STATION 2

ESCONDIDO
City of Choice

Answer Questions...

WHAT IS A CLIMATE ACTION PLAN (CAP)?

A CAP is a comprehensive policy document that outlines the actions a jurisdiction will take to reduce greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions through the implementation of various strategies, goals, actions, and supportive measures. **CAPs are commonly prepared by cities to show how local goals and policies align with statewide targets for GHG reductions.**

CAPs typically follow a similar format, and specific content within a CAP is tailored to each jurisdiction's individual needs and circumstances. Like most cities in the region, Escondido will use a five-step process for climate action planning.

Source: ICLEI

California has recognized the critical role that regional and local governments play in meeting statewide GHG reduction targets and preparing communities for the impacts of climate change. Cities are assessing their community-wide GHG emissions and working on CAPs or other strategies to reduce emissions. Through planning and permitting processes, local ordinances, education efforts, and municipal operations, Escondido has influence over things that contribute to direct and indirect GHG emissions.

Source: British Geographer Weebly

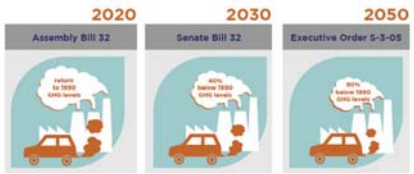
WHY IS ESCONDIDO UPDATING THE CAP?

Although Escondido was one of the first cities to prepare and adopt a CAP in the San Diego region, a lot has changed since then. While Escondido plays a very small role in the global problem of climate change, we need to reassess our GHG emissions and seek out solutions for reducing our carbon footprint.

Climate action planning can yield many economic and commmunity benefits on a large scale, such as cleaner air, reduced traffic, less dependence on fossil fuels, and greater resilience to the effects of climate change. Implementation of the CAP, in conjunction with other communities in action, will also bring the following benefits to Escondido:

- Improved public health
- Enahnced community character
- New jobs and workforce opportunities
- Lower energy bills for households / businesses
- Reduced operational costs to farmers
- More energy / water resources
- Preserved ecosytem
- Lower runaway costs of change

Escondido also must show that we are working towards compliance with recent State laws, which establish statewide goals for GHG emissions.



Source: SANDAG