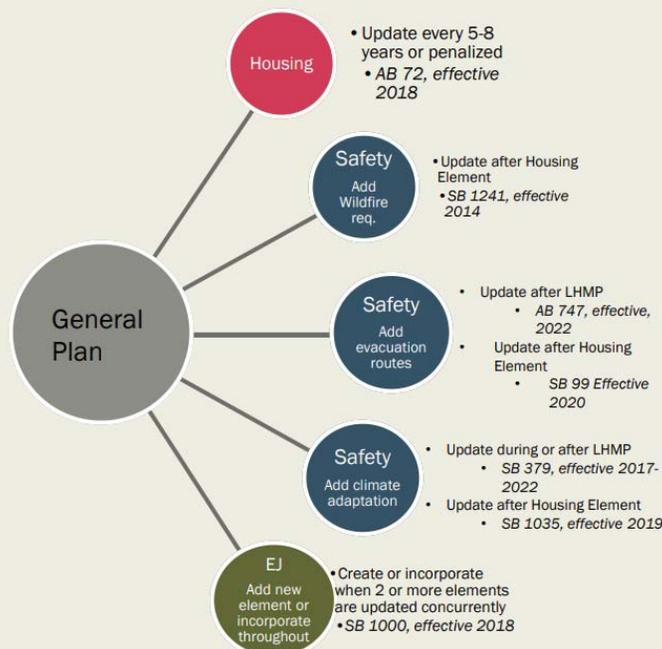
Broader Group of Stakeholders

- There is a general knowledge gap on climate change solutions
- Linkages of community impacts from climate change can be challenging to convey
- Maps of climate impacts are not the best means for conveying impacts; images and statistics on local quality of life are
- The language of climate change and adaptation may not be familiar to several audiences

Elected Officials

- Health, socioeconomic, and racial equity considerations should be included in regional policymaking addressing climate hazards
- SCAG shall develop a regional resilience framework, a regional climate planning network, and partnerships to support jurisdictions' climate planning initiatives

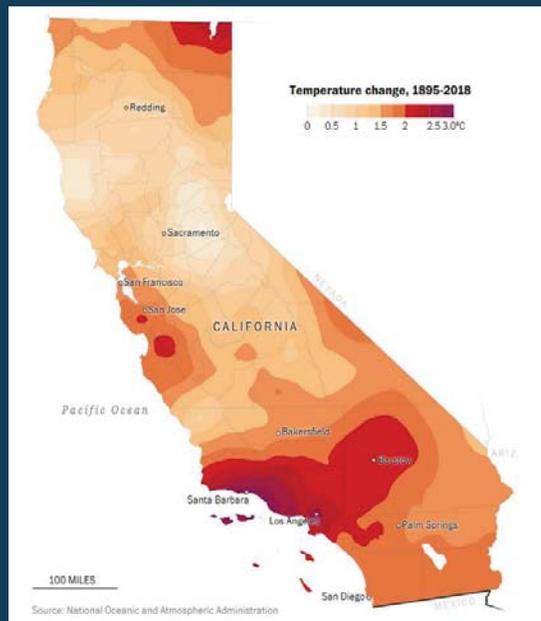
Recent Changes Affecting General Plan Elements



What is SB 379?

- Passed in 2015, builds upon AB 162 (flood) and SB 1241 (fire)
- Key legislation for implementation of State's climate adaptation goals under Safeguarding California
- Applies to all cities and counties in California
- Requires climate adaptation and resilience strategies to be incorporated into the general plan safety element by

January 1, 2022



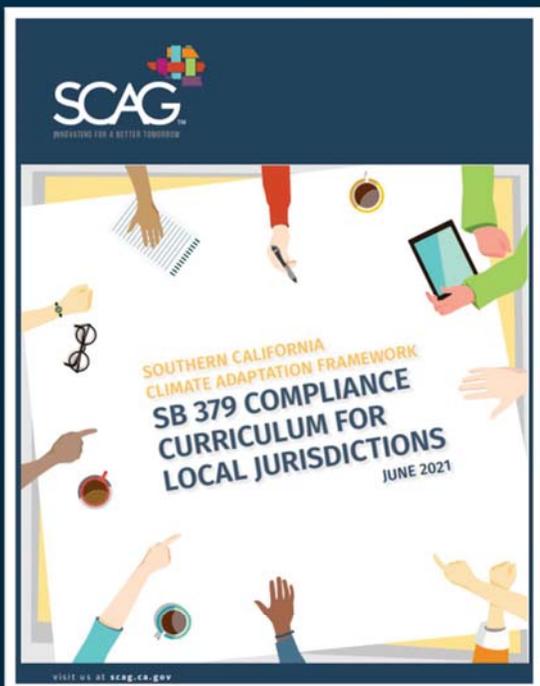
What are the statutory requirements of SB 379?

Three main components of SB 379:

1. A vulnerability assessment that identifies the risks that climate change poses to the local jurisdiction and the geographic areas at risk from climate change impacts;
2. A set of adaptation and resilience goals, policies, and objectives based on the information in the vulnerability assessment for the protection of the community; and
3. A set of feasible implementation measures designed to carry out the identified goals, policies, and objectives.

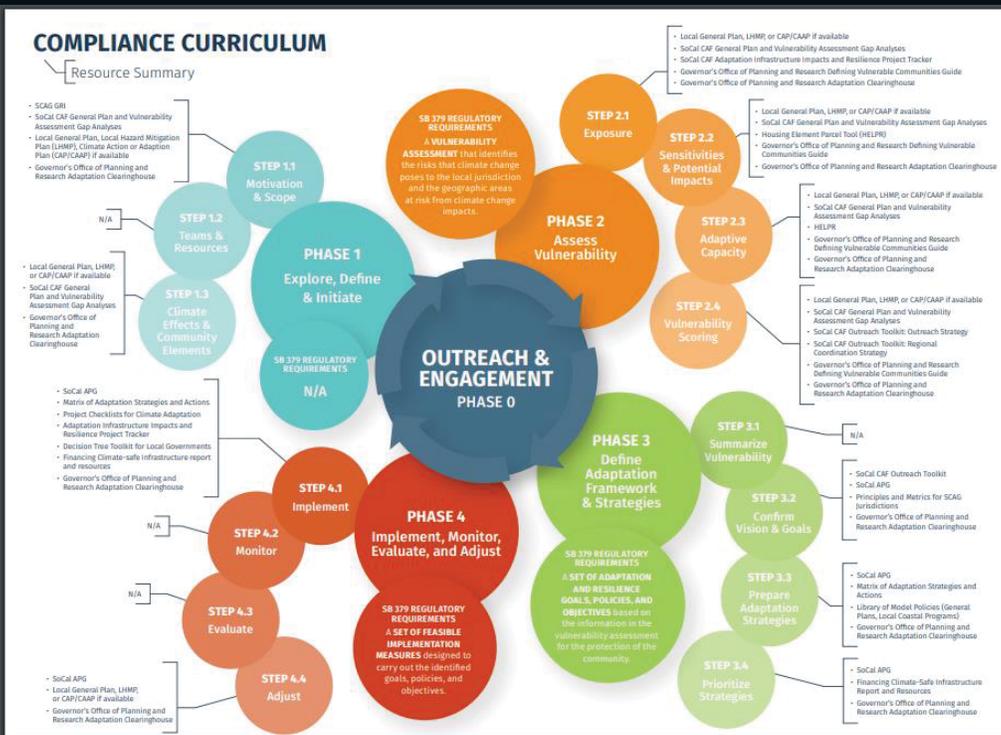
An existing local hazard mitigation plan, climate adaptation plan, or other similar planning document that fulfills the requirements of SB 379 can be used to comply with the law by updating the safety element with a summary of, reference to, and/or attachment of the other compliant plan.

Climate Planning in California – SB 379



- New resource that provides a "compliance curriculum" to meet the requirements of SB 379
- Links existing SCAG, Climate Adaptation Framework, and other available adaptation planning resources and tools to support local safety element updates
- Follows the SoCal Adaptation Planning Guide's 4 Phases of Adaptation Planning and step-by-step guidance for local jurisdictions

How do you use the SB 379 Guidebook?



SoCal Climate Adaptation Planning Guide

Southern California Climate Adaptation Planning Guide



- Based on the research results, 84 cities and 4 counties in the SCAG region have adopted climate adaptation policies or are in the process of updating their policy documents. This corresponds to 44 percent of the total number of SCAG cities, counties and tribal governments. These cities and counties were ranked as platinum, gold, or silver based on the degree to which their policies addressed various climate change risks. Most were ranked silver (the lowest ranking) because climate change impacts were acknowledged in their planning documents as a risk but adaptation strategies or policies to address the risk were not identified.
- Only 14 cities and counties in the SCAG region have adopted or drafted an updated safety element that addresses climate change. This corresponds to 7 percent of the total number of SCAG cities, counties and tribal governments.

The policy gap analysis describes the criteria used to rank each city and county, and provides a summary of results by county. The results are summarized in a report titled Gap Analysis of Climate Adaptation Policies in the SCAG Region (available on the SCAG website) and in an interactive web map located [Here](#).

Existing Resources for Adaptation Planning

There are a multitude of existing frameworks and guidance documents that are useful for climate change adaptation planning. Appendix A describes those that provide the most value to SCAG member agencies, selected based on their currency and their relevance to the region's geography, natural resources, and demographics. Many are resources developed by the State of California, which has made a concerted effort in recent years to provide planning assistance to state agencies and to local and regional governments that are faced with the challenge of adapting their communities to climate change impacts.

Many of these resources are referenced in the following section on The Adaptation Planning Process, which as a whole aligns closely with the phases and steps used by the California APG.

SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA TODAY

30

Policy gap analysis:

- 44% of SCAG jurisdictions have adopted climate adaptation policies
- 14 cities and counties (7%) updated safety element for climate change



Climate Planning Network – Information Hub



The project was funded by the Caltrans Adaptation Planning grant program.



Extreme Heat

- Require Green or White Roofs.** Require green or white roofs, depending upon sub-regional locations and water requirements, to reduce solar gain and heat island effects.
- Encourage Landscaping to Reduce Heat.** Develop landscaping standards and guidelines to encourage or require native-cultivar drought tolerant landscaping with enough coverage to provide shade and reduce heat absorption.
- Encourage Building Design Features that Create Shade.** Modify the community's zoning ordinance and/or design guidelines to allow and encourage awnings, canopies, arcades and/or colonnades that can enclose outdoor spaces.
- Allow Ancillary Structures.** Allow structures that provide shade in parks and public spaces.

Severe Storms/Wind

- Adopt an Urban Canopy Ordinance.** Adopt an urban canopy ordinance that includes guidance and standards for proper tree pruning to preserve the structural integrity of trees, including the professional loss.

Wildfire

- Use Open-Space Zoning or Low-Density Large-Lot Zoning in the Wildland-Urban-Interface.** Use open-space zoning and/or low-density large-lot zoning to reduce exposure and risk of development within the Wildland-Urban-Interface.

<https://bit.ly/SCAGClimate>

Climate Planning Network: SCAG Technical Assistance



Incorporating Climate Adaptation into Planning Efforts

Wednesday, June 30, 2021
9:00 AM - 12:00 PM

LARC

SCAG
SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA
EDISON
Energy for What's Ahead

Climate Resolve

MALIBU FOUNDATION



SCAG

SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA

SB 379 COMPLIANCE CURRICULUM FOR LOCAL JURISDICTIONS
JUNE 2021



COP26 UN CLIMATE CHANGE CONFERENCE UK 2021

IN PARTNERSHIP WITH ITALY

Climate Change Adaptation Lab: Resilient Regions and Good Governance

Blue Zone, Glasgow City Region Pavilion | Virtual

Climate-KIC Co-funded by the European Union

CALIFORNIA NATURAL RESOURCES AGENCY

Climate Change 2021: The Push to Carbon Neutrality, Adaptation, and Resiliency

Virtual Conference • December 1-2, 2021

AIR & WASTE MANAGEMENT ASSOCIATION

INSTITUTE FOR TRANSPORTATION



For one-on-one technical assistance support, please contact SCAG staff at: LIST@scag.ca.gov

SB 1072 Regional Climate Collaboratives Program



- Align climate collaboratives with Regional Planning activities
- Fund collaboratives to conduct capacity building activities to drive and sustain climate action
- Assist under-resourced communities within a region to access statewide public and other grant moneys
- Incorporate community-driven leadership
- Additional workshops coming in February
- SGC received \$20 Million to implement the program



Under-resourced Communities



1. Top 25% CalEnviroScreen
2. AB 1550 low-income Communities
3. Communities with median household income less than 80% of statewide average

Regional Advanced Mitigation Program



- **Goal:** Expedite project delivery and achieve meaningful conservation outcomes
- Specifically, we aim to:
 - Save time
 - Save money
 - Improve project delivery and conservation outcomes
 - Encourage agency communication
 - Compliment existing efforts
- **Simply put:** helping resource and transportation agencies achieve more efficient mitigation aligned with goals



Thank You!

Questions?

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