

CITY OF SACRAMENTO

City of
SACRAMENTO

UC DAVIS
UNIVERSITY OF CALIFORNIA

2024 VOLUNTARY LOCAL REVIEW

ON THE UN SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT GOALS



City of Sacramento Voluntary Local Review on the UN Sustainable Development Goals

A Joint Project by the University of California, Davis and the City of Sacramento
November 2024

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2024 VOLUNTARY LOCAL REVIEW

ON THE UN SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT GOALS

Dear Reader,

In 2023-24, the University of California, Davis and the City of Sacramento embarked on a significant collaborative endeavor to assess and advance the implementation of the United Nations 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development and the 17 Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) in our community. This city-university project culminated in the drafting of this report, termed a Voluntary Local Review, which is modeled after the Voluntary National Reviews prepared by national governments to document progress at the countrywide level. We are pleased to offer this report, which aligns the SDGs to Sacramento's 2040 General Plan and Climate Action & Adaptation Plan and offers an overview of the City's progress towards the SDGs.

The SDGs represent a shared vision for a more sustainable, equitable, and inclusive world. This collaboration underscores our commitment to not only recognize the transformative power of these global objectives but also actively contribute to their realization locally, within the fabric of Sacramento.

In the vibrant and diverse tapestry of Sacramento, we see a community that is proactively addressing the challenges outlined in the SDGs. From reducing inequalities to promoting inclusive urbanization, Sacramento has undertaken substantial initiatives aligned with the SDGs, fostering an environment that values diversity and inclusivity.

The City of Sacramento has prioritized neighborhood and community engagement to understand the full scope of challenges that are affecting constituents, to support continuing engagement by all, and to develop sustainable solutions that incorporate a diversity of talents, experiences, and perspectives across the city landscape. These local efforts are critical to Leave No One Behind, a global principle which is articulated in the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development.

This Voluntary Local Review also underscores the importance of partnerships between academic institutions and local government in fostering positive change. By combining the expertise of UC Davis and the City of Sacramento, we aim to provide a nuanced and wide-ranging perspective on our local progress towards the SDGs. We envision that this project will open many new opportunities to work together for the benefit of people, planet and prosperity in our local communities, in support of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development and the 17 SDGs.

Our collaborative spirit reflects the belief that Sacramento can serve as a model for other communities seeking to align their local objectives with the global aspirations of the SDGs. This joint initiative not only showcases the resilience of our community but also emphasizes the potential for positive change when academia and local government unite for a common purpose.

We extend our gratitude to you for your interest and support in this important initiative. We believe that together we can inspire further action on this global agenda and contribute to a sustainable and equitable future for all in our community.

Sincerely,



Gary S. May
Chancellor
University of California, Davis



Darrell Steinberg
Mayor
City of Sacramento

Summary

In 2015, the United Nations 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development was adopted by all UN member states around the world. The 2030 Agenda and the 17 [Sustainable Development Goals \(SDGs\)](#) were developed as a blueprint for people, prosperity and planet. The 2030 Agenda, which integrates social, economic and environmental goals, is not just the responsibility of national governments. Achieving the 2030 Agenda requires actions and partnerships at many different levels. Local communities and municipalities are on the front lines of complex global challenges, and local communities are the places where innovative solutions often emerge.

The 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, which established the SDGs, encourages regular and inclusive reviews of progress at both the national and sub-national levels.

In addition to Voluntary National Reviews (VNRs) that have been prepared by many countries, a growing number of cities and municipalities are developing [Voluntary Local Reviews \(VLRs\)](#) to align the SDGs with local needs and priorities and to report on progress toward the goals. VLRs have also been completed at the sub-national level in Europe, Latin America, Asia, and Africa. At the time of this publication, New York City, Los Angeles, Orlando, Pittsburgh and the state of Hawaii have developed VLRs in the United States.

About this Project

In 2023, UC Davis and the City of Sacramento decided to jointly complete a VLR for Sacramento. UC Davis completed its first Voluntary University Review (VUR) in 2021 and has developed a strong focus on advancing the SDGs across campus and with partners around the globe. In the 2021 UC Davis VUR, one of the follow up actions was to strengthen partnerships on the SDGs locally and in California, including joint development of VLRs with local partners.

When this project began, the City of Sacramento was preparing its 2040 General Plan and Climate Action & Adaptation Plan and engaging in extensive outreach throughout the Sacramento community to inform the plans. The priorities of residents, businesses, non-profits, and other stakeholders in Sacramento were closely connected with principles and goals in the 2030 Agenda. This was a moment to bring together university and city experience to articulate how local challenges and priorities connect to shared global commitments.

Cities in California are required to revise general plans periodically and include themes that relate closely with the SDGs. It is anticipated that this project and the resulting VLR can be a model for other California cities that are updating their general plans, and cities across the U.S. and in other countries as they review and update their own long-range planning documents. Long-range planning at the city level provides a unique opportunity to align local and global goals.

This VLR maps the process and outcomes of Sacramento's 2040 General Plan and Climate Action & Adaptation Plan to the global goals and the key principles. The collaborative UC Davis-Sacramento process demonstrates the value of more robust connections and partnership opportunities between universities and the cities and municipalities in their regions. Universities and cities both have central roles to play in achieving the SDGs. Bringing their expertise together can help inform and accelerate collective progress on these goals.

Report Structure

This VLR includes a snapshot of each of the 17 SDGs in the Sacramento context. Each of the SDG chapters highlights some of the key challenges for each goal globally and locally in Sacramento and presents examples of the solutions that the city is developing and implementing to achieve the goal.

Reflecting Key Principles of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development

In addition to the 17 SDGs, it is also important to recognize that there are key principles of the 2030 Agenda that are meant to flow across all of the goals.

First, the SDGs are intended to be interconnected. The 2030 Agenda states that the goals are “integrated and indivisible and balance the three dimensions of sustainable development: the economic, social and environmental.” Second, the 2030 Agenda rests on a pledge that no one will be left behind. The principle of No One Left Behind, as it has become known, must apply to all of the SDGs and is closely connected with the priority that the 2030 Agenda places on human rights for all and gender equality and empowerment of all women and girls. Finally, the 2030 Agenda recognizes eradicating poverty as the greatest global challenge and that sustainable development is not possible without achieving this goal (SDG 1).

The front section of this report focuses on several priority areas for the City of Sacramento that cross all SDGs and support these principles. This VLR highlights the centrality of community and neighborhood engagement with a focus on those communities that are hardest to reach.

The City of Sacramento is also striving to integrate diversity, equity and inclusion across the city administration and through the programs and services that it offers.

Cross-Cutting Approaches to Multiple SDGs and Targets

The City of Sacramento is working on a multitude of approaches to address the cross-cutting principles of the 2030 Agenda, and often initiatives, projects and programs are contributing to multiple SDGs at the same time for Sacramento communities. In the front section of the report, a number of examples are offered, including supporting the full involvement of youth and the vital role of arts and culture. Both of these areas are critical to achieving the SDGs. This VLR offers key insights based on opportunities, challenges, and lessons learned in moving the city forward in sustainable and equitable ways.

This VLR also provides a mapping of the SDGs and official SDG targets to the relevant elements of Sacramento's 2040 General Plan (appendix). This mapping demonstrates the linkages between specific local issues and global goals and targets, which is necessary for tracking overall progress on the 2030 Agenda.

The Sacramento VLR is a first step in explicitly connecting the priorities for the City of Sacramento to the shared global goals in the 2030 Agenda. This is anticipated to provide a baseline for future collaborative work between the City of Sacramento and UC Davis to advance the SDGs in Sacramento, and to inspire, inform and support other cities and universities to engage in similar joint efforts.

About the City of Sacramento

The **capital of California** since 1854, Sacramento is a modern city and the metropolis of a region that encompasses El Dorado, Placer, Sacramento, Sutter, Yolo, and Yuba counties. Its location in the fertile Central Valley at the confluence of the Sacramento and American Rivers allowed farming, food processing, and transportation to play a pivotal role in the early development of the community. Today, **food and agriculture** continue to be important drivers of the regional economy. Increasingly, **innovation and technology** are shaping economic and community development in Sacramento and there is a growing number of companies involved in high-tech manufacturing, software development, biotechnology, and medical research. The city is home to numerous **top ranked post-secondary educational institutions** that are valuable contributors of ideas and talent, and it is an important **regional transportation hub**, served by an international airport, a deep-water shipping port, two major interstate freeways, freight lines, passenger rail lines that serve the seventh busiest Amtrak station in the nation at Sacramento Valley Station, and an extensive regional commuter bus and light rail system.

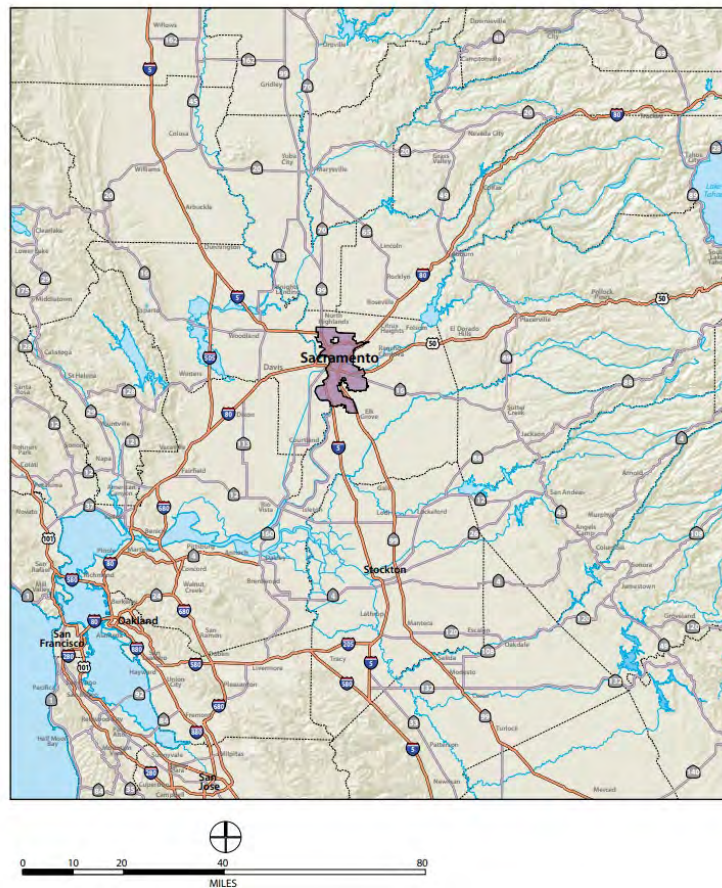


Sacramento has a **diverse and growing population**. The city has seen sustained population growth over decades, and between 2010 and 2020, Sacramento added 44,000 new residents, a robust increase over a period that includes the Great Recession years. This growth has been fueled in large part by an out-migration from the San Francisco Bay Area spurred by rapidly rising housing costs and accelerated by the COVID-19 pandemic. Immigration from overseas also contributes, with new residents arriving from Asia, Central America, and Europe, with Mexico, the Philippines, India, China, Ukraine, and Russia chief among them. In 2020, nearly 55% of the population identified as Black, Indigenous, and people of color (BIPOC), or non-white. Between 2010 and 2020, population increased to approximately 500,000, but the age composition stayed roughly the same. Sacramento boasts **rich cultural offerings** too, with an active and historic downtown, numerous world-class performing arts venues and professional sports teams, and a burgeoning creative arts scene. The walkable streets and historic homes of Midtown attract visitors to Sacramento, and riverfront open spaces that are being integrated through recent and upcoming trail projects offer an array of recreational activities and amenities.

Looking to the future, Sacramento is projected to add 69,000 new homes and 77,000 new jobs by 2040. For the community to continue to flourish, Sacramento will need to ensure that this growth happens in ways that are both **sustainable and equitable**. This will mean promoting a compact development pattern with new growth strategically concentrated to support efficient delivery of **public services and infrastructure** and to reduce vehicle miles traveled and greenhouse gas emissions. Equally, it will require a focus on **fostering complete neighborhoods** that provide for residents' daily needs within easy walking or biking distance from home and that offer a range of housing types to suit the needs of people of all ages and at all stages of life. It will also mean **building community resilience** in the face of climate change, **forging inclusive economic development**, and **taking action to address the inequities of past practices** so that everyone has an opportunity to achieve their full potential in Sacramento. In rising to meet these challenges and turning them into opportunities for an even brighter future, the Sacramento 2040 General Plan seeks to foster a more sustainable, equitable, and prosperous city for all.



Regional Location



Excerpt and Map: City of Sacramento 2040 General Plan

Introduction

The UN Sustainable Development Goals: A Global and Local Agenda

In 2015, the [2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development](#) was adopted by all member states of the United Nations, with the UN General Assembly resolution, “Transforming Our World: The 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development” [hereinafter referred to as the 2030 Agenda]. The 2030 Agenda includes 17 Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) (also known as the Global Goals), ranging from eliminating poverty, to ensuring decent work and economic growth, and building sustainable cities and communities. The UN has referred to the SDGs as “the blueprint to achieve a better and more sustainable future for all.”



In a world marked by complex global challenges, the SDGs offer a comprehensive framework to address pressing issues such as poverty, inequality, climate change, and environmental degradation, fostering a pathway to a more sustainable and equitable future for all. The SDGs are intended to apply to all countries, making this a universal global responsibility. This agenda brings together social, environmental and economic needs. The SDGs are also intersectional and indivisible, meaning that the individual goals cannot be pursued in isolation but must be approached holistically. SDG 1: No Poverty is the first SDG because of the central importance of eliminating poverty for sustainable development to be possible. The other 16 goals build upon this foundational goal, addressing social, environmental, and economic priorities in an interconnected and comprehensive manner.

At the core of the 2030 Agenda and the SDGs are three global, [universal values](#): (1) Human Rights-Based Approach; (2) Leave No One behind (LNOB), and (3) Gender Equality and Women’s Empowerment. These values are based on a shared recognition by all countries that eliminating poverty, discrimination and exclusion are necessary to achieve sustainable development.

“As we embark on this great collective journey, we pledge that no one will be left behind. Recognizing that the dignity of the human person is fundamental, we wish to see the Goals and targets met for all nations and peoples and for all segments of society. And we will endeavour to reach the furthest behind first.

- United Nations General Assembly, “Transforming Our World: The 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development,” Resolution A/RES/70/1, adopted on 25 September 2015.

Localizing the Global Goals

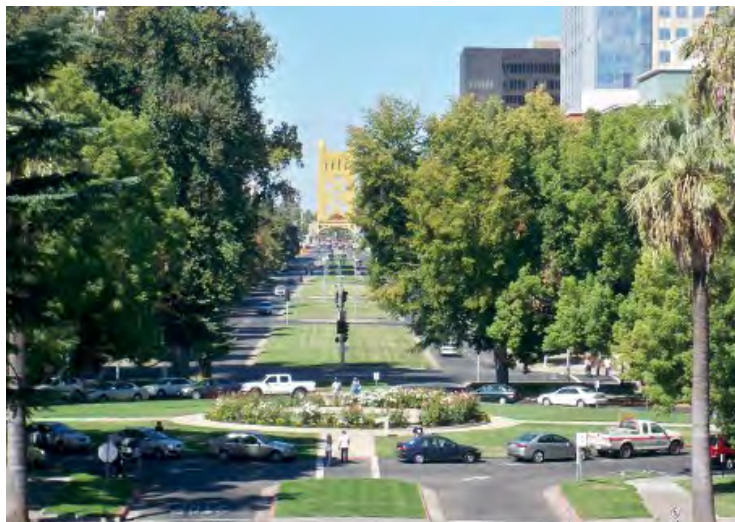
The 2030 Agenda recognizes the importance of local contributions in achieving these shared, global goals. The resolution that established the SDGs states: “We acknowledge also the importance of the regional and sub-regional dimensions, regional economic integration and interconnectivity in sustainable development. Regional and sub-regional frameworks can facilitate the effective translation of sustainable development policies into concrete action at national level.” (“Transforming Our World: The 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development,” paragraph 21).



The resolution further elaborates on the role of cities and local institutions: “We recognize that sustainable urban development and management are crucial to the quality of life of our people. We will work with local authorities and communities to renew and plan our cities and human settlements so as to foster community cohesion and personal security and to stimulate innovation and employment.” (paragraph 34). Paragraph 45 goes on to recognize that “Governments and public institutions will also work closely on implementation with regional and local authorities, subregional institutions, international institutions, academia, philanthropic organizations, volunteer groups and others.” (paragraph 45).

Voluntary Local Reviews

The 2030 Agenda encourages reporting on progress towards the goals at the national and sub-national levels. Voluntary National Reviews (VNRs) were established as a mechanism for national governments to share experiences and to encourage acceleration of progress. Voluntary Local Reviews (VLRs) emerged as a way for cities and municipalities around the world to share their own efforts at the local level. In the U.S., the City of New York was the first city to produce a VLR in 2018 and again in 2019, followed by Los Angeles (2019; 2021), the State of Hawaii (the only U.S. state to produce a VLR, 2020; 2023), Pittsburgh (2020), and Orlando (2021). Sacramento, California will be the 5th U.S. city to complete a VLR on the SDGs. VLRs around the world can be accessed through the UN Department of Economic and Social Affairs SDG Localization and Voluntary Local Review [webpage](#).



Cities and Universities in Partnership

Local governments, communities and universities are contributing to achieving the SDGs. Universities house immense expertise and research capabilities that are relevant across the entire 2030 Agenda and have the capability to bring together multi-disciplinary approaches for addressing the SDGs holistically. Universities are also focused on educating the next generation that will enter careers which affect the SDGs in multiple sectors and contexts locally and around the world.



Cities and communities are on the frontlines for the SDGs at the local level and are closer than national or international mechanisms to the needs and perspectives of the people. Cities bring planning expertise and approaches that are more closely informed by the voices of their residents. Cities also have developed community engagement models that can support diverse involvement in advancing the SDGs.

The 2030 Agenda recognizes the necessity for partnerships to achieve the goals. The Preamble of the 2030 Agenda states: “All countries and all stakeholders, acting in collaborative partnership, will implement this plan.” SDG 17 focuses specifically on the role of partnerships in this agenda. SDG17 specifically highlights the importance of multi-stakeholder partnerships that “mobilize and share knowledge, expertise, technology and financial resources.” (“Transforming Our World: The 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development,” SDG Target 17.16)



The SDGs offer a framework to increase partnerships between universities and the local governments and communities surrounding them. This agenda creates opportunities to leverage the unique strengths and perspectives of universities, cities and communities, and to co-design solutions. The SDGs also offer a mechanism to connect common challenges and share promising approaches across geographic and other boundaries, connecting the local and global in new ways.

Voluntary Local Reviews are one way for universities and cities to work together to align local priorities and approaches with global goals. Joint VLR processes provide opportunities to build relationships between government and academia

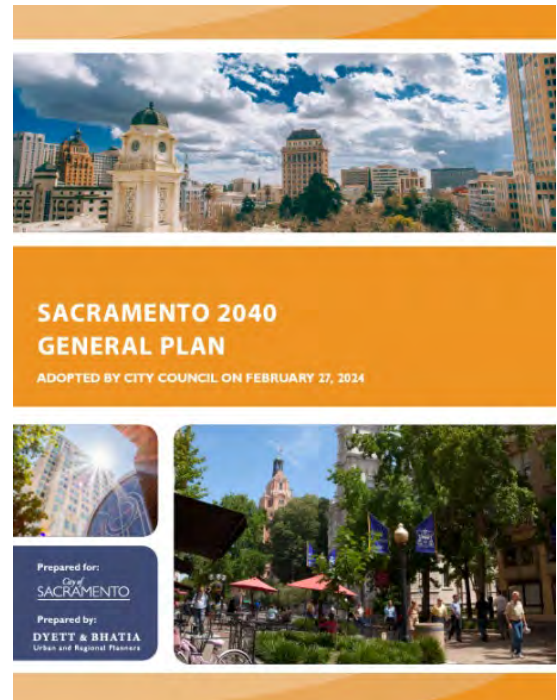
and to create useful resources for localizing the SDGs around the world. These types of projects can also generate new ideas for connecting students, faculty and multiple units on campuses with city departments and local initiatives. For these types of collaborations to succeed, partners need to navigate competing time demands and differing schedules and workflow in policy and academic institutions. Deepening engagement across sectors and stakeholders locally is a critical step to achieving the SDGs globally.

California Context: General Plans and SDGs

Every city and county in the state of California is required to have a General Plan. The California [Governor's Office of Planning and Research](#) (OPR) defines a General Plan as “a local government’s blueprint for meeting the community’s long-term vision for the future.”

According to the [California General Plan Guidelines Documents](#):

*The general plan is more than the legal underpinning for land use decisions; it is a **vision** about how a community will grow, **reflecting community priorities and values** while shaping the future. The general plan is the perfect space for **innovation**, reflecting the unique character of each community. The format and content of general plans can vary between jurisdictions. Planners must address mandatory elements, but they have discretion to organize general plans by **values** (core concepts that the **community wants** to enhance or uphold), **themes** (overarching issues **identified by the community** as important), challenges or goals identified through community engagement, or even by the elements themselves. Cities and counties may create new models of organizing their general plans, based on the needs and priorities identified during **public engagement**.*



California law includes mandatory elements that all cities and counties must address in their General Plans: land use, circulation (the movement of people, goods, energy, waste, etc.), housing, conservation, open space, noise, and safety. Cities in specific districts must address air quality.

In 2016, California passed [legislation](#) requiring the inclusion of environmental justice in General Plans in cities and counties that have identified disadvantaged communities. "Environmental justice" is defined in California law as the fair treatment of people of all races, cultures, and incomes with respect to the development, adoption, implementation, and enforcement of environmental laws, regulations, and policies. (Cal. Gov. Code, § 65040.12, subd. (e).) In 2020, the *General Plan Guidelines* added an Updated Environmental Justice Element. The guidelines outline other areas of long-term planning that impact environmental justice including:

- Pollution exposure including air quality, water quality, and land use compatibility
- Public facilities
- Food access
- Safe and sanitary homes including housing location, quality, and affordability
- Physical activity including accessibility to public transit, employment, and services
- Additional unique or compounded health risks including climate vulnerability
- Civic or community engagement
- Prioritization of improvements for disadvantaged communities

The inclusion of environmental justice analysis and policymaking in the city general plan processes directly supports the entire 2030 Agenda, especially SDG 1: No Poverty; SDG 2: Zero Hunger; SDG 3: Good Health & Wellbeing; SDG 6: Clean Water & Sanitation; SDG 10: Reduced Disparities, SDG 11: Sustainable Cities and Communities, SDG 13: Climate Action and SDG 15: Life on Land.



Over the years, *General Plan Guidelines* have expanded the focus on health, equity, economic development and climate change – including environmental justice – all issues that relate closely to multiple SDGs and are integral to achieving the 2030 Agenda.

California General Plans and the Principle of “Leave No One Behind”

California law requires General Plan processes to “provide opportunities for the involvement of citizens, California Native American tribes, public agencies, public utility companies, and civic, education, and other community groups.” There are minimum statutory requirements for community engagement. The Office of Planning and Research notes that California cities and counties typically implement more engagement opportunities than legally required.



General Plan Guidelines for the state of California highlight the importance of reaching all affected members of the community in the jurisdiction, including:

- Community and neighborhood groups
- Civic and community service organizations
- Public agencies
- Existing boards and commissions (e.g. transportation, etc.)
- School districts, charter schools, and county offices of education, and other educational institutions
- Utilities and public service providers
- Industry and business
- Non-governmental organizations
- Religious communities
- Tribal leaders
- Innovation or technology officers
- Non-profit and for-profit builders
- Affordable housing and special needs population representatives and advocates
- Local food groups
- Agricultural community members
- Topical experts (climate, health, environmental justice)
- Regional groups that can identify synergies with other regional efforts
- State and federal partners, as appropriate

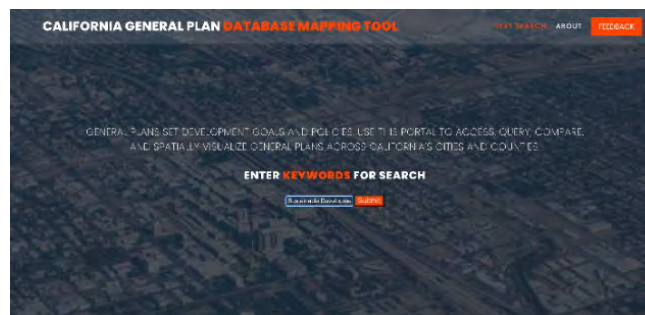
With the central focus on community perspectives, innovation and engagement, the General Plan process naturally reflects key principles in the 2030 Agenda and SDGs, including Leave No One Behind. The process of revising a city's General Plan is a unique opportunity for cities to articulate the connections between community-level priorities and global goals.

California General Plan Database Mapping Tool

In February 2023, [UC Davis Center for Regional Change](#) launched [PlanSearch](#), a landmark California General Plan Database Mapping Tool, which includes all 482 California city-level plans and 58 county-level plans. The tool is a public web-based database and search engine that allows users to query across all California General Plans for terms or phrases. Jurisdictions that address the topic are highlighted on a map to show spatial variation. All General Plans are made available as machine-readable PDFs allowing further research into plan contents.¹

Partnerships with community organizations help demonstrate the use of PlanSearch in spurring environmental justice (EJ) and climate policy. For example, the Beta version of PlanSearch was refined with input from the California Environmental Justice Alliance, a coalition of ten nonprofits across the State of California focused on EJ communities. Through this partnership, researchers were able to celebrate early adopters of the legal requirement to address EJ in local government planning (California Senate Bill No. 1000). At the time of this report, PlanSearch demonstrates that 96 cities and 16 counties mention “Environmental Justice.” Targeted review of the 7 General Plans with the most EJ content reveals 628 unique policy approaches, offering guidance to both state agencies as well as later planning processes.²

The UC Davis Center for Regional Change launched the third version of PlanSearch to support climate readiness capacity building workshops across the state in 2024. To support efforts in other states and nations, the latest code to build PlanSearch was made publicly available on GitHub as a model for other teams.³ PlanSearch is an important resource for California, but also for local governments around the world, to learn about local planning and compare policies.



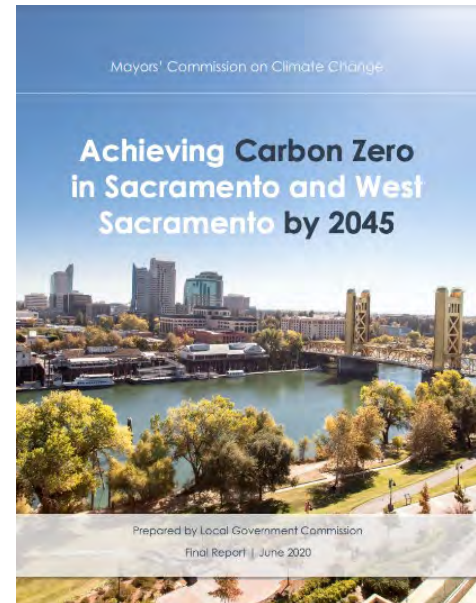
¹ Poirier, L., Antonio, D., Dettmann, M., Eng, T., Ganata, J., Ghosh, S., ... & Brinkley, C. (2024). Making plans findable, accessible, interoperable, and reusable with data infrastructure: A search engine for constructing, analyzing, and visualizing planning documents. *Environment and Planning B: Urban Analytics and City Science*, 23998083241227471.

² Brinkley, C., & Wagner, J. (2024). Who is planning for environmental justice—and how?. *Journal of the American Planning Association*, 90(1), 63-76.

³ [General Plan Database Mapping Tool \(v3.0\)](#); <https://plansearch.caes.ucdavis.edu>

Aligning SDGs to the Sacramento General Plan

In 2019, the city of Sacramento launched a process to develop the *Sacramento 2040 General Plan*, in tandem with a process to develop the city's *Climate Action & Adaptation Plan (CAAP)*. The CAAP builds off the City's *2012 Climate Action Plan*, the City's *2021 Climate Emergency Declaration*, and recommendations from the 2020 Mayors' Commission on Climate Change [Final Report](#). The CAAP includes specific measures and actions that chart Sacramento's path to achieve carbon neutrality by 2045 and reflects the targets identified by the Mayors' Commission on Climate Change in the areas of mobility, built environment, community health and resilience, and equity. The CAAP also incorporates a Climate Change Vulnerability Assessment that analyzes how key climate change impacts are expected to impact Sacramento. This analysis provides the basis for an Adaptation chapter that includes 6 key goals and a range of policies and actions that will help Sacramento prepare to weather these impacts.



Through the 2040 General Plan process, the City of Sacramento strengthened its focus on neighborhoods, environmental justice, and accelerating climate action. These priorities support multiple SDGs, including but not limited to SDG 1: No Poverty; SDG 3: Good Health & Well-Being; SDG 10: Reduced Inequalities; SDG 11: Sustainable Cities and Communities; SDG 13: Climate Action; SDG 16: Peace, Justice and Strong Institutions.

Local Engagement in the General Plan Process Supports SDGs



Local voices and perspectives are critically important for developing and finalizing a General Plan. The City of Sacramento, with community partners, organized multiple activities to support both awareness-raising and to enable all members of the community to offer input into the new General Plan. Outreach was done both in-person in neighborhoods and virtually throughout the process. There was a strong focus on hearing feedback from hard-to-reach neighborhoods. The City utilized a variety of mechanisms, including stakeholder interviews, workshops, surveying, focus groups, and engagement with city commissions and committees.

This participatory process for city planning is reflective of the 2030 Agenda principle of Leave No One Behind. The UN Development Programme has identified a [three-pronged approach](#) to analyzing and acting on this principle – examining the disadvantages that people face; empowering those who are left behind or at risk of being left behind; and enacting inclusive, far-sighted and progressive SDG policies. The General Plan process in Sacramento exemplified best practices for how to structure participatory engagement to ensure that Leave No One Behind as a core value in local municipal planning and policy development efforts.

Below is a summary of the phases of public engagement that Sacramento implemented to support its General Plan process. Note that the process took longer than previous general plan processes due to the delays caused by the COVID-19 pandemic.

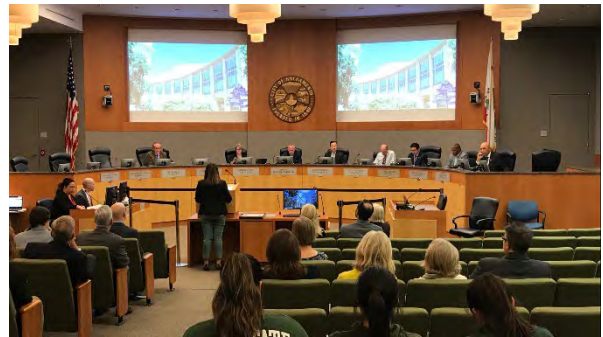
Sacramento 2040 General Plan Community Engagement Phases

Phase 1 - 2019

The focus of Phase I was on understanding issues and opportunities that needed to be addressed in updating the 2035 General Plan and 2012 Climate Action Plan. Outreach conducted during this phase included obtaining input from over 500 individuals which informed the 2040 General Plan Vision and Guiding Principles, including:

- *Citywide workshops:* “Open house” community workshops in multiple Sacramento neighborhoods. More than 240 residents participated. The City also hosted events in hard-to-reach communities and created guidance for communities to organize meetings to provide input. Community Plan Workshops in 10 areas identified neighborhood-specific priorities and issues. The City also utilized “Meeting-in-a-Box” - a community engagement toolkit designed for use by community groups, neighborhood associations, or friends to gather at a convenient time and location to share their ideas and proposals for the future of the city.
- *Meetings and presentations to City and County Commissions:* The project team presented at multiple commissions, including the Planning and Design Commission; Technical Advisory Committee (TAC); Sacramento Housing Redevelopment Agency (SHRA) Commission; Preservation Commission; Sacramento County, Adult & Aging Commission; Disabilities Advisory Commission; Parks & Community Enrichment Commission, Environmental Justice Working Group (EJWG).

The EJWG provided insight on how historic practices have disproportionately impacted low-income and minority communities; shared input on strategies for addressing these practices and their outcomes; and helped refine policies and implementing actions related to environmental justice and equity. The group was comprised of more than 25 representatives from community-based organizations, public agencies, and other participants who work to foster equity and inclusion within Sacramento.



Defining the Needs and Priorities of Communities

During Phase 1 of the process, the following seven themes were highlighted as highly-important to the Sacramento community:

- Sustainable and Responsible Growth
- Resiliency and Climate Action
- Safe, Equitable, Inclusive, and Just City
- Regional Economic Hub
- Livability and Sense of Place
- Interconnected, Accessible City
- Youth

Each of these themes relate to multiple SDGs in the 2030 Agenda. The city recognized that some themes increased in importance to the community compared to the previous General Plan. There was more focus from residents on environmental sustainability (SDG 13: Climate Action), including supporting alternative transportation options to reduce emissions, improve community health (SDG 3: Health and Well-Being) and address congestion (SDG 11: Sustainable Cities and Communities). The community input also emphasized the importance of affordable housing for residents in all demographics (SDG 1: No Poverty and SDG 10: Reduced Inequalities). Community members also indicated an interest in increased attention on public safety (SDG 16: Peace, Justice and Strong Institutions). The process also showed the importance of equity to residents, in particular the need to address disparities between neighborhoods (SDG 1: No Poverty; SDG 10: Reduced Inequalities and the principle of Leave No One Behind).

Phase 2 - 2020-2021

- *Interest-Based Focus Groups:* The City engaged with neighborhood associations, advocacy groups, and other stakeholder groups to assess and refine key strategies and incorporate varied community perspectives.
- *Virtual Citywide Workshops:* The City presented the key strategies for the 2040 General Plan. These virtual activities were conducted in English, Spanish, and Mandarin Chinese. The city worked with local high schools to involve youth

ambassadors from a variety of cultural and linguistic backgrounds to help their linguistically isolated relatives and neighbors participate.

- *Scientific Survey*: A scientific survey was conducted by a professional polling firm to gauge support for the key strategies from a statistically valid sample of the population.
- *Community Plan Workshops*: Virtual workshops focused on neighborhood-specific strategies.
- *Youth Engagement Program*: The City developed a Summer Youth Engagement Program consisting of five youth representatives from Sacramento organizations. Youth representatives developed an informational video and online questionnaire about Sacramento's future approach to climate change issues, collecting more than 300 responses from local residents.

Phase 3 - 2021

This phase developed the General Plan and Climate Action Plan documents, and included workshops with the Planning and Design Commission, Preservation Commission, City Council, and Youth Commission.

Phase 4 - 2023-2024

This phase included public review of the draft General Plan documents and awareness raising and feedback opportunities in the communities through webinars, a virtual open house, and pop-up events around the community with a focus on hard-to-reach areas.

Input was also sought from various City commissions including the Active Transportation Commission, Parks and Community Enrichment Commission, Preservation Commission, the Sacramento Youth Commission, and the Disabilities Advisory Commission.

On February 27, 2024, City Council unanimously voted to adopt the [2040 General Plan and Climate Action & Adaptation Plan](#).

Sacramento Vision and Guiding Principles and Relevant SDGs

The City of Sacramento developed its General Plan vision and principles based on the community input that was provided through these outreach efforts. They align closely with the 2030 Agenda and the SDGs. They also reflect a cross-cutting focus on climate action and addressing inequalities, as emphasized by residents during the public input process – two areas that are also critical for achieving the SDGs. The section below shows relevant SDGs for each of the General Plan Guiding Principles.

(See Appendix for Mapping of the Guiding Principles to the SDGs and SDG Targets and for the full text on Guiding Principles from the 2040 General Plan.)

Vision

In 2040, the City of Sacramento will be a national model of sustainable, equitable growth and community development.

Guiding Principles

Sustainable and Responsible Growth



Resiliency and Climate Action



Safe, Equitable, Inclusive, and Just City



Regional Economic Hub



Livability and Sense of Place



Interconnected, Accessible City



Ongoing Community Engagement for Sustainable Development

Community and neighborhood involvement is a critical element of advancing the 2030 Agenda and the SDGs at the local level. Cities have experimented with many different approaches and programs to strengthen bonds with communities and bring additional residents and neighborhoods into decision-making processes. These initiatives offer methodologies and models to promote effective localization of the SDGs. Many of the experiences and lessons learned can add valuable insights to other city and local efforts around the world and can provide ideas for other contexts.

In Sacramento, the General Plan process offered an opportunity for Sacramento to include broad representation from the community (described previously). In addition, the City has developed ongoing programs to facilitate engagement. The initiatives and programs are centered in diversity, equity and inclusion, sustainability, and economic development – which support the three dimensions of the SDGs (social, environmental and economic).

The City of Sacramento established the Community Engagement Team as part of the [Neighborhood Development Action Team \(NDAT\)](#), a cross-departmental collaborative co-led by the Office of Innovation and Economic Development and the Planning Division. This team includes departments across the city and partner agencies to pursue a “sustainable, resilient and inclusive economy” with a key focus on “historically disenfranchised and disinvested neighborhoods.” These objectives directly support the SDGs. (See also SDG 10: Reduced Inequalities, for additional information.)



The City of Sacramento has made a strategic decision to dedicate resources to these efforts. There is a full-time dedicated staff member (Community Engagement Manager) who leads a Community Engagement Team of eight staff. This relatively large investment in community engagement staff ensures that the City’s community engagement is intentional, consistent, and that the staff can build and sustain ongoing relationships with a wide range of care-holders (the term is explained in more detail below) within the community.

Collaboration across departments, and partnerships across the city with partner agencies, community-based organizations (CBOs), and community actors, are essential to advancing the SDGs locally. These approaches also directly reflect SDG 17: Partnerships for the Goals. Community engagement cuts across all issues and portfolios. The City of Sacramento is developing structures and processes to break down bureaucratic silos, which can hinder coordination and effective engagement. The Community Engagement Team provides in-house consulting to other city departments and staff to support the efforts. The team facilitates planning with clear engagement goals, ranging from informing the community, consulting with the community, and empowering the community to guide City efforts.

Community Ambassador Program

The NDAT launched the [Community Ambassador Program](#) to strengthen relationships with community partners, businesses, and residents who represent linguistically diverse populations and/or historically underrepresented communities. Community ambassadors in the program are individuals and organizations that partner with the City to share information with their networks and respective communities. The ambassadors also work with the City in monthly meetings to identify challenges and needs and identify ways to reach and serve communities. The program started in 2022 with six ambassadors and now includes 18 members, representing 11 languages. The efforts are intended to build relationships and trust and ensure culturally appropriate communications and engagement. (See also, SDG 10: Reduced Inequalities.)



City Management Academy

The [City Management Academy](#) facilitates engagement between the community and the City. This program is open to residents or businesses in Sacramento and consists of a multi-week instructional course that teaches residents about how the City of Sacramento functions. In order to expand participation across Sacramento, and improve access to this opportunity, the City provides childcare. The program takes place in a local community center rather than City Hall to make it more convenient for residents to participate.

City Commissions

[City commissions](#) include residents from the community and provide input to the city on a variety of issues, some of which directly relate to the SDGs. Examples include:

- Active Transportation Commission
- Arts, Culture and Creative Economy Commission
- Community Police Review Commission
- Disabilities Advisory Commission
- Environmental Commission
- Housing and Redevelopment Commission
- Parks and Community Enrichment Commission
- Youth Commission

Key Insights from Sacramento's Community Engagement Efforts

- Focus on relationships. Language translation and interpretation is important; however, in a diverse community where many languages are spoken and budget is tight, offering engagement opportunities in multiple languages does not necessarily result in more participation or equitable representation in civic processes. (Note: at the time of this publication, the City of Sacramento was in the process of developing a citywide language access policy to provide language accessibility and outreach to community members with limited-English proficiency. A community survey was created to collect community feedback on the current perceptions of language equity and access in the City and this input will inform the policy.) Even when a policy is in place, relationships will remain an important way to ensure equitable and effective engagement. Many residents do not trust the government or do not have time or ability to engage effectively. Working with trusted leaders in the community allows the City to reach residents who many not be comfortable with English and/or who would benefit from culturally-appropriate outreach.
- Provide food and activities for children or childcare as part of City initiatives to support participation of all communities, including the underserved. These are also opportunities to showcase different cultures and foods, bringing people in the community together.
- Offer engagement events at different times in the day to make them accessible to residents with different schedules.
- Go to where people are already gathered. Rather than holding single-purpose meetings, create “pop-up” opportunities where residents can receive information or review materials while attending a festival or taking care of errands (e.g. grocery shopping, taking kids to the pool or park, checking out a book at the library, etc.).
- Communicate consistently with local businesses, NGOs and community members to build trust and hear input. Examples include: monthly events; radio and podcasts; social media, and community activities such as game nights that center around an issue of importance for residents.
- Offer stipends and prizes to recognize and support engagement by residents and community groups.
- Involve residents in City boards, commissions, and in interest-based groups to develop solutions to local challenges.
- Adequately resource community engagement within City administration by funding dedicated staff and ensuring that staff reflects the diversity of the surrounding community.

Centering Equity and *Leave No One Behind* in City Initiatives

The City of Sacramento is one of the most diverse cities in the United States. The City’s intersectional equity lens supports the 2030 Agenda principles of Leave No One Behind, human rights and gender equality, and also SDG 5: Gender Equality and SDG 10: Reduced Inequalities. In 2016, not long after the 2030 Agenda was launched globally, the City of Sacramento completed an audit on race and gender.

In 2018, the City established the Office of Diversity and Equity and in 2019 adopted a racial equity statement: *The City of Sacramento affirms racial equity as a core value in which race does not affect life outcomes. We acknowledge historical racial inequities and are committed to transparent, deliberate, and actionable solutions that will remedy those inequities and serve all our diverse communities.*

In 2020, the City launched the [Race and Gender Equity Action Plan](#) to guide departments in advancing equity, and established staff training to strengthen capacity. Sacramento focuses on supporting diversity, equity, inclusion and belonging internally across the City administration and externally in the community. The Office of Diversity and Equity functions similarly to an internal consultant, embedding equity across the administration. The City’s [Racial Equity Committee](#) also supports the City Council to advance racial equity in decision-making, supporting a “holistic citywide informed approach” to “increase engagement, transparency and accountability” for the work.



Diversity, equity and inclusion efforts also provide opportunities for cross-cutting learning and integration across departments and new approaches to a range of city priorities and programs. Integrating diversity, equity and inclusion helps overcome silos and foster coordination. It is also important for local government to reflect the diverse communities that it serves. When the City of Sacramento instituted a focus on diversity, equity and inclusion in the workforce, it facilitated collaboration across departments and systems thinking about all the factors that promote an inclusive working environment. It pushed the conversation beyond recruitment and hiring processes and into shifting organizational cultures and practices. This also led to the establishment of equity teams across City administration.

The City of Sacramento has also developed partnerships with civil society organizations and community organizations to facilitate engagement on racial equity issues. The [Sacramento Centered on Racial Equity \(SCORE\) Initiative](#), led by the nonprofit racial justice organization [Race Forward](#), supports community engagement, racial equity assessment, and long-term guidance for the City. (See also SDG 10: Reduced Inequalities.)

One of the ways in which Sacramento is seeking to advance inclusion in its work is through vocabulary. In engagement with the community, the City has begun to use the term “community care-holders” rather than “stakeholders” to recognize that everyone has a role to play.⁴ This also intentionally opens the space to engage other individuals and groups that may have not been included in formal processes before. Much of this work centers on thoughtful consideration of who can access the City and who is left behind – a direct contribution to the principles in the 2030 Agenda and SDGs.



⁴ Ogden, Curtis. [When “Kin” Is All We Have: From “Stakeholders” to “Care-holders”](#). Interaction Institute for Social Change (May 14, 2024); [Why We Use Careholder Instead of Stakeholder](#), Phil.

Integrating Equity through Environmental Justice Mechanisms

In June 2020, the [Mayors' Commission on Climate Change](#) formally recommended the establishment of the [Environmental Justice Collaborative Governance Committee](#) (EJCGC), facilitated by the cities of Sacramento and West Sacramento but led by the community to support marginalized communities, particularly communities of color and youth, in owning and shaping environmental solutions. The EJCGC is a community-based effort to advance EJ and build community capacity, independent from the City administration.

As part of the 2040 General Plan, the City adopted a new Environmental Justice (EJ) element to support the engagement of communities, especially those most impacted by climate change. The City convened the Environmental Justice Working Group (EJWG) comprised of community leaders, advocates, and community-based organizations to provide feedback on the 2040 General Plan and CAAP development.

These efforts directly support SDG 10: Reduced Inequalities and SDG 13: Climate Action, among others. The [CAAP](#) includes additional details about the equity concerns regarding city buildings, carbon sequestration, food waste diversion, and transportation. Issues that were raised in this process relate to multiple SDGs, including: SDG 1: No Poverty; SDG 2: Zero Hunger; SDG 3: Good Health and Well-being; SDG 7: Affordable and Clean Energy; SDG 10: Reduced Inequalities; SDG 11: Sustainable Cities and Communities; SDG 13: Climate Action; and SDG 15: Life on Land.



Environmental justice mechanisms and processes can illuminate multiple, intersectional needs and priorities from the community that are critical to achieving the holistic scope of the 2030 Agenda at the local level.

Equity Considerations in Climate Action at the City-Level

During the 2040 General Plan and CAAP community engagement process, the City coordinated with the Environmental Justice Working Group (EJWG) to examine the potential impacts on equity of proposed policies and actions. The following questions were considered:

1. *Disproportionate impacts and accountability:* Does the proposed action generate burdens (including costs), either directly or indirectly, to disadvantaged communities? If yes, are there opportunities to mitigate these impacts? Are there appropriate accountability mechanisms to ensure equitable benefits and avoidance of burdens?
2. *Shared benefits:* Can the benefits of the proposed action be targeted in progressive ways to reduce historical or current disparities?
3. *Accessibility:* Are the benefits of the proposed action broadly accessible to households and businesses throughout the community—particularly communities of color, low-income populations, minority communities, women, and emerging small businesses?
4. *Engagement and relationship building:* Does the proposed action engage and empower disadvantaged communities in a meaningful, authentic, and culturally appropriate manner? Does the action foster building of long-term trust between communities and local government?
5. *Capacity building and opportunity:* Does the proposed action help build capacity among disadvantaged communities through funding, an expanded knowledge base or other resources (such as workforce development, contracting opportunities, or increased diversity of program or organization staff)?
6. *Alignment and partnership:* Does the proposed action align with and support disadvantaged community priorities, creating an opportunity to leverage resources and build collaborative partnerships?

Source: City of Sacramento Climate Action & Adaptation Plan

Key Insights from Sacramento's Equity Efforts

- Develop statements, resolutions and plans to provide a clear mandate on equity principles across the City administration and programs for the community.
 - Create citywide opportunities for intentional planning and implementation of these commitments, including equity-focused groups and training.
 - Consistent communications and narratives are essential elements to this work. There also need to be accessible channels for everyone in the city and community to see a role and get involved. Inclusive language can support this.
 - Support data collection efforts to track progress. Adequate data collection on inequalities is an ongoing challenge at the city level. When the city works with local organizations on projects, those organizations often have limited capacity for data collection. Local organizations need additional support to build capacity in this area.
 - Recognize that there are many approaches to addressing historic harms and ongoing inequalities. Local governments and communities should consider their own contexts and histories, while ensuring that initiatives apply an intersectional and systems thinking lens on the challenges to ensure that no one is left behind.
 - Recognize that systemic challenges take time to address, and these need to be long-term and sustained commitments.
-

The 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development includes a focus on supporting youth in education, safety and participation:

We commit to providing inclusive and equitable quality education at all levels – early childhood, primary, secondary, tertiary, technical and vocational training. All people, irrespective of sex, age, race, ethnicity, and persons with disabilities, migrants, indigenous peoples, children and youth, especially those in vulnerable situations, should have access to life-long learning opportunities that help them acquire the knowledge and skills needed to exploit opportunities and to participate fully in society. We will strive to provide children and youth with a nurturing environment for the full realization of their rights and capabilities, helping our countries to reap the demographic dividend including through safe schools and cohesive communities and families.

“Transforming Our World: The 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development,” paragraph 25

The City of Sacramento 2040 General Plan Guiding Principles reflects a prioritization on youth engagement, specifically relating to developing and supporting human capital, law enforcement and public safety, recreation opportunities and resources to youth with the greatest needs.

The 2030 Agenda highlights that the 17 SDGs are integrated and indivisible. In terms of youth engagement, the City of Sacramento recognizes that for its young people, poverty, food and housing insecurity are interconnected with academic performance and civic engagement. The City has also integrated arts education (see also Arts, Culture, and Creative Economy, below) as a key part of youth engagement. Arts education programs facilitate learning and action through creative expression on many issues of importance to young people, in direct support of the SDGs. Youth engagement efforts are incorporated across the City of Sacramento, focusing on youth between 14-24 years of age.



The [Citywide Youth Development Plan](#) states that, “the City of Sacramento leads collaboratively to provide systemic and sustainable investments and opportunities, harnessing collective assets to champion intentional and equitable pathways for young people to succeed.”



The Citywide Youth Development Plan supports SDG 1: No Poverty; SDG 3: Good Health and Well-being; 4: Quality Education; SDG 5: Gender Equality; SDG 8: Decent Work and Economic Growth;;SDG 10: Reduced Inequalities; and SDG 16: Peace, Justice and Strong Institutions.

Citywide Youth Development Plan Goals:

- Contribute to the healthy development of children ages 0-5 so that they are prepared for school;
- Provide resources, support, and connection to effective programs and services that lead to success in education;
- Build 21st century skills including leadership, workforce development, life, resiliency, and social-emotional skills;
- Provide opportunities for young people to become active and engaged community members;
- Create a safe environment, both physically and emotionally, in all settings, honoring culture and community
- Promote equity, justice, and accountability with a concerted application of resources toward those youth in greatest need;
- Empower families to engage in their children’s healthy development; and
- Implement the youth development framework in all program design, operations, and evaluation.

Examples of Programs for Youth Engagement:

Sacramento Youth Commission

[The Sacramento Youth Commission](#) includes 19 seats, occupied by youth representatives from each city district and the Mayor’s office. Youth Commissioners apply through the City, are sworn in, and give advice and recommendations and feedback to the City Council. For example, the Commission has also been involved in youth-led listening sessions to discuss the impact of planned development projects on communities. The Commission also liaises with the community through a program called #Sacyouthvoice. Youth commissioners are also provided with professional development and capacity building opportunities. Youth commissioners are compensated with \$50 for each meeting in recognition of their time.



Recently, the Youth Commission engaged in a project to connect Sacramento youth-related goals to the SDGs. The Commission looked at each of the SDGs and identified priority goals for the 2024 scope of work.

Summer at City Hall

[Summer at City Hall](#) was developed through a collaboration between the City of Sacramento and several school districts in the area and has involved more than 700 students over 12 years. The program runs for six weeks during the summer for high school students, with the goal “to empower students with the tools and skill set needed to impact their communities, become more civically engaged, and bring a youth voice to real city/neighborhood issues.” The program offers a curriculum focusing on civic engagement, local level governmental structures, and youth development.



At the end of the program, each participant creates a presentation on a topic. Topics of interest to students have included human trafficking, mental health, vaping, gun violence and homelessness. Many participants have experienced these issues or know people who have experienced them. For example, youth in the 18-24 range are often missed in support programs for unhoused people, and this issue is strongly reflected in student topics. The participants also present a public service announcement at the end of the program. Students in the program are required to complete a wellness component that includes career exploration and readiness, financial literacy, personal mental wellness, resume development, and various subject areas. Internships are also offered with City departments. Upon completion of the program, participants receive five high school elective credits and a small monetary stipend.

#SacYouthWorks

Through the [#SacYouthWorks](#) (#SYW) program, partners engage cohorts of young people (ages 14-18) in 40 hours of programming. The program connects youth to mentors and existing service projects that respond to community needs and/or provide youth with other types of applied work-based learning opportunities. The program also supports youth in learning critical work readiness skills and provides an opportunity to earn a stipend. #SYW partners receive program and administrative support funding to connect youth to trusted peers and adults, increase work-based learning skills, create pathways to career opportunities and engage youth to address community needs. The #SYW experience provides critical learning and addresses social and emotional needs. The program has supported more than 2,000 youths in Sacramento. (See also SDG 8: Decent Work and Economic Growth.)



Creative Youth Workforce Development Program

[The Creative Youth Workforce Development Program](#) supports small, creative businesses (for example, animation, film, fashion, game design) in tandem with support services.

Objectives:

- Invest in the development and expansion of high-quality programs offered by organizations that can demonstrate significant experience, industry connections and student placement rates in high potential areas of the creative economy.
- Invest in the broader ecosystem of service providers who offer exposure to creative industries employment opportunities.
- Provide productive opportunities for youth engagement and create pathways to future employment opportunities in growing industries.



(See also SDG 8: Decent Work and Economic Growth.)

The Youth Development Institute

In recognition that youth engagement needed to be integrated across departments, the city began to implement training for City staff. The Youth Development Institute is a training program that incorporates the Youth Development Framework for all departments. It is a training over several days that focuses on youth safety, engagement, and best practices. Each department sends a minimum of three staff for training so that every department has a youth-focused team.

Key Insights from Sacramento’s Youth Engagement Efforts

- Recognize the distinction between “including” and “embedding” youth. Inclusion means that youth are included in the space. Embedding means that youth have a seat at the table and influence in the process. That means that youth determine how they want to engage – using their voice, their language, and their communications mechanisms – and it is up to the City and other organizations to meet them where they are.
 - Understand different learning styles and develop diverse outreach and programs that address various needs.
 - Strive to be intentional and move beyond tokenism in youth engagement. Design programs to facilitate active participation and hear and incorporate the input.
 - Youth can also serve as a bridge between the City and hard-to-reach communities to encourage civic engagement, including from non-English speaking households.
 - Offering stipends to youth who participate in City programs is an important way to recognize the value of their involvement and to incentivize broad participation.
-

SPOTLIGHT ON ARTS, CULTURE AND CREATIVE ECONOMY

Artistic and cultural initiatives that focus on social, environmental and economic issues of concern can promote awareness and activism towards achieving the full scope of the 2030 Agenda and the 17 SDGs. In general, the value of local arts and culture initiatives in advancing the SDGs is an area that has been underexplored. Engaging local, creative leaders presents new possibilities for understanding and addressing complexity in local communities and the world. In the City of Sacramento, there is an evolving effort to support the role of arts and culture in improving lives and communities, in line with the 2030 Agenda and the SDGs.

In 2018, the City of Sacramento developed a new plan called [Creative Edge](#) to advance arts, culture and the creative economy. The planning process involved extensive community engagement, including 69 community gatherings (forums, townhalls, discussion groups) and input from more than 1,700 residents. Community input highlighted the importance of centering arts and culture initiatives on equity, and the importance of arts education, access to arts for all, and economic opportunities for those who are working in the creative sector. The process also showed the intersections with city challenges, such as lack of affordable housing (impacting the ability of artists to live in the area) and financial insecurity that many artists continue to face. The stated goals of the plan are:

1. Provide arts education to all Sacramento's children and youth.
2. Advance cultural equity for all Sacramento's diverse populations.
3. Build upon and expand Sacramento's unique creative economy.
4. Enable Sacramento artists and creatives to thrive in their work and to provide creative leadership in the community.
5. Celebrate and infuse all Sacramento neighborhoods and districts with arts and culture.
6. Expand and solidify Sacramento's investment in arts and culture.



The Creative Economy and Sustainable Development

The international community has recognized the importance of the creative economy to sustainable development. A UN General Assembly resolution established the International Year of Creative Economy for Sustainable Development in 2021. The [resolution](#) directly reaffirms the 2030 Agenda and the important contributions of this sector:

Recognizing the role of the creative economy in creating full and productive employment and decent work, supporting entrepreneurship, creativity and innovation, encouraging the formalization and growth of micro-, small- and medium-sized enterprises, stimulating innovation, empowering people, promoting social inclusion, and reducing poverty,



Highlighting that the creative economy encourages creativity and innovation in attaining inclusive, equitable and sustainable growth and development, while facilitating life transitions and supporting women, youth, migrants and older persons, as well as empowering people in vulnerable situations.

United Nations General Assembly, "International Year of Creative Economy for Sustainable Development, 2021," A/C.2/74/L.16/Rev.1, Adopted on November 9, 2019)

The interdependence of inclusive economic growth and the creative economy in Sacramento was highlighted in a recent report from Creative Startups and the City of Sacramento's Office of Arts and Culture, [Sprout to Growth: Potential Pathways for Growing Sacramento's Creative Economy](#):

Why is the creative economy important to Sacramento's future? In 2021, the US creative economy added \$1.016 trillion to national GDP – more than construction and transportation respectively. By 2030, G20 Insights predicts the creative economy could account for 10% of global GDP. Deloitte believes that the world will see up to 40% growth in creative sectors by 2030.

The report also recognizes that the creative economy plays a critical role in advancing diversity, equity and inclusion, stating:

For a city trying to diversify its economic base, the creative economy is a key part of the equation. But for a city also interested in growing that economic base in an equitable way, its creative economy may be its single biggest asset. In Sacramento, BIPOC populations have stronger diversity numbers than the national creative economy, with 52% of media production professionals identifying as BIPOC, 43% of design professionals, 60% of experience economy professionals, and 50% of civic life innovation professionals.

In Sacramento, the creative economy advances the 2030 Agenda and SDGs, including but not limited to SDG 1: No Poverty; SDG 4: Quality Education; SDG 5: Gender Equality; SDG 8: Decent Work and Economic Growth; SDG 9: Industry, Innovation and Infrastructure; SDG 10: Reduced Inequalities; SDG 11: Sustainable Cities and Communities, and SDG17: Partnerships for the Goals.



Prior to the 2018 Creative Edge plan, arts and culture were situated separately from City Hall. The Creative Edge Plan mainstreamed arts and culture across the city, with grantmaking and programs managed by the [Office of Arts and Culture](#). This provided an important structural and administrative foundation for integrating arts and culture across multiple local priorities.

Examples of Programs for Arts, Culture and the Creative Economy:

Sacramento Artists-in-Residence

The [Sacramento Artists-in-Residence \(AIR\)](#) program is a collaboration between the Office of Arts and Culture and the Department of Youth, Parks & Community Enrichment. Nine artists have been chosen to work together with City staff and communities to co-design a residency that will culminate in at least eight distinct projects, one in each city council district. Sacramento AIR is designed for artists and communities to collaborate at the intersection of community building and art. Residencies include drumming, spoken word, visual arts, hip hop, technology, environmental art, music and theater, and are tailored to children, youth adults, and/or seniors, depending on the interests and needs of each community center. This program has created new ways for City departments, including Transportation, Planning, Economic Development, Youth, Parks and Community Enrichment, and Climate and Sustainability, to engage with communities in Sacramento. The projects support multiple SDGs including: SDG 2: Zero Hunger; SDG 3: Health and Well-Being; SDG 4: Quality Education; SDG 10: Reduced Inequalities; SDG 11: Sustainable Cities and Communities; SDG 13: Climate Action, and SDG 15: Life on Land.

Arts Education across Sacramento County

During the COVID-19 pandemic, the City of Sacramento collaborated with Sacramento County on an initiative called [Healthy HeARTs & Minds](#), which brought together artists and mentors from the community and mental health experts to address social isolation and learning loss among youth. The program included 50 artists and mentors and involved 26 schools. At the time of this publication, the City of Sacramento has contracted with the Sacramento County Office of Education to administer the program throughout the county.



The City of Sacramento works with Sacramento County to administer [Any Given Child](#), a program developed in partnership with The Kennedy Center for the Performing Arts to provide access and equity to arts education for K-8 students in the county. *Any Given Child - Sacramento* includes three main components for participating school districts in Sacramento County: (1) teaching artist residencies; (2) arts exposure experiences; and (3) professional development in arts integration. The City provides training to artists to become teaching artists in the schools.

Capital Region Creative Corps Initiative

The [Capitol Region Creative Corps](#), supported by the California Arts Council and California Governor Gavin Newsom, has selected 26 organizations from Solano, Yolo, El Dorado, Alpine, and Sacramento counties. Working at the intersection of community engagement and the arts, these organizations are developing creative messaging using various art disciplines to reach underserved communities around issues of climate change, public health, social justice, and the electoral process. Five of the 26 awardees received \$300,000 in grants, and 21 received \$117,000. The [Artists in Government](#) program brings new ways of thinking and creative solutions to issues of importance for the City and its residents. The artists serve up to one year in City departments and engage in local outreach with communities. The positions are full-time and paid as part of the Capital Region Creative Corps program and funded by the California Arts Council. In 2023, five artists were selected to participate in the program, with backgrounds in media, performance and visual arts.

Key Insights from Arts and Culture Efforts

- Understand inequalities in accessing the arts, and integrate diversity, equity and inclusion in all arts initiatives.
- Examine the level of access to the arts in all neighborhoods and schools, and design programs to address the gaps.
- Promote creativity to improve neighborhoods and quality of life. Supporting creative leaders and creative businesses in the community, and bringing together artists, can transform areas. Artists can mobilize communities. Yet it is critical to support “placekeeping” strategies to ensure that creative entrepreneurs can continue to live and thrive in the community.
- Arts and culture can support environmental sustainability and equitable neighborhood development initiatives. There is a need to involve more members of the arts and culture communities in city planning processes, community engagement, and policy outcomes.
- Innovative funding mechanisms are important to overcome historic inequities and bureaucratic barriers and better support creative entrepreneurs.
- The COVID-19 pandemic showed the important roles of artists in the community. During COVID, the City established programs to address critical problems and challenges for youth, and artists were able to support community needs. The creative economy supports both



economic success and social impact.

Next Steps: 2030 and Beyond

The Voluntary Local Review (VLR) for Sacramento was a first step in aligning the Global Goals with local priorities for the City of Sacramento. The project provides a baseline for understanding current challenges – and innovative solutions – in Sacramento as part of the global 2030 Agenda. It also provides a resource for sharing experiences and lessons with other cities to inform localization of the SDGs in the U.S. and around the world. This VLR is an important addition to the growing global movement to track progress on the SDGs at the local and regional levels.

The VLR process has benefited from the enthusiasm and help of student interns. The 2030 Agenda and SDGs resonate with students, and they have also expressed strong interest in the programs and initiatives at the local level to address complex, systemic challenges. Projects such as Voluntary Local Reviews provide students with unique opportunities to analyze global issues within the context of local government planning and services. UC Davis and the City of Sacramento are looking at ways to structure future projects that can leverage the academic expertise at UC Davis with the policy and planning expertise at the City. For example, UC Davis Aggie Square offers potential opportunities to expand this global-local cooperation through a new innovation district in Sacramento that brings together the university, community and industry.

The collaboration process between the City of Sacramento and University of California, Davis adds a global dimension to existing areas of city-university cooperation, establishing a foundation for future joint projects.

One example is the planned 2030 adoption of the City's next Climate Action & Adaptation Plan (CAAP) and General Plan. The 2030 Agenda will also conclude that year, although it is widely acknowledged that the SDGs will not be achieved by then. It is unclear if the 2030 Agenda will be extended or reformulated at that time, but the current global goals will remain relevant as the world continues to grapple with shared challenges. The 2030 CAAP update will provide an opportunity to assess Sacramento's contributions to the SDGs and to continue applying global principles of Leave No One Behind, human rights, and gender equality to local level climate planning in the City of Sacramento.



In sum, the VLR creates new connections between local and global action, and between academic research and public policy. It is an important step to overcome silos that can often prevent scaling accelerated progress on the urgent challenges we face at all levels of society, such as global climate change. Committing ourselves to building sustained city-university partnerships provides a pathway for innovative, collective action that draws on academic leadership to inform public policy, while drawing on local government knowledge to foster the next generation of public agency leadership. We hope that that this joint project can serve as a model and catalyst for achieving the 2030 Agenda.

The 17 SDGs in Sacramento





SDG 1: NO POVERTY

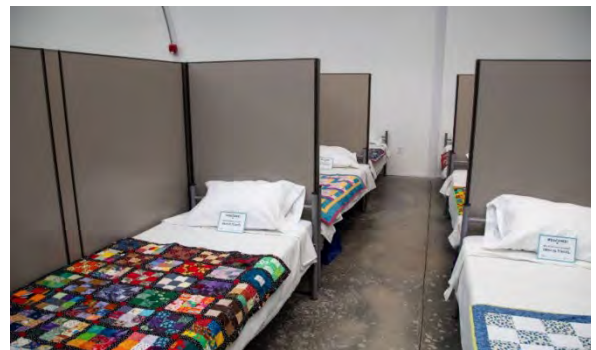
SDG 1: No Poverty

Poverty remains a pressing issue in Sacramento, with both urban and rural areas experiencing its effects. Geographically, poverty is distributed unevenly throughout the city, with certain neighborhoods and regions facing higher poverty rates. Areas such as North Sacramento, Del Paso Heights, Meadowview, and Oak Park are known for their higher concentrations of poverty. Additionally, some rural communities in Sacramento County also struggle with poverty due to limited access to resources and job opportunities. These disparities highlight the need for targeted interventions to address poverty in both urban and rural contexts.

According to data from the [United States Census Bureau](#), the poverty rate in Sacramento stood at 14.7% in 2021, higher than the statewide poverty rate of 12.3% for the same year. Similarly, the child poverty rate in Sacramento in 2021 was 17.7%, surpassing the statewide average of 15.8%. These statistics underscore the urgency of addressing poverty in Sacramento and implementing strategies to reduce these disparities.

Several factors contribute to the high poverty rates in Sacramento. Limited job opportunities, low wages, and a lack of affordable housing are significant causes of poverty in the region. High housing costs, coupled with limited public transportation, can make it challenging for individuals and families to secure stable housing with reasonable access to employment opportunities. [More than 80%](#) of extremely low-income households in Sacramento County are paying more than half of their income on housing costs compared to 1% of moderate-income households. Renters in Sacramento County need to earn [2.1 times](#) the state minimum wage to afford the average monthly asking rent in the area. Additionally, disparities in education, healthcare, and access to social services can further perpetuate the cycle of poverty. Addressing these underlying causes is crucial to combat poverty effectively in Sacramento and to improve the overall well-being of its residents.

In recent years, the number of people experiencing homelessness in Sacramento has increased significantly. According to the [Point-in-Time Count](#) conducted in February 2022, the overall number of individuals experiencing homelessness in Sacramento County increased by 67% compared to 2019. As in much of California, the COVID-19 pandemic had a significant impact on homelessness in Sacramento, primarily through a sudden surge in unemployment. Combined with a worsening housing affordability crisis that has been decades in the making and an end to [eviction moratoriums in California](#), this has further strained resources for shelter and support services.



Recognizing the urgency and complexity of the problem, the City of Sacramento has implemented collaborative approaches involving government agencies, nonprofit organizations, and community stakeholders. One key effort is [Sacramento Steps Forward](#) which focuses on coordinating resources and services to assist individuals experiencing homelessness. This initiative aims to provide outreach, emergency shelter, transitional housing, and support services to help individuals transition out of homelessness and into stable housing.

The City has also sought to [address homelessness](#) through the development of affordable housing units specifically targeted for individuals experiencing homelessness, as well as the expansion of rapid rehousing programs that provide temporary rental assistance and case management to help individuals secure stable housing. The City has prioritized addressing the underlying causes of homelessness by investing in mental health services, substance abuse treatment, and employment training programs. While significant challenges remain, the City of Sacramento's commitment to addressing homelessness and implementing targeted strategies demonstrates a continued focus on improving the lives of individuals experiencing homelessness in the city.

The City of Sacramento has also undertaken various initiatives to address poverty and provide income security for its residents. One notable effort is the implementation of a pilot program that allows Sacramento households to apply for \$500 of unconditional guaranteed income each month for one year. The [guaranteed income program](#) is funded by the City of Sacramento in partnership with United Way California Capital Region and provides a monthly cash payment to eligible low-income residents to help alleviate financial hardships and give families the means to meet their basic needs. The guaranteed income program recognizes the importance of addressing income insecurity and its relationship to poverty.



Community Voices

According to the 2022 Point-in-Time-Count, 72% of individuals experiencing homelessness were found outdoors in tents, vehicles, abandoned buildings or other locations not suitable to live in. Volunteers counted over 1,600 tents and 1,100 vehicles being used for shelter. Those totals were nearly five times larger than in 2019.

Homelessness in Sacramento County: Results from the 2022 Point-in-Time Count

“Just think of the thousands of children, the thousands of single parents, the thousands of teens. These are people that are born and raised in Sacramento. Even if they’re coming from other places, they’re somebody’s mom, somebody’s dad, somebody’s brother, uncle, aunt.”

Bob Erlenbusch, executive director of the Sacramento Regional Coalition to End Homelessness, speaking on the release of the most [recent count](#) of the homeless population in Sacramento County

In addition to the guaranteed income program, Sacramento has implemented other strategies to combat poverty. The City has prioritized the development of affordable housing initiatives to provide more accessible options for low-income residents. Efforts are also focused on expanding job training and workforce development programs to equip individuals with the skills necessary for higher-paying employment opportunities. The City works closely with community organizations, non-profits, and government agencies to provide comprehensive support services, such as access to healthcare, mental health resources, and educational programs.

These multi-faceted efforts demonstrate Sacramento's commitment to addressing poverty holistically. Through initiatives to improve income security, housing affordability, job prospects, and access to essential services, the City aims to create a more equitable and prosperous environment for all residents. These initiatives not only provide immediate relief but also lay the foundation for long-term solutions to uplift individuals and families out of poverty.

Additional Resources

Research and Non-Emergency Community Resources

[California Housing Partnership](#)

[California Interagency Council on Homelessness](#)

[City of Sacramento 2021 Master Siting Plan to Address Homelessness](#)

[Public Policy Institute of California - Poverty in California](#)

[Sacramento 2-1-1](#) provides referral to community services in the Sacramento area

[Sacramento County Department of Homeless Services & Housing](#)

Sacramento County [Department of Human Assistance](#) offers help to families that have children 18 and under.

[Sacramento Steps Forward](#)

[WellSpace Health](#) provides immediate care services

[Washington State Blueprint for a Just & Equitable Future: 10-Year Plan to Dismantle Poverty](#)

[Action Toolkit \(companion guide to Washington State Blueprint: 10-Year Plan\)](#)

Emergency Services & Shelters

Adults General Populations

The Salvation Army, 12th and North B Street

Safe Ground Pilgrimage, Rotating churches downtown

Medical Conditions

VOA Open Arms Shelter, Confidential

Sister Nora's Place, Loaves & Fishes, 1351 North C Street

Comprehensive Alcohol Treatment Center, Confidential

Pregnant / Youth

WIND Youth Shelter, Confidential

Sacramento Children's Home, 4533 Pasadena Avenue & 6699 South Land Park Drive

Bishop Gallegos Maternity Home, South Sacramento

Domestic Violence / Sex

WEAVE Safehouse, Confidential

WEAVE Open House, Confidential

My Sister's House Safe Haven Shelter, Confidential

A Community for Peace: Harmony House, Citrus Heights (confidential)

Day Centers & Services

Loaves & Fishes, 1351 North C Street

Maryhouse, 1321 North C Street

Wind Youth Center, 3671 5th Avenue

Sac Veterans Resource Center, 7270 East Southgate Drive

Roads Home Outreach and Housing, N/A (outreach)

Crisis Respite/ Mental Health Support

TLCS Respite Center, Confidential

Turning Point Abiding Hope Respite House, Confidential

Community Support Team, Not a physical center

Turning Point Crisis Residential, Confidential

El Hogar Guest House, 600 Bercut Drive

County Mental Health Services, Not a physical center

Seasonal Shelters

Winter Sanctuary, Meet at 1400 North A Street, then bussed to rotating churches

Elk Grove Winter Sanctuary, Meet at 8986 Elk Grove Boulevard, then bussed to rotating churches

Union Gospel Mission, 400 Bannon Street

HART (Homeless Assistance Resource Teams) Winter Shelter Programs, Rotating churches in Citrus Heights, Carmichael, Folsom, and Rancho Cordova



SDG 2: ZERO HUNGER

SDG 2: Zero Hunger

Sacramento is the capital of the most productive agricultural state in the nation, yet it faces issues of hunger and food insecurity among its residents. According to recent [statistics](#), at least [10% of households](#) and as many as 280,000 individuals in Sacramento County experience [food insecurity](#), meaning they lack consistent access to an adequate diet. The situation is [most acute among very low-income households](#) and those who fall in the gap between a living wage and the upper income threshold for federal nutrition assistance programs.

[SDG 2 - Zero Hunger](#) aims to end hunger, achieve food security, and improve nutrition by ensuring access to safe, nutritious, and sufficient food for all individuals, while also promoting sustainable and resilient agricultural practices. Sacramento's approach to addressing food insecurity aligns with this global goal, emphasizing the urgency of partnering on coordinated efforts to alleviate hunger, enhance access to nutritious food, and build resilient food systems within the local context.

Poverty and financial instability are key contributors to hunger and food insecurity, as low-income households often struggle to afford an adequate diet and may not qualify for federal assistance programs. Limited access to affordable, nutritious food is another critical factor. This is particularly prominent in low-income neighborhoods characterized as “food deserts,” where residents have limited proximity to grocery stores and fresh food retailers. High housing costs in the Sacramento region also contribute to food insecurity, as households may be forced to allocate a larger portion of their income towards housing, leaving less available for food. Additionally, systemic issues such as unemployment, underemployment, and limited job opportunities further exacerbate the problem, making it difficult for individuals and families to access sufficient and nutritious food on a consistent basis. This intersection of challenges highlights the interconnected nature of the SDGs, in this case those related to poverty reduction ([SDG 1: No Poverty](#)), affordable housing ([SDG 11: Sustainable Cities and Communities](#)), and economic growth ([SDG 8: Decent Work and Economic Growth](#)).

Statewide programs to address hunger include [CalFresh](#), known federally as the Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program, or SNAP, which provides monthly food benefits to low-income individuals and families. The State of California also extends CalFresh food benefits through the [California Food Assistance Program](#) (CFAP) to qualified non-citizens who do not qualify for federal benefits. Yet, despite these programs, many individuals and households remain food insecure in the Sacramento region. Community organizations, including food banks, play a crucial role in providing food assistance to these individuals and families in need. Food banks act as essential intermediaries, collecting and distributing donated food to partner agencies, such as pantries, soup kitchens, and shelters, ensuring that vulnerable populations have access to nutritious meals.



Food banks and pantries act as essential intermediaries between surplus food resources and individuals in need. Click [here](#) for a map of food pantries in the Sacramento region.

Partnerships for Local Food Initiatives

The City of Sacramento has implemented several initiatives to combat hunger and food insecurity, demonstrating its commitment to creating a more equitable and more food-secure community. Through the [Local Foods, Local Places](#) federal initiative, the City of Sacramento partnered with the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency and the U.S. Department of Agriculture to develop strategies for supporting food-anchored resiliency hubs in disadvantaged neighborhoods. Three key projects are part of this project -- the [International Garden of Many Colors](#) with partner [Sacramento Food Policy Council](#); the former City Tree Nursery Site with partners Planting Justice and [Three Sisters Gardens](#); and the Alchemist Kitchen Incubator Hub with partner [Alchemist CDC](#). Each hub will provide locally-sourced food to residents while integrating environmental sustainability practices and creating new training, employment, and entrepreneurship opportunities for communities.



Food Justice

The City of Sacramento has also issued \$1 million in grants to 17 community organizations through the [Food Justice Grant Program](#). This one-time funding came from a share of the [City's American Rescue Plan funding](#). The program provided financial support to community-based organizations working to address food insecurity in the region. Grants enabled organizations to develop innovative strategies such as community gardens, urban farming initiatives, and mobile food distribution programs, strengthening local food systems and expanding access to nutritious food.

The grant program grew from collaborations through the City's [Food Justice Task Force](#), which was established for community members to engage and provide input to the City on local food system policy and funding investments. The Food Justice Task Force comprises representatives from government agencies, community organizations, and residents. The collaboration aims to identify gaps in the food system, develop policies to address them, and ensure that community voices, particularly those of vulnerable populations, are considered in decision-making processes related to food security.



Sacramento Food Justice Grant Program distributes food to underserved communities

Community Voices

“June, July, August [2022] was our busiest summer in the history of the organization. So, we fed more people throughout those three months in that timeframe than we have in nearly 50 years.”

Kevin Buffalino, Director of Communications for the Sacramento Food Bank & Family Services, describing how the organization was on pace to distribute over 35 million pounds of food in 2022, an increase of 25% over the 28 million pounds typically distributed annually before the pandemic.

“We’ll always serve food because it’s one of the biggest needs in the world, but of course, in Sacramento, why should anybody be hungry when we have all of these resources? Put more funding out there for the grassroots organizations, do not make it so hard for us to access those funds, and let us get out here and do the work that we love to do, that we understand how to do. We know what it takes.”

Bobbie Wooten, president and founder of Feed Sacramento Homeless

Hunger and food insecurity remain critical challenges for the Sacramento community. However, the City is demonstrating its commitment to addressing these issues through several initiatives, including through implementation of the Local Foods, Local Places community action plan, as well as through the Food Justice Task Force and grant program. In addition, community organizations, including food banks, play an integral role in bridging the gap between surplus food resources and those in need. By collectively working towards achieving SDG 2: Zero Hunger, Sacramento strives to build a more inclusive and food-secure future for all its residents.

Additional Resources

Searchable Lists of Food Pantries and Partner Agencies in the Sacramento Region

[List compiled by CapRadio](#)

[findhelp.org](#)

[Sacramento Food Bank & Family Services](#)

[Food banks and other community organizations](#)

[Alchemist Community Development Corporation](#)

[Common Ground Covenant Church](#)

[Feed Sacramento Homeless](#)

[Find Out Farms](#)

[First United Methodist Church](#)

[Health Education Council](#)

[Hmong Youth and Parents United](#)

[Meals on Wheels by ACC](#)

[Mutual Housing California](#)

[NorCal Resist](#)

[Planting Justice](#)

[Sacramento Food Bank & Family Services](#)

[Sacramento Loaves and Fishes](#)

[Sacramento Urban Agriculture Mapping](#)

[Saint John's Program for Real Change](#)

[Stanford Settlement, Inc.](#)

[The Salvation Army](#)

[Wellspring Women's Center](#)

[Public Outreach, Policy Analysis and Data](#)

[Be Healthy Sacramento](#)

[California Association of Food Banks](#)

[Nourish California](#)

[Sacramento Food Policy Council](#)

[Government Agencies and Programs](#)

[California Department of Social Services](#)

[CalFresh](#)

[Community Gardens in City of Sacramento Parks](#)

[Local Foods, Local Places](#) USDA and EPA initiative

[Sacramento County Department of Health Services](#)

[Sacramento Food Justice Task Force](#)

[Sacramento Food Justice Grant Program](#)

[Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program \(SNAP\)](#)

[Valley Vision](#)



SDG 3: GOOD HEALTH AND WELL-BEING

SDG 3: Health and Wellbeing

Public health issues in the Sacramento region present a range of pressing concerns that affect the physical, mental, and economic well-being of its residents. The Sacramento region experiences higher rates of chronic diseases, such as [heart disease](#), [diabetes](#), and [obesity](#), compared to statewide averages for all cities in California. Air pollution is also a significant concern, with Sacramento having among the [worst air quality in the nation](#) and facing an [increasing number of poor air quality days](#), which contribute to respiratory and cardiovascular issues. Furthermore, access to healthcare services is uneven, with disparities in health outcomes based on income, race, and ethnicity. As is true across much of the United States, mental health issues, including stress, anxiety, and depression, have [become more prevalent](#) in Sacramento during and after the COVID-19 pandemic.

The Sacramento region faces similar public health challenges as other metropolitan areas, and many of these challenges align with the targets of [SDG 3: Good Health and Well-Being](#). Air pollution from vehicle emissions and industrial activities poses a [significant threat to respiratory health](#). Additionally, lack of green spaces and limited access to recreational areas in certain parts of the city contribute to a sedentary lifestyle and obesity among residents, especially in disadvantaged neighborhoods. Low-income communities in the region also face barriers to accessing quality healthcare, nutritious food, and educational resources. These disparities exacerbate health issues in vulnerable populations. Mental health challenges among residents have also increased in recent years. Across California, the share of adults who reported experiencing serious psychological distress increased by 50% between 2015 and 2019, while the [share in the Sacramento area doubled](#).

Community organizations and local government are playing a vital role in addressing the effects and root causes of public health issues. [Community organizations](#) are advocating for stricter regulations on industries to reduce air pollution and promote clean energy solutions, which would help reduce the prevalence of respiratory diseases among residents. Non-profit organizations and local health departments are conducting [public awareness campaigns](#) to educate residents about healthy lifestyle choices, disease prevention, and the importance of seeking timely medical attention. [Free](#) or [low-cost clinics](#) and mobile health units have been established to improve access to healthcare services, particularly in underserved neighborhoods. [Community-based mental health programs](#) help to reduce stigma, provide counseling services, and promote emotional well-being.

The City of Sacramento has also undertaken several initiatives to address public health concerns and promote overall well-being among its residents. Addressing air pollution is a priority for the region, given its detrimental effects on public health. As laid out in the [Climate Action & Adaptation Plan](#), the City of Sacramento is investing in public transportation, cycling, and pedestrian-friendly infrastructure to reduce vehicle emissions and encourage sustainable modes of transportation. The City is working to achieve its goal of carbon neutrality by 2045, building on work underway by regional partners including the [Sacramento Municipal Utility District](#) (SMUD). SMUD is working to [fully transition to renewable](#)

[energy sources](#), such as solar, hydroelectric and wind by 2030 to decrease dependency on energy production methods that contribute to air pollution. The City is also supporting efforts by the California Air Resources Board and the Sacramento Metropolitan Air Quality Management District to implement [community air monitoring plans](#), community emissions reduction plans, and other air pollution control initiatives to mitigate residents' exposure to air pollutants, especially in residential neighborhoods close to high-traffic routes and high concentrations of industrial activities. Another important community air protection program is the [Sacramento Neighborhoods Activating on Air Quality](#) (SNAAQ), led by Valley Vision, which worked with residents to monitor and understand how air quality impacts health and develop a plan to reduce exposure to air pollution. Community Air Action Plans were developed for the [North Sacramento](#) and [Oak Park/Fruitridge](#) neighborhoods.

The City maintains [parks and recreational spaces](#) and plans to expand its [park system](#), particularly in neighborhoods with limited access to green areas. The goal is to ensure that all Sacramento residents live within a 10-minute walk from a park in order to encourage physical activity and healthy living. In addition, as referenced in the chapter for [SDG 2: Zero Hunger](#), the City is collaborating with local suppliers and community gardens to improve access to fresh and nutritious food in underserved communities.

Sacramento also provides guidance in the event of public health emergencies and natural disasters, ensuring timely response and effective coordination among various agencies.



Student-run clinics affiliated with UC Davis provide free health care to uninsured, low-income and other underserved populations in the Sacramento area.

Community Voices

“There are not enough mental health and substance-use services (treatment centers, detox centers, crisis stabilization units, etc.).”

“Additional services for those who are homeless and experiencing mental, behavioral, and/or substance use services are needed.”

“The working poor do not qualify for many services; they are unable to access needed healthcare and mental health services... Many jobs do not pay a living wage, nor do they offer employees health insurance.”

Community feedback provided as part of the [2022 Community Health Needs Assessment](#) conducted on behalf of UC Davis Health

The Sacramento metropolitan region faces significant public health challenges related to chronic diseases, environmental factors, and socioeconomic disparities. However, through collaborative efforts between community organizations, local government, and residents, progress is being made to address these issues. Initiatives to improve air quality and promote overall health and well-being align with SDG 3: Good Health & Well-Being, aiming to ensure healthy lives and promote well-being for all. Continued dedication to these efforts is crucial for creating a healthier and more equitable Sacramento for its diverse population.

Additional Resources

[American Lung Association – 2023 State of the Air report](#)

[Be Healthy Sacramento](#)

[California Air Resources Board – Health effects of air pollution](#)

[California Health Care Foundation](#)

[Free or low-cost clinics](#) and mobile health units in the Sacramento area

[Sacramento County Department of Health Services](#)

[Sacramento Metropolitan Air Quality Management District](#)

[Stop Stigma Sacramento](#)

[UC Davis Health - 2022 Community Health Needs Assessment](#)

[UC Davis student-run free community clinics](#)

[Well Being in the Nation \(WIN\) Network](#)

[California Hub of the Wellbeing Economy Alliance \(WE ALL CA\)](#)



SDG 4: QUALITY EDUCATION

SDG 4: Quality Education

The Sacramento metropolitan region encompasses a diverse population with a high percentage of residents with advanced degrees, yet it grapples with educational disparities that prevent equitable access to quality education for all residents. According to data available from the California Department of Education, [high school graduation rates](#) and [college entry rates](#) in some Sacramento-area districts remain lower than the state average, with significant achievement gaps across racial and socioeconomic lines. Moreover, proficiency rates in standardized tests for subjects such as math and English are [below statewide averages](#), and these declined further during the COVID-19 pandemic.

[SDG 4: Quality Education](#) emphasizes the importance of ensuring inclusive and equitable education, including technical, vocational and tertiary education, for all people. Sacramento faces several challenges in meeting the targets of SDG 4, most notably in eliminating disparities in educational outcomes, which perpetuate cycles of inequality and hinder the region's overall social and economic development.

Several interconnected factors contribute to the educational challenges in the Sacramento metropolitan region. Socioeconomic disparities often result in limited access to quality resources, such as well-equipped schools, experienced teachers, and academic support services. Language barriers and cultural differences can further marginalize certain student populations. A lack of engagement and coordination among stakeholders, including parents, schools, and local government, can also impede effective education policies and initiatives.

Resources in the Sacramento Academic Landscape

School districts are supported in their efforts to address these issues by community organizations that promote youth development opportunities and provide educational support for disadvantaged youth. [Early education programs](#) and [support resources](#) are offered by the public school system, while nonprofits and grassroots organizations provide additional academic support, mentorship programs, and extracurricular activities to bridge gaps in educational access. The City of Sacramento and local government agencies also collaborate with schools and community organizations to provide [year-round child care for children through 6th grade](#), and to engage young people in [extracurricular learning programs](#), [recreational sports leagues](#), and [workforce skills training](#).

City Planning and Programming for Young People

The [Sacramento Youth Development Plan & Framework for Children and Youth Programs](#) (“Youth Plan”) was adopted in 2017. It is a structured framework that encompasses a range of programs and interventions aimed at promoting the holistic development and well-being of young people, including mental health workshops, youth sports programs, after-school programs, and youth workforce development. The focus of the plan includes educational enrichment, mentorship, social and emotional

support, access to resources, and skills-building opportunities, with a concerted application of resources toward young people in greatest need. By fostering collaboration among community organizations, schools, government agencies, and other stakeholders, the plan aims to create nurturing environments that empower young people to thrive, succeed academically, and transition successfully into adulthood.

Consistent with the Youth Plan and in consultation with community-based organizations, the City also manages the Organizational Resiliency Fund and the [Sacramento Youth Development Plan Fund](#), both of which support eligible nonprofits currently providing direct services to children or youth. Through outreach in the communities, four priority areas have been identified for youth engagement: Mental Wellness, Workforce Development, Academic Support, and Violence Intervention.

Vocational Training for High-Demand Work Positions of the Future

SDG 4 also calls for increased opportunities for young people to acquire vocational skills, and in line with this goal, the City of Sacramento has partnered with community-based organizations to promote youth workforce development in the region. Since June 2022, Sacramento has participated in the [CaliforniansForAll Youth Workforce Development Program](#), which offers pre-apprenticeship and on-the-job training programs for vulnerable youth aged 16 to 30, enabling them to enter high-demand work positions while also strengthening City capacity to meet key objectives for climate, food insecurity, and local COVID-19 recovery. This effort builds upon the work of the [Sacramento Employment and Training Agency](#), which connects young people with private-sector internship and apprenticeship opportunities and provides them with the necessary skills and training to be hired in a particular field.

The education landscape in the Sacramento metropolitan region reflects a complex interplay of socioeconomic disparities, cultural diversity, and systemic challenges. Achieving sustainable progress in education requires a holistic approach involving community organizations, local government, educational institutions, and the private sector. By addressing the resource deficiencies of underserved school systems and tailoring vocational training to workforce needs, the region can pave the way for improved educational and labor market outcomes, thereby fostering a more equitable and prosperous future for its residents while contributing to the attainment of SDG 4: Quality Education.

Impacts of the COVID-19 Pandemic on Students

Due to the impacts of the COVID-19 pandemic on students and families, the Sacramento City Unified School District experienced an 8.1% decrease in annual student enrollment between the 2019-20 and 2022-23 school years, which exceeded the statewide average decrease of 5%. Chronic absenteeism in the district during the period increased from 14.8% to 36.9%.

The pandemic and its impacts exacerbated existing disparities in educational achievement, with non-white children in under-resourced districts being most deeply affected. Prior to COVID-19, [California Department of Education data](#) showed students in the Sacramento City Unified School District who identified as socioeconomically disadvantaged performed 44 points below standard in English Language Arts, and 70 points below standard in math. In 2022, the corresponding figures were 61 points below standard in English and 96.3 points below standard in math.¹

Source: California School Dashboard, Sacramento City Unified

Additional Resources

[Beanstalk Child Care and Nutrition Programs](#)

[California Department of Education Division of Nutrition Services](#)

[California Department of Education Early Education Division](#)

[California State University, Sacramento](#)

[Child Action, Inc.](#)

[First 5 California](#)

[First 5 Sacramento](#)

[Los Rios Community College District](#)

[PRO Youth and Families](#)

[Program for Infant/Toddler Care \(PITC\)](#)

[Project TEACH Homeless Services](#)

[Sac Kids First](#)

[Sacramento County Local Child Care & Development Planning Council \(LPC\)](#)

[Sacramento Employment Training Agency \(SETA\)](#)

[Sacramento Works Career Education and Training \(Vocational Education Resources\)](#)

[Sacramento Works List of Job Centers](#)

[Sacramento Works for Youth](#)

[Sacramento Youth Center](#)

[Sacramento County Office of Education Infant Development Program](#)

[Youth Wellness Resources in Sacramento County](#)

¹For additional information on the effects of the COVID-19 pandemic on educational achievement gaps, see the McKinsey & Company report “COVID-19 and student learning in the United States: The hurt could last a lifetime.”



SDG 5: GENDER EQUALITY

SDG 5: Gender Equality

Gender equality is crucial for fostering a just and inclusive society and promotes social and economic development by unlocking the full potential of half the population. By eliminating discrimination and violence against women, we create an environment that respects and values the inherent dignity of every individual, irrespective of gender. Ensuring women's safety, well-being and full participation in political, economic, and public life not only upholds fundamental human rights, but also contributes to building stronger communities and a more stable and prosperous world.

[SDG 5](#) focuses on achieving gender equality and empowering all women and girls. The goal aims to eliminate discrimination, violence, and harmful practices based on gender, and to promote equal opportunities in leadership, education, and employment. SDG 5 targets include ending child marriage and female genital mutilation, ensuring equal access to education and healthcare, and fostering participation of women in decision-making processes. Additionally, it calls for addressing unpaid care work, providing legal frameworks for women's rights, and creating an environment where women have equal opportunities for entrepreneurship. The ultimate objective of SDG 5 is to create a world where gender disparities are eliminated, and society fully reflects gender equality.

In Sacramento, as across the United States, women's rights are influenced by a combination of state and federal regulations. Issues within the purview of the City of Sacramento include concerns such as narrowing the gender pay gap, addressing workplace disparities, and fostering an inclusive and equitable environment for women and girls. In addition to legislative measures at the state and federal levels, Sacramento's journey towards gender equity depends upon localized initiatives tailored to address specific challenges faced by women and girls, as well as other marginalized groups.

Challenges and Persistent Gaps

Pay Gaps and Demographic Disparities

In the United States, the gender pay gap remains a significant issue, with women earning an average of [83 cents for every dollar earned by men in 2022](#). This represents an improvement from 1979 when women's earnings were 62% of men's earnings. Some of this ongoing disparity is due to occupational choice, with women concentrated in service occupations, while men are [more likely to work in dangerous occupations](#) including mining and construction. Women are also more likely than men to [work less than 40 hours per week](#), often due to family responsibilities and a lack of childcare options. The most significant growth in women's earnings relative to men's occurred in the [1980s and from 1990 to 2003](#). Progress has slowed since then, but women's earnings continue to grow at a comparatively faster rate than men's across educational levels, indicating that the pay gap will continue to narrow in the long term.

In California, women earned an average of [87 cents for every dollar](#) earned by men in 2022. California's strong and diverse economy, as well as progressive policies, contribute to the narrower pay gap in the state relative to the national average, and California ranks among the states with the [lowest gender pay disparity](#). Nonetheless, the state shows a similar [disparity in occupational choices](#), with men predominant in physically demanding industries like construction and women outnumbering men in fields such as [education and health services](#). A significant contributor to the downward trend in the statewide gender pay gap has been the [growing representation of women](#) in higher paying state jobs.

Statewide Gender Pay Gap in California State Civil Service Since 2011



Between 2011 and 2021, the statewide gender pay gap in the California civil service decreased from 21.4% to 14.5%, driven by a significant increase in women in higher paying state jobs.

Image source: California Department of Human Resources. "[2021 Women's Earnings Report](#)."

Interestingly, the gender pay gap shrinks significantly when looking at workers under 30 years old, and [in some metropolitan areas, including Sacramento, young women out-earn young men](#). According to data from 2019, [women under 30 in the Sacramento region are earning more than their male counterparts](#), with the median salary for women approximately 101% of that for men. This surpasses both the state and national averages and places Sacramento among the few metropolitan areas where young women achieve wage parity or earn more than young men. Some potential factors behind this include the presence of major health care employers in the region, higher educational attainment among young women, and the impact of California state employment, which has significantly reduced the gender pay gap among civil service workers. While these trends bode well for the future, continued efforts are needed to advance gender equity within the region and to align with the objectives of SDG 5.

Sacramento City Government

Despite California's progress in narrowing the gender wage gap, particularly within the state's civil service, the City of Sacramento still faces significant disparities within its own workforce. The Office of the City Auditor has created the City of Sacramento Gender and Ethnic Diversity Dashboard which provides interactive data on the gender and ethnic composition of City employees over time. This provides an important way to monitor gaps and progress, and to continue to develop interventions to support gender equality in the workforce.

A [2022 report from the Office of the City Auditor](#) on diversity and salary trends in Sacramento's city government demonstrates some progress on achieving gender parity in local government.

Non-Management Employees



The percentage of women employees in full-time and part-time non-management city employment has on average remained consistent at 35% between 2016 – 2021

Although the report shows a slight decrease in the percentage of women in the full-time and part-time workforce between 2016 and 2021, during the same period there was an increase in the percentage of women in management positions. The report states: “The percentage of women represented in the full-time and part-time workforce decreased from 36% in 2016 to 35% in 2021, while women represented in management increased from 34% in 2016 to 40% in 2021.” Despite challenges, the City has seen progress in hiring more diverse candidates, with [women representing 47% of all new hires and 55% of newly hired managers in 2021](#). The percentage of women as new hires since 2020 also more closely resembles the proportion of female residents in the city, which is a positive trend for gender equality and women's representation in decision-making. The report also shows an overrepresentation of male employees in City government generally, although there are significant variations between departments, with the City Clerk's office having 94% female employees, and the Fire Department having 90% male employees.

When considering all City employees, there is still a significant gender pay gap, with predominantly male public safety departments contributing significantly to this disparity. The 2022 City Auditor report referenced above shows that “average earnings for full-time female City employees are approximately 79% of those of full-time White male employees.” In addition, the data demonstrates a continuing racial wage gap among female employees. The report states, “When examining full-time female average salaries, the top earning female demographic group is White with an average salary of \$90,593 and the lowest earning is Black female employees at \$72,693.”

The 2022 City Auditor Report also made a series of recommendations to support workforce diversity and climate. One of the recommendations was for the City to “take a deeper look at other factors that may be contributing to pay differentials such as knowledge, skills, ability, physical conditions, scope of authority, level of supervision both given and received, and decision-making requirements.” The report recommended that the City engage an external consultant to conduct a comprehensive pay equity study.

The City is also planning additional initiatives to address gender-related issues, including a [proposed mentoring program](#) that aims to improve employment retention and create pathways for staff advancement. The City is also considering [removing college degree requirements](#) for certain jobs, recognizing them as potential barriers that may hinder equal access to employment opportunities for individuals with skills and experiences that are not validated through formal education. This shift aims to address socio-economic disparities, promote diversity, and create a more inclusive hiring process.

Discriminatory Behavior and Retention Challenges

In 2022, the Office of the City Auditor in Sacramento released its [findings from the City Employee Diversity and Workplace Climate Survey](#). The survey revealed that 12% of respondents expressed feeling excluded or unwelcome in the workplace due to their gender identity, while 6% felt similarly due to their sexual orientation. Moreover, approximately 22% of participants reported witnessing bias or unequal treatment based on gender identity, and 15% observed similar treatment related to sexual orientation. The survey unveiled gender-based disparities in workplace experiences, with 26% of female respondents reporting having witnessed or experienced biased behavior, in contrast to 20% of their male counterparts. Additionally, 28% of female respondents disclosed experiencing microaggressions, compared to 22% of males. Notably, the occurrence of males being subjected to biased behavior may be underreported, as only 28% of male respondents stated that they reported such incidents, whereas 41% of females reported biased behavior.

In light of these challenges, the City of Sacramento continues to undertake efforts aimed at addressing institutional and structural barriers related to City hiring, training, and promotion practices. The percentage of respondents who agreed that gender diversity is a priority for the City of Sacramento increased by 12 points between the 2020 and 2022 surveys. (See *Introduction* of this document for more information on how the City is integrating diversity, equity, inclusion and belonging both inside the City administration and externally in the communities it serves.)

Initiatives and Action Plans

Race & Gender Equity Action Plan (RGEAP)

One of the central pillars of the City of Sacramento's approach to gender equity is the [Race & Gender Equity Action Plan](#) (RGEAP) covering the period from 2020 to 2025. RGEAP focuses on achieving workforce equity within the City government by addressing racial and gender considerations, with the ultimate goal of reflecting the diversity of the city. The plan outlines 14 outcome action strategies, including modifying job specifications, training employees in interview practices, and creating career pathways for people of color and women. These strategies are meant to attract, hire, and retain a diverse workforce through a coordinated citywide approach. Through a racial equity framework, data-driven decision-making, and a phased implementation approach, the RGEAP aims to create systemic change, eliminate barriers, and establish a racially and gender-diverse workforce. Ultimately, it aligns with SDG 5's objectives by promoting gender equality, inclusivity, and diversity in the workforce within the City of Sacramento.

Mandatory Diversity and Equity Training

To increase awareness and understanding of diversity and equity issues, the Sacramento City Council [voted unanimously in 2023 to introduce mandatory diversity and equity training](#) for elected City officials, staff, and direct reports. This training is in alignment with the City's Race & Gender Equity Action Plan and represents a commitment to addressing bias and promoting racial and gender equity. While the mandatory diversity and equity training is initially targeted at City leadership, there is an intention to expand the program citywide.

Sacramento County Commission on the Status of Women and Girls

In 2023, Sacramento County inaugurated [a new commission](#), led by local women in government, dedicated to addressing the status of women and girls in the region. This initiative aligns with similar efforts in various California counties and the [California Commission on the Status of Women and Girls](#), which has advocated for the betterment of women's and girls' lives at the statewide level since its establishment in 1965. The [Sacramento County Commission on the Status of Women and Girls](#) seeks to unite women from diverse political perspectives to address issues such as pay equity, women's safety and work-life balance. The commission serves as an advisory body to policymakers, offering expertise, insights, and gender analyses to shape policies that promote the well-being and empowerment of women and girls throughout the region.

Notably, [four out of the seven cities in Sacramento County have female mayors](#), and 23 women hold seats on city councils. Additionally, for the first time in its history, a [majority of women have been elected to the Sacramento City Council](#). West Sacramento also boasts its [first all-women city council](#), one of only six in the country. The increased participation of women in local politics and government helps to advance SDG Target 5.5, which calls for women's full and effective participation at all levels of decision-making in political, economic and public life.

SDG 5 underscores the global commitment to eliminating discrimination, violence, and harmful practices based on gender while ensuring equal opportunities. Sacramento, like many parts of the

United States, grapples with persistent challenges such as the gender pay gap and other workplace disparities. Progress towards gender equity will be influenced by legislative measures at the state and federal levels but is also by shaped localized initiatives that address the challenges faced by women in the region. As Sacramento works towards rectifying existing disparities and creating an inclusive environment, the commitment aligns with the broader mission of promoting diversity, equity, and the objectives of SDG 5: Gender Equality.

**Note on vocabulary: The 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development reflects the word “[equality](#)” which is the agreed language among member states of the United Nations.*

Additional Resources

[California Commission on the Status of Women and Girls](#)

[2023 Annual Report](#)

[California Department of Human Resources Women's Earnings Report](#)

[California Equal Pay Pledge](#)

[City of Sacramento 2021 Audit of Employees' Workforce Diversity and Salary Trends](#)

[City of Sacramento 2022 Employee Diversity and Workplace Climate Survey Results](#)

[City of Sacramento Gender and Ethnic Diversity Dashboard](#)

[City of Sacramento Race & Gender Equity Action Plan](#)

[Resolution on Mandatory Diversity, Equity, Inclusion, and Belonging Training for City Elected Officials, Council Staff, and Appointed Officers](#)

[Sacramento County Commission on the Status of Women and Girls](#)

[U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics Highlights of women's earnings in 2022](#)



SDG 6: CLEAN WATER AND SANITATION

SDG 6: Clean Water and Sanitation

Water supply and sanitation are vital components of urban infrastructure, influencing the health, environment, and overall quality of life for city residents. While Sacramento generally has good water availability, a growing population, increasing threat of water scarcity throughout California, and risks of heat and drought remain concerns for Sacramento. The effects of climate change and efforts to maintain ecosystem health in the region are two issues that will complicate achieving [SDG 6: Clean Water and Sanitation](#). This SDG aims to ensure the availability and sustainable management of water and sanitation for all people.

Ensuring access to clean and safe drinking water is essential for public health and well-being. Sacramento's population has been steadily increasing in recent decades and has reached approximately 520,000 residents as of 2022. The City's 2040 General Plan, adopted in February 2024, includes policy direction that will support continued population growth. Ensuring a reliable and safe water supply for this growing population is a primary concern. However, several factors contribute to this challenge. Sacramento experiences seasonal droughts and relies heavily on water from the Sacramento River, which can be vulnerable to climate change impacts such as changing precipitation patterns. Sacramento also faces water quality issues, including contamination from agricultural runoff and industrial pollutants, which pose health risks and necessitate treatment to make water safe for consumption. Moreover, as in much of the United States, the Sacramento region's water infrastructure is aging, requiring significant investment for maintenance and upgrades to ensure reliable supply and sanitation services.

The issue of water availability in Sacramento is closely linked to the broader context of water supply in California. The state has a complex network of water sources. The Sierra Nevada Mountains provide a significant portion of the state's water through the snowpack that feeds into rivers. However, extended drought periods, such as the recent multi-year drought between 2011 and 2017, have strained water resources. In addition, the Sacramento-San Joaquin Delta, a vital part of the water supply system for the Sacramento region, is facing ecological issues due to habitat degradation, leading to trade-offs between water supply, agricultural needs, and environmental preservation.



The City of Sacramento and partner agencies are undertaking measures to address these challenges, including implementing water conservation and recycling efforts, introducing water management ordinances, and investing in infrastructure to diversify water sources and ensure supply reliability.

Conservation

In the 1990s, Sacramento began to implement measures to address water scarcity, including through initiatives that promote [water conservation](#). According to the Sacramento Regional Water Authority (RWA), these efforts have been successful in reducing water consumption by Sacramento residents in recent years. For instance, in 2022, per capita water consumption in Sacramento was nearly 30% lower than in 2013. The [Sacramento County Water Agency](#) (SCWA), a member agency of the RWA, aims to achieve an additional 20% reduction in water usage, including through [rebate programs](#) that encourage conversions to drought tolerant landscaping and upgrades and water efficient appliances and toilets. As part of these conservation efforts, residents are also asked to adhere to seasonal watering schedules when using sprinklers to water landscapes.

Utilities in the Sacramento region have also initiated water recycling and reuse programs. One example is reusing treated wastewater for non-potable purposes in public facilities and industrial processes, thereby reducing the demand for water from freshwater sources. (Potable water is safe for drinking, cooking, and bathing, while non-potable water can be used for outdoor irrigation, flushing toilets and running cooling systems.) The [Recycled Water Program](#) is a partnership between the Sacramento County Water Agency (SCWA) and the Sacramento Regional County Sanitation District that treats up to five million gallons of wastewater daily for non-potable purposes. The program conserves water resources by providing a reliable source for irrigation in communities like Laguna West, Lakeside, and Stonelake.

Water Management Ordinances

Recognizing the significant impact of climate change on California's water resources, the Sacramento City Council voted to adopt an [alternate water systems ordinance](#) in December 2022. The ordinance focuses on amendments to the 2022 California Plumbing Code, introducing requirements for gray water systems, the utilization of potable water for supplementation, and the installation of separate piping systems. The ordinance mandates that new construction and major renovations in Sacramento must incorporate dual plumbing systems, meaning that buildings will have two separate sets of plumbing pipes—one for potable water and another for non-potable water from alternative sources. By implementing this ordinance, Sacramento aims to conserve its potable water resources and enhance its resilience to water scarcity and quality issues. These efforts align with SDG 6 by contributing to sustainable water management and improving access to clean water and sanitation for its residents.

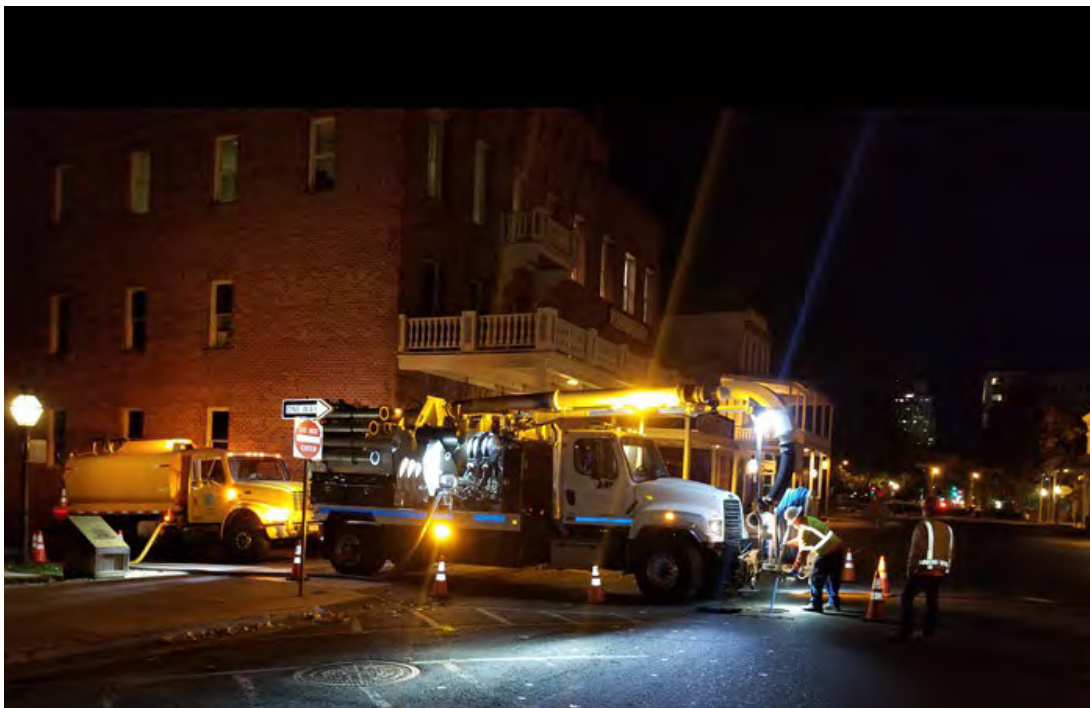
Sanitation and Wastewater Management

Effective sanitation is another essential aspect of SDG 6. It involves not only access to sanitary facilities but also the proper treatment and disposal of wastewater to prevent contamination and pollution. Sacramento's wastewater management is a critical component for ensuring public health and environmental sustainability.

The [Sacramento Area Sewer District](#) (SASD) is responsible for the collection and treatment of wastewater in the Sacramento region. SASD operates more than 3,000 miles of pipelines and various treatment facilities to ensure that wastewater is treated effectively before being released into water bodies, aligning with the SDG 6 Targets related to water quality. SASD is also actively engaged in several septic-to-sewer conversion projects across the region, including in neighborhoods like Hood, Franklin, Linda Manor, and Old Florin Town. These initiatives aim to address environmental challenges posed by aging septic systems. Additionally, SASD is undertaking infrastructure projects such as the rehabilitation of the Sailor Bar Pump Station and the completion of the Highlands Sewer Relief Project, both contributing to improved sewer system performance and reliability.

The City of Sacramento is also implementing improvements to the city's 100-year-old combined sewer system. This is a vital historical infrastructure component serving residents across approximately 7,500 acres, including Land Park, Oak Park, downtown grid, and eastern neighborhoods. This system combines sanitary waste and stormwater runoff in the same pipelines, effectively managing seasonal fluctuations and reducing street flooding. Investments in the combined sewer system contribute to public health and environmental preservation by preventing pollutants from reaching rivers and other water bodies. SASD's [Sewer System Management Plan](#) details infrastructure improvements that the City is undertaking to the combined sewer system so that it can better meet the needs of Sacramento's growing downtown and adjacent neighborhoods.

As part of the [Sacramento Stormwater Quality Partnership](#), the City of Sacramento is also conducting pilot studies to determine best practices for incorporating green infrastructure into the sewer system to reduce flooding and discharges. The adoption of green infrastructure practices, such as [permeable pavements and bioswales](#) can help reduce urban runoff and improve water quality. By allowing stormwater to filter into the ground, green infrastructure helps prevent excessive water from entering the sewer system and contributes to overall flood mitigation efforts. The City also offers annual



community action grants as part of the [Stormwater Quality Improvement Program](#) that are awarded to projects to improve the quality of local creeks, rivers and watersheds.

The Sacramento Area Sewer District operates and maintains more than 3,000 miles of sewer lines, more than 300,000 connections, and 10 pump stations across the city and surrounding area.

Infrastructure and the RiverArc Project

Local and regional government agencies in the Sacramento region have made significant investments in infrastructure to ensure that water quality and supply meet the needs of a growing population. One infrastructure project is the [EchoWater Project](#), completed in spring 2023 by the Sacramento Regional County Sanitation District. This project involved a decade-long expansion of the wastewater treatment plant, transforming it into the second largest treatment facility of its kind in the U.S. The new tertiary treatment process uses bacteria to achieve removal rates of 99% for ammonia and 89% for nitrogen. This \$1.7 billion upgrade enhances water quality for discharge into the Sacramento River, benefiting the downstream Sacramento-San Joaquin Delta. The project, initiated in response to regulatory mandates, addresses ecological concerns and includes a drought-resistant recycled water source for non-potable purposes, supporting local agriculture and the [Harvest Water program](#). The EchoWater facility is surrounded by [2,150 acres of wildlife habitat](#) that contains both uplands and wetlands and supports native birds, mammals, fish, reptiles, amphibians, as well as some of California's endangered species.

The Sacramento-San Joaquin Delta is a vital part of the water supply system for the Sacramento region. However, a host of interrelated issues – rising salinity, land subsidence, and habitat loss – necessitate larger outflows through the Delta, meaning that less water is available for urban consumption. As a result, the Sacramento metropolitan region is actively exploring diversification of water sources to shift a portion of the water demand from the American River to the Sacramento River, enhancing water supply reliability for Sacramento and Placer counties north of the American River.

The [RiverArc Project](#) is a significant water reliability initiative in the Sacramento area, which involves constructing a new water conveyance system and treatment facility using an existing diversion point on the Sacramento River. The project creates a flexible water supply system, allowing the connection between the Sacramento River and the American River and the incorporation of groundwater along the way. This integration enhances groundwater sustainability and capacity and increases Sacramento's operational flexibility by allowing surface water diversions when water restrictions are in effect on the American River. It also supports [groundwater banking](#) by serving surface water to areas in northern Sacramento that currently rely heavily on groundwater. By integrating surplus Sacramento River water, the project also reduces the demand on the American River and Folsom Lake, which benefits the environment and native species by maintaining lower water temperatures.

Community Voices

Of the City of Sacramento's 171 public water fountains, 40% were broken, leaking, or clogged during a recent study period. Midtown and Downtown Sacramento, where many homeless residents spend days and nights, feature no water fountains whatsoever.

The serious problems caused by the lack of adequate access to water and sanitation all point to the urgent need for California's state and local governments to prioritize water and sanitation in crafting interim solutions for unsheltered homeless persons. In light of California's commitment to the human right to water, this need is also a legal obligation.

[BASIC & URGENT: Realizing the Human Right to Water & Sanitation for Californians Experiencing Homelessness](#); University of California, Berkeley. Environmental Law Clinic.

The Sacramento metropolitan region faces water supply and sanitation challenges that impact its growing population, public health, and ecosystem health. Local and regional government agencies are actively working to address these challenges through community engagement, conservation efforts, infrastructure investment, and sustainable management practices. By adopting diversification strategies, green infrastructure, and climate adaptation measures, the region is taking significant steps to ensure a more sustainable and secure water future for its residents and the environment.

Additional Resources

[Alternate Water Systems Ordinance](#)

[City of Sacramento Water Conservation Programs](#)

[City of Sacramento Water Rebates](#)

[Regional Water Authority](#)

[RiverArc Project](#)

[Sacramento Area Sewer District](#)

[Sacramento County Water Agency Rebates](#)

[Sacramento County Water Agency](#)

[Sacramento County Water Agency Efficiency Measures](#)

[Sacramento Regional County Sanitation District](#)

[Sacramento Regional County Sanitation District - EchoWater Project](#)

[Sacramento Regional County Sanitation District - Harvest Water Program](#)

[Sacramento Regional County Sanitation District - Water Recycling Program](#)

[Sacramento Regional Water Bank](#)

[Sacramento Stormwater Quality Partnership](#)

[Sacramento Suburban Water District](#)

[Sewer System Management Plan](#)



SDG 7: AFFORDABLE AND CLEAN ENERGY

SDG 7: Affordable and Clean Energy

The Sacramento energy landscape is characterized by a mix of traditional and emerging technologies, with a significant focus on sustainability and clean energy initiatives. The region is home to one of the largest publicly owned utilities in the country, the Sacramento Municipal Utility District, which will play a crucial role in shaping Sacramento's energy future. Despite progress, challenges persist in transitioning to clean energy, including the need to invest in increased renewable energy capacity and addressing barriers to widespread adoption of energy efficient upgrades. Balancing the growing demand for electricity with environmental considerations will be an ongoing challenge for the region as it progresses to a more sustainable energy future.

[SDG 7](#) focuses on ensuring access to affordable, reliable, sustainable, and modern energy for all. It aims to promote universal access to clean energy sources, increase energy efficiency, and promote the use of renewable energy. SDG 7 addresses the crucial role of energy in various aspects of development, including poverty reduction, economic growth, and environmental sustainability.

To a large extent, the future of clean and sustainable energy in Sacramento will depend on efforts by the [Sacramento Municipal Utility District](#) (SMUD), which has released an ambitious plan to make the region's electricity supply carbon-free by 2030. The City of Sacramento, in turn, complements these efforts by continuing to reduce energy use for City operations and by encouraging energy efficiency measures in the wider community. Despite some challenges, SMUD and the City of Sacramento together are making strides toward a more sustainable energy system for the region.

Sacramento Municipal Utility District's 2030 Zero Carbon Plan

Sacramento residents and businesses get their electricity from SMUD, a community-owned, not-for-profit electric service that provides electricity to Sacramento County and parts of Placer County. In 2021, SMUD released a plan to achieve zero carbon emissions from its power supply by 2030, surpassing [state mandates](#) and leading among U.S. utilities. The [2030 Zero Carbon Plan](#) outlines how SMUD plans to achieve these emissions reductions through the retirement of natural gas power plants, investments in proven clean technologies such as wind and solar, and research towards emerging technologies. The plan prioritizes inclusivity, focusing on low-income communities, and emphasizes customer engagement, education, and flexible approaches to reach its ambitious goals.

In September 2024, SMUD provided a [progress report](#) on its Zero Carbon Plan, showing that it is on track to achieve its 2030 goals. In 2022 and 2023, SMUD [added 4 megawatts of battery storage and 200 megawatts of solar and geothermal power](#) to its grid, including power from the [single largest geothermal electrical operation in the world](#). SMUD is also expanding its electric vehicle (EV) charging infrastructure, including by [installing more than 100 chargers in underserved communities](#). SMUD is also involved in research on Vehicle to Grid technology, [exploring applications for school buses](#) and other fleets.



The electricity provided by SMUD today is already approximately 78% carbon-free.

SMUD is engaging customers in the transition to cleaner energy through programs focused on transportation and residential building electrification, as well as energy efficiency upgrades. These programs include rebates such as through the [Charge@Home](#) program that provides customers with rebates to support EV charging equipment and electric circuit installation costs. Similarly, SMUD's [Home Performance Program](#) promotes whole-house energy efficiency, offering homeowners thousands of dollars in rebates for various upgrades. Incentives cover [air sealing and re-insulating](#), [heat pump water heaters](#), [high-efficiency heating and cooling systems](#), and [comprehensive all-electric circuit upgrades, including EV chargers](#).

Through its [Greenergy](#) program, SMUD currently offers two low-cost options for customers to purchase clean energy for their power needs. For \$3 a month, SMUD will provide residents with 200 kilowatt-hour (kWh) of power from clean energy sources and for \$18 a month, SMUD will provide residents with 100% clean energy, which comes from a mix of renewable and carbon-free resources like wind, solar, and hydroelectric power. There is also an option for businesses to purchase 100% clean energy through the same program.

SMUD also offers opt-in programs like [My Energy Optimizer](#), which uses customers' smart thermostats to shift energy use from hours when it is in most demand. A similar program for businesses, [PowerDirect](#), integrates automated demand response capabilities into energy management systems, lighting, and HVAC systems, allowing businesses to automatically scale back energy use during peak demand, earning them financial incentives. SMUD also offers rebates to offset up to 100% of the PowerDirect technology and equipment costs. These energy efficiency programs benefit consumers

and businesses by reducing costs, and they also contribute to SMUD's Zero Carbon Plan and align with the City's environmental stewardship goals.

City of Sacramento Energy Efficiency Efforts

Municipal Energy Efficiency

Over the past few decades, the City of Sacramento has consistently achieved ambitious energy efficiency goals for municipal operations. The [2040 General Plan](#) and Climate Action & Adaptation Plan include policies and measures to improve energy efficiency in municipal facilities. To assess progress, prioritize projects, and control costs, the City introduced an energy benchmarking system for all municipal buildings. According to the [most recent benchmarking report](#), municipal operations reduced energy consumption by 34% from 2005 to 2019. This reduction was achieved through a variety of efforts, including extensive energy efficiency retrofits throughout municipal buildings, replacement of fluorescent lights with LED lights, installation of solar panels and high efficiency heating, ventilation, and air conditioning (HVAC) replacements, and building envelope improvements that reduced heating and cooling loads. The City also generates 4 megawatt-hour (MWh) of on-site solar power annually and procures an additional 31,000 MWh of off-site solar power. Ongoing efforts, such as retrofitting streetlights to LEDs, contribute significantly to lowering electricity usage. These initiatives align with the City's broader climate objectives, aiming for carbon neutrality by 2045.

Climate Action & Adaptation Plan Measures

The City of Sacramento's [Climate Action & Adaptation Plan](#) (CAAP) outlines measures that the City will implement to guide the decarbonization of Sacramento's economy (See Introduction and SDG 13: Climate Action for more information). The CAAP leverages SMUD's Zero Carbon Plan through measures that support building electrification, local energy production and storage, energy efficiency upgrades, and expansion of electric vehicle (EV) infrastructure.

Building electrification is a key CAAP measure. The City adopted a New Building Electrification Ordinance that took effect in January 2023 which required all-electric new construction. While the ordinance is no longer being enforced due to an April 2023 court ruling that struck down a similar ordinance in the City of Berkeley, all-electric construction remains feasible, cost-effective, and common in Sacramento.

Sacramento was [one of the first US cities to significantly invest](#) in electric vehicles (EVs), and the City continues to invest in various EV infrastructure initiatives, including upgrades to EV chargers at municipal facilities. The City manages [more than 160 EV chargers at its facilities, with over 100 accessible to the public](#) (see SDG: 13-Climate Action for more details). Sacramento's [City fleet](#) is consistently rated as one of top green fleets in North America, and the City's Fleet Sustainability Policy establishes a "Zero Emission Vehicle (ZEV) first" policy. The [City plans](#) to electrify or decarbonize 100% of its light-duty fleet vehicles by 2035 and 100% of the municipal fleet by 2045.



The Upper American River Project (UARP), a 688-megawatt hydroelectric system in the Sierra Nevada Mountains, supplies about 16% of SMUD's energy needs with low-cost, carbon-free electricity.

The Sacramento region is making progress towards SDG 7, which focuses on ensuring widespread access to affordable, reliable and sustainable energy. SMUD's 2030 Zero Carbon Plan is a notable stride towards carbon-free electricity, complemented by the City of Sacramento's ongoing initiatives to increase energy efficiency and electrify buildings and transportation in order to decarbonize Sacramento's economy. Despite challenges, these collective actions aim for a more sustainable energy landscape in Sacramento, aligning with broader environmental goals.

Additional Resources

[2019 Municipal Energy Benchmarking Report](#)

[City of Sacramento Climate Action & Adaptation Plan](#)

[City of Sacramento Climate Action Plan for Internal Operations](#)

[City of Sacramento's Green Fleet](#)

[SMUD 2030 Clean Energy Vision](#)

[SMUD 2023 Zero Carbon Plan Progress Report](#)

[SMUD Charge@Home Program](#)

[SMUD Greenergy Program](#)

[SMUD Home Performance Program](#)

[SMUD Go Electric Bonus Package](#)

[SMUD Heat pump water heaters rebates](#)

[SMUD Heating and cooling systems rebates](#)

[SMUD Seal and insulate rebates](#)

[SMUD My Energy Optimizer Program](#)

[SMUD PowerDirect Program](#)

[SMUD Power Sources](#)



SDG 8: DECENT WORK AND ECONOMIC GROWTH

SDG 8: Decent Work and Economic Growth

Sustainable economic growth, full employment, and decent work are essential components that contribute to thriving societies. Economic growth serves as the foundation for improving living standards, fostering innovation, and enhancing overall quality of life. Full employment ensures that individuals have the opportunity to contribute meaningfully to their communities, while decent work safeguards workers' rights and dignity. Prioritizing these goals not only creates robust and resilient economies but also lays the groundwork for societies to prosper and advance.

[SDG 8](#) focuses on promoting inclusive and sustainable economic growth, ensuring full and productive employment, and promoting decent work for all. It envisions a world where economic progress is equitable, environmentally responsible, and contributes to the well-being of all individuals. To achieve this, SDG 8 aims to improve resource efficiency, foster job creation, eradicate forced labor and child labor, and achieve higher levels of economic productivity through diversification and technological innovation.

As the state capital, Sacramento's economy has historically been reliant on government employment. However, it has diversified its economy in recent decades, with significant growth in professional services, education, and health services. The city is also a regional transportation hub, with a nearby deep-water port in West Sacramento that serves as a key link in the state's agriculture industry. Although the region [recovered more slowly than others from the Great Recession](#), and unemployment in Sacramento remains above the US average, Sacramento has seen [modest economic growth](#) since the pandemic and its unemployment rate is currently [below the California average](#). The region's economic output now spans high-tech, medical equipment, agricultural products and more, reflecting an increasingly dynamic economy.

Nonetheless Sacramento contends with economic challenges such as lagging employment in tradable industries and disparities in workforce education and diversity. Consequently, key SDG 8 issues involve addressing unemployment rates, diversifying the local economy by supporting emerging industries, and ensuring that education and workforce development align with evolving job market needs. Effectively tackling these challenges will contribute towards SDG 8 by promoting inclusive economic growth and creating employment opportunities for all residents.

ScaleUp Sacramento: The City's Economic Development Agenda

Developed shortly before the onset of the COVID-19 pandemic, [ScaleUP Sacramento](#) is the City of Sacramento's framework for fostering inclusive economic development. It outlines a strategic vision to diversify the city's historically government-centric economy by focusing on emerging industries such as future mobility, life sciences, and food manufacturing. The plan emphasizes the importance of nurturing an environment conducive to high-tech industries, and it also proposes key initiatives including creating innovation parks and developing workforce-focused programs.

The strategy's proposal to establish a Food Manufacturing Innovation Park is designed to support both new food manufacturers and existing small- to medium-sized firms that are facing market challenges. A proposed Bioscience Manufacturing Park and Life Sciences Inclusive Cluster Collaborative would focus on next-generation therapies and biopharmaceuticals. Meanwhile, the creation of a Mobility Hub would complement the work of the California Mobility Center to support manufacturing for autonomous zero-emission vehicles and associated infrastructure. Collectively, these innovation parks are meant to position Sacramento as a global hub for specific high-tech industries, attracting firms to the region and providing an engine for economic growth.

The [California Mobility Center](#) (CMC) is a public-private venture aimed at accelerating innovation in clean mobility and positioning Sacramento as a hub for research and development in electric transportation. Members of the CMC include the City of Sacramento, the Sacramento Municipal Utility District (SMUD), and UC Davis, as well as other government entities, non-profits, and leading private corporations in the automotive and clean energy sectors. The CMC seeks to innovate in key mobility technologies, including electric vehicles, autonomous transportation, battery storage, shared mobility solutions, and public transit. The CMC also functions as a national focal point for assessing new policies, regulations, and business models in the mobility sector. In addition, the CMC has a Career Pathways program to ensure a skilled labor pool, aligning workforce development with industry needs. Given California's influential role in global climate change policies and the presence of several universities in the Sacramento region, the city is well-positioned to support innovation in electric transportation through the CMC.

Office of Innovation and Economic Development

The City of Sacramento's [Office of Innovation and Economic Development](#) invests in local economic sustainability through several grant programs. The [Sacramento Innovation Grant Program](#) aims to nurture entrepreneurial initiatives by fostering high-growth startups, promoting collaborations, and attracting venture capital investment. The grants target initiatives like startup weekends, pitch competitions, incubator programs, technology commercialization, and educational programs. These efforts align with multiple targets of SDG 8 by promoting technological upgrading and innovation (SDG Target 8.2), by encouraging entrepreneurship and the growth of small and medium-sized enterprises (SDG Target 8.3), and by working towards achieving full and productive employment (SDG Target 8.5).

The City is also investing in local economic growth by focusing on second-stage growth companies, the backbone of the city's economy. These companies, typically with 5-99 employees and \$1M - \$50M in revenue, represent proven products, markets, and management skills with potential for further growth. The [Economic Gardening 2.0](#) initiative provides tailored technical assistance to selected local companies and a unique 1:1 grant program, offering up to \$50,000 in match grant funding for implementing business improvements. The initiative also supports SDG Targets 8.2, 8.3, and 8.5.



The Innovation Park project aims to revitalize the former Sleep Train Arena site, transforming it into a dynamic hub encompassing residential, commercial, health, and educational elements. Central to this initiative is the California Northstate University Medical Center Campus, a comprehensive facility featuring a hospital, college, dormitories, childcare center, senior residential care facility, and various supporting office, commercial, and retail spaces.

Workforce Skills Development

Workforce development programs play a pivotal role in fostering economic growth by contributing to a skilled and adaptable labor force. By investing in the training and upskilling of individuals, workforce development programs bolster local economies, attract businesses, and reduce inequalities by providing marginalized communities with access to valuable skill sets.

In response to the economic challenges posed by COVID-19, the City of Sacramento launched several new workforce development programs aimed primarily at economically disadvantaged neighborhoods, often with funding from the Coronavirus Aid, Relief, and Economic Security (CARES) Act and the American Rescue Plan (ARP). In 2020, the Sacramento City Council allocated \$10 million in federal CARES Act funds to 30 organizations as part of the [Workforce Recovery Program](#), aiming to provide workforce training for over 11,000 individuals affected by the COVID-19 crisis in the city. Launched that same year, the [SacYouthWorks](#) program was meant to complement the Workforce Recovery Program by offering pre-apprenticeship and on-the-job training opportunities to young people. The program utilizes a network of community-based organizations to guide youth through 40 hours of work-based learning, 20 hours of work-readiness training, and a minimum of 20 hours of applied service or work projects. In its inaugural year, the program served 1,600 youth through partnerships with 52 community organization, resulting in 64,000 hours of learning and applied service. (See Introduction and SDG 4: Quality Education for more information on youth programs.)

The City of Sacramento also used CARES Act funds to support [Digital Upskill Sacramento](#), pilot upskilling program launched in 2020 in partnership with the [Greater Sacramento Economic Council](#), the [Greater Sacramento Urban League](#), [Merit America](#) and [General Assembly](#). The program was aimed at training workers from underrepresented communities for careers in technology, and more than 5,000 people applied for 40 available spots, indicating that demand for re-skilling outstrips available opportunities. The program's first cohort had placement rates of more than 90%, and the Greater Sacramento Economic Council is exploring how to scale this model throughout the six-county Greater Sacramento region.

Building upon the Digital Upskill and Workforce Recovery Programs, the Sacramento City Council approved the SacBldsSkills2Careers program in 2022. The \$15 million initiative is led by the Office of Innovation and Economic Development and will provide job training and paid internships with a particular emphasis on skill building for at-risk and economically marginalized residents aged 16 and up. The City Council also approved \$1.5 million in ARP funding to expand childcare services, aiming to increase accessibility, support the childcare workforce, and assist childcare providers.

As with the Workforce Recovery Program, the SacBldsSkills2Careers program is complemented by a youth-focused program that emphasizes skill-building and workforce readiness skills. With funding and support from the [California Volunteers](#) state office, the City of Sacramento launched its own [CaliforniansForAll Youth Job Corps](#) in 2023 with a \$6.9 million investment to create employment opportunities for underserved youth. By partnering with community-based organizations, the program aims to provide pathways into green careers for Sacramentans aged 16-30. During the first year of the program, up to 600 young people will receive training and workplace experience in urban farming and forestry, building electrification, electric vehicle maintenance, home energy efficiency retrofits, water conservation, ecology management, and tree care.

These programs and ongoing efforts by various organizations, including the [Sacramento Employment and Training Agency](#), address workforce challenges in Sacramento by supporting employers in accessing skilled talent and helping job seekers prepare for valuable career opportunities. These initiatives empower young people, particularly young people from disadvantaged backgrounds, with essential skills and hands-on experience, thereby contributing to the broader goal of fostering inclusive economic development in line with SDG 8.

Innovative Urban Revitalization

The City of Sacramento also supports SDG 8 through alternative economic stimulus initiatives and policies. For example, the ["Al Fresco" outdoor dining program](#), started during the COVID-19 pandemic in 2020 and made permanent in June 2021, encourages independently-owned restaurants in Sacramento to build or expand permanent outdoor dining patios or sidewalk cafes by offering reimbursable grants of up to \$20,000 funded by the federal American Rescue Plan. A streamlined permitting process and pre-approved layouts help to simplify the process for restaurants to build these improvements and contribute to economic growth while enhancing the city's dining landscape.

In October 2022, Sacramento established an [Office of Nighttime Economy](#), charged with fostering a safe, vibrant, and well-managed social economy and nightlife. Recognizing the significance of nightlife in the city's economy, the office acts as a liaison between the nightlife industry, the community, and city

agencies. In 2023, the office conducted the city's first-ever study on the local music economy, which involved surveying nearly 1,400 people working in the industry. The [Sacramento Music Census](#) indicated that there was demand for more live music performance venues, and it highlighted concerns about city licensing requirements hindering new businesses. Recommendations include creating more venues with capacity for 101 to 500 people, streamlining regulatory processes, and promoting diversity in the local music industry.

The Office of Nighttime Economy followed the Music Census with the [Sacramento Sociable City Assessment](#), which aimed to analyze Sacramento's social economy and identify strengths, challenges, and opportunities. The report recommends key actions such as creating multiple types of entertainment permits, establishing a "One Stop Shop" for social economy-related permits, and addressing issues related to sound management, safe mobility, nuisance behavior, and public safety. The Office of Nighttime Economy plans to use the assessment's findings to develop and implement a strategic plan for a safe, vibrant, and well-managed social economy. It also plans to conduct an economic storefront study in 2024, which will analyze the contributions of hospitality establishments in the central city, including impacts on sales, taxes, and employment.

The AI Fresco dining program and initiatives by the Office of Nighttime Economy align with SDG 8 by supporting economic growth that contributes towards full and productive employment for all, including young people (SDG Target 8.5), and promoting sustainable tourism (SDG Target 8.9). These efforts collectively contribute to fostering a vibrant hospitality and nighttime economy, promoting inclusive and sustainable economic growth, full and productive employment, and decent work for all.



The City of Sacramento currently oversees nearly 80 entertainment permits across the city. In 2022, there were over 1,000 special event permits.

SDG 8 emphasizes the crucial role of decent work and economic growth in building thriving societies. Sacramento, as the state capital, has historically relied on government employment as the backbone of its economy, but recent efforts like ScaleUP Sacramento and the California Mobility Center demonstrate a commitment to economic diversification. Challenges, including workforce disparities, are being addressed through workforce programs, innovation grants, and urban revitalization initiatives. Sacramento's approach aligns with the SDG 8 focus on sustainable economic growth, employment opportunities, and promoting decent work. Despite challenges, Sacramento is actively working toward a more equitable and prosperous future in line with SDG 8: Decent Work & Economic Growth.

Additional Resources

[Atrium916](#)

[Bureau of Economic Analysis, U.S. Department of Commerce - Regional Economic Data](#)

[Bureau of Labor Statistics, U.S. Department of Labor - Western Information Office](#)

[CaliforniansForAll Youth Job Corps](#)

[California Mobility Center](#)

[California Volunteers](#)

[City of Sacramento Office of Innovation and Economic Development](#)

["Al Fresco" outdoor dining program](#)

[Economic Gardening 2.0](#)

[Sacramento Innovation Grant Program](#)

[City of Sacramento's Office of Nighttime Economy](#)

[Sacramento Music Census](#)

[Sacramento Sociable City Assessment](#)

[Digital Upskill Sacramento](#)

[General Assembly.](#)

[Greater Sacramento Economic Council](#)

[Greater Sacramento Urban League](#)

[Merit America](#)

[Sacramento Employment and Training Agency](#)

[SacYouthWorks](#)

[ScaleUP Sacramento](#)

[Workforce Recovery Program](#)



SDG 9: INDUSTRY, INNOVATION AND INFRASTRUCTURE

SDG 9: Industry, Innovation and Infrastructure

Industry, innovation and infrastructure are interconnected facets crucial for sustainable development in modern economies. Industry provides the means to meet human needs and improve living standards, while innovation serves as the means to develop and integrate advanced technologies into society. Infrastructure, comprising roads, rails, utilities, and communication networks, provides the physical foundation for industrial activities, commerce, travel, and many other services that support human well-being.

[SDG 9](#) aims to build resilient and sustainable infrastructure, promote inclusive and sustainable industrialization, and foster innovation. It seeks to enhance access to reliable and sustainable transportation, water, and energy systems, particularly in developing countries. Additionally, SDG 9 strives to support the growth of industries that are environmentally friendly, socially inclusive, and technologically advanced, while also encouraging research and development to spur innovation and technological progress.

In Sacramento, the goals of SDG 9 are primarily reflected in ongoing efforts to invest in water, sewer, and sustainable transportation infrastructure such as public transit systems and bikeways. The City is also focused on sustainable urban planning and revitalization, including a concerted effort to plan for increased density in the [Central City](#) and along transit corridors. This planning integrates pedestrian-friendly designs and renewable energy sources, aligning with the SDG 9 emphasis on inclusivity and sustainability. As Sacramento continues to grow, recognizing and prioritizing the development of resilient and sustainable infrastructure will be essential to maintain urban residents' quality of life.

Transportation

Meeting the demands of a growing population and preventing congestion pose notable challenges in Sacramento, and current plans involve expanding and improving existing roadways. Many projects are overseen at the county, regional, state or federal level and therefore fall outside of the direct purview of the City of Sacramento. Nonetheless these projects necessitate extensive coordination with City agencies and will profoundly impact residents' transportation choices.

Regional freeway infrastructure improvements planned in the Sacramento region include the \$465 million [Interstate 80 project](#) over the Yolo Causeway that will add bus/carpool lanes and bike/pedestrian crossings, and which is scheduled for construction in 2025. Other regional infrastructure projects include a \$39 million widening project along Interstate 5 in Sacramento from Arena Boulevard to the Yolo County line, and the [South Watt Avenue Improvement Project](#), which aims to reduce vehicle traffic congestion and enhance safety along a route that has seen a [high number of accidents and fatalities](#).



The I-5 Corridor Improvement Project aims to reduce congestion along Interstate 5 from downtown Sacramento to the Sacramento International Airport.

Perhaps the most substantial freeway infrastructure project in progress is the \$471 million [Fix 50 project](#) through downtown Sacramento, which involves the removal of old concrete laid more than 50 years ago and replacing it with new concrete while addressing the underlying steel infrastructure. This includes construction of a new sound wall to mitigate sound impacts in adjacent Sacramento neighborhoods. The project also includes new high-occupancy vehicle lanes in each direction on US-50 in alignment with efforts to reduce vehicle miles travelled to increase efficient use of freeway infrastructure and help reduce overall vehicle emissions.

Sacramento International Airport

Infrastructure upgrades to the Sacramento International Airport and surrounding areas are also underway, with the California Department of Transportation (Caltrans) initiating a \$39 million roadway expansion project between Sacramento International Airport and the Interstate 5-Highway 50 interchange. The primary goals of the [I-5 Corridor Improvement Project](#) include reducing congestion, accommodating more travelers, promoting ride-sharing, and improving overall traffic operations through the integration of [intelligent transportation system infrastructure](#). The necessity for this construction is attributed to the area's development and the expansion of the Sacramento International Airport. The construction project, spanning two years, is expected to both improve transportation infrastructure and catalyze economic development in the region, creating opportunities for business growth and job creation.

With 300 airlines serving over a million passengers annually, the Sacramento International Airport generates a significant regional economic impact [exceeding \\$4 billion per year](#). In 2022, the airport saw a record number of travelers, and the annual passenger growth rate is projected to be 4.3% through 2041. To accommodate this future growth, the airport launched a [\\$1.3 billion five-year expansion in 2024](#). The project includes several improvements, such as a \$140 million pedestrian walkway connecting Terminal B to Concourse B, expansions to Terminal A and Concourse B with additional

gates and amenities, a new Terminal B parking garage, and a consolidated ground transportation center for taxis and rideshare services.

Sustainable Urban Infrastructure

The ongoing [Capitol Corridor Regional Transit Improvements Project](#) aims to enhance transit connectivity between Placer and Sacramento Counties through the construction of a new rail bridge and 6.3 miles of mainline rail track between American River and Roseville, ultimately aiming to increase transit ridership, improve safety, and benefit underserved communities.

The Sacramento Valley Station

In 2021, the Sacramento City Council approved the [Sacramento Valley Station Area Plan](#), aiming to transform the city’s historic train station into a sustainable regional mobility hub. With \$49.9 million in funding from the California State Transportation Agency’s [Transit and Intercity Rail Capitol Program](#), the envisioned upgrades include construction of a transit center to connect heavy rail, light rail, buses, shared-rideables, bike and pedestrian pathways, and potential future high-speed rail, promoting efficient, affordable, and zero-emission mobility modes. The goal is to enhance transit access, promote safe bike routes, and reduce greenhouse gas emissions in the city’s downtown transit hub. The plan integrates pedestrian-friendly designs and renewable energy sources, aligning with the SDG 9 emphasis on inclusivity and sustainability.



The [Sacramento Valley Station Area Plan](#) includes plans for construction of a multi-modal transit center, as well as a new regional bus layover and vehicle charging facility, and modern transit fare payment technology.

The Sacramento Valley Station Area Plan, covering a 31-acre study area, also aims to create a connected, vibrant, and walkable community. It emphasizes high-intensity, mixed-use projects to capitalize on the future land value generated by proximity to a regional transportation hub. The goal is to strengthen connections between Old Sacramento, Downtown Sacramento, and the emerging Railyards District. The plan emphasizes the importance of innovation in well-integrated mobility

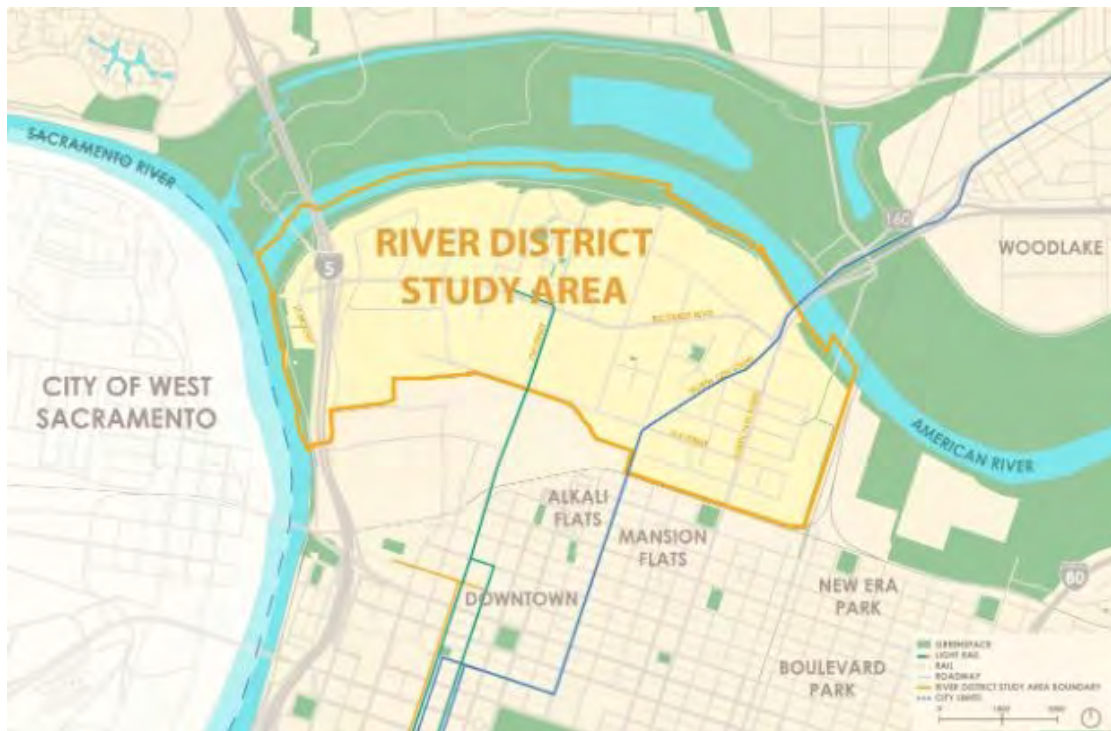
systems and sustainable urban infrastructure that supports significant economic development that is aligned with the City's climate goals.

Sustainable Urban Revitalization Projects

Near the Sacramento Valley Station, a historic 244-acre former Union Pacific site represents one of the nation's largest infill redevelopment endeavors. Once the terminus of the Transcontinental Railroad, [the Railyards Project](#) now aims to integrate the area into the existing Central City, effectively doubling the size of Downtown Sacramento. The current proposal envisions a comprehensive development with 6,000-10,000 dwelling units, extensive retail and office spaces, a medical campus, a hotel, historic and cultural facilities, and a soccer stadium with potential for expansion. This ambitious initiative reflects a multi-faceted approach to urban development, blending residential, commercial, cultural, and recreational elements within a carefully planned framework.

The [Broadway Complete Streets Project](#) is set to bring significant changes to the Broadway corridor between Third and 29th streets, aiming to transform the area into a vibrant restaurant and entertainment destination by reducing traffic lanes from two to one in each direction and adding a center left-turn lane and pedestrian safety features. The project is anticipated to support local businesses and the revitalization of the area by making it more accessible and inviting for visitors.

The City is updating the [River District Specific Plan](#) to ensure that plans for the expansive 773-acre River District are aligned with the goals and policies adopted in Sacramento's 2040 General Plan. With increased development interest and activity in the River District and adjacent Railyards, the [Specific Plan](#) will support construction of a vibrant transit-oriented mixed-use urban environment north of downtown Sacramento. The Specific Plan will evaluate and update the vision for the River District, including improved connectivity among the River District, the American and Sacramento Rivers that bound the River District on two sides, the Railyards and Central City, and the rest of the city through integrated transit and active transportation infrastructure. The plan aims to transform the area from a predominantly light-industrial, low-intensity commercial zone into a collection of distinctive, walkable neighborhoods with a vibrant and cohesive mix of uses.



The River District Specific Plan area includes around 773 acres bounded by the Sacramento and American Rivers, adjacent to the Railyards. The River District Specific Plan update will build on the existing vision for a transit-oriented community with a variety of housing options, office space, retail space, and light rail transit.

Through ongoing initiatives such as the Capitol Corridor Regional Transit Improvements Project, Fix 50 project, and the Sacramento International Airport expansion, the Sacramento region is addressing transportation challenges and promoting economic development. Sustainable urban revitalization projects like the Sacramento Valley Station Area Plan, the Railyards Project, and the River District Specific Plan Update showcase the City's dedication to sustainable urban development centered on regional transit integrated with walkable neighborhoods. Sacramento's multifaceted approach not only reflects SDG 9 targets, but also positions the city as a model for sustainable and resilient urban growth.

Additional Resources

[Broadway Complete Streets Project](#)

[Capitol Corridor Regional Transit Improvements Project](#)

[Fix 50 project](#)

[I-5 Corridor Improvement Project](#)

[Railyards Project](#)

[Sacramento River District](#)

[Sacramento Valley Station](#)

[SMForward](#)

SDG 10: REDUCED INEQUALITIES

SDG 10: Reduced Inequalities

Reducing inequalities and promoting social, economic, and political inclusion for all people contributes to a more just, resilient, and sustainable world. By reducing income gaps, promoting equal opportunities, and fostering inclusive communities, we improve the well-being of individuals and uphold the principle of leaving no one behind. This ensures that the benefits of progress are shared equitably, fostering a sense of unity and shared responsibility in our communities.

[SDG 10](#) seeks to address inequalities within and among countries, and to ensure equal opportunities for all. The targets of SDG 10 include: reducing income inequalities, ensuring the inclusion of vulnerable populations, and facilitating orderly, safe, and responsible migration, among others. The goal emphasizes the importance of policies that empower and promote the social, economic, and political inclusion of all individuals, regardless of their backgrounds.

Sacramento is one of the most diverse cities in the United States, with a demographic composition of about [31% white, 29% Hispanic or Latino, 19% Asian, 13% Black or African American, and 8% from other races or ethnicities](#). It also stands out as [one of the most integrated American cities](#), with people from different racial and ethnic backgrounds living side-by-side in many of the same neighborhoods. Nonetheless, there are certain parts of the city where de facto racial divisions still persist, particularly between white and African American populations. These divisions have historical roots tracing back to race covenants established in the 1920s and the impact of redlining and housing policies. To address disparities, Sacramento established the City's [Office of Diversity & Equity](#) in 2018, aiming to embed equity in decision-making, improve resource allocation, and enhance community trust in government.

History of Housing Discrimination in Sacramento

As part of the City's [2040 General Plan](#) process, and to acknowledge and build awareness of the impacts of historical inequities, the City of Sacramento commissioned a study, [Race & Place in Sacramento](#), that analyzes the historical impact of discriminatory housing practices in the city. The report examines over 100 years of racial divide in Sacramento, highlighting persistent disparities in income, education, health, wealth, and housing. It documents how racially restrictive covenants, mortgage redlining, gentrification, and suburban sprawl have left a lasting impact on racial and economic disparities in Sacramento's neighborhoods.

According to the study, these practices led to a racialized spatial housing pattern in the form of an "X," with neighborhoods like Land Park and Curtis Park in the west and Arden-Arcade in the east being predominantly white and enjoying greater access to economic opportunities and resources. Meanwhile, neighborhoods along a north-south axis, including Oak Park, Del Paso Heights, and Meadowview in the north and South Sacramento and Glen Elder in the south have higher shares of minority residents and have historically faced discriminatory practices that have led to higher concentrations of poverty. Despite the passage of civil rights laws over the years, this spatial arrangement reflects the enduring

impact of historical discriminatory practices which have also contributed to persistent disparities in health, education, and employment outcomes. The study underscores the importance of careful, neighborhood-focused planning to address over 100 years of racial discrimination.

Workforce Demographics and Challenges

In 2022, the Sacramento City Auditor released [the findings of its Employee Diversity and Workplace Climate Survey](#), which revealed significant perceived inequities across various demographic groups within the City's workforce. The survey showed that non-binary respondents felt less positive about the workplace climate than their peers, and that African American and Native Hawaiian employees are less likely to believe in equal opportunities for their growth. Respondents with disabilities were less convinced that the most qualified candidates are promoted compared to those without disabilities. According to the survey:

- 32% of respondents reported witnessing bias based on race or ethnicity, 22% on gender identity, and 15% on sexual orientation.
- The survey also showed that 19% of respondents felt excluded due to race or ethnicity, 12% due to gender identity, and 6% due to sexual orientation.

These statistics highlight perceived inequities that the City is working to address to foster a more equitable and inclusive work environment within local government.

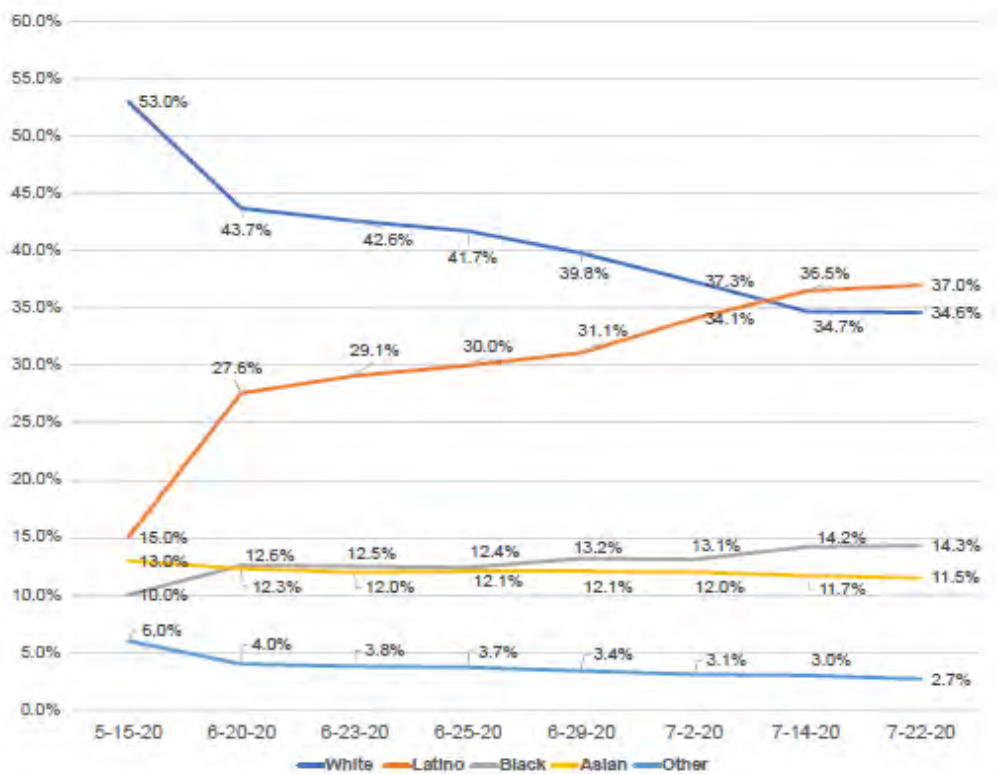
Sacramento Race and Gender Equity Action Plan

The City of Sacramento has taken a proactive stance in addressing issues of racial and gender disparities within its workforce, first by hiring the City's first [Diversity and Equity Manager](#) in 2018, and then by becoming a member and full participant in the [Government Alliance on Race and Equity](#) (GARE). In late 2018, the City initiated a six-month capacity-building and training program with GARE, resulting in the City's [Race and Gender Equity Action Plan](#) (RGEAP). This plan is designed to address institutional and structural barriers in City hiring and employment practices. RGEAP is a citywide strategic initiative focused on achieving workforce equity, and it identifies 14 outcome strategies, including revisions to job specifications, establishment of career pathways, diversification of applicant pools, and a commitment to leadership and employee training. The City is also reconsidering college degree requirements for certain jobs, and may introduce a mentoring program to help retain a diverse workforce. The overarching goal of the RGEAP is to embed equity into City operations, with a commitment to transparency and solutions to remedy historical racial inequities.

Mandatory Diversity and Equity Training

In 2023, the Sacramento City Council voted unanimously [to require diversity and equity training](#) for all elected city officials, Council staff and appointed officers. This training is focused on City leadership, including the Mayor and Councilmembers, with the aim of establishing a shared knowledge base of vocabulary and skills to advance racial equity. As of early 2024, the training is only required for City leadership, but the Council suggested that the program could eventually be extended to all City staff. In order to develop the training, the City will collaborate with the community through the Sacramento Centered on Racial Equity (SCORE) Initiative.

Percent of COVID-19 cases in Sacramento County by Race on July 29, 2020



Despite being just 23% of Sacramento County's population, Latinos in Sacramento experienced a significant rise in COVID-19 cases, jumping from 15% to 37% after the placement of testing sites near at-risk populations. This underscores the historical disparities in access to healthcare and the impact of discriminatory practices on public health outcomes.

Source: Hernandez, J. 2021. [Race and Place in Sacramento: A Report for the City of Sacramento to support preparation of the Environmental Justice Element of the Sacramento 2040 General Plan Update](#). JCH Research. Sacramento.

Community-Based Work

Sacramento Centered on Racial Equity Initiative

The [Sacramento Centered on Racial Equity \(SCORE\) Initiative](#), led by the nonprofit racial justice organization [Race Forward](#), aims to help City officials change the way they engage with the community around racial equity. Supported by the [Racial Equity Committee and Alliance](#), the initiative focuses on community engagement, racial equity assessment, and long-term guidance for the City. The SCORE process aims to define racial equity, create a racial equity resolution for Council consideration, and guide the development of racial equity capacity building and tools. Through a phased implementation plan that includes truth-telling sessions and co-creation of a citywide racial equity work plan, the process aims to make Sacramento a national leader in racial equity work.

The Neighborhood Development Action Team

The City of Sacramento established the [Neighborhood Development Action Team](#) (NDAT) in an effort to address historical inequities and reduce racial, social, and economic disparities in the city. (See Introduction for more information on NDAT community engagement efforts.) The team achieves this primarily through new partnerships with civil society organizations and targeted investments, particularly for neighborhoods that have historically faced disenfranchisement and disinvestment. One of NDAT's major initiatives is the [Forward Together Action Plan](#), which includes a \$500,000 pilot grant program to invest in community-led actions that will increase quality of life for communities along Marysville and Del Paso Boulevards.

The NDAT also operates the [Community Ambassador Program](#), which works with City departments and partner agencies to ensure inclusive outreach, equitable investments, and resource allocation for Sacramento's historically disenfranchised neighborhoods. The program aims to overcome cultural and language barriers by collaborating with individuals trusted in the community and who are already engaged in community outreach. Through the program, the City also seeks to learn how it can more effectively serve these communities. Ambassadors act as liaisons that bridge communication between the City and the community, and they participate in monthly meetings to discuss upcoming community engagement activities. This initiative and other work by the NDAT contribute to SDG 10 by promoting inclusive urban policies, and ensuring equitable access to opportunities, resources, and services for historically disenfranchised communities in Sacramento.

Age Friendly Community Action Plan

The City has also been considering the specific needs of a growing older population and addressing the existing disparities that affect these communities. Between 2010 and 2019, the percentage of Sacramento's 65 and older population increased from 10.5% to 13.1%.

In March 2024, the Sacramento City Council approved the [Age Friendly Community Action Plan](#) to help plan for the needs of older adults in the Sacramento community. The plan highlights seven areas of priorities, which closely support SDG10 and other SDGs:

- *Outdoor Spaces and Buildings:* Increase accessible, welcoming buildings, and public spaces within the city.
- *Transportation:* Provide safer, accessible, and convenient transportation options for older adults.
- *Housing:* Increase the availability of housing options and programs that support the choice to age in place and the evolving needs of older adults.
- *Respect, Inclusion and Social Participation:* Expand opportunities that are inclusive and welcoming for older adults in recreation, education, entertainment, work, and volunteering.
- *Work and Civic Engagement:* Increase opportunities for work, volunteering, and civic engagement that allow older adults to share their knowledge, experience, and ideas.
- *Communication and Information:* Ensure communication across a variety of accessible channels and media is presented in an accessible and readable format.

- *Community and Health Services:* Expand access to resources that support the health needs and wellness of older adults.



During the [era of redlining in Sacramento](#), discriminatory lending practices significantly impacted homeownership. Only 30% of loan applications from minority individuals were approved compared to an 80% approval rate for their white counterparts. This contrast in lending outcomes underscores the systemic challenges faced by minority communities in accessing housing opportunities.

Sacramento's commitment to addressing the challenges outlined in SDG 10 reflects a proactive stance toward reducing historical inequities and fostering a more inclusive and equitable city. From acknowledging the impacts of discriminatory housing practices to implementing workforce diversity initiatives, the City is working towards creating an environment where everyone has equal opportunities for growth and development. The Race and Gender Equity Action Plan, mandatory diversity and equity training for City leadership, and community-based programs like the SCORE Initiative and the Community Ambassadors Program collectively contribute to Sacramento's progress in racial equity work.

**Note on vocabulary: The 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development reflects the word "[equality](#)" which is the agreed language among member states of the United Nations.*

Additional Resources

[City of Sacramento Office of Diversity & Equity](#)

[City of Sacramento Community Ambassadors Program](#)

[City of Sacramento Employee Diversity and Workplace Climate Survey](#)

[City of Sacramento Neighborhood Development Action Team](#)

[City of Sacramento Race and Gender Equity Action Plan](#)

[Forward Together Action Plan](#)

[Government Alliance on Race and Equity](#)

[Race Forward](#)

[Race & Place in Sacramento](#)

[Sacramento Centered on Racial Equity \(SCORE\) Initiative](#)

SDG 11: SUSTAINABLE CITIES AND COMMUNITIES

SDG 11: Sustainable Cities and Communities

Sustainable cities and communities are at the heart of addressing urban challenges and ensuring a high quality of life for residents. Within the context of the Sacramento metropolitan region, the endeavor to establish sustainable urban communities faces pressing concerns. Some of the SDG11 relevant issues include housing diversity and affordability, accessibility of transit systems, fostering development that moves the city toward a more walkable and bikeable urban form, and equitable access to parks and green spaces.

These challenges closely align with [SDG 11: Sustainable Cities and Communities](#), which strives to create cities and communities that are inclusive, safe, resilient, and sustainable. This entails minimizing cities' environmental impact, ensuring access to safe and affordable housing, improving public transportation, safeguarding cultural and natural heritage, and promoting participatory and sustainable urban development. These objectives are key priorities for the City of Sacramento.

Sacramento faces challenges related to rising housing costs and a shortage of affordable housing. Notably, the median home price in the Sacramento region [significantly surpasses the national average](#), limiting homeownership opportunities for many residents. While the City has made [investments in public transportation and infrastructure](#) (See also, SDG 9: Industry, Innovation and Infrastructure and SDG 13: Climate Action), there remain opportunities for improvement in terms of accessibility, coverage, and reliability. Access to green spaces, which plays a crucial role in urban well-being, exhibits disparities in distribution, impacting the quality of life for some community members (See also, SDG 15: Life on Land).

Affordable Housing

Inadequate supply of affordable housing is a pressing issue in Sacramento, driven by various factors, including increased demand caused by an influx of residents seeking affordable alternatives to the San Francisco Bay Area, limited housing supply due to construction of affordable housing not keeping pace with demand, and gentrification in certain neighborhoods that has pushed out lower-income residents and replaced affordable housing with higher-cost developments. The lack of affordable housing disproportionately affects low- and middle-income families, communities of color, and vulnerable populations, leading to increased displacement and homelessness.

Affordable housing has been a longstanding issue in the Sacramento region, prompting the City to implement a range of strategies to secure funding for its development. In 1989, Sacramento's City Council introduced a [Housing Trust Fund](#) through an ordinance aimed at financing affordable housing near employment hubs, a tactic employed by several U.S. cities. This fund enforces square footage fees on non-residential developments, with the goal of establishing a link between job growth and the availability of affordable housing for low-income residents within the city.

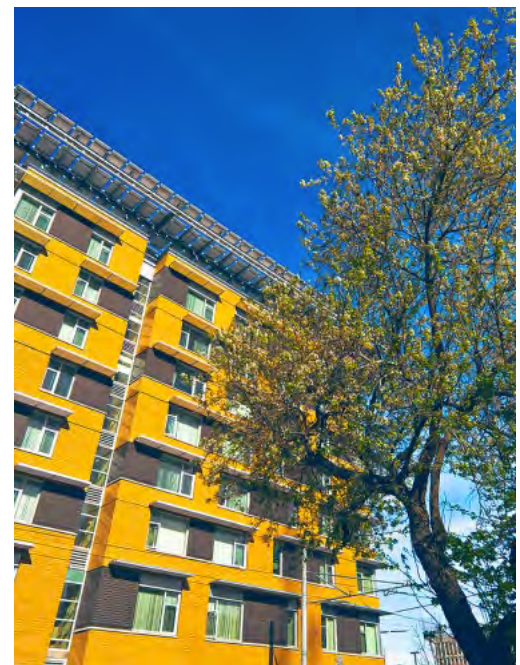
In 2018, Sacramento voters approved [Measure U](#), initially a half-cent sales tax (later increased to a full cent), designed to finance various community investments, including youth services, homelessness support, and the expansion of affordable housing opportunities. Between 2018 and 2022, Measure U generated \$260.6 million for new investments in underserved neighborhoods, including \$106 million to develop affordable housing and address homelessness. Community input is sought through a community advisory committee, ensuring that residents' voices play a pivotal role in determining the allocation of Measure U funds. In 2021, the Sacramento City Council allocated up to \$1 million in Measure U funds for projects selected through the [Participatory Budgeting program](#). The subsequent year, residents voted to fund up to 10 projects in North and South Sacramento, encompassing endeavors like youth career training, urban agriculture, literacy programs, and neighborhood revitalization efforts.

The City of Sacramento has outlined an eight-year housing strategy in the [2021-2029 Housing Element](#) to meet the housing needs of everyone in the community. This strategy aims to expand the housing stock and provide a wider range of housing options that serve all economic segments of the community and further protect residents from displacement. Sacramento seeks to prioritize historically disadvantaged communities and ensure an equitable and inclusive city by protecting and providing opportunities for vulnerable residents, avoiding displacement and supporting economic and community development throughout the city. The City aims to facilitate the construction of more than 45,000 new housing units by 2029, by streamlining the approval processes, reducing housing project costs, supporting infrastructure improvements in targeted areas and lowering development risk.

The General Plan 2040 includes land use policies that promote infill development and the reuse of underutilized properties and intensify development near transit and mixed-use activity centers. An integrated network of mixed-use corridors and centers with a range of housing, employment, educational, cultural, and recreational opportunities is anticipated to help diversify Sacramento's housing supply, address affordability, and support local economic vitality.

The city's [Missing Middle Housing](#) strategy complements these efforts with a focus on encouraging construction of a range of small multi-unit housing types that are "middle" in form and scale between single-family houses and apartment buildings. Sacramento's Missing Middle Housing strategy focuses on adding duplexes, triplexes, fourplexes, ADUs, and bungalow courts to existing neighborhoods. Missing Middle Housing contributes to increased population density and supports neighborhoods where residents can easily walk to nearby amenities and services, reducing reliance on cars and promoting a more sustainable and accessible urban environment.

In 2022, Sacramento became the first jurisdiction in California to earn the [Prohousing Designation](#) from the California Department of Housing and Community Development, receiving recognition for its commitment to affordable housing, transportation, and infrastructure development. This designation



also follows the City's efforts to actively address homelessness by taking strategic steps to expedite housing development. Through a [\\$35 million investment](#), the city is set to create 820 new affordable housing units, with a specific focus on housing for very low-income and homeless individuals. This strategic approach aims to address homelessness with a logical progression from providing temporary shelter to permanent housing solutions. (See also, SDG 1: No Poverty for more information.)

AGGIE SQUARE

[Aggie Square](#) is a planned innovation district on UC Davis' Sacramento campus that will house UC Davis classrooms and research facilities, alongside office- and mixed-use spaces for business partners, community-based programs, and housing.

Aggie Square is situated between the neighborhoods of Elmhurst, Med Center, Oak Park and Tahoe Park. The investment is expected to provide an economic stimulus to the area and create thousands of new jobs. However, community groups argue that the development will displace existing residents because it would drive real estate prices even higher, making the neighborhood unaffordable for low-income residents and businesses. Housing costs in Oak Park and Tahoe Park have already risen substantially over the past several years since the development was announced.

In response to community concerns, UC Davis, the City of Sacramento and Aggie Square's developer, Wexford Science & Technology, LLC agreed upon a [Community Benefits Partnership Agreement](#). The agreement includes a commitment of more than \$50 million to build affordable housing along the Stockton Boulevard corridor and to stabilize existing residential areas. Per the agreement, 20% of the available jobs in Aggie Square that are the focus of the project's workforce development efforts are offered to qualified local residents and members of communities of interest for the first 10 years of the project. The agreement also establishes a community fund of up to \$150,000 annually to support community-identified priorities such as youth opportunities, entrepreneurship, public art, and workforce development. Finally, UC Davis agreed to contribute up to \$1.1 million to fund intersection improvements that support biking, walking and transit options at the Stockton and Broadway intersections.

The full text of the Community Benefits Partnership Agreement is available [here](#).

See also, SDG 17: Partnerships for the Goals, for more information on UC Davis and City of Sacramento cooperation regarding Aggie Square.

Transit Accessibility

In coordination with the City of Sacramento, the [Sacramento Regional Transit District \(SacRT\)](#) is undertaking efforts to increase transit accessibility through system expansions, as well as through initiatives to modernize the transit system. The efforts also aim to improve service reliability, reduce emissions, and enhance passenger accessibility and comfort. These investments in transit infrastructure may contribute to making public transportation a more attractive and viable choice for residents by enhancing the quality and accessibility of transit services.



SacRT's most recent [Short Range Transit Plan](#) outlines planned expansions of the light rail system, including an extension of the Green Line to the airport and a potential extension of the Blue Line into the city of Elk Grove. The project to extend the Green Line would add 13 miles, going north from downtown Sacramento, through the River District and Natomas communities, and end at the Sacramento International Airport. The proposed extension to the Blue Line would take the existing railway further south to the city of Elk Grove, a rapidly growing suburb of Sacramento.

The agency's modernization plans also include upgrading station platforms to accommodate new low-floor light rail vehicles. These low-floor vehicles are more accessible for passengers with disabilities, making it easier for individuals with mobility challenges, including older people, to board and disembark from the trains. These new light rail vehicles, along with proposed service improvements along existing corridors, should lead to increased service frequency, schedule reliability, and passenger safety. SacRT also plans to transition its bus fleet to 100% zero-emission buses by 2040, which will lead to quieter, cleaner, and more environmentally friendly bus operations.

The City of Sacramento is taking steps to enhance the livability of the city and meet its climate goals by prioritizing investments in bike and pedestrian infrastructure. In 2019, the City adopted a [Complete Streets](#) policy with the intent of creating a comprehensive and integrated transportation network that is safe, accessible, and comfortable for all residents, including vulnerable roadway users. The policy applies to all projects related to roadways, bridges, pathways, and sidewalks, with a focus on accommodating pedestrians, bicyclists, persons with disabilities, seniors, and children. The City seeks to align land use and transportation planning to promote a multimodal transportation network while prioritizing the needs of disadvantaged communities and vulnerable roadway users.

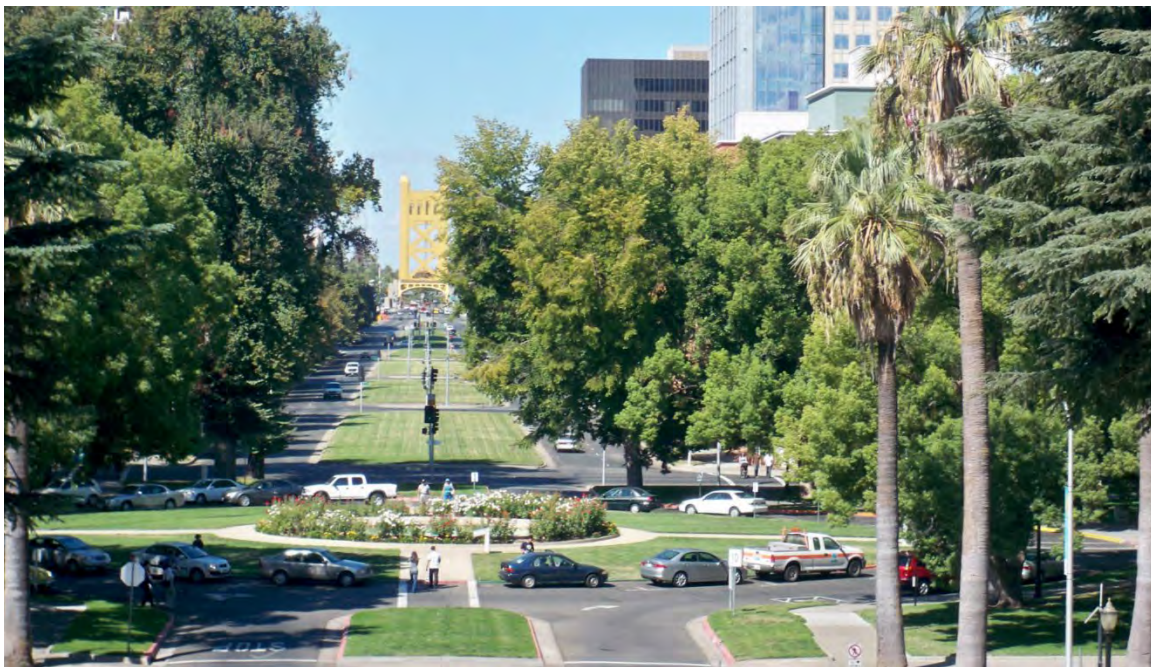
As part of the [Central City Mobility Project](#), 70 blocks in the downtown area will receive dedicated pathways for various active transportation modes, such as biking, walking, and the use of electric scooters, skateboards, and bicycles. These improvements will provide residents with safer and more accessible transportation choices and also contribute to residents' quality of life. The [Streets for People: Sacramento Active Transportation Plan](#) aims to enhance conditions for pedestrians, cyclists, and those using alternative modes of transportation within the city. It focuses on addressing citywide active transportation needs while giving special attention to three historically disinvested areas – North Sacramento, Fruitridge/Broadway and South Sacramento. The City has actively sought community input through surveys, meetings, and workshops. Feedback received from stakeholders will inform decisions related to engineering improvements, policy adjustments, and new programs, and will reflect the community's priorities for safety, connectivity, and accessibility. This community-centric collaborative effort will influence the future of active transportation in the city for years to come.



Green Spaces and Urban Beautification

Sacramento has an extensive park and recreation system, providing residents with access to over 4,300 acres of parks and 115 miles of parkways. These spaces support outdoor activities, serve as vital community gathering areas, and preserve habitat and biodiversity for plant and animal life. The City's [Parks Plan 2040](#) provided an important opportunity for residents to provide input on prioritization of improvements and identify where new parks and facilities are needed. (See also, SDG 15: Life on Land.)

The City of Sacramento actively supports urban beautification and cultural vibrancy through several key initiatives. Introduced in 2022, the "[Seeding Creativity](#)" grant program, funded by an award from the National Endowment for the Arts' federal American Rescue Plan dollars, provided \$10,000 grants to 45 local artists, encompassing diverse artistic disciplines. Also funded through COVID-19 relief funds, the [City of Festivals program](#) encourages special events that enhance the city's quality of life, promote cultural entertainment, and foster community engagement. The program encourages events that align with family-oriented themes, support arts and cultural entertainment, contribute to a healthier living environment, and enhance the city's overall quality of life. The first round of applications in 2022 led to the distribution of \$125,000 to support 27 citywide and community events. The [Sacramento Arts & Culture Match Program](#) seeks to catalyze grassroots, community-led creative projects, and nurture artistic endeavors at the neighborhood level. By providing matching funds of up to \$15,000 for eligible projects, it empowers local residents to actively participate in shaping the cultural landscape of the city.



Community Voices

“Sacramento is suffering in an unprecedented way. It used to be that we were considered more affordable, especially compared to the Bay Area. But in the last few years, we’ve had the highest rent increases of any market in the nation.”

Cathy Creswell, board president for the nonprofit Sacramento Housing Alliance, which advocates for affordable housing in the Sacramento area.

“It really means people are one crisis, one lost paycheck away from homelessness.”

Matt Schwartz, president and CEO of the California Housing Partnership, speaking on the release of the [Sacramento County 2021 Affordable Housing Needs Report](#), which found that found 81% of Sacramento County’s extremely-low income households, or those who earn less than one-third the area’s median income, already pay more than half their earnings on housing and utilities.

The City of Sacramento is actively addressing various urban challenges, and many of these efforts align with the objectives of SDG 11. Through a range of strategies, Sacramento is attempting to tackle affordable housing shortages, prioritize historically disadvantaged communities, and strive to ensure equity and inclusivity. Investments in transit accessibility, and pedestrian and bicycle infrastructure are intended to further enhance the overall quality of life, promoting sustainability and accessibility. The city’s post-COVID efforts to provide support for artists underscores its focus on developing Sacramento as a regional cultural hub.

Additional Resources

[2021-2029 Housing Element](#)

[Age-Friendly Community Action Plan](#)

[Aggie Square](#)

[Bicycle Master Plan](#)

[California Prohousing Designation Program](#)

[Central City Mobility Project](#)

[City of Festivals](#)

[Complete Streets Policy](#)

[Housing Trust Fund](#)

[Missing Middle Housing](#)

[Parks Plan 2040](#)

[Pedestrian Master Plan](#)

[Sacramento Climate Action & Adaptation Plan](#)

[Sacramento 2040 General Plan](#)

[Sacramento County Housing Need Report 2023](#)

[Sacramento Investment Without Displacement](#)

[Sacramento Regional Transit District \(SacRT\)](#)

[SacRT Short Range Transit Plan](#)

[Seeding Creativity](#)

[Streets for People Active Transportation Plan](#)

SDG 12: RESPONSIBLE CONSUMPTION AND PRODUCTION

SDG 12: Responsible Consumption and Production

Sacramento, like many urban areas, faces multifaceted challenges related to waste management and environmental sustainability in production and consumption patterns. As a rapidly growing urban center, Sacramento is increasingly generating consumption-related waste that contributes to environmental degradation and global warming through methane releases from the decomposition of organic matter in landfills. To meet California's ambitious climate goals and align with the targets of SDG 12, the City of Sacramento will need to undertake additional efforts to tackle waste generation, enhance resource efficiency, and mitigate the environmental impact of residents' consumption patterns.

[SDG 12](#) focuses on ensuring sustainable consumption and production patterns, including through environmentally sound management of chemicals and wastes, reductions in global per capita food waste, and substantial decreases in solid waste generation through recycling and reuse. It also encourages the adoption of sustainable practices by companies, promotes sustainable public procurement, and calls for support to developing countries in enhancing their scientific and technological capacity for sustainable consumption and production.

Sacramento's rapid population increase in the last decade has led to a significant increase in the waste generated in the city, including in the categories of [single-use plastics, electronic waste, and hazardous materials](#). According to the California Department of Resources Recycling and Recovery ("CalRecycle"), Sacramento residents generated [61% more solid waste](#) in 2022 compared to 2012, a 47% per capita increase. The City of Sacramento has undertaken a range of initiatives to address waste management. However, a significant portion of responsibility lies with residents, necessitating a shift in their consumption and disposal habits towards waste reduction and increased reuse and recycling. To facilitate this behavioral change, the City of Sacramento promotes public awareness and education initiatives.

Waste Reduction and Management

The City of Sacramento has implemented [waste management strategies](#) including the [Neighborhood Clean-Up Grant Program](#) and the [Household Junk Pickup Program](#), which are designed to enhance neighborhood cleanliness, reduce illegal dumping, and encourage responsible waste disposal practices. The Neighborhood Clean-Up Grant Program provides financial assistance to neighborhood and homeowner associations, community, faith-based, and nonprofit groups, service clubs, and other organized entities to conduct clean-up events that focus on collecting and removing trash and debris from public spaces within the community. The Household Junk Pickup program is a service provided by the City to help residential customers dispose of bulky items, yard waste, and certain appliances and electronic waste. Residential customers are entitled to two free appointments per year for the pickup of acceptable bulky items. Additionally, two appointments are available for [appliance and e-waste collection](#) in a calendar year.

Recycling Programs

Sacramento actively encourages recycling through various programs, including biweekly residential curbside collection of mixed recycling and public education campaigns. These initiatives reflect the City's commitment to sustainable waste management, aligning with SDG 12, which emphasizes reducing food waste, managing natural resources efficiently, and substantially reducing waste generation through prevention, reduction, recycling, and reuse.

Through biweekly curbside collection, Sacramento residents are able to recycle a variety of paper, plastic, glass and metal materials. The City accepts [all plastics labeled 1-7](#), making recycling simpler for residents who do not have to worry about sorting out plastics labeled 3-7, which many other municipalities do not accept. Residents are also encouraged to [recycle used motor oil and filters](#) to prevent environmental contamination, and the City offers curbside collection by appointment for used motor oil and oil filters at no additional costs to residents. Residents can also bring used oil products, including cooking oil, to the [Household Hazardous Waste Facility](#) at no additional cost. The facility also accepts other household hazardous waste, including paint, batteries and electronic waste. There is also a reuse store at the Sacramento Recycling & Transfer Station (SRTS), where an average of 10,000 pounds of materials such as paints, cleaners, and other household products are diverted on a monthly basis.

In order to tackle waste from building construction and demolition, and to comply with the [California Green Building Standards Code](#), Sacramento introduced an ordinance requiring that 65% of all debris generated during the course of a project must be recycled. Furthermore, all new construction must submit and receive approval for a waste management plan before they can receive building permits. The efforts to expand recycling at the residential and commercial levels demonstrate Sacramento's support for SDG 12.

Organic Waste Composting

Californians throw away [nearly 6 million tons of food scraps each year](#), accounting for 15-20% of all landfilled material. As these materials decompose in landfills, they release greenhouse gases, including methane, a particularly potent greenhouse gas. In order to reduce the climate impact from food waste, and to comply with statewide mandates, the City of Sacramento also encourages [organic waste recycling](#) to divert this waste stream from landfills. The City implemented its organic waste recycling program in July 2022, which includes weekly curbside collection of containerized organic waste such as food scraps, food-soiled paper, and yard trimmings. These organic materials are turned into a nutrient rich compost and supplied to local agricultural producers.

Starting in May 2024, the City began offering a free [compost giveaway program](#) for residents and as a way to meet California requirements ([SB 1383 regulations](#)). In addition to the City's free compost giveaway program, the City also encourages residents to engage in backyard composting of organic waste and offers [free seminars](#) on proper composting techniques. A comprehensive [Backyard Composting Guide](#) is available as a community resource. The Backyard Composting Program contributes to SDG 12 by allowing residents to recycle food scraps and yard waste, reducing the amount of organic waste sent to landfills.

The City of Sacramento accepts all plastics with numbers 1-7. The City's [Waste Wizard App](#) helps residents learn how to dispose of their unwanted items.

Public Awareness



Through [public education campaigns](#), [informational brochures](#), and [online resources](#), the city disseminates information on waste reduction, proper recycling practices, and the significance of adopting sustainable consumption patterns. One free tool is a downloadable app, [SacRecycle](#). It includes the [Waste Wizard](#), an easy-to-use application that helps Sacramento residential customers sort their waste properly and learn where they can dispose of hazardous materials. The [SacRecycle](#) application provides residents with garbage, organics, recycling and street sweeping calendars. It also offers reminder notifications, so residents know when to put out their containers.

Sustainable Reuse and Repurposing

With financial assistance from CalRecycle, the City of Sacramento launched the [Rubberized Pavement Program](#) in 2019, aimed at addressing tire waste issues and improving the sustainability of the area's road infrastructure. The program involves combining ground-up disposed rubber tires with traditional paving materials to create a road surface that is safer, longer-lasting, quieter, and more cost-effective. This process also helps address the environmental issues associated with the improper disposal of used automotive tires. It is estimated that approximately 500 waste tires per lane mile are used in this process and an estimated 12,000 to 15,000 waste tires have been diverted from the waste stream, demonstrating a significant contribution to waste reduction efforts.

Through waste reduction, recycling initiatives, and the promotion of sustainable practices, Sacramento is making progress towards achieving the environmentally conscious and resource-efficient objectives outlined in SDG 12. Initiatives like the Rubberized Pavement Program, e-waste recycling, and recycling of used motor oil and filters support SDG 12 by promoting environmentally sound management of chemicals and waste throughout their life cycle. SDG 12 is also supported by reductions in food waste and post-consumer recycling. While challenges persist, the city's multifaceted approach reflects pragmatic efforts toward mitigating the environmental impact of residents' consumption patterns.

Additional Resources

[Appliance and E-waste Pickup](#)

[California Climate Investments Community Composting](#)

[California Green Building Standards Code](#)

[City of Sacramento Recycle Wise Sort Smart Sorting Game](#)

[Composting for Community \(ILSR\)](#)

[Curbside Collection Services](#)

[Household Junk Pickup Program](#)

[Motor Oil and Filters Recycling](#)

[Neighborhood Clean-Up Grant Program](#)

[Regional Recycling Backyard Composting Guide](#)

[Recycling Food Waste at Home](#)

[Sacramento Household Hazardous Waste Facility](#)



SDG 13: CLIMATE ACTION

SDG 13: Climate Action

Sacramento is experiencing multiple impacts of climate change, including extreme heat, air quality effects, and changing precipitation patterns including greater frequency of severe storm events and associated increased flood risk. These changes have significant implications for the city's environment, public health, and economy. The average temperature in Sacramento has [increased by about 2 degrees Fahrenheit over the past century](#), and significant further warming is projected over the course of this century. These changes threaten water resources, food security, infrastructure, air quality, and vulnerable populations.

[SDG 13: Climate Action](#) aims to combat climate change and its impacts. Sacramento's response to climate change aligns with this global goal, emphasizing the need for coordinated efforts to mitigate greenhouse gas emissions, adapt to the changing climate, and build resilience. By addressing climate change, Sacramento contributes to global efforts to create a sustainable and climate-resilient future.

On a global scale, the burning of fossil fuels for energy production, transportation, and industrial processes is the [primary source of the greenhouse gas emissions](#) that are causing climate change. These emissions [trap heat in the atmosphere](#), leading to global warming. [Deforestation and changes in land use](#) contribute to the loss of natural carbon sinks and exacerbate climate change. These practices lead to increased greenhouse gas emissions and reduced ecosystem resilience.

In the Sacramento context, greenhouse gas emissions are primarily the result of energy consumption for transportation and buildings. Transportation alone accounts for 57% of [Sacramento's greenhouse gas emissions](#), while the built environment contributes 37%. To address these emission sources, the City's long-term planning centers on increasing the density of housing and other land uses in the Central City and along high frequency transit corridors. This approach reduces emissions from transportation by integrating land uses in walkable neighborhoods, minimizing the number of trips that need to be taken by personal vehicles. More importantly, this land use densification will support increasing the number of commuters who are able to choose public transport or opt for active transportation options, including bicycling and walking. Concurrently, the City is planning for [urban forest expansion](#) and improved management as a carbon sequestration measure, which will contribute to mitigating extreme heat impacts by providing shade and reducing urban heat island effects.

As the [Climate Action & Adaptation Plan \(CAAP\)](#) shows, Sacramento has made substantial progress in reducing emissions in recent years, positioning itself strategically for even greater reductions in the future. From 2005 to 2016, the City achieved a significant 20% reduction in community greenhouse gas emissions, despite a concurrent 10% increase in population. This translates to a 26% reduction in per capita emissions since 2005, reflecting Sacramento's commitment to sustainability and environmental stewardship, and setting an example for other cities to follow. The City has led the community by example as well, achieving a 28% reduction in municipal GHG emissions for the same time period.



*1990 per capita emissions are estimated by dividing the 1990 emissions backcast (1.5% below 2005 levels) by the City's 1990 population.

Sacramento has significantly reduced per capita GHG emissions over time.

City Planning for Climate Change

The City of Sacramento has implemented several initiatives to combat climate change, demonstrating its commitment to sustainability and climate resilience. In 2021, the City launched the [Office of Climate Action and Sustainability](#) which works closely with City departments and the Sacramento community to reduce GHG emissions and adapt to the impacts of climate change.

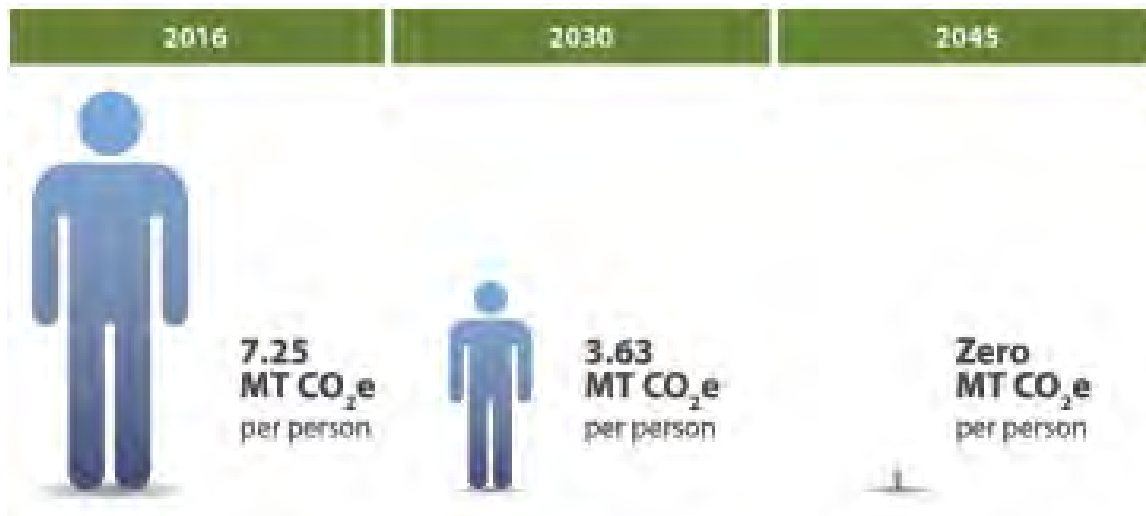
To guide longer-term and ongoing climate priorities, the Climate Action & Adaptation Plan (CAAP) is a comprehensive strategy that outlines Sacramento's strategy to reduce greenhouse gas emissions to achieve carbon neutrality by 2045. The CAAP also includes a Climate Change Vulnerability Assessment that informs goals, policies, and actions to guide Sacramento's adaptation to the projected impacts of climate change. It includes measures to reduce emissions from the built environment and transportation, as well as from water and wastewater treatment. These measures are intended to help the City achieve an ambitious goal: to reduce Sacramento's per capita greenhouse gas emissions to 3.63 metric tons of carbon dioxide equivalent (MT CO₂e) per person by 2030, equal to 63% below 1990 levels. By 2045, the City aims to reduce per capita greenhouse gas emissions to net zero MT CO₂e per person, equal to 100 percent below 1990 levels.

Terminology

CARBON NEUTRALITY: Carbon neutrality means balancing the emissions created within the city (e.g., through combustion of gasoline or usage of electricity) with the emissions sequestered (e.g., through carbon absorbed in trees or soils) within the city.

CLIMATE EQUITY: The City of Sacramento defines climate equity as the equitable protection from climate change impacts and environmental hazards (e.g., extreme heat, increased energy prices, etc.), as well as access to environmental benefits for all communities (e.g., programs, policies, and projects that mitigate climate change impacts). This means developing programs, policies and projects that target historically under-resourced and low-income communities within Sacramento.

Source: City of Sacramento Climate Action and Adaptation Plan (CAAP)



Through its [Climate Action & Adaptation Plan](#), the city outlines measures aimed at reducing per capita greenhouse gas emissions to net zero by 2045.

Building Electrification

Energy used by buildings produces 37% of Sacramento’s greenhouse gas emissions. A key initiative taken by the city of Sacramento towards carbon neutrality is the promotion of building electrification to reduce greenhouse gas emissions from the residential and commercial sectors. Building electrification involves replacing natural gas or propane appliances with electric alternatives to reduce emissions from burning fossil fuels. The City developed an [Existing Building Electrification Strategy](#) to promote the electrification of existing buildings. The strategy highlights the opportunity to drive equity and ongoing bill savings for Sacramento households through an approach that maximizes support with incentives and rebates available from the Sacramento Municipal Utility District (SMUD), the State of California, and the federal government’s Inflation Reduction Act of 2022. The City has initiated the implementation of a series of pilot projects with the dual purpose of promoting electrification and addressing essential building repairs, including initiatives that target low-income homeowners in the Stockton Boulevard area and small businesses in the Northgate Boulevard area. These pilot programs are made possible by grant funding, ensuring that repairs and retrofits for participants come at minimal or no financial burden.

Transportation Infrastructure

Fifty-seven percent of Sacramento’s greenhouse gas emissions are produced by the transportation sector, primarily from gas-powered personal vehicles. City efforts to address these emissions prioritize investments in active transportation, followed by transit and shared mobility, and finally infrastructure for electric vehicles (EVs) and other zero-emission vehicles (ZEVs).

Active Transportation

Sacramento has taken steps to reduce greenhouse gas emissions in the transportation sector through initiatives focused on active transportation, such as the [Central City Mobility Project](#). This expansive 70-block construction project focuses on creating dedicated thoroughfares for active transportation options, including biking, walking, and electric scooter, skateboard, or bicycle travel. The City has also launched a pilot program that aims to reduce carbon emissions by providing residents with access to electric bicycles. The [E-Bike Lending Program](#), which was launched at the Colonial Heights Library as part of the Sacramento Public Library’s “Library of Things”, is intended to increase the use of non-motorized transportation and promote active lifestyles. Beginning with 30 electric tricycles, the program is expected to be expanded to other libraries and community centers across Sacramento.



Sacramento has over 600 public and workplace chargers within city limits. The City's interactive [Electric Vehicle \(EV\) Parking Map App](#) shows publicly available EV charging locations and on- and off-street parking options within the community.

Electrical Vehicle Infrastructure

The City of Sacramento is actively investing in electric vehicle charging infrastructure as part of its efforts to reduce emissions and improve air quality. These investments include the installation of [EV charging stations at City-owned and operated facilities and parking garages](#), discounted parking to EV drivers in City-owned parking garages, the incorporation of low-emission vehicles and zero-emission vehicles (ZEV) [into city fleet operations](#), partnerships with public and private entities to expand EV infrastructure, and an [incentive program offered](#) to income-qualified residents in disadvantaged communities to help with the purchase of ZEV or near-zero emission vehicles.

Community Voices

The City of Sacramento is working to achieve carbon neutrality and ensure a livable, equitable, and sustainable community for all generations. The City's commitment to climate action includes a strong commitment to ongoing engagement and collaboration with its rich diversity of citizens, neighborhoods, and cultural groups. Sacramento's climate initiatives are founded on continued and sustained engagement at all levels with a multi-pronged approach. Strategies and implementation are guided and refined by ongoing community input as the City strives to improve the quality of life for residents while advancing carbon neutrality.

- In a survey of Sacramento stakeholders, 84% of respondents supported building electrification if it did not increase costs or impact functionality.
- 64% of respondents noted a lack of charging infrastructure as a major hurdle to EV ownership.

Community members also called for additional measures to protect vulnerable residents from the impacts of climate change. Some residents were concerned that electrification measures would impact real estate prices and business development.

- In a separate survey of more than 500 Sacramento residents, 53% of respondents listed addressing climate change as a very high priority.

Sacramento Climate Action & Adaptation Plan: Chapter 04 Community Engagement

Climate change poses significant challenges to Sacramento. However, the City has demonstrated a commitment to addressing this issue through initiatives outlined in the Climate Action & Adaptation Plan (CAAP), including key measures to decarbonize the built environment and transportation in Sacramento. These initiatives contribute to SDG 13 by reducing greenhouse gas emissions, promoting sustainable transportation, and identifying greenhouse gas reduction measures that also build resilience to the impacts of climate change. Through collaborative efforts between community organizations and local government, Sacramento strives to create a sustainable and climate-resilient future for its residents.

Additional Resources

City of Sacramento

[Sacramento Climate Action & Adaptation Plan](#)

[Existing Building Electrification Strategy](#)

[Capital Region Climate Readiness Collaborative](#)

[E-Bike Lending Program](#)

[EV Charging Locations](#)

[EV Blueprint Implementation](#)

[Office of Climate Action & Sustainability](#)

Sacramento Metropolitan Air Quality Management District

[Capital Region Urban Heat Island Mitigation Project](#)

[Climate Pollution Reduction Grants Program](#)

[Sacramento's Clean Cars 4 All](#)

[Spare The Air: Real time Air Quality Data for the Sacramento Region](#)

State and Federal

ww2.arb.ca.gov/

[California Climate Change Assessment](#)

[Fifth National Climate Assessment](#)

[Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change](#)

SDG 14: Life Below Water

Reducing pollution and ending overfishing is essential to safeguarding marine and freshwater ecosystems. Marine pollution, stemming from sources such as industrial discharges, agricultural runoff, and urban waste, poses a significant threat to the health and diversity of aquatic life. At the same time, overfishing disrupts the natural equilibrium of these ecosystems, putting the biodiversity of aquatic populations at risk. Additional efforts to reduce pollution and implement sustainable fishing practices are crucial for preserving the well-being of marine and freshwater life in the face of growing environmental challenges.

[SDG 14](#) centers on conserving and sustainably utilizing oceans and marine resources, addressing issues such as marine pollution, overfishing, coastal degradation, and the impacts of climate change. The goal is to effectively manage and safeguard marine ecosystems, encourage sustainable fisheries, bolster conservation efforts, restore habitats, and combat ocean acidification. Achieving these objectives requires global collaboration and the adoption of sustainable practices, with the ultimate vision of securing a healthier future for oceans and marine life.

Sacramento lacks a direct ocean coastline, but there are critical challenges related to SDG 14. The Sacramento and American Rivers and the nearby Sacramento-San Joaquin Delta have been impacted by pollution, habitat loss, and rising temperatures. These issues, along with alterations in river flows, threaten the survival of many plant and animal species, including salmon and steelhead trout. The City of Sacramento has limited ability to enact or enforce environmental actions independently to address these challenges. Nonetheless, it actively collaborates with a range of stakeholders, including local and federal agencies, in a collective effort to address these environmental concerns and work towards achieving SDG 14 Targets.

The Sacramento River

The Sacramento River is California's largest river and the most important river in California for both people and nature, according to the [Nature Conservancy](#). Originating near Mount Shasta and flowing approximately 380 miles south, it provides [35% of the state's developed water supply](#) and supports [2 million acres of irrigated agriculture](#) in the Sacramento Valley. The river is vital for wildlife and contains critical habitats for some of California's most important species. It supports an extensive array of aquatic life, including [more than 50 fish species](#), as well as a diverse ecosystem that hosts [70% of California's salmon rearing habitat](#).

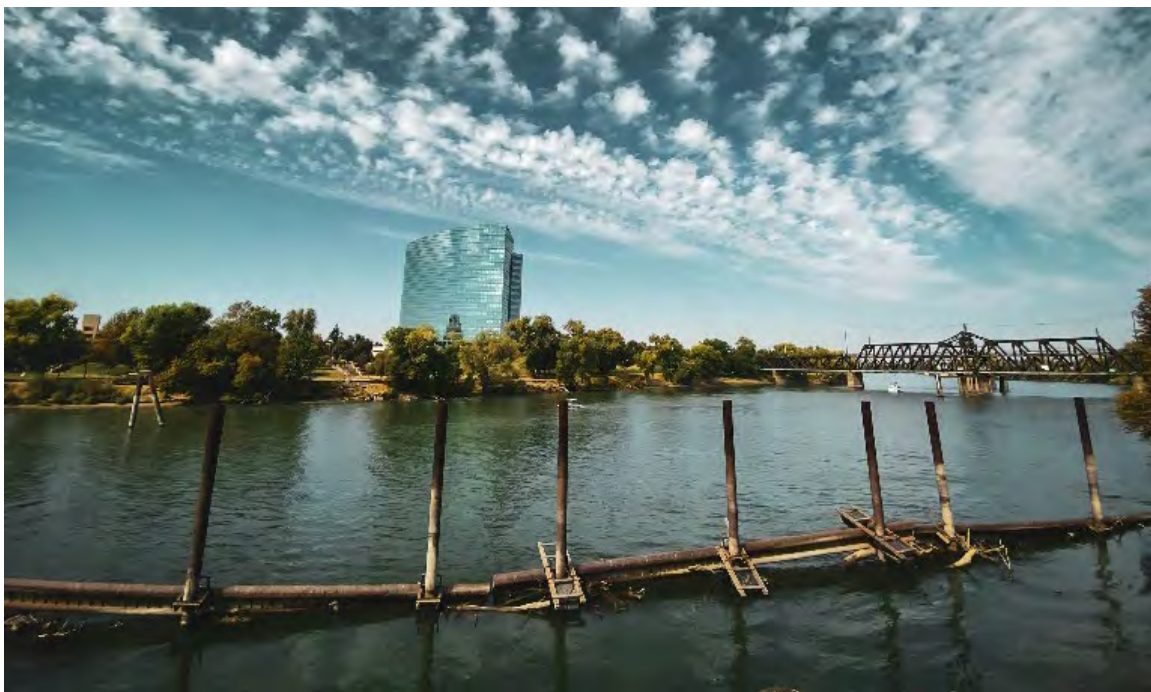
However, over time, the river has experienced degradation. Human activities like agriculture, urban development, and mining have altered the water flow and contributed to water pollution with pesticides, nitrates, urban runoff, mine tailings and acid mine drainage. Historical impacts, like the California Gold Rush, contributed methylmercury contamination, which accumulates in aquatic ecosystems, affecting top predators and endangering various species. Agricultural practices contribute to water quality issues

as chemicals used in farming runoff into waterways, leading to impairments by copper, mercury, nitrates, and [more than 15 pesticides](#) including diazinon chlorpyrifos and lindane. Meanwhile, urban development has led to contamination with other pollutants, including microplastics and sewage overflow.

Since the 1850s, 90% of the Sacramento River's forests have been cleared, and land reclamation for agriculture and flood regulation in the 20th century led to a drastic decline in water-based habitats. Historically, riparian and wetland areas in the Sacramento Basin covered over 500,000 acres, but only about 10,000 acres remain today, mostly as restored or artificially constructed wetlands. Meanwhile, levee construction has limited the river's ability to change course, hindering the renewal of wetlands. Large-scale water infrastructure projects and dams have further disrupted the river's natural flow, affecting Chinook salmon spawning and reducing various fish populations.

The Sacramento-San Joaquin Delta

Approximately 30 miles southwest of Sacramento, the Sacramento River meets the San Joaquin River and forms the Sacramento-San Joaquin Delta, which drains into San Francisco Bay and the Pacific Ocean. The Sacramento-San Joaquin Delta is the largest estuary on the west coast of the Americas, and it provides habitat critical to the survival of many fish and wildlife species. [More than 50 fish species](#) and [750 plant and wildlife species](#) depend on the vital ecosystem of the Sacramento-San Joaquin Delta.



The Sacramento River, a vital habitat for diverse species, has seen a significant reduction in its riparian and wetlands areas. Once totaling over 500,000 acres, only about 10,000 acres remain today due to agriculture, urban development, and levee construction, impacting both animal and plant life in the region.

As with the Sacramento River, decades of human activities, including gold mining, flood protection, and land reclamation, have significantly impacted the Delta's ecosystem. The system has been further strained by intentional or accidental introductions of [more than 200 exotic species](#), along with urban and agricultural contaminants. [Scientific studies](#) have revealed a decline in aquatic life, especially fish like the Delta smelt and young striped bass. Today, approximately [100 Delta wildlife species, 140 plant species, and 13 fish species](#) have some form of legal or regulatory protection by federal or state agencies due to their threatened or endangered status.

Threatened and Endangered Species

The Sacramento River Basin in California encompasses [27,000 square miles and is a critical habitat for salmon and steelhead trout](#). Over the last century, the basin has undergone significant modifications, including dams and water diversions that have reduced both the quantity and quality of available habitat. Alterations in historic river flows have impacted the natural functions of the watershed, affecting the survival of fish in the region, including [four species of fish](#) that migrate seasonally from the Pacific Ocean. These are the Sacramento River winter-run Chinook salmon, Central Valley spring-run Chinook salmon, California Central Valley steelhead trout, and Southern Distinct Population Segment green sturgeon, which have all been identified as threatened or endangered under the Endangered Species Act.

Tributaries to the Sacramento River, including the Feather River, Yuba River, and American River have also seen habitat reductions due to the construction of dams. Efforts are underway to improve fish passage, including through the use of fish ladders and collection-and-transport operations, and sometimes dam removal (such as in the case of the [Battle Creek dam](#)). However, restoration efforts mainly focus on mitigating habitat losses through facilities like the [Feather River Hatchery](#) and the [Nimbus Fish Hatchery](#), which aim to supplement populations of Chinook salmon and steelhead for release into the Feather River and American River. These efforts aim to manage and recover these threatened or endangered species, aligning with the goals of SDG 14 and the [Endangered Species Act](#), while contributing to the overall health of the aquatic ecosystems in the Sacramento region.

Approaches to Conservation

The [Sacramento Valley Water Quality Coalition](#) was established in 2003, with the aim of enhancing water quality in the Sacramento River while ensuring the economic viability of agriculture in the region. It is made up of more than 8,600 farmers and wetlands managers, who work with local farm bureaus, resource conservation districts, and local governments to improve water quality across 1.3 million irrigated acres. Water quality monitoring results have demonstrated that this collaborative approach is yielding success. The [results show minimal toxicity levels](#) for certain key organisms that are crucial to the food web, indicating a supportive ecosystem for diverse aquatic life. These findings suggest that the management practices implemented by farmers in the Sacramento Valley have largely been effective in maintaining the overall health of the river's aquatic ecosystem. This achievement contributes to SDG 14 by preventing and reducing pollution from land-based activities, ensuring the long-term well-being of freshwater and marine environments.

To meet conservation goals and improve ecosystem health, the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency utilizes a [watershed approach](#), which incorporates regulatory and non-regulatory measures to address

pollution comprehensively. The watershed approach involves all stakeholders, both public and private, to promote local stewardship for sustained water quality improvements. Established in 1996 and certified as a California not-for-profit corporation in 2002, the [Sacramento River Watershed Program](#) brings together numerous stakeholders to address a range of issues related to the Sacramento River, including water quality, fish passage, and forest health. This approach has yielded some success in the past, including efforts to [reduce diazinon impairments in the San Joaquin River in 2010](#). This has demonstrated that watershed-based pollution control activities can successfully address ongoing water quality challenges in the region through both community-based watershed activities and regulation.

Sacramento's Stormwater Quality Program

Urban runoff, which is the flow of water over man-made surfaces in densely populated areas, poses significant environmental concerns. The increased prevalence of impervious surfaces in urban landscapes contributes to this issue, allowing pollutants to enter creeks and rivers without undergoing treatment. Everyday activities like car washing and lawn watering further exacerbate the problem as runoff picks up pollutants such as pesticides, fertilizers, oil and grease. As urban runoff crosses paved surfaces like streets, parking lots, and roofs, it accumulates and transports pollutants, creating harmful urban runoff pollution. When this pollution is triggered by rain, it is specifically referred to as stormwater pollution. Addressing the complexities of urban runoff and stormwater pollution is crucial for safeguarding water quality and preserving ecosystems for aquatic life.

Stormwater quality in Sacramento County is affected by common pollutants, including motor oil, pet waste, yard waste, and pesticides/fertilizers. Used motor oil contains petroleum hydrocarbons and heavy metals, posing a direct threat to aquatic life, with a quart of oil capable of [contaminating 250,000 gallons of water](#). Pet waste contributes to bacterial pollution, while yard waste releases nutrients like nitrogen and phosphorus into the water when it decomposes. Pesticides and fertilizers, especially when over-applied and washed into storm drains, can be toxic to aquatic life. It takes only one teaspoon of diazinon, a common garden pesticide, to make [2 ½ million gallons of water toxic](#) to some forms of aquatic life.

The [Stormwater Quality Program](#) in Sacramento County, in collaboration with several public agencies, including the City of Sacramento, works to clean urban stormwater runoff and safeguard local creeks and rivers. The program focuses on educating the public about runoff pollution, promoting community participation in cleanup events, encouraging pollution prevention among industries and businesses, and implementing erosion and pollution control measures in construction projects. Without penalties or enforcement mechanisms, the program relies on residents to practice responsible behaviors to prevent pollution from reaching water bodies and impairing freshwater and marine ecosystems.

Like many other municipalities, the City of Sacramento also operates an extensive street sweeping program, covering over 15,000 miles of public right-of-way annually. In 2022, the frequency of street sweeping was increased from every six weeks to every four weeks. This plays a crucial role in preventing debris from entering storm drains, mitigating potential issues such as street flooding and safeguarding the integrity of local waterways.

The Nigiri Project

The [Nigiri Project](#), conducted in collaboration with the [UC Davis Center for Watershed Sciences](#), the [California Department of Water Resources](#), and [California Trout](#), explores the potential of floodplains to support both strong salmon populations and agricultural activities. The project involves an annual experiment known as the "Nigiri Project," where juvenile Chinook salmon are placed in underwater pens in flooded rice fields. This experiment aims to demonstrate how floodplains, specifically off-season agricultural fields, can provide critical habitat for endangered fish. The project also investigates the productivity of different river habitats, comparing fish growth in flooded rice fields, agricultural canals, and the Sacramento River. The results suggest that properly managed floodplains on farmland could serve as surrogate wetlands, benefiting both fish and agriculture by mimicking natural flooding cycles and enhancing the food web. The Nigiri Project highlights the potential for ecological solutions in water policy to support both environmental conservation and agricultural practices.



Juvenile salmon feast on bugs in enclosed areas of the Yolo Bypass during a 2014 experiment in a flooded rice field. Credit: Carson Jeffres/UC Davis

The Sacramento River Basin, critical for California's water supply, faces degradation from human activities and climate change. The river's ecosystem is threatened by declining water quality, habitat loss, rising temperatures, and negative impacts from human activities such as agriculture and urban development. Despite these issues, regulatory and collaborative conservation efforts involving farmers and local communities are showing positive results. These initiatives align with SDG 14, and they underscore the necessity for ongoing and concerted efforts to prevent pollution and conserve freshwater and marine environments.

Additional Resources

[American Rivers](#)

[California Department of Fish and Wildlife](#)

[Central Valley Regional Water Quality Control Board](#)

[Delta Conservancy](#)

[Delta Protection Commission](#)

[Delta Science Program](#)

[Delta Stewardship Council](#)

[The Delta Plan](#)

[Department of Water Resources Bay Delta Office](#)

[Department of Pesticide Regulation](#)

[Interagency Ecological Program](#)

[Clear Creek Watershed](#)

[National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration: Fisheries](#)

[Sacramento County Stormwater Quality Program](#)

[Sacramento River National Wildlife Refuge](#)

[Sacramento River Discovery Center](#)

[Sacramento River Watershed Program](#)

[Sacramento Valley Water Quality Coalition](#)

[San Francisco Bay Regional Water Quality Control Board](#)

[San Francisco Bay Conservation and Development Commission](#)

[San Joaquin River Conservancy](#)

[State Water Resources Control Board Bay Delta Program](#)

[The Nature Conservancy](#)

[U.S. Environmental Protection Agency](#)

[U.S. Geological Survey, California Water Science Center](#)

[Water Education Foundation](#)

[Western Shasta Resource Conservation District](#)



SDG 15: LIFE ON LAND

SDG 15: Life On Land

The Sacramento region's diverse landscape features a combination of public and private green spaces, ranging from urban parks, streetscapes, and private yards to riverine areas and wildlife habitats, such as the Sacramento and Yolo Bypass Wildlife Areas and the American River Parkway. Within the city limits, there are around [1 million trees, giving Sacramento among the densest canopy coverage](#) of any city in California. However, the region's expanding urban footprint continues to contribute to habitat loss, further fragmenting natural landscapes and impacting the biodiversity that these areas sustain. The City recognizes the importance of addressing these issues and has implemented programs and initiatives aimed at enhancing urban forestry, biodiversity conservation, and sustainable land management.

[SDG 15](#) prioritizes the protection and restoration of terrestrial ecosystems, the prevention of biodiversity loss, and combatting desertification. This goal recognizes the role of healthy land-based ecosystems in global ecological stability. By addressing challenges like deforestation and unsustainable land use, SDG 15 aims to ensure responsible land management and preserve biodiversity. SDG15 Targets are integral to fostering climate resilience, ensuring food security, and advancing overall planetary sustainability.

Sacramento has implemented various initiatives and programs to address the environmental challenges of urbanization. The City's [Urban Forestry Program](#), comprehensive tree canopy assessments, and the development of the Sacramento Urban Forest Plan demonstrate the City's dedication to biodiversity conservation and sustainable land use, which are key components of SDG 15.

Urban Forestry and Sacramento's Tree Canopy

Sacramento is known as the "City of Trees," and the City of Sacramento maintains an urban forest of more than 100,000 public trees in parks, streets, medians, and City facilities. The City has a goal to increase current levels of tree planting within parks and along streets, support private efforts to plant and care for trees, and continue to actively manage structural pruning of public trees to ensure the health and longevity of the urban forest. For these efforts, Sacramento has been [recognized by the Arbor Day Foundation as a Tree City USA Community](#) for the past consecutive 46 years. Sacramento shares the distinction with City of Burbank as the longest-running active Tree City USA Community in California.

Additionally, the City periodically conducts assessments of the urban canopy, systematically evaluating the health, distribution, and overall condition of trees throughout Sacramento. The most recent [urban tree canopy assessment](#) was conducted in 2016 using aerial imagery to detail the distribution and extent of existing tree canopy in both public and private spaces. The assessment revealed that Sacramento has an average of 19.1% tree canopy cover spread across approximately 12,198 acres.

This assessment helps to identify priority areas for tree plantings for canopy expansion and informs decisions that balance urban growth with the preservation of green spaces. The data gathered also contributes to understanding the environmental benefits of the urban forest, such as stormwater interception, carbon sequestration, and improved air quality.



Large, old shade trees in central Sacramento contribute to a stable tree canopy cover.

The tree canopy assessment also revealed a significant disparity in canopy coverage by neighborhood, showing that regions with lower median pay, higher proportions of renters, and a larger population of people of color experience notably lower tree canopy coverage compared to other parts of the city. This disparity in canopy coverage has broader implications because [areas with fewer trees often experience worse air quality](#) and higher heat, contributing to health issues for residents.

This imbalance is particularly evident in areas directly north and south of downtown, where [tree canopy coverage can be under 10%](#), substantially below the city average of just over 19%. Grassroots initiatives, such as the [Meadowview Urban Tree Project](#) have emerged in response to this disparity, aiming to reshape the equity of tree canopy coverage in Sacramento. The organization engages in activities such as stump removal, loaning out tree care tools, and planting services to improve the health of trees in neighborhoods.

Sacramento Urban Forest Plan

The [Sacramento Urban Forest Plan](#) is a strategy aimed at preserving, expanding, and sustainably managing the city's urban forest. The Urban Forest Plan is aligned with the City's 2040 General Plan, ensuring that planning for Sacramento's urban forest is integrated with long-range planning for urban development. The Urban Forest Plan envisions the future of Sacramento's tree canopy, offering a framework for protection, maintenance, and enhancement. The Urban Forest Plan, in alignment with

the 2040 General Plan and Climate Action & Adaptation Plan (CAAP), includes a goal of 35% tree canopy coverage city-wide by 2045. In order to achieve this goal, it calls for the City to plant more trees, protect native trees and trees of significance, engage with the community and include social justice considerations. By incorporating urban forestry goals into various city planning efforts, the Sacramento Urban Forest Plan aims to create a resilient urban forest, contributing to the city's long-standing reputation as the "City of Trees."

Green Spaces and Wildlife Habitats

Sacramento has an extensive network of public green spaces, comprising over 4,265 acres. The city is home to a variety of parks, including 129 neighborhood parks, 56 community parks, and 25 larger regional parks, which range from 75 to 200 acres in size. The largest park in the city, Land Park, spans more than 207 developed acres and serves as a wildlife corridor for animals along the Sacramento River. Northeast of downtown, the 163-acre Sutter's Landing Regional Park is a riparian and upland area that serves a similar function as a wildlife corridor connecting to the American River.

The City of Sacramento [Parks Plan 2040](#) was adopted in 2024. The plan was informed by extensive engagement with residents across the city, including through advisory groups and outreach activities. There was an intentional effort to reach marginalized communities. Health equity, equitable parks and access are three key areas of focus in the plan. The process and final plan reflects the Leave No One Behind principle of the 2030 Agenda, while also supporting SDG 3: Good Health & Well-Being, SDG 10: Reduced Inequalities, SDG 11: Sustainable Cities and Communities, and other SDGs.

The Sacramento area is also home to several wildlife habitats, including the 360-acre [Sacramento Bypass Wildlife Area](#) and the adjacent 16,600-acre [Yolo Bypass Wildlife Area](#). Positioned along the Pacific Flyway, a migratory route which spans from the Arctic to Central and South America, these areas serve as laybys for a diverse variety of bird species, offering them a space to rest and feed on their journey. These areas are also home to diverse vegetation, ranging from mature cottonwood trees to sandy soil areas that provide a habitat for game birds, raptors, songbirds, invertebrates, snakes, turtles, toads, and native mammals. Various creeks and canals contribute to the area's ecological diversity, hosting fish species like white catfish, black crappie, largemouth bass, bluegill, and more. Together, these natural spaces play a significant role in supporting migratory bird populations and preserving the region's biodiversity.

Other protected areas around Sacramento, including the [Cosumnes River Preserve](#) and [Deer Creek Hills Preserve](#), also contribute to the preservation of the region's biodiversity. Cosumnes River Preserve, about 20 miles south of Sacramento, is home to California's largest remaining valley oak riparian forest. The preserve includes 46,000 acres of central valley grasslands, vernal pools, wetlands, and valley oak forests. The Cosumnes River is the only remaining unregulated river on the western slope of the Sierra Nevada Mountains, and it supports over 250 species of birds, including threatened species like the Swainson hawk, sandhill cranes, and various waterfowl. Twenty miles east of Sacramento, Deer Creek Hills Preserve spans 4,060 acres and features a mix of ecosystems, including grasslands, oak woodlands, and seasonal creeks. The preserve's varied landscape supports a rich biodiversity, with approximately 170 species of birds, 105 mammal species, 58 amphibians and reptiles, and an estimated 5,000 kinds of insects.



The Yolo Bypass Wildlife Area is home to nearly 200 species of birds, in addition to various mammals, reptiles, amphibians, and a diverse array of plant life, fostering an ecologically significant habitat. Photo: [California Department of Fish and Wildlife](#)

Sacramento faces challenges related to urban growth, including the potential for biodiversity loss. To align with SDG 15, the City is continuing efforts and policies to balance growth with habitat preservation. The City is promoting sustainable land use and biodiversity through initiatives such as the Urban Forestry Program, the Sacramento Urban Forest Plan, and planned updates to the City Code to maximize tree planting in private development and revise the Parking Lot Shading Ordinance. Continuous efforts are required to enhance the city's urban forestry and biodiversity management, and to preserve the region's terrestrial ecosystem health.

Additional Resources

[Arbor Day Foundation](#)

[California Department of Fish and Wildlife](#)

[California Statewide Outdoor Learning](#)

[Cosumnes River Preserve](#)

[Deer Creek Hills Preserve](#)

[Living with Wildlife \(ca.gov\)](#)

[Local species monitored by CDFW](#)

[Mather Regional Park Vernal Pools](#)

[Meadowview Urban Tree Project](#)

[Sacramento Bypass Wildlife Area](#)

[Sacramento National Wildlife Refuge](#)

[Sacramento Regional Wildlife Viewing](#)

[Sacramento Splash](#)

[Sacramento Tree Foundation](#)

[Sacramento Urban Forest Plan](#)

[Sacramento Urban Forestry Tree Programs](#)

[Sacramento Urban Tree Canopy Assessment \(2018\)](#)

[Stone Lakes National Wildlife Refuge](#)

[Yolo Bypass Wildlife Area](#)

[Yolo Basin Foundation](#)

[Yolo County Resource Conservation District](#)

SDG 16: PEACE, JUSTICE AND STRONG INSTITUTIONS

SDG 16: Peace, Justice and Strong Institutions

Effective institutions, the rule of law, and civic participation are vital to sustainable development as they establish a foundation for stable governance, promote accountability, and ensure that policies and resources are directed towards equitable and inclusive growth. By fostering transparent and participatory decision-making, these elements empower communities, inspire trust in institutions, and create an environment conducive to long-term social, economic, and environmental progress.

[SDG 16](#) underscores the critical importance of peace, justice, and robust institutions for prosperous and sustainable societies. The goal places a strong emphasis on fostering accountable and transparent institutions, ensuring universal access to justice, advocating for a decrease in violence, and championing inclusive and participatory decision-making processes.

The civic and social landscape of Sacramento is shaped by multiple challenges that all cities face to varying degrees, including homicide and violent crime, instances of human trafficking, police use of force, and linguistic isolation that hinders civic engagement, particularly in marginalized communities. Addressing these issues is crucial for Sacramento’s success in making progress in achieving justice, fostering peace, and strengthening institutions, as outlined by SDG 16.

Criminal Justice Issues in Sacramento

Homicide and Violent Crime

According to [recent statistics from the FBI](#), Sacramento has a violent crime rate of 627 incidents per 100,000 population, above the statewide average of 441 per 100,000 population and the U.S. average of 379 per 100,000 population. During the COVID 19 pandemic, Sacramento saw [a significant increase in violent crime](#), as did many cities in California and across the nation. In response to the rise in violent incidents, particularly gun violence, the Sacramento Police Department developed a [Violent Crime Reduction Strategy](#) (VCRS) based on eight key principles: community engagement, law enforcement partnerships, technology utilization, data and analytics-driven approaches, training, sustainability, transparency, and leadership. The VCRS also outlines a strategy to focus on statistically significant hotspots for violent crime and the implementation of a focused deterrence model, identifying and targeting high-risk individuals or groups known to be involved in violent criminal activities.

In 2023, the City of Sacramento experienced a decline in violent crime, with the City police department [attributing the reduction](#) to the VCRS, federal assistance in tackling gun violence, and collaborative efforts with community-based organizations. The reduction in violent crime aligns with [a broader nationwide pattern of falling rates in violent crime](#) since the COVID-19 pandemic. Sacramento’s rates of violent crimes remain elevated above pre-pandemic levels and certain communities in the Sacramento region have [reported an uptick in violent incidents](#), underscoring the ongoing concern of violence within the broader region.

Human Trafficking

According to a [report](#) funded by the California Department of Justice, there were an estimated 13,000 potential minor and adult victims of human trafficking in Sacramento County between 2015 and 2020. The vast majority of these were victims of sex trafficking. Teenage girls face the highest risk of becoming victims, particularly if they are homeless or if they are or have been in the foster care system. Despite the comparatively high rate of trafficking in the region, only one out of four people in the county reported some knowledge of sex trafficking, the study found.

Efforts to combat human trafficking include prevention programs that educate teens and young adults on navigating dangerous situations and finding support systems. Sacramento law enforcement agencies also coordinate with community-based organizations in the [Sacramento Together Against Human Trafficking coalition](#) to target the demand side of human trafficking by focusing on sex buyers through street and hotel stings. Beyond the sting operations, the community organizations collaborate with law enforcement to raise awareness and provide support for victims. These efforts are in line with a public health framework for addressing human trafficking, which emphasizes prevention, survivor support, and community awareness.

Use of Lethal Force

A 2023 United Nations [report](#) by the International Independent Expert Mechanism to Advance Racial Justice and Equality in the Context of Law Enforcement expressed concern about the current regulatory situation in the U.S., which was observed to be “conducive to the early and unjustified use of force, including lethal force, by law enforcement”. The international experts urged a human-rights based approach, and for the U.S. to ensure that law enforcement practices reflect principles of legality, precaution, necessity, proportionality, accountability and non-discrimination. The report emphasized the need for use-of-force regulation reforms and alternative responses to policing, particularly in cases of mental health crises or homelessness.

The same 2023 report noted that there are over 1,000 cases of killings by police in the United States annually. In 2021, the Sacramento City Council adopted [a new use-of-force policy](#) for the City’s police department, according to which a peace officer is justified in using deadly force only as a last resort when reasonable alternatives have been exhausted, mirroring much of the language from California [Assembly Bill 392](#) (AB392). This change also follows a [comprehensive review](#) by the California Department of Justice to assess the Sacramento Police Department’s policies, procedures, and training related to the use of force. Revisions to the policies highlight the role of Sacramento police officers as “peace officers,” and training initiatives include de-escalation, procedural justice, implicit bias, and racial equity classes. The Sacramento Police Department also announced plans for changes to police body camera use and to foot pursuit policies to minimize the risk of confrontations escalating into violence.

Community Policing

The [Justice For Neighbors](#) (JFN) program, initiated in 2006, is a collaborative effort between the City Attorney's Office and law enforcement officers in Sacramento. It targets major physical and criminal nuisances to prevent urban decay in neighborhoods. Utilizing civil, criminal, and administrative remedies, JFN addresses issues like drug dealing, human trafficking, and security threats. The

committee leading the program is made up of representatives from the City Attorney's Office, Police Department, Fire Department, and Community Development Department, and they meet monthly to address serious nuisance and security concerns. Emphasizing community engagement, the program resolves issues through meetings with stakeholders and issues administrative penalties when necessary.

Promoting Civic Engagement

Youth Engagement and Public Safety



Sacramento police officers visit a school classroom, among the variety of ways in which the Sacramento Police Department engages with the community.

In 2020, Sacramento's Mayor and City Council unanimously [passed a resolution to broaden the definition of public safety](#) for the city. This effort was motivated by the recognition that police and fire departments are increasingly handling non-traditional emergency calls such as those related to homelessness, mental health, and domestic disputes. The resolution broadens the definition of public safety beyond traditional police, fire, and medical response to include youth-prevention services and community outreach programs, thereby opening the way for the reallocation of funds from public safety budgets to community-based and youth programs aimed at addressing street violence. This includes the allocation of \$5 million for the creation of an [Office of Community Response](#), with the aim of creating alternative plans for non-emergency responses, such as sending mental health professionals or community members instead of the police in cases involving individuals with mental health issues.

The resolution is the first of its kind at any level of government in the United States, and its focus on inclusive economic development and addressing root causes of unsafe conditions demonstrates a commitment to long-term community well-being. It emphasizes the importance of youth engagement and cites research supporting the idea that stable housing, education, the arts, and community spaces can directly prevent youth-related violence. Furthermore, by actively involving young people in decision-making processes related to public safety and community programs, the change has the potential to positively influence civic engagement by creating a more inclusive and responsive approach to public safety, with a particular focus on the needs and perspectives of the youth.

Voter Turnout and Linguistic Isolation

Civic engagement can take various forms of political and non-political involvement, including activism, environmentalism, and community service. Although voting is a vital element of civic participation, obstacles such as work constraints, language barriers, and a sense of underrepresentation can hinder voter turnout. Despite an overall 68% voting participation rate across Sacramento in 2016, substantial disparities persist among various neighborhoods. Notably, areas like North Sacramento and the Fruitridge/Broadway community plan areas have historically demonstrated low voter participation, especially within communities grappling with economic, health, and environmental challenges. Addressing these disparities, particularly in marginalized communities, is crucial for Sacramento to enhance voter turnout, to ensure the voices of these communities are heard, and to align with the objectives of strengthening civic institutions outlined in SDG 16.

Sacramento is a proudly diverse city, with [more than 21% of residents](#) born in another country and a variety of languages spoken at home, including Spanish, Russian, Hmong, Vietnamese, Tagalog, and Chinese. However, linguistic isolation poses challenges to civic engagement. Adults who struggle with English may face difficulties accessing social services and healthcare, leading to potential gaps in information and care. Linguistically isolated households, where no adult speaks English well, can create additional barriers to social and civic inclusion. In emergencies, such households may struggle to comprehend vital information, such as during fires, floods, earthquakes, or extreme heat waves.

Certain census tracts in the Sacramento region rank in the 90th percentile or higher for linguistic isolation, meaning that they have a greater degree of linguistic isolation than 90% of the census tracts in California. The most affected areas include the Central City, South Area, and Fruitridge/Broadway community plan areas, with North Sacramento also experiencing notable linguistic isolation.

The City of Sacramento has implemented initiatives that address linguistic isolation, including language-accessible public services, multilingual communication strategies, and community engagement programs. Current language services include assistance in [17 languages and 150+ dialects](#) through a third-party telephone interpretation service. The service is available through the City's 311 service, which is a 24-hour non-emergency service that gives citizens and visitors a way to report and inquire about city services.

In response to findings from a [2022 language access gap analysis](#) commissioned by the City Auditor's Office and the City Manager, the City of Sacramento is moving ahead with plans to expand language access services. Plans include periodic tracking of changes in limited English populations, expanding services in Spanish, increasing resources for programs serving a higher proportion of limited English

proficiency individuals, and boosting marketing efforts, since the analysis revealed that a significant percentage of English and Spanish respondents were unaware of the City's translation services. The City is also drafting a citywide language access policy, aligning with other California jurisdictions with similar policies. These efforts contribute to wider civic engagement in Sacramento and support SDG 16 objectives by fostering inclusive decision-making processes. (See also, Introduction, for more information.)

Sacramento faces complex challenges related to SDG 16, encompassing issues such as elevated crime rates, human trafficking, and police use of force. To address these challenges, the city is actively pursuing reforms, promoting community engagement and community policing, and striving for inclusivity in decision-making. These efforts reflect a commitment to building transparent and accountable institutions, fostering justice, and contributing to the broader goals of sustainable development.

Additional Resources

[211 Sacramento](#)

[ACLU California Action](#)

[Another Choice, Another Chance](#)

[California Attorneys for Criminal Justice](#)

[California Assembly Bill No. 392](#)

[California Bridge Program](#)

[Case: Mays v. County of Sacramento](#)

[Center On Race, Immigration & Social Justice:
California State University, Sacramento](#)

[Children's Receiving Home of Sacramento](#)

[City of Refuge](#)

[City of Sacramento's 311 Customer Service
portal](#)

[City of Sacramento Language Services](#)

[Community Against Sexual Harm](#)

[Community Justice Alliance](#)

[Death Penalty FOCUS](#)

[Decarcerate Sacramento](#)

[Estimating Sex Trafficking in Sacramento
County: Final Report](#)

[International Independent Expert Mechanism to
Advance Racial Justice and Equality in the
Context of Law Enforcement: Visit to the United
States of America](#)

[My Sister's House](#)

[NorCal Resist](#)

[Opening Doors](#)

[Project Take](#)

[Resources for Domestic Violence Victims](#)

[River Oak Center for Children](#)

[Sacramento Children's Home](#)

[Sacramento County Jail Population Reduction
Plans](#)

[Sacramento Crisis Nurseries](#)

[Sacramento Justice League](#)

[Sacramento Police Department Report and
Recommendations 2019](#)

[Sacramento Police Department Violent Crime
Reduction Strategy](#)

[Sacramento Regional Family Justice Center](#)

[Sacramento Together](#)

[Sacramento Valley Crime Stoppers](#)

[Showing Up for Racial Justice Sacramento](#)

[Victims of Crime Resource Center](#)

[Volunteers In Victim Assistance](#)

[WEAVE](#)

[What is Human Trafficking?](#)



SDG 17: PARTNERSHIPS FOR THE GOALS

SDG 17: Partnerships for the Goals

Global cooperation and multi-stakeholder partnerships at all levels play a pivotal role in advancing sustainable development. Partnerships facilitate the exchange of knowledge, expertise, and resources, enabling collective responses to complex issues. Global challenges, such as those outlined in the SDGs, cannot be effectively addressed without collaboration between different disciplines and sectors of society, including governments, businesses, civil society, and academia. It is only through the collective strength of partnerships that we can address systemic issues and create a more sustainable and equitable future for all.

[SDG 17](#) is the keystone of the 2030 Agenda, focusing on strengthening global partnerships to achieve sustainable development. It emphasizes collaboration across nations, sectors, and stakeholders. SDG 17 addresses key areas like global North-South cooperation, capacity-building, and policy coherence to ensure the successful implementation of the broader 2030 Agenda. This goal highlights the vital role of partnerships and multi-stakeholder engagement in tackling global challenges and fostering innovation for sustainable development. It serves as a reminder of the interconnected nature of our world and the importance of integrated action at multiple scales to drive transformative change.

The City of Sacramento has undertaken efforts to support inclusive governance by broadly integrating the community in policy development and by advancing multi-stakeholder partnerships to inform and facilitate sustainable development. The City is engaged in multiple layers of partnerships to address pressing needs and priorities for communities across Sacramento. These include academy programs that engage the community in city structures and processes; partnerships with universities, business and NGOs; collaborations between the City and County and participation in regional coalitions; and international exchange, among many others. A few examples are included below.

Empowering Engagement between the City and Residents: Sacramento's Civic Academies

In the spirit of partnership, transparency, and community engagement, the City of Sacramento opens its doors to the public every year through the [Planning Academy](#), a free 12-week course that offers insight into the intricacies of city planning. The Planning Academy was established in 2002 with the goal of encouraging community participation in the development decisions. Through virtual and in-person classes and tours, it provides Sacramento residents, business owners, and members of community-based organizations with the opportunity to delve into planning issues and processes. Topics for discussion range from transportation planning to environmental justice and housing. Participants have the chance to interact directly with city staff who are leading active planning processes, and to acquire useful knowledge, skills and connections to effectively participate and advocate in future city planning initiatives. Since its inception, more than 500 participants have completed the program and several have gone on to serve on the Sacramento City Council, as well as various City boards and

commissions. The program's emphasis on forming a diverse cohort, encouraging participation from traditionally underrepresented groups, and fostering civic engagement underscores the City's commitment to fostering inclusivity.

The City of Sacramento also offers the [City Management Academy](#) (CMA), an in-person instructional course that provides participants with insights into the inner workings of the City. The CMA curriculum comprises more than 20 guest lectures delivered by elected officials and department staff, covering a wide array of topics including day-to-day operations, budget development, and the public policy process. This multi-week program is offered to up to 40 residents per year, providing them with the knowledge to effectively engage in civic affairs and contribute meaningfully to the city's development. The City Management Academy, like the Planning Academy, reflects the City's commitment to transparency, education, and inclusive governance, all of which support civil society engagement under SDG 17.

City-County Partnership in Action: Unsheltered Homelessness

In December 2022, the City and County of Sacramento formed a [five-year partnership focused on reducing unsheltered homelessness](#), particularly within city limits. The agreement led to the establishment of joint outreach teams and additional shelter beds, as well as additional efforts to meet the behavioral and mental health needs of unhoused Sacramentans. A [2023 update](#) on the program highlighted the significant progress made during the partnership's initial six months, with joint outreach efforts by county and city specialists reaching over 1,300 individuals experiencing homelessness, who were offered supportive services, shelter, and housing. Notably, 815 individuals expressed interest in assistance, with 44 placed in shelter or safe camping facilities, and 234 admitted to outpatient programs. This partnership between the County and City helped to mobilize additional resources beyond what either alone could muster, thereby allowing them to expand outreach staffing and open new shelters and behavioral health centers. (See also SDG 1: No Poverty for additional information on initiatives to address homelessness.)

Demonstration Partnerships Policy

In 2017, the City of Sacramento adopted a [Demonstration Partnerships Policy](#) to establish a structured framework for innovative partnerships with non-profits, businesses, and governmental agencies. Adopted with the aim of improving service delivery and cultivating an entrepreneurial environment, the policy has enabled the City to enter into agreements with external entities to explore and showcase innovative solutions such as new products, processes or services. For example, the policy enabled the City to enter into an agreement with an electric vehicle (EV) infrastructure firm to construct and operate

the City's first curbside EV charging facility at Southside Park. This particular partnership was intended as a pilot project to test and demonstrate the feasibility of curbside EV charging, which is a matter of convenience for residents, but also supports the City's climate objectives. Before implementation of the policy, the City lacked a structured framework for engaging in these types of innovative partnerships, resulting in ad-hoc approaches and limited opportunities for testing and evaluating new solutions.

Overall, the partnerships facilitated by the policy can help to streamline City operations, attract new services and industries, and improve residents' quality of life. By establishing a transparent process for evaluating and reporting partnership outcomes, the policy also fosters public trust and promotes equitable results. It aligns with the objectives of SDG 17 by encouraging partnerships that facilitate knowledge and resource sharing to advance public welfare and support sustainable development initiatives.



Sacramento's 2017 Demonstration Partnerships Policy led to the construction of the city's first curbside EV charging pilot in May 2019. Sacramento was one of the first U.S. cities to successfully launch curbside charging.

University-City Partnership: Aggie Square

Partnerships between universities and local governments are important for leveraging strengths and driving progress on the SDGs. One of the ways that UC Davis and the City of Sacramento are partnering is in the development of [Aggie Square](#), an innovation district on the UC Davis campus in Sacramento. Aggie Square will bring together university research and teaching, industry and the community to create opportunities across the region. It will be home to research programs, private industry partners, classrooms, student housing and public-facing programs that engage local communities and entrepreneurs.

Aggie Square supports multiple SDGs, including SDG 1: No Poverty; SDG 4: Quality Education; SDG 8: Decent Work and Economic Growth; SDG 9: Industry, Innovation, and Infrastructure; SDG 11: Sustainable Cities and Communities; and importantly, SDG 17: Partnerships for the Goals. Mechanisms were established to include communities and advise on the development of this initiative. Aggie Square Partnership Advisory Council (ASPAC) included representatives of neighborhood associations, elected officials, community and business organizations, and UC Davis leaders. The Aggie Square Community Engagement Advisory Committee (ASCEAC) was comprised of members of the community from a variety of representative organizations. The role of the ASCEAC was to advise on matters related to the development of Aggie Square. [The Aggie Square Community Partnership \(ASCP\)](#) will prioritize and allocate an annual Community Fund, anticipated to be up to \$150,000 per year when Aggie Square Phase I is fully built and leased. Six community representatives appointed by area neighborhood associations will make up the majority of the ASCP membership. Five institutional representatives will complete the ASCP roster. (See also SDG 11: Sustainable Cities and Communities.)



Chancellor Gary S. May, Mayor Darrell Steinberg, Assemblymember Kevin McCarty, and city and community leaders announce the location of Aggie Square (Karin Higgins/UC Davis)

Regional Partnerships to Address Shared Challenges

The City of Sacramento routinely works with a diverse range of entities in the region, either through direct partnerships or as members of coalitions such as the [Capital Region Climate Readiness Collaborative](#) (CRCRC), the [Sacramento Clean Cities Coalition](#), and the [Sacramento Area Council of Governments](#) (SACOG). These coalitions play a crucial role in fostering regional coordination, and they bring together diverse stakeholders from the public, private, and non-profit sectors to address complex issues that cannot be effectively tackled by the City alone. Through joint efforts, these collaborations enable the sharing of resources, expertise, and best practices, leading to more resilient, sustainable,

and economically viable communities. This cooperation is particularly vital for a complex issue such as climate change, which has diverse impacts across the region, ranging from heat waves to flooding to changes in agricultural productivity. These issues can disrupt multiple sectors, emphasizing the importance of cross-regional and cross-sectoral collaboration to effectively build resilience. For instance, the CRCRC facilitates information exchange and collaboration among local agencies to build resilience against climate change impacts. Similarly, the Sacramento Clean Cities Coalition promotes the adoption of advanced vehicles and alternative fuels, contributing to reduced petroleum use in transportation, while [SACOG's Transportation Climate Adaptation Plan](#) identifies vulnerabilities and recommends strategies to enhance the region's transportation infrastructure resilience. These partnerships demonstrate the importance of collective action and collaboration in addressing complex sustainability challenges beyond the scope of individual city initiatives. (See also, SDG 13: Climate Action.)

International Exchange Through Sister City Partnerships

[Sister Cities](#) was founded by President Eisenhower in 1956 as a network to foster bonds between people in different communities around the world. In the summer of 2023, the City of Sacramento [established a Sister City relationship with Sumy, Ukraine](#). The Sister City relationship between Sacramento and Sumy came at the request of the Mayor of Sumy and aims to foster a partnership built on cultural exchange, trade, and mutual understanding. This complements Sacramento's existing Sister City program, which includes partnerships with eleven other cities worldwide:

- Manila, Philippines (1961)
- Matsuyama, Japan (1981)
- Jinan, China (1984)
- Hamilton, New Zealand (1988)
- Liestal, Switzerland (1989)
- Chisinau, Moldova (1989)
- Youngsan-gu, Korea (1997)
- San Juan de Oriente, Nicaragua (2006)
- Bethlehem, Palestine (2009)
- Ashkelon, Israel (2012)
- Mexicali, Mexico (2013)

Although largely symbolic, Sister City relationships also facilitate the exchange of knowledge, resources, and best practices, ultimately leading to more inclusive and economically vibrant communities on a global scale.

Through initiatives like the civic academies, the Demonstration Partnerships Policy, and participation in regional partnerships, Sacramento demonstrates the power of collective action in addressing complex challenges. The recent establishment of a Sister City relationship with Sumy, Ukraine, further underscores the importance of global cooperation and cultural exchange in creating more inclusive communities. By embracing partnerships and multi-stakeholder engagement, Sacramento exemplifies the spirit of SDG 17, emphasizing the crucial role of collaboration in building a sustainable and equitable future for all.

Additional Resources

[Capital Region Climate Readiness Collaborative](#)

[City of Sacramento City Management Academy](#)

[City of Sacramento Planning Academy](#)

[City of Sacramento Demonstration Partnerships Policy](#)

[Sacramento Council of Governments](#)

[Sacramento Clean Cities Coalition](#)

[Sacramento County and the City of Sacramento Homeless Services Partnership Agreement Factsheet](#)

APPENDIX A: SACRAMENTO 2040

GENERAL PLAN TEXT

Vision: In 2040, the City of Sacramento will be a national model of sustainable, equitable growth and community development.

Vision Statement

In 2040, the City of Sacramento will be a national model of sustainable, equitable growth and community development.

Sacramento will continue to be a dynamic regional center of culture, diversity, jobs, food, and beautiful parks and trees, and will cultivate inclusive access to opportunity and healthy living.

The General Plan seeks to direct growth and change into commercial and transit corridors, building on the city's existing assets and character. Pedestrian, bicycle and transit options will be prioritized over automobiles.

Every neighborhood will be a desirable place to live, with safe streets, extensive tree canopy, a range of housing choices, mixed-use neighborhood centers, great schools, parks and recreation facilities, and convenient connections to jobs, services, and nature. Every resident will feel the freedom to walk and bike safely and comfortably. Sacramento's neighborhoods will be affordable and inclusive, and every resident will have the opportunity to thrive.

As California's capital, Sacramento will continue to be a primary center for government, employment, education, and culture. The city's economy will continue to strengthen, diversify, and participate in changing global industries.

Sacramento will be a leader in bold, equitable climate action and the green economy, taking steps to cut waste, pollution, and carbon emissions. Through its continued progress toward

Sacramento's 2045 climate neutrality goal, the city will also achieve other, interconnected goals: healthy, climate-safe homes, green spaces and tree canopy for all, an efficient zero-emissions transportation system, clean air, and a thriving, sustainable economy. Recognizing the future challenges of climate change, Sacramento will build resilience for all its communities, especially the most vulnerable.

Sacramento will ensure that residents of all ages and abilities have access to a range of reliable, environmentally responsible transportation options. Sacramento will invest in its aging infrastructure and prioritize carbon-neutral transport, and will have clean air, water, and "complete" streets. Sacramento will also invest in its human capital today, prioritizing investment in youth, the adults and leaders of 2040.

Sacramento will ensure the just and equitable treatment of all neighborhoods and people, address historical inequities, and ensure broad community participation and ownership in public processes, as well as accountability in implementing plans. Sacramento will continue to celebrate its cultural and ethnic diversity and will foster the arts, protect historic, cultural, and natural resources, and cultivate its extensive urban forest, parks and riverways.

Guiding Principles

Sustainable and Responsible Growth

1. Concentrate new growth within Sacramento's existing footprint to promote a compact development pattern that supports efficient delivery of public services and infrastructure, while protecting surrounding open space lands.
2. Link new growth with access to high-frequency transit in order to optimize public investments and support an accessible, convenient network that offers a viable alternative to the automobile and promotes public health.
3. Guide robust investment in utility infrastructure to support sustainable growth with an emphasis on serving disadvantaged communities.
4. Cultivate a broad mix of housing types in all residential zones throughout the city to provide options for residents of all income levels, while protecting existing residents and communities from displacement.
5. Foster "complete neighborhoods" that provide for residents' daily needs within easy walking or biking distance from home and that promote regular physical activity.
6. Make Sacramento a model of sustainable living by promoting environmentally conscious and health promoting design of buildings, parks and infrastructure, as well as by promoting the adaptive reuse of existing buildings and the careful conservation of energy, water, open spaces, trees, and other natural resources.

Resiliency and Climate Action (increased in importance to residents)

7. Take bold action to achieve carbon neutrality by 2045 and become a leading voice in the effort to reduce greenhouse gas emissions and adapt to climate change.
8. Proactively prepare for the effects of climate change, including flooding, fires, drought, smoke, heat, and infrastructure failure, and empower residents and businesses to respond, adapt, and evolve as a community in the face of climate change.
9. Facilitate the use of innovative approaches, new technologies, and economic development to dramatically reduce per capita energy use, waste, and pollutants.
10. Collaborate across City departments as well as with other public agencies and community organizations to effectively address environmental hazards and promote environmental health and resilience throughout the community.
11. Integrate and invest in an extensive tree canopy, green infrastructure, parks, and gardens in all neighborhoods, particularly disadvantaged communities, to protect against excessive heat, to improve air and water quality, and to sustain human and environmental health. Recognize the

importance of growing and maintaining a vibrant, expanding tree canopy for climate change mitigation and adaptation.

12. Prioritize the most vulnerable (e.g. individuals with disabilities, linguistically isolated, and seniors) and underserved communities in developing climate solutions, and take action to build resilience at the household, neighborhood, and citywide scale.
13. Develop infrastructure to support zero emission transportation and provide viable options for low-income households.

Safe, Equitable, Inclusive, and Just City (increased in importance to residents)

14. Work to ensure that Sacramento is an equitable, inclusive, and just city for people of all ages, abilities, ethnicities, races, genders, sexual identities, incomes, and cultures, such that everyone can achieve their full potential here.
15. Prioritize safety in Sacramento's neighborhoods, public parks, streets, and on public transit.
16. Support and provide law enforcement that collaborates with and is accountable to business and local residents, including youth, through proactive efforts to build trust and common understanding.
17. Prioritize community resources towards historically disadvantaged communities in an equitable manner.
18. Provide responsive public services that are accessible to and inclusive of residents of all ages, abilities, socioeconomic, cultural, and linguistic backgrounds.
19. Holistically address the needs of and prioritize care for the homeless, directing resources in a compassionate way that facilitates the transition back into permanent housing.
20. Celebrate Sacramento's diverse, multicultural communities and promote understanding and respect among all residents. Foster a spirit of collaboration and working together to build up the city and the people in it.
21. Promote equity, justice, and accountability with a concerted application of resources toward youth in greatest need.
22. Promote community access to fresh and healthy food, clean water and sanitation.

Regional Economic Hub

23. Strengthen Sacramento's role as a regional economic center that attracts and retains a broad range of living-wage jobs in a diverse range of established and emerging industries with opportunities for advancement throughout the city.
24. Foster entrepreneurship with a focus on small local businesses, home-based businesses, and other opportunities that increase workforce participation.
25. Empower Sacramento's workforce for success and build a "cradle-to career" pipeline, collaborating with public agencies, educational institutions, and community groups to provide the education, training, and resources necessary to thrive.
26. Support workforce participation by improving access to efficient, affordable transportation, training, childcare, and senior care.
27. Encourage equitable economic development and investment that create opportunity for existing residents and businesses in underserved neighborhoods and commercial corridors, while also taking action to prevent displacement.


28. Promote Sacramento as the civic and cultural hub of the Central Valley with world class destinations throughout the City that draw people from around the region and the state.

Livability and Sense of Place

29. Ensure that Sacramento is a clean and safe city, with inclusive civic engagement and vibrant, diverse, welcoming public spaces where everyone feels comfortable.
30. Promote pride of place by respecting the unique character of established neighborhoods while also welcoming compatible high-quality infill development that provides options for people at all stages of life.
31. Focus resources on maintaining and improving existing neighborhoods, community assets, and essential infrastructure.
32. Cultivate community character throughout Sacramento by promoting public art and festivals; fostering walkable mixed-use places with active street life; and preserving and enhancing historic, cultural, and natural resources.
33. Expand access to nature and provide trees and parks in every neighborhood, as well as public access to rivers, green spaces, and the regional open space network.
34. Recognize Sacramento's rivers as a vital community asset, ensuring ecologically appropriate activities and providing public access, parks, recreational opportunities, and well-maintained trails all along the Sacramento and American Rivers.
35. Promote healthy, physically active lifestyles and community access to parks, green spaces, and clean air.
36. Work to ensure that Sacramento is a family-friendly city, with family-oriented destinations, accessible childcare, and neighborhoods that promote active lifestyles and are safe and livable for young and old alike.
37. Expand recreational opportunities and programs for residents of all ages, including lifelong learning opportunities for adults and after-school activities for children and youth.
38. Foster a thriving local arts community where residents and visitors can enjoy and create music, theater, dance, and visual arts throughout the city.

Interconnected, Accessible City

39. Strengthen connections between Sacramento neighborhoods, to neighboring communities, and to the wider region by expanding and enhancing the range of transportation options for people of all ages and abilities.
40. Reduce reliance on single-occupant vehicles, prioritize and promote active transportation and, high occupancy transport.
41. Improve the efficiency of the multi-modal transportation system and plan infrastructure that can flexibly accommodate rapidly emerging modes of transportation.
42. Recognize that traffic deaths and serious injuries are a public health issue and, with a goal of reaching zero traffic by 2027 through the Vision Zero initiative, the City will make safety of human life the City's highest priority, taking proactive, preventative steps.
43. Include equity as a prioritization tool to ensure investment in underserved neighborhoods to improve equity in transportation, mobility, and other public service investments. Include all affected communities in transportation planning decisions.

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44. Leverage information and communication technologies to enhance the quality, language accessibility, and performance of urban services, including energy, transportation, utilities, and recreation programming.
 45. Bolster digital connectivity for residents and businesses, recognizing that it underpins almost every aspect of modern living, from work to travel, leisure and health.


APPENDIX B: SDGs and Targets Mapped to the 2040 General Plan

SDGs and Relevant SDG Targets

The Voluntary Local Review process included a mapping of the Vision and Guiding Principles of the [Sacramento 2040 General Plan](#) to both the 17 SDGs and the 169 Targets that are described in the [2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development](#).

Many of the SDG Targets include language that focuses on the national or international levels and are not directly applicable to local and city contexts. The VLR process identified all SDG Targets that could apply and divided them into those that are applicable as written and those that would need modifications to apply at the city level. The SDG Targets that are most relevant to the city level are included below, alongside the related Sacramento 2040 General Plan Guiding Principles. Some additional SDG Targets could be applicable but would need to be re-drafted to directly relate to the General Plan or City initiatives.

In the future, it may be useful to consider additional targets that the City of Sacramento has developed that also relate to the SDGs, and how those targets could be utilized to measure local progress on the SDGs. Future efforts could also include a broader mapping of SDG Targets to City policies, programs and initiatives, which was beyond the scope of this VLR.

 SDG 1: No Poverty	
SDGs and Targets	General Plan Guiding Principles
Goal 1. End poverty in all its forms everywhere	Safe, Equitable, Inclusive, and Just City Regional Economic Hub Resiliency and Climate Action
Target 1.2: By 2030, reduce at least by half the proportion of men, women and children of all ages living in poverty in all its dimensions according to national definitions	Safe, Equitable, Inclusive, and Just City: 17. Prioritize community resources towards historically disadvantaged communities in an equitable manner. 18. Provide responsive public services that are accessible to and inclusive of residents of all ages, abilities, socioeconomic, cultural, and linguistic backgrounds. 19. Holistically address the needs of and prioritize care for the homeless, directing resources in a compassionate way that facilitates the transition back into permanent housing.

	<p><u>Regional Economic Hub</u></p> <p>23. Strengthen Sacramento’s role as a regional economic center that attracts and retains a broad range of living-wage jobs in a diverse range of established and emerging industries with opportunities for advancement throughout the city.</p> <p>27. Encourage equitable economic development and investment that create opportunity for existing residents and businesses in underserved neighborhoods and commercial corridors, while also taking action to prevent displacement.</p>
<p>Target 1.4: By 2030, ensure that all men and women, in particular the poor and the vulnerable, have equal rights to economic resources, as well as access to basic services, ownership and control over land and other forms of property, inheritance, natural resources, appropriate new technology and financial services, including microfinance</p>	<p><u>Safe, Equitable, Inclusive, and Just City</u></p> <p>17. Prioritize community resources towards historically disadvantaged communities in an equitable manner.</p> <p>18. Provide responsive public services that are accessible to and inclusive of residents of all ages, abilities, socioeconomic, cultural, and linguistic backgrounds.</p> <p>19. Holistically address the needs of and prioritize care for the homeless, directing resources in a compassionate way that facilitates the transition back into permanent housing.</p> <p><u>Regional Economic Hub</u></p> <p>25. Empower Sacramento’s workforce for success and build a “cradle-to-career” pipeline, collaborating with public agencies, educational institutions, and community groups to provide the education, training, and resources necessary to thrive.</p>
<p>Target 1.5: By 2030, build the resilience of the poor and those in vulnerable situations and reduce their exposure and vulnerability to climate-related extreme events and other economic, social and environmental shocks and disasters</p>	<p><u>Resiliency and Climate Action</u></p> <p>12. Prioritize the most vulnerable (e.g. individuals with disabilities, linguistically isolated, and seniors) and underserved communities in developing climate solutions, and take action to build resilience at the household, neighborhood, and citywide scale.</p>

2 ZERO HUNGER **SDG 2: Zero Hunger**



<p>Goal 2. End hunger, achieve food security and improved nutrition and promote sustainable agriculture</p>	<p><u>Safe, Equitable, Inclusive, and Just City</u></p>
<p>Target 2.1: By 2030, end hunger and ensure access by all people, in particular the poor and people in vulnerable situations, including infants, to safe, nutritious and sufficient food all year round</p>	<p><u>Safe, Equitable, Inclusive, and Just City</u> 22. Promote community access to fresh and healthy food, clean water and sanitation.</p>

3 GOOD HEALTH AND WELL-BEING **SDG 3: Good Health and Well-Being**



<p>Goal 3. Ensure healthy lives and promote well-being for all at all ages</p>	<p><u>Livability and Sense of Place</u> <u>Resiliency and Climate Action</u></p>
<p>Target 3.9: By 2030, substantially reduce the number of deaths and illnesses from hazardous chemicals and air, water and soil pollution and contamination</p>	<p><u>Resiliency and Climate Action</u> 10. Collaborate across City departments as well as with other public agencies and community organizations to effectively address environmental hazards and promote environmental health and resilience throughout the community.</p> <p>11. Integrate and invest in an extensive tree canopy, green infrastructure, parks, and gardens in all neighborhoods, particularly disadvantaged communities, to protect against excessive heat, to improve air and water quality, and to sustain human and environmental health. Recognize the importance of growing and maintaining a vibrant, expanding tree canopy for climate change mitigation and adaptation.</p>

4 QUALITY EDUCATION **SDG 4: Quality Education**



<p>Goal 4. Ensure inclusive and equitable quality education and promote lifelong learning opportunities for all</p>	<p><u>Regional Economic Hub</u> <u>Livability and Sense of Place</u></p>
<p>Target 4.3: By 2030, ensure equal access for all women and men to affordable and quality technical, vocational and tertiary education, including university</p>	<p><u>Regional Economic Hub</u> 25. Empower Sacramento’s workforce for success and build a “cradle-to-career” pipeline, collaborating with public agencies, educational institutions, and community groups to provide the education, training, and resources necessary to thrive.</p>
<p>Target 4.4: By 2030, substantially increase the number of youth and adults who have relevant skills, including technical and vocational skills, for employment, decent jobs and entrepreneurship</p>	<p><u>Regional Economic Hub</u> 25. Empower Sacramento’s workforce for success and build a “cradle-to-career” pipeline, collaborating with public agencies, educational institutions, and community groups to provide the education, training, and resources necessary to thrive.</p>
<p>Target 4.a: Build and upgrade education facilities that are child, disability and gender sensitive and provide safe, non-violent, inclusive and effective learning environments for all</p>	<p><u>Livability and Sense of Place</u> 31. Focus resources on maintaining and improving existing neighborhoods, community assets, and essential infrastructure.</p>

5 GENDER EQUALITY **SDG 5: Gender Equality**



<p>Goal 5. Achieve gender equality and empower all women and girls</p>	<p><u>Safe, Equitable, Inclusive, and Just City</u> 14. Work to ensure that Sacramento is an equitable, inclusive, and just city for people of all ages, abilities, ethnicities, races, genders, sexual identities, incomes, and cultures, such that everyone can achieve their full potential here.</p>
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SDG 6: Clean Water and Sanitation

<p>Goal 6. Ensure availability and sustainable management of water and sanitation for all</p>	<p><u>Safe, Equitable, Inclusive, and Just City</u> <u>Resiliency and Climate Action</u> <u>Sustainable and Responsible Growth</u> <u>Livability and Sense of Place</u></p>
<p>Target 6.1: By 2030, achieve universal and equitable access to safe and affordable drinking water for all</p>	<p><u>Safe, Equitable, Inclusive, and Just City:</u> 22. Promote community access to fresh and healthy food, clean water and sanitation.</p>
<p>Target 6.2: By 2030, achieve access to adequate and equitable sanitation and hygiene for all and end open defecation, paying special attention to the needs of women and girls and those in vulnerable situations</p>	<p><u>Safe, Equitable, Inclusive, and Just City</u> 22. Promote community access to fresh and healthy food, clean water and sanitation.</p>
<p>Target 6.4: By 2030, substantially increase water-use efficiency across all sectors and ensure sustainable withdrawals and supply of freshwater to address water scarcity and substantially reduce the number of people suffering from water scarcity</p>	<p><u>Sustainable and Responsible Growth</u> 6. Make Sacramento a model of sustainable living by promoting environmentally conscious and health promoting design of buildings, parks and infrastructure, as well as by promoting the adaptive reuse of existing buildings and the careful conservation of energy, water, open spaces, trees, and other natural resources.</p>
<p>Target 6.6: By 2020, protect and restore water-related ecosystems, including mountains, forests, wetlands, rivers, aquifers and lakes</p>	<p><u>Resiliency and Climate Action</u> 11. Integrate and invest in an extensive tree canopy, green infrastructure, parks, and gardens in all neighborhoods, particularly disadvantaged communities, to protect against excessive heat, to improve air and water quality, and to sustain human and environmental health. Recognize the importance of growing and maintaining a vibrant, expanding tree canopy for climate change mitigation and adaptation.</p>

	<p>Livability and Sense of Place</p> <p>34. Recognize Sacramento's rivers as a vital community asset, ensuring ecologically appropriate activities and providing public access, parks, recreational opportunities, and well-maintained trails all along the Sacramento and American Rivers.</p>
Target 6.b: Support and strengthen the participation of local communities in improving water and sanitation management	<p>Resiliency and Climate Action</p> <p>10. Collaborate across City departments as well as with other public agencies and community organizations to effectively address environmental hazards and promote environmental health and resilience throughout the community.</p>
<p>7 AFFORDABLE AND CLEAN ENERGY SDG 7: Affordable and Clean Energy</p> 	
Goal 7. Ensure access to affordable, reliable, sustainable and modern energy for all	<p>Sustainable and Responsible Growth</p> <p>Resiliency and Climate Action</p> <p>Interconnected, Accessible City</p>
Target 7.1: By 2030, ensure universal access to affordable, reliable and modern energy services	<p>Interconnected, Accessible City</p> <p>44. Leverage information and communication technologies to enhance the quality, language accessibility, and performance of urban services, including energy, transportation, utilities, and recreation programming.</p>
<p>8 DECENT WORK AND ECONOMIC GROWTH SDG 8: Decent Work and Economic Growth</p> 	
Goal 8. Promote sustained, inclusive and sustainable economic growth, full and productive employment and decent work for all	<p>Resiliency and Climate Action</p> <p>Regional Economic Hub</p>
Target 8.2: Achieve higher levels of economic productivity through diversification, technological upgrading and innovation, including through a focus on high-value added and labour-intensive sectors	<p>Regional Economic Hub</p> <p>24. Foster entrepreneurship with a focus on small local businesses, home-based businesses, and other opportunities that increase workforce participation.</p> <p>25. Empower Sacramento's workforce for success and build a "cradle-to career" pipeline, collaborating with public agencies, educational institutions, and community groups to provide the education, training, and resources necessary to thrive.</p>

<p>Target 8.3: Promote development-oriented policies that support productive activities, decent job creation, entrepreneurship, creativity and innovation, and encourage the formalization and growth of micro-, small- and medium-sized enterprises, including through access to financial services</p>	<p>Regional Economic Hub 26. Support workforce participation by improving access to efficient, affordable transportation, training, childcare, and senior care.</p> <p>27. Encourage equitable economic development and investment that create opportunity for existing residents and businesses in underserved neighborhoods and commercial corridors, while also taking action to prevent displacement.</p>
<p>Target 8.5: By 2030, achieve full and productive employment and decent work for all women and men, including for young people and persons with disabilities, and equal pay for work of equal value</p>	<p>Regional Economic Hub 26. Support workforce participation by improving access to efficient, affordable transportation, training, childcare, and senior care.</p> <p>27. Encourage equitable economic development and investment that create opportunity for existing residents and businesses in underserved neighborhoods and commercial corridors, while also taking action to prevent displacement.</p>
<p>Target 8.6: By 2020, substantially reduce the proportion of youth not in employment, education or training</p>	<p>Regional Economic Hub 25. Empower Sacramento’s workforce for success and build a “cradle-to career” pipeline, collaborating with public agencies, educational institutions, and community groups to provide the education, training, and resources necessary to thrive.</p>
<p>Target 8.8: Protect labour rights and promote safe and secure working environments for all workers, including migrant workers, in particular women migrants, and those in precarious employment</p>	<p>Regional Economic Hub 23. Strengthen Sacramento’s role as a regional economic center that attracts and retains a broad range of living-wage jobs in a diverse range of established and emerging industries with opportunities for advancement throughout the city.</p> <p>25. Empower Sacramento’s workforce for success and build a “cradle-to career” pipeline, collaborating with public agencies, educational institutions, and community groups to provide the education, training, and resources necessary to thrive.</p>
<p>Target 8.9: By 2030, devise and implement policies to promote sustainable tourism that creates</p>	<p>Regional Economic Hub 23. Strengthen Sacramento’s role as a regional economic center that attracts and retains a broad range of living-wage jobs in a diverse range of established and emerging</p>

jobs and promotes local culture and products	industries with opportunities for advancement throughout the city.
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SDG 9: Industry, Innovation and Infrastructure

Goal 9. Build resilient infrastructure, promote inclusive and sustainable industrialization and foster innovation	<u>Sustainable and Responsible Growth</u> <u>Resiliency and Climate Action</u> <u>Regional Economic Hub</u> <u>Interconnected, Accessible City</u>
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<p>Target 9.1: Develop quality, reliable, sustainable and resilient infrastructure, including regional and transborder infrastructure, to support economic development and human well-being, with a focus on affordable and equitable access for all</p>	<p><u>Sustainable and Responsible Growth</u></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Concentrate new growth within Sacramento’s existing footprint to promote a compact development pattern that supports efficient delivery of public services and infrastructure, while protecting surrounding open space lands. 2. Link new growth with access to high-frequency transit in order to optimize public investments and support an accessible, convenient network that offers a viable alternative to the automobile and promotes public health. 3. Guide robust investment in utility infrastructure to support sustainable growth with an emphasis on serving disadvantaged communities. <p><u>Interconnected, Accessible City</u></p> <p>39. Strengthen connections between Sacramento neighborhoods, to neighboring communities, and to the wider region by expanding and enhancing the range of transportation options for people of all ages and abilities.</p> <p>40. Reduce reliance on single-occupant vehicles, prioritize and promote active transportation and, high occupancy transport.</p> <p>41. Improve the efficiency of the multi-modal transportation system and plan infrastructure that can flexibly accommodate rapidly emerging modes of transportation.</p>
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SDG 10: Reduced Inequalities

<p>Goal 10. Reduce inequality within and among countries</p>	<p><u>Safe, Equitable, Inclusive, and Just City</u> <u>Regional Economic Hub</u></p>
<p>Target 10.2: By 2030, empower and promote the social, economic and political inclusion of all, irrespective of age, sex, disability, race, ethnicity, origin, religion or economic or other status</p>	<p><u>Safe, Equitable, Inclusive, and Just City</u></p> <p>14. Work to ensure that Sacramento is an equitable, inclusive, and just city for people of all ages, abilities, ethnicities, races, genders, sexual identities, incomes, and cultures, such that everyone can achieve their full potential here.</p> <p>17. Prioritize community resources towards historically disadvantaged communities in an equitable manner.</p> <p>18. Provide responsive public services that are accessible to and inclusive of residents of all ages, abilities, socioeconomic, cultural, and linguistic backgrounds.</p> <p>19. Holistically address the needs of and prioritize care for the homeless, directing resources in a compassionate way that facilitates the transition back into permanent housing.</p> <p>20. Celebrate Sacramento's diverse, multicultural communities and promote understanding and respect among all residents. Foster a spirit of collaboration and working together to build up the city and the people in it.</p> <p>21. Promote equity, justice, and accountability with a concerted application of resources toward youth in greatest need.</p>
<p>Target 10.3: Ensure equal opportunity and reduce inequalities of outcome, including by eliminating discriminatory laws, policies and practices and promoting appropriate legislation, policies and action in this regard</p>	<p><u>Safe, Equitable, Inclusive, and Just City</u></p> <p>14. Work to ensure that Sacramento is an equitable, inclusive, and just city for people of all ages, abilities, ethnicities, races, genders, sexual identities, incomes, and cultures, such that everyone can achieve their full potential here.</p>


	<p>21. Promote equity, justice, and accountability with a concerted application of resources toward youth in greatest need.</p>
<p>Target 10.4: Adopt policies, especially fiscal, wage and social protection policies, and progressively achieve greater equality</p>	<p>Safe, Equitable, Inclusive, and Just City 17. Prioritize community resources towards historically disadvantaged communities in an equitable manner.</p> <p>Regional Economic Hub 27. Encourage equitable economic development and investment that create opportunity for existing residents and businesses in underserved neighborhoods and commercial corridors, while also taking action to prevent displacement.</p>
<p>11 SUSTAINABLE CITIES AND COMMUNITIES SDG 11: Sustainable Cities and Communities</p> 	
<p><i>Goal 11. Make cities and human settlements inclusive, safe, resilient and sustainable</i></p>	<p>Sustainable and Responsible Growth Resiliency and Climate Action Safe, Equitable, Inclusive, and Just City Regional Economic Hub Livability and Sense of Place Interconnected, Accessible City</p>
<p>Target 11.2: By 2030, provide access to safe, affordable, accessible and sustainable transport systems for all, improving road safety, notably by expanding public transport, with special attention to the needs of those in vulnerable situations, women, children, persons with disabilities and older persons</p>	<p>Sustainable and Responsible Growth 2. Link new growth with access to high-frequency transit in order to optimize public investment and support an accessible, convenient network that offers a viable alternative to the automobile and promotes public health</p> <p>Resiliency and Climate Action 13. Develop infrastructure to support zero emission transportation and provide viable options for low-income households</p> <p>Safe, Equitable, Inclusive, and Just City 15. Prioritize safety in Sacramento’s neighborhoods, public parks, streets, and on public transit</p> <p>Interconnected, Accessible City 39. Strengthen connections between Sacramento neighborhoods, to neighboring communities, and to the wider region by expanding and enhancing the range of transportation options for people of all ages and abilities.</p>

	<p>40. Reduce reliance on single-occupant vehicles, prioritize and promote active transportation and, high occupancy transport.</p> <p>41. Improve the efficiency of the multi-modal transportation system and plan infrastructure that can flexibly accommodate rapidly emerging modes of transportation.</p> <p>42. Recognize that traffic deaths and serious injuries are a public health issue and, with a goal of reaching zero traffic by 2027 through the Vision Zero initiative, the City will make safety of human life the City's highest priority, taking proactive, preventative steps.</p> <p>43. Include equity as a prioritization tool to ensure investment in underserved neighborhoods to improve equity in transportation, mobility, and other public service investments. Include all affected communities in transportation planning decisions.</p> <p>44. Leverage information and communication technologies to enhance the quality, language accessibility, and performance of urban services, including energy, transportation, utilities, and recreation programming.</p> <p>45. Bolster digital connectivity for residents and businesses, recognizing that it underpins almost every aspect of modern living, from work to travel, leisure and health</p>
<p>Target 11.6: By 2030, reduce the adverse per capita environmental impact of cities, including by paying special attention to air quality and municipal and other waste management</p>	<p><u>Sustainable and Responsible Growth</u></p> <p>6. Make Sacramento a model of sustainable living by promoting environmentally conscious and health promoting design of buildings, parks and infrastructure, as well as by promoting the adaptive reuse of existing buildings and the careful conservation of energy, water, open spaces, trees, and other natural resources.</p> <p><u>Resiliency and Climate Action</u></p> <p>7. Take bold action to achieve carbon neutrality by 2045 and become a leading voice in the effort to reduce greenhouse gas emissions and adapt to climate change.</p>

	<p>9. Facilitate the use of innovative approaches, new technologies, and economic development to dramatically reduce per capita energy use, waste, and pollutants.</p> <p>13. Develop infrastructure to support zero emission transportation and provide viable options for low-income households</p>
<p>Target 11.7: By 2030, provide universal access to safe, inclusive and accessible, green and public spaces, in particular for women and children, older persons and persons with disabilities</p>	<p><u>Sustainable and Responsible Growth</u></p> <p>1. Concentrate new growth within Sacramento’s existing footprint to promote a compact development pattern that supports efficient delivery of public services and infrastructure, while protecting surrounding open space lands.</p> <p>6. Make Sacramento a model of sustainable living by promoting environmentally conscious and health promoting design of buildings, parks and infrastructure, as well as by promoting the adaptive reuse of existing buildings and the careful conservation of energy, water, open spaces, trees, and other natural resources.</p> <p><u>Resiliency and Climate Action</u></p> <p>11. Integrate and invest in an extensive tree canopy, green infrastructure, parks, and gardens in all neighborhoods, particularly disadvantaged communities, to protect against excessive heat, to improve air and water quality, and to sustain human and environmental health. Recognize the importance of growing and maintaining a vibrant, expanding tree canopy for climate change mitigation and adaptation.</p> <p><u>Livability and Sense of Place</u></p> <p>32. Cultivate community character throughout Sacramento by promoting public art and festivals; fostering walkable mixed-use places with active street life; and preserving and enhancing historic, cultural, and natural resources.</p> <p>33. Expand access to nature and provide trees and parks in every neighborhood, as well as public access to rivers, green spaces, and the regional open space network.</p> <p>35. Promote healthy, physically active lifestyles and community access to parks, green spaces, and clean air.</p>

<p>Target 11.b: By 2020, substantially increase the number of cities and human settlements adopting and implementing integrated policies and plans towards inclusion, resource efficiency, mitigation and adaptation to climate change, resilience to disasters, and develop and implement, in line with the Sendai Framework for Disaster Risk Reduction 2015–2030, holistic disaster risk management at all levels</p>	<p><u>Sustainable and Responsible Growth</u></p> <p>6. Make Sacramento a model of sustainable living by promoting environmentally conscious and health promoting design of buildings, parks and infrastructure, as well as by promoting the adaptive reuse of existing buildings and the careful conservation of energy, water, open spaces, trees, and other natural resources.</p> <p><u>Resiliency and Climate Action</u></p> <p>8. Proactively prepare for the effects of climate change, including flooding, fires, drought, smoke, heat, and infrastructure failure, and empower residents and businesses to respond, adapt, and evolve as a community in the face of climate change.</p> <p>9. Facilitate the use of innovative approaches, new technologies, and economic development to dramatically reduce per capita energy use, waste, and pollutants.</p> <p>10. Collaborate across City departments as well as with other public agencies and community organizations to effectively address environmental hazards and promote environmental health and resilience throughout the community.</p> <p>12. Prioritize the most vulnerable (e.g. individuals with disabilities, linguistically isolated, and seniors) and underserved communities in developing climate solutions, and take action to build resilience at the household, neighborhood, and citywide scale.</p> <p><u>Interconnected, Accessible City</u></p> <p>43. Include equity as a prioritization tool to ensure investment in underserved neighborhoods to improve equity in transportation, mobility, and other public service investments. Include all affected communities in transportation planning decisions.</p>
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12 RESPONSIBLE CONSUMPTION AND PRODUCTION **SDG 12: Responsible and Consumption and Production**




<p>Goal 12. Ensure sustainable consumption and production patterns</p>	<p>Sustainable and Responsible Growth Resiliency and Climate Action Regional Economic Hub</p>
<p>Target 12.2: By 2030, achieve the sustainable management and efficient use of natural resources</p>	<p>Sustainable and Responsible Growth 6. Make Sacramento a model of sustainable living by promoting environmentally conscious and health promoting design of buildings, parks and infrastructure, as well as by promoting the adaptive reuse of existing buildings and the careful conservation of energy, water, open spaces, trees, and other natural resources</p> <p>Resiliency and Climate Action 9. Facilitate the use of innovative approaches, new technologies, and economic development to dramatically reduce per capita energy use, waste, and pollutants.</p>
<p>Target 12.5: By 2030, substantially reduce waste generation through prevention, reduction, recycling and reuse</p>	<p>Resiliency and Climate Action 9. Facilitate the use of innovative approaches, new technologies, and economic development to dramatically reduce per capita energy use, waste, and pollutants.</p>
<p>Target 12.b: Develop and implement tools to monitor sustainable development impacts for sustainable tourism that creates jobs and promotes local culture and products</p>	<p>Regional Economic Hub 28. Promote Sacramento as the civic and cultural hub of the Central Valley with world class destinations throughout the City that draw people from around the region and the state</p>

13 CLIMATE ACTION **SDG 13: Climate Action**



<p>Goal 13. Take urgent action to combat climate change and its impacts[b]</p>	<p>Resiliency and Climate Action</p>
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14 LIFE BELOW WATER **SDG 14: Life Below Water**



<p>Goal 14: Conserve and sustainably use the oceans, seas and marine resources for sustainable development</p>	<p><u>Livability and Sense of Place</u></p>
<p>Target 14.2: By 2020, sustainably manage and protect marine and coastal ecosystems to avoid significant adverse impacts, including by strengthening their resilience, and take action for their restoration in order to achieve healthy and productive oceans</p>	<p><u>Livability and Sense of Place</u> 34. Recognize Sacramento's rivers as a vital community asset, ensuring ecologically appropriate activities and providing public access, parks, recreational opportunities, and well-maintained trails all along the Sacramento and American Rivers.</p>

15 LIFE ON LAND **SDG 15: Life on Land**



<p>Goal 15. Protect, restore and promote sustainable use of terrestrial ecosystems, sustainably manage forests, combat desertification, and halt and reverse land degradation and halt biodiversity loss</p>	<p><u>Livability and Sense of Place</u> <u>Sustainable and Responsible Growth</u> <u>Resiliency and Climate Action</u></p>
<p>Target 15.1: By 2020, ensure the conservation, restoration and sustainable use of terrestrial and inland freshwater ecosystems and their services, in particular forests, wetlands, mountains and drylands, in line with obligations under international agreements</p>	<p><u>Livability and Sense of Place</u> 34. Recognize Sacramento's rivers as a vital community asset, ensuring ecologically appropriate activities and providing public access, parks, recreational opportunities, and well-maintained trails all along the Sacramento and American Rivers.</p>
<p>Target 15.5: Take urgent and significant action to reduce the degradation of natural habitats, halt the loss of biodiversity and, by</p>	<p><u>Sustainable and Responsible Growth</u> 1. Concentrate new growth within Sacramento's existing footprint to promote a compact development pattern that supports efficient delivery of public services and</p>

<p>2020, protect and prevent the extinction of threatened species</p>	<p>infrastructure, while protecting surrounding open space lands.</p> <p>6. Make Sacramento a model of sustainable living by promoting environmentally conscious and health promoting design of buildings, parks and infrastructure, as well as by promoting the adaptive reuse of existing buildings and the careful conservation of energy, water, open spaces, trees, and other natural resources</p>
<p>Target 15.9: By 2020, integrate ecosystem and biodiversity values into national and local planning, development processes, poverty reduction strategies and accounts</p>	<p><u>Sustainable and Responsible Growth</u></p> <p>1. Concentrate new growth within Sacramento’s existing footprint to promote a compact development pattern that supports efficient delivery of public services and infrastructure, while protecting surrounding open space lands.</p> <p>6. Make Sacramento a model of sustainable living by promoting environmentally conscious and health promoting design of buildings, parks and infrastructure, as well as by promoting the adaptive reuse of existing buildings and the careful conservation of energy, water, open spaces, trees, and other natural resources.</p>

16 PEACE, JUSTICE AND STRONG INSTITUTIONS **SDG 16: Peace, Justice and Strong Institutions**

<p><i>Goal 16. Promote peaceful and inclusive societies for sustainable development, provide access to justice for all and build effective, accountable and inclusive institutions at all levels</i></p>	<p><u>Safe, Equitable, Inclusive, and Just City</u> <u>Interconnected, Accessible City</u></p>
<p>Target 16.1: Significantly reduce all forms of violence and related death rates everywhere</p>	<p><u>Safe, Equitable, Inclusive, and Just City</u></p> <p>15. Prioritize safety in Sacramento’s neighborhoods, public parks, streets, and on public transit</p> <p><u>Interconnected, Accessible City</u></p> <p>42. Recognize that traffic deaths and serious injuries are a public health issue and, with a goal of reaching zero traffic by 2027 through the Vision Zero initiative, the City</p>

	will make safety of human life the City's highest priority, taking proactive, preventative steps.
Target 16.2: End abuse, exploitation, trafficking and all forms of violence against and torture of children	<p><u>Safe, Equitable, Inclusive, and Just City:</u></p> <p>15. Prioritize safety in Sacramento's neighborhoods, public parks, streets, and on public transit</p>
Target 16.5: Substantially reduce corruption and bribery in all their forms	<p><u>Safe, Equitable, Inclusive, and Just City</u></p> <p>14. Work to ensure that Sacramento is an equitable, inclusive, and just city for people of all ages, abilities, ethnicities, races, genders, sexual identities, incomes, and cultures, such that everyone can achieve their full potential here.</p> <p>16. Support and provide law enforcement that collaborates with and is accountable to business and local residents, including youth, through proactive efforts to build trust and common understanding.</p> <p>18. Provide responsive public services that are accessible to and inclusive of residents of all ages, abilities, socioeconomic, cultural, and linguistic backgrounds.</p> <p>21. Promote equity, justice, and accountability with a concerted application of resources toward youth in greatest need.</p>
Target 16.6: Develop effective, accountable and transparent institutions at all levels	<p><u>Safe, Equitable, Inclusive, and Just Cit</u></p> <p>14. Work to ensure that Sacramento is an equitable, inclusive, and just city for people of all ages, abilities, ethnicities, races, genders, sexual identities, incomes, and cultures, such that everyone can achieve their full potential here.</p> <p>16. Support and provide law enforcement that collaborates with and is accountable to business and local residents, including youth, through proactive efforts to build trust and common understanding.</p> <p>18. Provide responsive public services that are accessible to and inclusive of residents of all ages, abilities, socioeconomic, cultural, and linguistic backgrounds.</p>

	<p>21. Promote equity, justice, and accountability with a concerted application of resources toward youth in greatest need.</p>
<p>Target 16.7: Ensure responsive, inclusive, participatory and representative decision-making at all levels</p>	<p><u>Safe, Equitable, Inclusive, and Just City</u> 14. Work to ensure that Sacramento is an equitable, inclusive, and just city for people of all ages, abilities, ethnicities, races, genders, sexual identities, incomes, and cultures, such that everyone can achieve their full potential here.</p> <p>18. Provide responsive public services that are accessible to and inclusive of residents of all ages, abilities, socioeconomic, cultural, and linguistic backgrounds.</p> <p><u>Interconnected, Accessible City</u> 43. Include equity as a prioritization tool to ensure investment in underserved neighborhoods to improve equity in transportation, mobility, and other public service investments. Include all affected communities in transportation planning decisions.</p>
<p>Target 16.9: By 2030, provide legal identity for all, including birth registration</p>	<p><u>Safe, Equitable, Inclusive, and Just City</u> 18. Provide responsive public services that are accessible to and inclusive of residents of all ages, abilities, socioeconomic, cultural, and linguistic backgrounds.</p>
<p>Target 16.a: Strengthen relevant national institutions, including through international cooperation, for building capacity at all levels, in particular in developing countries, to prevent violence and combat terrorism and crime</p>	<p><u>Safe, Equitable, Inclusive, and Just City</u> 14. Work to ensure that Sacramento is an equitable, inclusive, and just city for people of all ages, abilities, ethnicities, races, genders, sexual identities, incomes, and cultures, such that everyone can achieve their full potential here.</p> <p>15. Prioritize safety in Sacramento’s neighborhoods, public parks, streets, and on public transit.</p> <p>18. Provide responsive public services that are accessible to and inclusive of residents of all ages, abilities, socioeconomic, cultural, and linguistic backgrounds.</p>
<p>Target 16.b: Promote and enforce non-discriminatory laws and policies for sustainable development</p>	<p><u>Safe, Equitable, Inclusive, and Just City</u> 14. Work to ensure that Sacramento is an equitable, inclusive, and just city for people of all ages, abilities, ethnicities, races, genders, sexual identities, incomes,</p>

	<p>and cultures, such that everyone can achieve their full potential here.</p> <p>15. Prioritize safety in Sacramento’s neighborhoods, public parks, streets, and on public transit.</p> <p>16. Support and provide law enforcement that collaborates with and is accountable to business and local residents, including youth, through proactive efforts to build trust and common understanding.</p> <p>18. Provide responsive public services that are accessible to and inclusive of residents of all ages, abilities, socioeconomic, cultural, and linguistic backgrounds.</p> <p>21. Promote equity, justice, and accountability with a concerted application of resources toward youth in greatest need.</p>
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17 PARTNERSHIPS FOR THE GOALS **SDG 17: Partnerships for the Goals**



<p><i>Goal 17. Strengthen the means of implementation and revitalize the Global Partnership for Sustainable Development</i></p>	<p><u>Safe, Equitable, Inclusive, and Just City</u> <u>Regional Economic Hub</u></p>
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