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Overview

Since 1978, jurisdictions from across California have responded to OPR’s Annual Planning Survey. The information from this effort provides OPR and our partners with valuable insight into local policy and planning initiatives.

This past year cities and counties alike have had to shift their practices and reorient their priorities due to COVID-19, catastrophic wildfires, and the voices of millions of protesters calling for systemic change to achieve racial equity. While the impact of these events on California’s communities is variable across the state, many planners recognize that the field must change in order to respond to current needs and shape a more healthy, sustainable, and equitable future.

For the 2020 Annual Planning Survey, our goal is to garner a better understanding of the needs and actions of jurisdictions given today’s unique context.

Instructions

The deadline for completing this year's survey is December 31st, 2020.

You may save answers at any time and continue working on the survey in multiple settings. If you would like to share the survey with colleagues in your jurisdiction, you must share the original link from the e-mail received by your jurisdiction, not the URL to this specific page.

Questions and feedback may be directed to opr.aps@opr.ca.gov.

We know many demands are made on your time, but we value and encourage your continued participation in this effort. Thank you for taking the time to complete the survey. We very much appreciate your responses!
1. Jurisdiction Information

*Please provide the following information about your jurisdiction.*

**Jurisdiction Type**
- City or Town
- County

*Is your jurisdiction a charter city?*

*City or Town Name*

*County (for both cities and counties)*

*Please select the Metropolitan Planning Organization (MPO) for your jurisdiction*

*Please select the Council of Government (COG) for your jurisdiction*

*Other regional organization(s) or collaborative network(s)*

2. Agency Information

*Please provide the following information about your agency.*

**Agency Name**

**Agency Website**

**Name of planning director or equivalent**

**Title of planning director or equivalent**
2.1 Agency Street Address
Street
City
State
Zip Code

2.2 Agency Mailing Address
Same as Above
Street Address or PO Box
City
State
Zip Code

3. General Plan Updates
Please provide the following information about your jurisdiction’s General Plan.

3.1 When did your jurisdiction last update the following required elements?
Land Use
Circulation
3.2 When does your jurisdiction plan to update the following required elements?

- Land Use
- Circulation
- Conservation
- Housing
- Noise
- Open Space
- Safety
- Air Quality (San Joaquin Valley only)
- Environmental Justice
4. COVID-19 Impacts

4.1 How has jurisdiction responded to COVID-19 related impacts on fixed route transit service? (check all that apply)

☐ No impact to fixed route transit service
☐ Offering less revenue service hours temporarily (over the next year)
☐ Offering fewer routes temporarily (over the next year)
☐ Offering less revenue service hours in the long term (2+ years from now)
☐ Offering fewer routes in the long term (2+ years from now)
☐ Other (please specify)__________________________

4.2 How were changes to fixed route transit service determined? (check all that apply)

☐ No impact to fixed route transit service
☐ Changes to service were determined based on number of riders
☐ Changes to service were determined using a community engagement process
☐ Service prioritizes routes used heavily by persons with low incomes
☐ Service prioritizes routes used heavily by persons of color
☐ Service prioritizes routes used heavily by seniors and persons with disabilities
☐ Service prioritizes routes used heavily by transit dependent riders
☐ Service prioritizes routes used heavily by essential workers
☐ Other (please specify)__________________________

4.3 How has your jurisdiction responded to COVID-19 related impacts on housing? (check all that apply)

☐ Increased focus on affordable housing supply to relieve overcrowding.
☐ Increased focus on temporary shelters and transitional/supportive housing.
☐ Bolstered programs to support homeless populations.
☐ Bolstered programs to support those at risk of displacement and becoming homeless.
☐ Increased focus on streamlining for various housing types (e.g., SB 35, ADUs, specific plans, etc.)
☐ Utilized Project Homekey and/or Project Room Key funding
☐ Other (please specify)__________________________

4.4 How has COVID-19 impacted climate change mitigation and adaptation activities in your jurisdiction? (check all that apply)

☐ No impact
☐ Delayed general climate-related planning activities
Delayed SB 379 planning activities
Delayed implementation of adopted policies & programs
Redirected funding away from climate goals
Combined economic recovery with climate goals
Increased focus on climate activities to build resilience
Other (please specify)

4.5 How has COVID-19 impacted digital government services related to planning in your jurisdiction (check all that apply)?
- No impact
- Enhanced the agency's website and/or other web-based applications
- Increased the use of videoconferencing for public hearings and meetings
- Increased the use of social media to inform and engage the public
- Implemented programs to reduce the “digital divide” within the jurisdiction
- Expanded the use of online or other electronic submittal of forms, plans, drawings, and other documentation for planning applications, building permit applications, or other types of agency permitting activities.
- Expanded the use of technology to allow for remote inspections, site visits, and other virtual enforcement or monitoring activities that were previously done in-person or on-site.
- Other (please specify)

5. Staffing Capacity
*Please provide information regarding staffing capacity at your agency.*

5.1 What level of staffing does your agency currently have to address the following planning topics?
- Greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions mitigation
- Climate adaptation and resilience
- Racial equity
Health equity

Environmental justice

Housing production

Housing affordability

Applying for Grants

Managing Grants

Response Options:

- No staff and no funding for consultants
- No staff with funding for consultants
- Very limited staff and no funding for consultants
- Very limited staff with funding for consultants
- Some staff and no funding for consultants
- Some staff with funding for consultants
- Adequate staff capacity, no consultants needed

5.2 Does your agency have intern/fellow assistance to address the following planning topics?

Greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions mitigation

Climate adaptation and resilience

Racial equity

Health equity

Environmental justice

Housing production
6. Technical Assistance

6.1 Since January 2020, has your jurisdiction received technical assistance—in the form of grant writing, grant management, or trainings—to address the following planning topics?

- Greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions mitigation
- Climate adaptation and resilience
- Racial equity
- Health equity
- Environmental justice
- Housing production
- Housing affordability
- Applying for Grants
- Managing Grants
Response Options:

- Adequate technical assistance
- Some technical assistance
- No technical assistance

6.2 Does your jurisdiction have an interest in receiving technical assistance — in the form of grant writing, grant management, or trainings — to address the following planning topics?

Greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions mitigation

Climate adaptation and resilience

Racial equity

Health equity

Environmental justice

Housing production

Housing affordability

Applying for Grants

Managing Grants

Response Options:

- Strong interest in technical assistance
- Some interest in technical assistance
- No interest in technical assistance
6.3 Please indicate whether your jurisdiction has any other technical assistance need that could be provided by the State that is not currently being provided or addressed.

7. Local and Regional Collaboration

7.1 What is your jurisdiction doing to build relationships with and empower residents to meaningfully engage in the planning process? (check all that apply)

- Conducting trainings or educational events
- Hosting a planning academy for residents
- Increasing translational services at planning meetings
- Partnering with community-based organizations to do deeper public engagement
- Working with disadvantaged communities to create/implement an engagement plan
- Working with citizen advisory committees/workgroups on planning topics
- Elevating community-based planning into the formal planning process
- Assessing the effectiveness of engagement efforts using standardized metrics
- Other (please specify)

7.2 How often does your planning department hold collaborative meetings with other departments within your agency to address the following planning topics?

Greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions mitigation

Climate adaptation and resilience

Racial equity

Health equity

Environmental justice

Housing production
Housing affordability

Response Options:

- We are not addressing this planning topic
- No collaborative meetings
- Irregular collaborative meetings
- Quarterly collaborative meetings
- Monthly collaborative meetings
- Weekly collaborative meetings

7.3 Since January 2020, has your jurisdiction aligned the following planning topics with larger regional plans or efforts?

Greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions mitigation

Climate adaptation and resilience

Racial equity

Health equity

Environmental justice

Housing production

Housing affordability

Response Options

- We are not addressing this planning topic
- Yes, in alignment
- In progress, working on alignment
- No, not connected to regional plans or efforts
7.4 How are regional plans or frameworks helpful for planning in your community (if at all)?

7.5 Since January 2020, has your jurisdiction received funding, including matching funds or in-kind services, from the following entities? (check all that apply)
- Philanthropies
- Community foundations
- Local government agencies/departments
- Regional government agencies/departments
- No outside sources of funding or in-kind services received
- Other (please specify)

8. GHG Emissions Reduction

8.1 Has your jurisdiction adopted plans, programs, policies, ordinances or other measures to help meet local or State GHG reduction goals? (check all that apply)
- Developed General Plan GHG reduction goals, policies and programs
- Developed a Climate Action Plan
- Streamlined solar permitting (per AB 2188)
- Streamlined electric vehicle charging station permitting (per AB 1236)
- Streamlined hydrogen or other zero emission fuel station permitting
- Adopted a carbon neutrality or net-zero goal
- Adopted a green building reach code for electric vehicle charging readiness
- Adopted a small-scale wind or other distributed energy systems ordinance
- Adopted a building electrification incentive program or ordinance
- Adopted a battery storage incentive program or ordinance
- Fleet conversion to zero emission vehicles

8.2 If your jurisdiction adopted a climate action plan or equivalent, does your agency track the implementation of your GHG emissions reduction targets or strategies?
  - Yes
  - No
NA: Jurisdiction does not have GHG emissions reduction targets or strategies

8.3 Has your jurisdiction updated your GHG emissions reduction targets or strategies since January 2020?
   - Yes
   - No
   - NA: Jurisdiction does not have GHG emissions reduction targets or strategies

8.4 Has your jurisdiction shifted to VMT from LOS as its primary metric of transportation impact?
   - Yes
   - No

8.5 Has/will your jurisdiction formally adopt* CEQA thresholds of significance for transportation based on vehicle miles traveled (VMT) metrics, pursuant to SB 743 updates to the CEQA Guidelines that took effect on July 1, 2020?
*Note: Formal adoption of CEQA thresholds of significance is not required by statute
   - No
   - Yes, planning to formally adopt a significance threshold(s)
   - Yes, in the process of formally adopting a significance threshold(s)
   - Yes, we already formally adopted a significance threshold

9. Climate Adaptation and Resilience Efforts

9.1 Has your jurisdiction taken the following actions or measures to promote climate adaptation and resilience? (check all that apply)
   - Established multi-purpose resilience hub locations throughout the jurisdiction
   - Encouraged economic diversification to promote climate resilience
   - Integrated climate risk into decision-making, budgeting, and operational processes
   - Developed an Urban Greening or Forestry Plan
   - Developed a Local Hazard Mitigation Plan
   - Developed a Community Wildfire Protection Plan
   - Conducted a sea-level rise assessment
   - Implemented extreme heat mitigation programs
   - Implemented flood mitigation programs
   - Implemented erosion control measures
   - None of the above
9.2 Does your general plan, or other plans, currently address climate vulnerability and adaptation?

- No
- Yes, but the plan(s) is not SB 379-compliant
- Yes, and our plan(s) is SB 379-compliant

9.3 How has/will your jurisdiction integrate climate vulnerability and adaptation in the general plan per SB 379? (check all that apply)

- Updating the general plan safety element directly
- Updating or creating a separate general plan climate change or climate adaptation element
- Updating other general plan elements
- Updating and incorporating a local hazard mitigation plan by reference into the safety element
- Updating and incorporating a climate adaptation plan, climate action plan, or sustainability plan by reference
- Undecided
- Other (please specify)

9.4 How far along is your jurisdiction in the process of integrating climate vulnerability and adaptation in the safety element per SB 379? (check all that apply)

- We have not started updating the safety element per SB 379
- We are currently exploring, scoping, and initiating the safety element update per SB 379
- We are conducting a climate vulnerability assessment
- We are developing climate adaptation goals, policies and implementation programs
- We are currently implementing, monitoring, evaluating, and adjusting our climate adaptation strategies consistent with our updated safety element.

9.5 Is your jurisdiction connecting requirements to address environmental justice in the general plan (per SB 1000) with requirements to address climate vulnerability and adaptation in the safety element (per SB 379 and/or SB 1035)?

- Yes
- No
- Undecided