



RICAPS Monthly Meeting

April 23, 2024



SAN MATEO COUNTY ENERGY WATCH



PENINSULA CLEAN ENERGY

RICAPS technical assistance is available due to funding from the City/County Association of Governments (C/CAG), Peninsula Clean Energy, and the San Mateo County Energy Watch program, which is funded by California utility customers, administered by Pacific Gas and Electric Company (PG&E) under the auspices of the California Public Utilities Commission and additional funding provided by Peninsula Clean Energy.

Agenda



- **12:45-1:00-** Jurisdiction Round Robin
- **1:00-1:05-** Welcome & Agenda Review
- **1:05-1:20-** Announcements
 - *CIP Scan Update- Menlo Park; Pacifica*
- **1:20-1:30-** New Construction 2.0 Reach code Wrap-Up - Ryan Gardner, Rincon
- **1:30-1:45-** Funding and Grant Support Through RICAPS - Forest Abbott-Lum, Rincon
- **1:45 - 1:55 BREAK**
- **1:55-2:50-** Building Decarbonization Strategy: Permit Simplification & Electrification Communications Campaign - County Project
- **2:50-3:00-** Closing



Welcome and Announcements



Announcements



- **Capital Improvement Plan Scan - Project Review**
 - Menlo Park
 - Pacifica

- **2021 Inventories and beyond: Posting All as a Batch Online**



New Construction 2.0 Reach Code Wrap-Up

Ryan Gardner, Rincon Consultants Inc.



Recap: How We Got Here



Berkeley Reach Code Recap

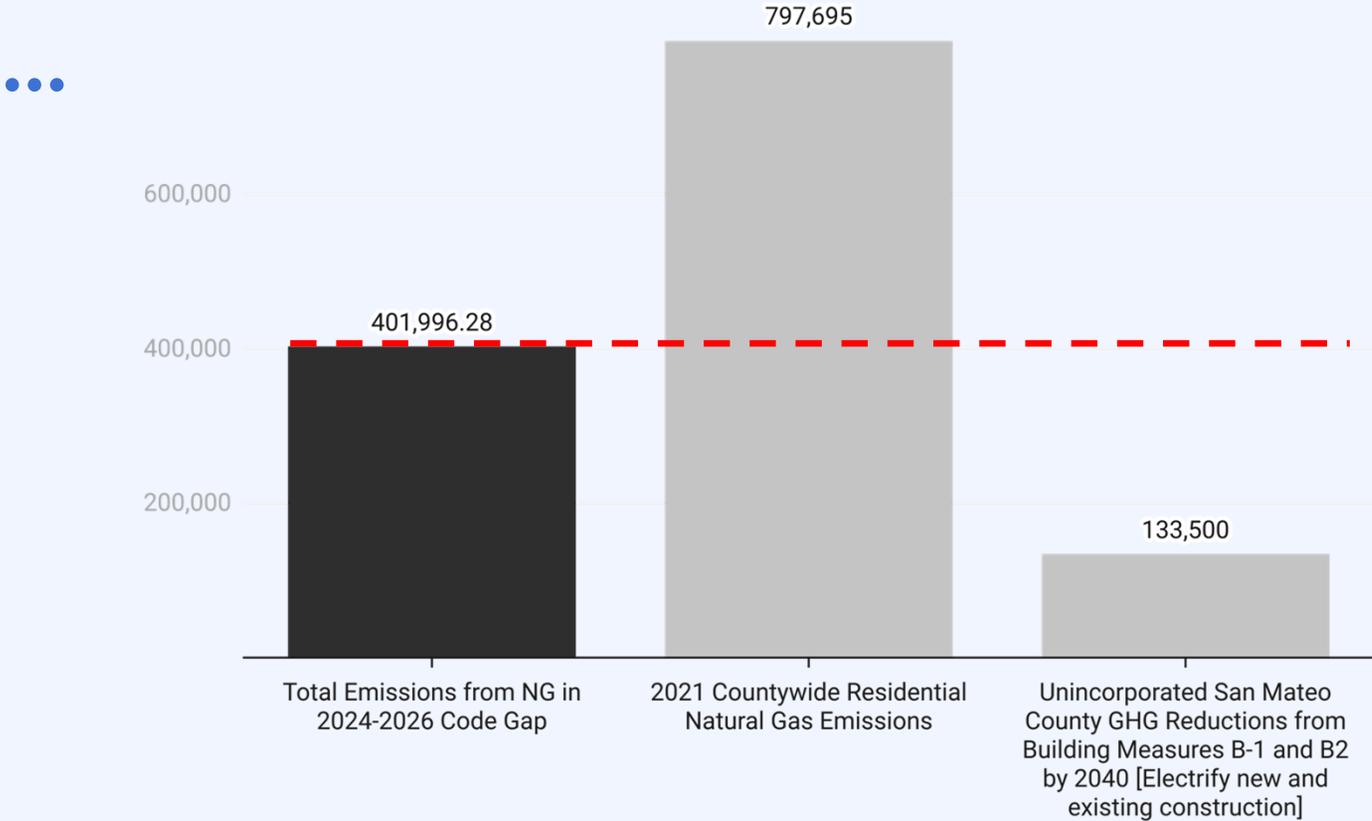
- **Jan 1 2020** – Berkeley Reach Code Bans NG in New Buildings, goes into effect;
 - Sparking wave of other municipal reach codes
- **April 2023**- Ninth Circuit Decides Berkeley Reach Code Pre-Empts Federal Standards
 - Some Cities pause reach code, others advance- mixed approach
 - Some Cities (e.g. San Luis Obispo; Santa Cruz; Menlo Park; Los Altos Hills) pursue alternate Code Options
- **Jan 2024**- En Banc Re-Hearing Denied- Berkeley Pauses Reach Code Approach

RICAPS Approach

- **Feb 2024**– Group Brainstorm- Status of Reach Codes
 - Most Cities are paused, while some advance with version 2 AQ/ EE reach codes; many consider waiting till next code cycle
- **Mar 2024**– Reach Code 2.0 Showcase [City of Santa Cruz; Los Altos Hills]
 - Showcase for existing reach codes approaches under Berkeley from Cities implementing



Climate Cost of Waiting Till Next Code Cycle: 401,996 MT CO2e Countywide



Created with Datawrapper

Assumptions: 2021 therms/ building levels; NG appliances and buildings function for 15 years once built; projections in County-wide housing/ job growth in 2024 and 2025 as new code cycle kicks in on 2026



Big Picture - Missing a Window to Move the Market Towards All-Electric Buildings

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- **Local reach codes** are one of the **biggest drivers in shifting the market** to electric buildings, especially when paired with incentives
- 84% of Respondents in 2022 Heat Pump CPUC Study say local government reach codes were **main driver in driving heat pump installation**, not environmental preference

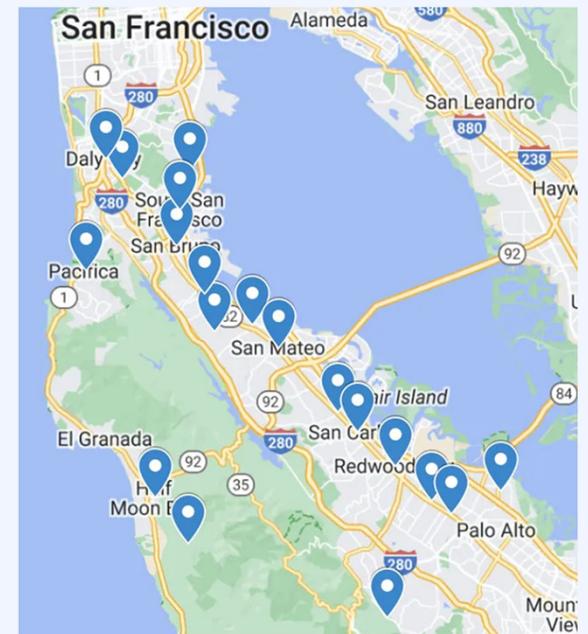


Image Source: <https://www.peninsulacleanenergy.com/reach-codes/>



Key Takeaways



Window to adopt Reach Codes 2.0 is now - or make a plan to make up for lost emissions

- New reach code adoption can take a handful of months [March City of Santa Cruz RICAPS presentation]
- Sustainability staff can start now to bring forward codes and cultivate buy-in [building, legal, electeds]

Resources Available for Sustainability Staff

- **Model codes and 1-on-1 consulting [TRC/ Peninsula Clean Energy]**

Note: chance to **embed existing building electrification policy** like 2 way AC; pre-wire/ panel upgrade into new code upgrades

Key takeaway: Reach codes 2.0 have precedent and ample support for passage (TRC; Peninsula Clean Energy; BayREN; Rincon)





Thank you!
Questions?

Funding and Grant Support Through RICAPS

Forest Abbott-Lum, Rincon Consultants Inc.



Recap: How We Got Here

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Interest in Group Financing/ Grant Options- Especially for Smaller Cities to Band Together

- **Dec 2023-** Key Feedback on RICAPS priorities & January Advisory Group Feedback Confirms



RICAPS Grant Assistance Vision



- **Easy Application Process**
 - Rincon Identifies Grant Options; Cities Confirm Interest; Rincon Completes Group Grant
- **Key Areas of Interest/ Filters**
 - Subject Matter: Building Electrification; Fleet Electrification; Compost Sequestration
 - Transformative thresholds of funding / ability to apply collectively



RICAPS Grant Tracker Preview



Project Type	Name of Funding Opportunity	Agency/Funding Provider	Funding Type	Funding Source (Federal, State, Local)	Application Due Date	Available Funds	Cost Sharing Requirements	Eligible Projects and Programs	Multi-Jurisdiction Collaborative Applications Ok?	Notes	Website/Link
Off-road equipment Program (CMP) Grant	Carl Moyer Bay Area Air Quality Management District	Grant Funding Opportunity	Air District	11-Apr-24	\$82M +; \$8M for ag equipment	Off-road equipment purchases	Yes	Priority communities include portions of the following : <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - West Palo Alto - Redwood City (Downtown) - Burlingame - San Bruno - Daly City - South San Francisco - San Mateo https://gis.carb.arb.ca.gov/portal/apps/experiencebuilder/experience/?id=6b4b15f8c6514733972cabdda3108348	https://www.baaqmd.gov/funding-and-incentives/apply-for-funding		
EV Charging Program	Clean Transportation Program	California Energy Commission	Grant Funding Opportunity	State	30-Apr-24	\$30 million; minimum award amount is \$250,000. The maximum award amount is \$400,000 1. Funding Group 1 Local jurisdictions that were not eligible for a direct 2021 EECBG allocation from DOE are eligible to apply for funds from the first category totaling \$2,713,380, referred to throughout this solicitation manual as Funding Group 1. 2. Funding Group 2 All California local jurisdictions are eligible to apply for funds from the remaining category totaling \$1,356,690, referred to throughout this solicitation manual at Funding Group 2.	- Support electrification of government fleets in California by providing reliable and readily accessible electric vehicle charging infrastructure dedicated for these fleets. - Support local government goals of sustainability and/or climate action plans. - Reduce vehicle emissions in disadvantaged and/or low-income communities.	Potentially	There was one Pre-Application Workshop (January); participation in this meeting is optional but encouraged	https://www.energy.ca.gov/solicitations/2023-12/qfo-23-606-charging-infrastructure-government-fleets	



Brainstorm/ Feedback!



- What types of projects should be a priority to fund?
- What are some hurdles that you have in getting grants across the finish line?
 - What are any unique hurdles you might face in applying to a group grant?
 - If we are doing the majority of the grant app writing what other hurdles would exist for your jurisdiction?
- What are grant subject matters of greatest interest to your jurisdiction (e.g. building electrification; fleets; natural and working lands) ?
- What would be the easiest process to indicate interest in applying for a grant?





Thank you!
Questions?

Building Decarbonization Strategy - County Project

*Avana Andrade, Department of
Sustainability*



Developing a Clear Plan for Building Decarb...



New Building Reach Code:

Repeal existing code, adopt new reach code that applies to new buildings to curtail the expansion of methane gas infrastructure.



Permit Simplification:

Pursue opportunities for easing permitting processes for property owners to more seamlessly transition to electric appliances



Electrification Communications Campaign:

Develop a tailored suite of messaging materials for audiences about the benefits, feasibility, and challenges of electrification



Existing Building Electrification Roadmap:

Develop an equity-centered roadmap for decarbonizing existing building stock and creating local workforce development opportunities



Neighborhood Electrification Pilot:

Carry out complete conversion of a neighborhood block, enabling officials to “prune” the methane gas pipeline permanently



Permit Simplification Pilot



Objectives:

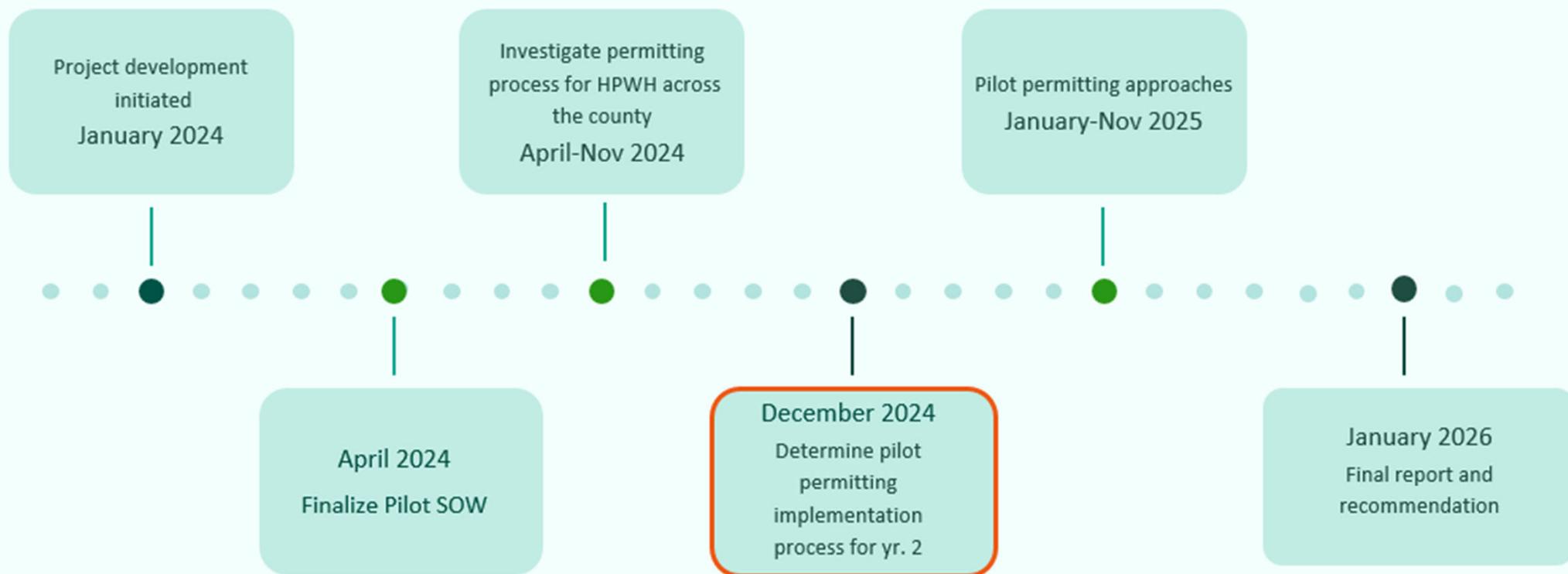
- Pursue opportunities for easing processes for property owners to more seamlessly transition to electric appliances
- Create a uniform permitting process for HPWH across the County

Stretch Goals:

- Instant permits for 120 V HPWH
- Consistent fees



2 Year Process Timeline



Achieving Yr. 1 Goal



Facilitate ongoing dialogue between city sustainability staff and building officials.



*Create a “crosswalk” analysis of internal and external permitting requirements for HPWH across the County.



*Identifying the different approaches that can be piloted in yr. 2 that would create a uniform permitting process for HPWH across the County.



*Determine approach(es) to be piloted in yr. 2 and share findings in presentations and reports.

*** Implemented by consultant.**



Is permitting a priority for your jurisdiction?

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Would your jurisdiction like to participate?



Developing a Clear Plan for Building Decarb...



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Electrification Communications Campaign: Based on Feedback from RICAPS



Feb-April, 2023 series of RICAPS meetings on existing building electrification



Category	Jurisdiction Votes	POTENTIAL RICAPS PROGRAM CONCEPT	POTENTIAL RICAPS ROLE
Contractor/ Workforce	10	Electrification outreach campaign to small contracting businesses and distributors, with a focus on businesses that are multilingual, and not covered under BayREN contractor outreach.	Convener, creation of campaign resources (as needed), distributor of best practices, collector of small business contacts, creator of outreach plan strategy; Deliverable- digital library of multilingual, contractor-facing outreach material on building electrification + a targeted outreach strategy to disburse this material
	3	Support electrification curriculum development pilot programs/apprenticeship incubator	Potentials: in partnership with community partners, leverage grant funding to pay contractors to take a training, put out an RFP or MOU to collaboratively launch a pilot with a CBO, consider existing partnerships through BayREN, NovaWorks.
	1	Strategic fundraising for workforce training programs	Research prerequisites needed for cities, CBOS, local gov to apply for funding for electrification workforce pipeline programs. Identify right-fit NGOs to support. Provide guidance for funding application, and if necessary, collaborate on grant applications for workforce development.
Communication/Perceptions	7	Create education materials for electeds, enabling conditions for passage of existing building electrification policies	Convener of local governments, assessor of existing resources (SwitchIsOn, PCE, BAAQMD), potential outreach to local media. Deliverable: digital packet/ 2 pager for electeds, updated frequently, disubred through outreach campaign via City staff.
	6	Outreach campaign for the general public & local governments, focusing on grid upgrades, reliability, zonal electrification, etc.	Convener, aggregator of resources, liaison between PG&E and local governments Deliverable: digital package of public-facing resources
	1	Outreach and storytelling; outreach package to compliment PCE building electrification hub	Convener of key stakeholders; potentially, content creator
Technical	10	Regional compliance work: lobbying higher-level regulators for electrification-ready policies with a focus on compliance (ex BAAQMD) and permit streamlining; letter writing campaign (ex. regional time of sale check compliance mechanism)	Convener, local government ally and liaison Deliverable: lead advocacy campaign? Path forward is less clear. Discuss
	4	Whole home electrification plan training pilot	Program development, convener of key stakeholders, platform to launch training
	0	Research on building vintage: what kinds of building stocks are more likely to have electrification challenges	Research, distribution of best practices for research among network

Resulting prioritized listing of solutions per type of barrier

Themes That Informed Our Workplan...

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- “Electrification **outreach campaign** to small contracting businesses and distributors...”
- “Create **education materials for electeds**, enabling conditions for passage of existing building electrification policies”
- “**Outreach campaign** for the general public & local governments, focusing on grid upgrades, reliability, zonal electrification, etc.”



Themes That Informed Our Workplan...

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Project Description to Communications Firms:

Support Sustainability Department staff in carrying out the discovery phase of a **multi-faceted communications campaign** to:

- Increase the public's understanding and acceptance of building electrification
- **Correct common public misconceptions and allay concerns about electrification, associated technologies**

Deliverables will include:

- **Recommendations for compelling, well-researched communications materials tailored to the local context** to be used by sustainability staff in local governments throughout the County



Discussion...(transition to Mural)

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Thank you!
See you in May