
Costa Mesa Climate Action and Adaptation Plan

Public Draft Revisions following Public Comment
Period 8.4.2026

Cover Page

Modified Cover Page.

Contents

Updated to include reference to new Letter from the Mayor.

Updated to include reference to new Appendix F, Cost-Effectiveness Analysis.

Page numbers updated as appropriate.

Acknowledgments

No changes.

Executive Summary

No changes.

Reader's Guide

No changes.

Ch 1 Introduction

No changes.

Ch 2 Climate Action

No changes.

Ch 3 Climate Adaptation

No changes.

Ch 4 Outreach and Engagement

Page 41. Added clarification that 228 surveys were received (partial completion) and 158 were fully completed.

Page 41. Noted how many surveys were received as long-form, short-form, and in-person.

Ch 5 Climate Action and Adaptation Strategy

Page 72. Added Table 2 from Appendix D that provides performance indicators and estimated GHG reductions by objective.

Action language refinements:

- E1c. Seek grants to offer incentives for passive cooling and heating systems (such as cool roofs and walls) during renovations or replacements.
- E3c. Consider joining OCPA, or other clean energy provider or program, and launch a voluntary Clean Energy Enrollment Support Program that uses targeted outreach, community partnerships, and incentives such as bill savings comparisons, enrollment assistance, and recognition or rebate style perks to encourage households and businesses to opt into the 100% renewable energy tier.
- W1c. Develop and promote a voluntary Drought Tolerant Landscape Resource Program that provides design templates, native plant palettes, and irrigation best practice guidance tailored to the City's climate to support residents, landlords, and businesses in transitioning to low water landscapes.
- NU1a. Build upon and implement the Urban Canopy and Land Assessment to encourage equitable tree canopy expansions and native plantings.

- NU1d. Promote Low Impact Development and nature-based solutions such as bioswales, shaded parking, permeable surfaces, and green roofs.
- PC4a. Market less-carbon-intensive practices and resources, including natural and sustainably sourced building materials, to residents and promote responsible consumption.
- M1a. Develop and implement a municipal fleet zero-emission transition plan that evaluates the implications for vehicle transition and prioritizes purchasing, EV charging infrastructure appropriately based on feasibility and availability, and phasing, and consider other electric vehicles like e-bikes and e-scooters.

Ch 6 Implementation and Monitoring

No changes.

Acronyms and Abbreviations

Page TBD. Added reference to new Appendix F, Cost-Effectiveness Analysis.

Glossary

No changes.

APPENDICES

A Greenhouse Gas Emissions Inventory, Forecasting, and Target Setting

No changes.

B Vulnerability Assessment

No changes.

C Community Engagement and Outreach Materials

Page C-5. Noted how many fully completed surveys were received in long-form (65), short-form (93), and on the day of the Earth Day Festival Event (31 short-form responses).

D Greenhouse Gas Reduction Supporting Material

No changes.

E Implementation Plan

All actions changed in Chapter 5 were also changed in Appendix E.

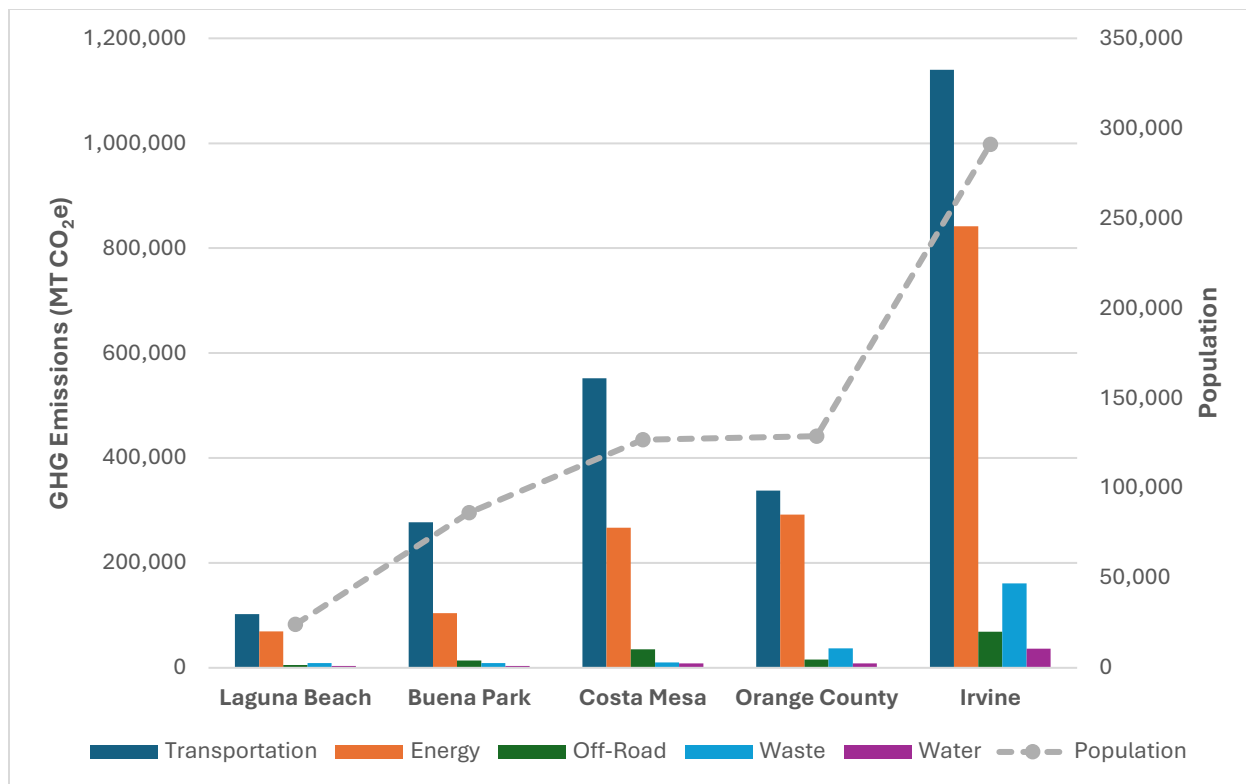
Additional Information for Staff Report

- Survey results are detailed in Appendix C.
- **Neighboring jurisdiction inventories.** Table 1 and Figure 1 compare Costa Mesa's communitywide greenhouse gas inventory results with those of selected neighboring jurisdictions.

Table 1. GHG Emission Inventory Comparison for Costa Mesa and Neighboring Jurisdictions

Sector	Laguna Beach (2021)	Buena Park (2023)	Costa Mesa (2023)	Unincorporated Orange County (2018)	Irvine (2019)
Transportation	102,570	277,347	551,893	337,781	1,140,206
Energy	69,370	104,274	266,921	292,202	841,543
Off-Road	5,330	14,040	34,993	16,007	68,756
Waste	8,790	9,212	10,140	37,035	160,626
Water	3,570	3,811	8,453	8,146	36,463
Total	189,630	408,684	872,400	691,171	2,247,594
Population	24,090	86,325	126,871	128,781	291,124
MT/capita	7.87	4.73	6.88	5.37	7.72

Figure 1. GHG Emission Inventory Comparison for Costa Mesa and Neighboring Jurisdictions



- Quick notes that methods follow industry standard protocols and differ amongst jurisdictions for a variety of reasons such as (x, y, z). See Appendix D for details.

Community greenhouse gas inventories are planning and tools to support decision-making, not exact measurements of every ton of emissions. Consistent with the ICLEI Community Protocol, inventories are developed using the best available data, standardized methods, and transparent assumptions to provide estimates that are sufficiently accurate for policy development, target-setting, and progress tracking. The objective is not absolute precision, but a reliable understanding of the magnitude and direction of emissions, where emissions originate, and how they change over time. Accordingly, the inventory's value lies in its ability to support informed decision-making and consistently measure progress toward community climate goals using the same underlying methodological framework.

Comparisons with neighboring jurisdictions can provide useful context, but differences in community characteristics, inventory years, data sources, and methodological choices should be taken into account, as they can affect emissions estimates and limit the comparability of results across jurisdictions. A more important consideration is that the City maintains a consistent methodology, using the best available data and assumptions for Costa Mesa, so that results can be reliably compared across inventory years. This will enable the City to assess emissions trends, evaluate the effectiveness of the emissions reduction measures, and track progress toward its individual climate goals.