

General Plan Update & Climate Action Plan



SARATOGA
California

Agenda and Introductions

- Introductions: James Lindsay, City Manager
- General Plan Update: Nicole Johnson, Senior Planner
- Climate Action Plan: Mainini Cabute, Environmental Programs Manager
- Public Participation: Lauren Pettipiece, Public Information Officer
- Future Housing in Saratoga: Debbie Pedro, Community Development Director

What is a General Plan?

- Identifies the community's shared vision for the future.
- Addresses the unique characteristics and needs of the community.
- Contains goals, policies, and implementation measures that affect future growth and City services.

Why update the General Plan?

To identify:

- 1. What goals and policies remain relevant today and into the future?
- 2. What improvements or changes are needed to respond to current and anticipated conditions?
- 3. What changes are needed to respond to changes in State laws?

What is an Element?

Elements are like chapters, each with a different focus.

Land Use

Last Updated: 2007

Circulation

Last Updated: 2010

Open Space & Conservation

Last Updated: 2007

Noise

Last Updated: 2014

Safety

Last Updated: 2013

Housing

Last Updated: 2014

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What is included in an Element?

Goals:

General expressions of community values

Goal OSC 15: Improve local and regional air quality by ensuring that all development projects incorporate all feasible measures to reduce air pollutants.

Policies:

Commitments to a course of action

Policy OSC 15.1: Require development projects to comply with Bay Area Air Quality Management District (BAAQMD) measures to reduce dust emissions due to grading and construction activities.

Policy OSC 15.2: Encourage use of trip demand measures as part of major commercial and office development projects to reduce dependence on automobile use.

Implementation

Measures:

Actions, procedures, programs, or techniques that carry out a policy

Implementation:

OSC.15.a. Include a condition of approval for all new development projects that requires compliance with the BAAQMD dust emission reduction measures.

Environmental Impact Report

- An Environmental Impact Report (EIR) is a detailed analysis of the potential environmental effects of a project
- The California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) considers a General Plan update to be a project, so an EIR is required



Public Comment Next Steps

September 7, 2020

Public Comment Deadline

November 2020

Planning Commission Review
of EIR Project Description
and Public Comments

December 2020

City Council Review of EIR
Project Description and
Public Comments

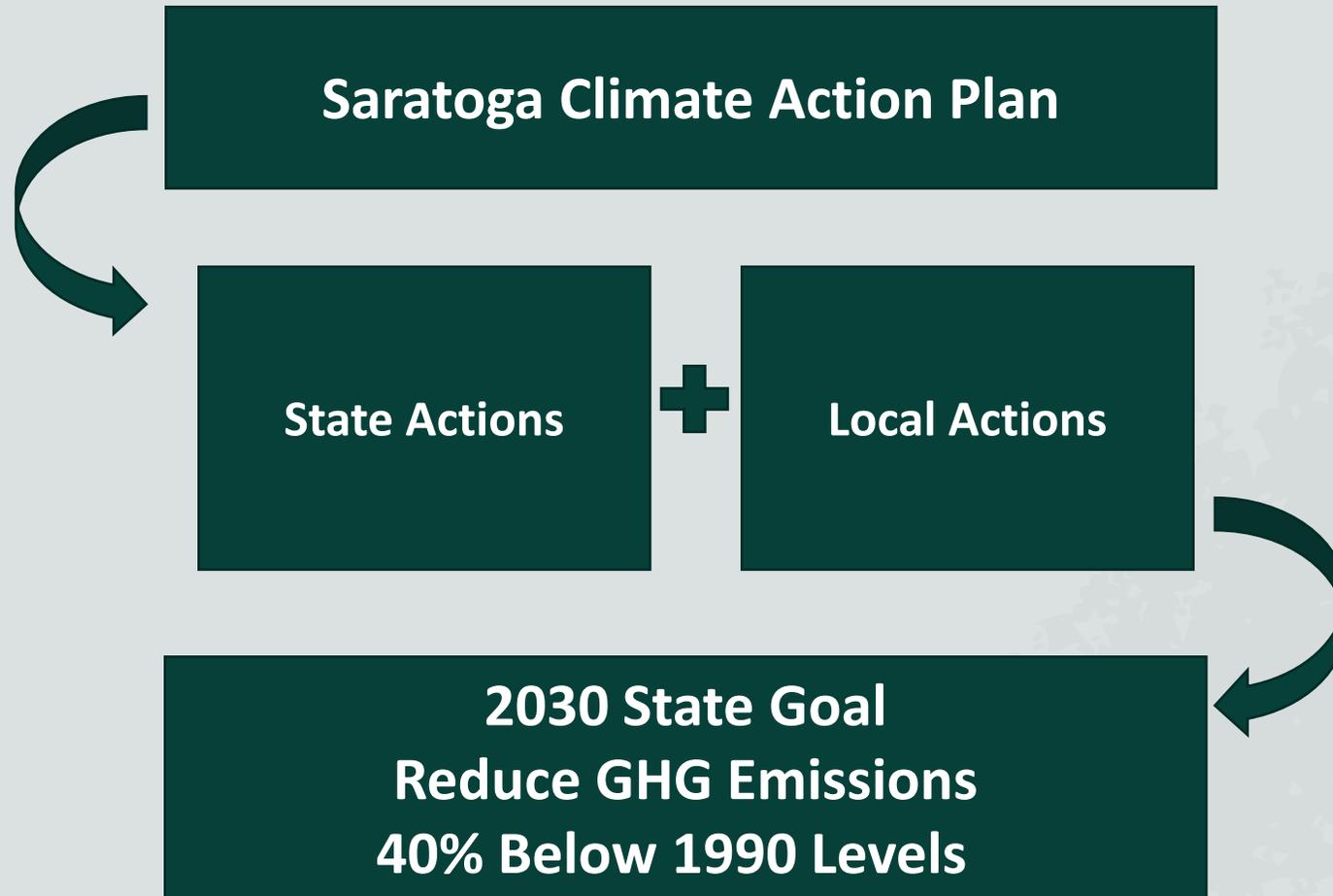
What is a Climate Action Plan (CAP)?

- Currently creating Saratoga's first CAP
- Specifies strategies to reduce greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions
- Incorporate goals from CAP into the General Plan
 - Circulation Element
 - Open Space & Conservation Element

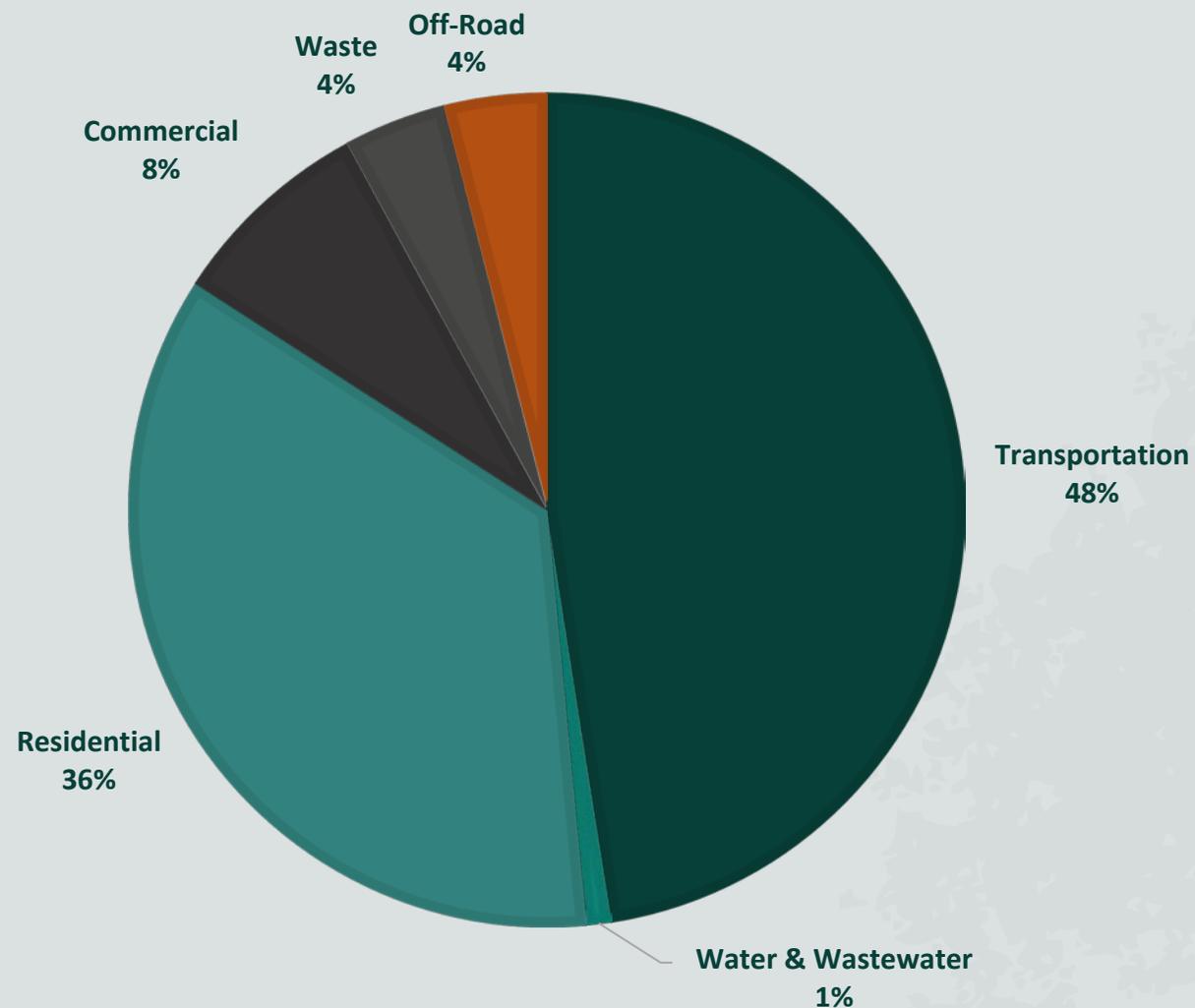
What is the goal of the CAP?

- The State of California encourages communities to reduce their GHG emissions to 40% below their 1990 levels by 2030

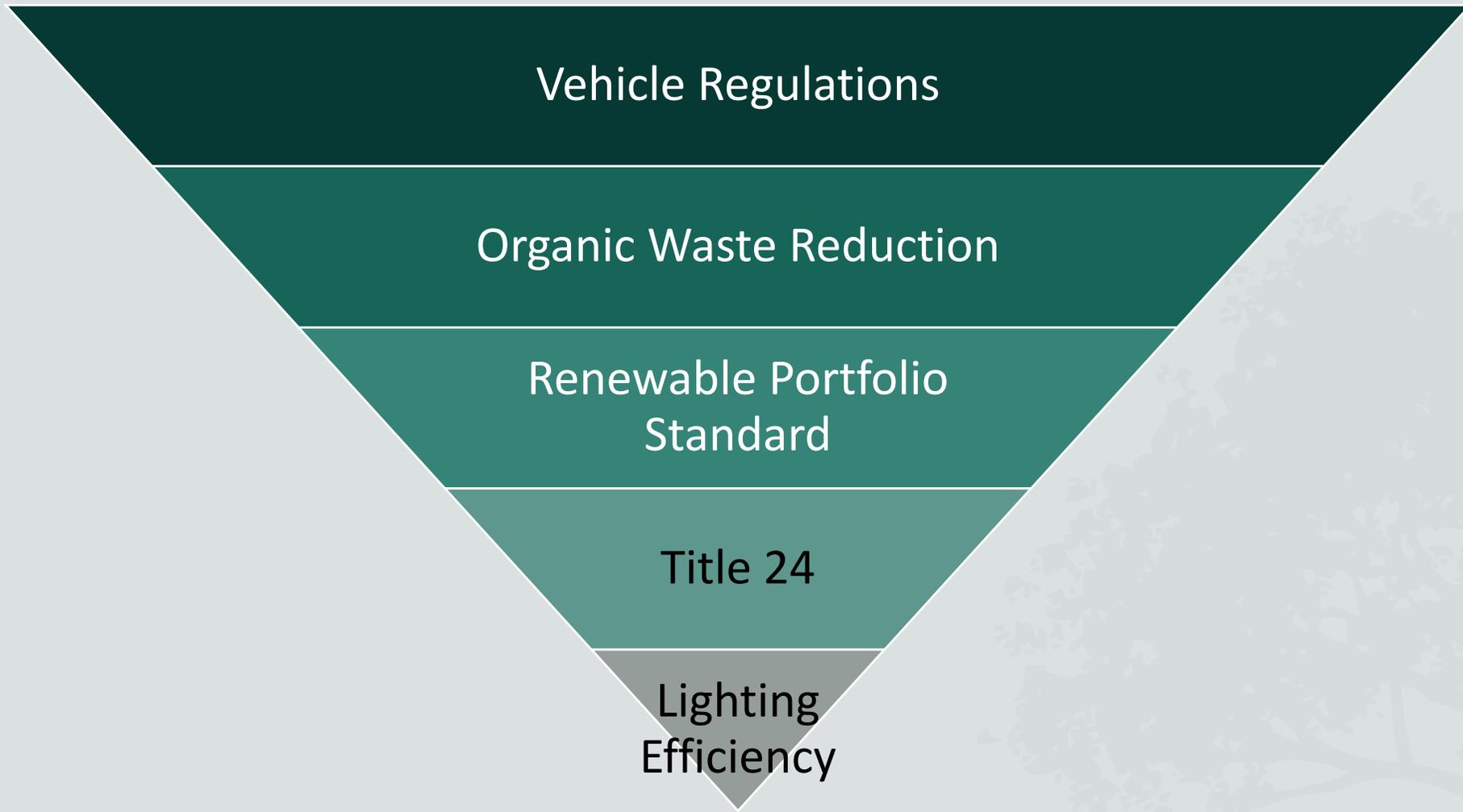
How will we accomplish that goal?



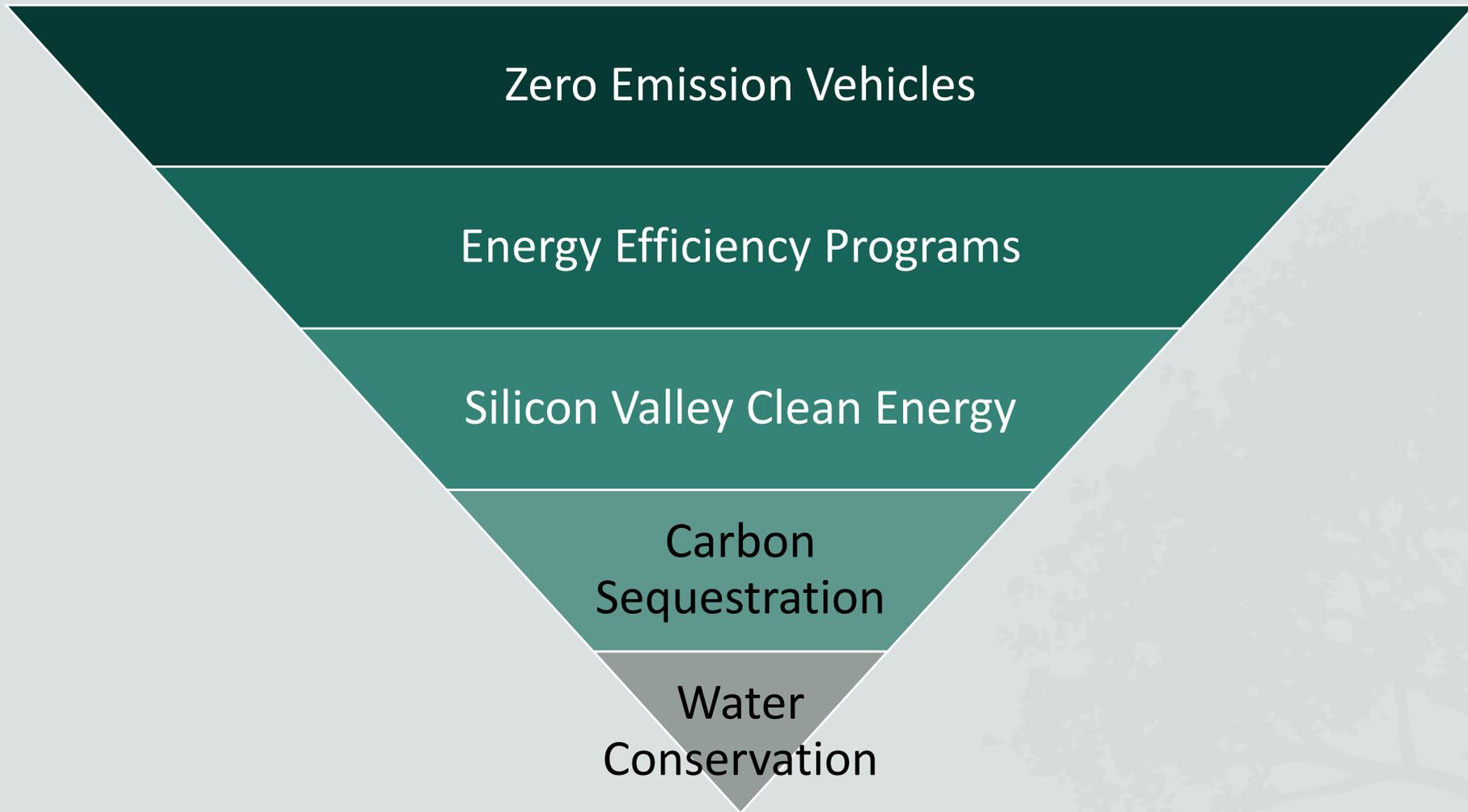
Saratoga's 2017 Emissions



State Actions



Local Actions



Building Code Changes

In 2019, the City Council adopted Reach Codes, which require new homes OR remodels of more than 50% to:

- Install two EV charger circuits
- Use electric heating and water heating appliances
- Prewire for electric appliances to replace gas burning appliances

2030 State Goal for Saratoga



How can you make a difference?

- Remain a SVCE customer!
- Upgrade to SVCE GreenPrime.
- Install a solar energy system on your home or business and consider battery storage.
- When the time comes, replace natural gas appliances, hot water heaters, and furnaces with electric versions.



Climate Action Plan Next Steps

September 7, 2020

Public Comment
Deadline

October 2020

Planning Commission
Presentation

November 2020

City Council Review
and Consideration

What do we need from you?

- Review 3 draft General Plan Elements and draft Climate Action Plan.
- Submit comments by September 7, 2020.
- Drafts and online comment forms available online.
General Plan: www.saratoga.ca.us/GP
Climate Action Plan: www.saratoga.ca.us/CAP

How to Review

www.saratoga.ca.us/GP

The screenshot shows a web browser window with the URL saratoga.ca.us/162/General-Plan. The page features a dark green header with a COVID-19 information banner, a navigation menu with links for ABOUT, GOVERNMENT, RESIDENTS, and BUSINESS, and social media icons. A left sidebar contains a list of links: Planning Division, Building Division, Code Compliance, Trees, General Plan, and Interactive GIS Map. The main content area includes a breadcrumb trail (Home > Government > Departments > Community Development > General Plan), a 'General Plan' section with a mouse cursor, a 'Background' section with introductory text, and a '2040 General Plan Update' section with detailed text. A right sidebar contains sections for 'What is a General Plan?', 'Notifications', and 'Contact Us'. A 'Sign In' button is located in the top right of the header area.

General Plan | Saratoga, CA

saratoga.ca.us/162/General-Plan

COVID-19 INFORMATION Learn about COVID-19, the Stay at Home Order, and updates to City services. [Read On...](#)

Create an Account - Increase your productivity, customize your experience, and engage in information you care about. [Sign In](#)

SARATOGA California

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Planning Division ▶

Building Division ▶

Code Compliance ▶

Trees ▶

General Plan

Interactive GIS Map

Home > Government > Departments > Community Development > General Plan

General Plan

Background

The City of Saratoga's General Plan helps guide the growth and land development of the community, while preserving open space areas and enhancing the quality of life for residents. Saratoga's comprehensive General Plan was prepared in 1983. Since 1983, the City has updated the General Plan Elements one or two at a time based on State requirements.

2040 General Plan Update

In April 2018, the City of Saratoga began a process to refresh and make minor policy updates to three elements of the City's General Plan (Land Use, Circulation, and Open Space & Conservation) and format the elements to provide a cohesive document. The updated elements will be combined with the existing Housing, Safety, and Noise Elements to comprise the Saratoga 2040 General Plan. During this process, the City will also develop a [Climate Action Plan](#) that contains goals and strategies to reduce greenhouse gas emissions in Saratoga.

What is a General Plan?

Read this [one page summary of the General Plan update](#) to learn about the General Plan and how to get involved in the process.

Notifications

Sign up to [receive notifications about the 2040 General Plan update](#). After selecting the list(s) you would like to subscribe to, you will receive an email requiring you to confirm your subscription(s). Please let us know if you experience any difficulties.

Contact Us

[Enable Google Translate](#)

Future Housing in Saratoga

Influenced by:

- **Legislation:** Approved by your State representatives
- **Plan Bay Area 2050:** Developed by Association of Bay Area Governments (ABAG) and Metropolitan Transportation Commission (MTC)
- **Regional Housing Needs Allocation:** Determined and assigned by Housing Methodology Committee
- **Housing Element:** Updated by the City of Saratoga

- City received input on 3 draft General Plan updates
- City submitted comments on Plan Bay Area 2050 and RHNA methodology

Process to update Saratoga's Housing Element begins

End of Housing Element planning period



- Process began for:
- Plan Bay Area 2050
 - Regional Housing Needs Allocation (RHNA)
 - Saratoga's General Plan 2040 Update

- General Plan Update Adopted
- Draft RHNA Allocations distributed
- RHNA Appeal Process
- Plan Bay Area 2050 Finalized
- RHNA Allocations Finalized

Saratoga's Housing Element due

Speak Up for Saratoga's Future

Plan Bay Area 2050

- City submitted comment letter
- You can sign up to receive notifications on progress

RHNA

- City will receive draft RHNA allocation, then prepare comments or appeals if necessary

Housing Element

- You can participate in the City's next General Plan update process to help determine how Saratoga can plan for housing based on RHNA

Speak Up for Saratoga's Future

Legislation

www.saratoga.ca.us/RHNA

- The State has adopted housing laws that reduce local control and increase the responsibility of Cities to develop housing.
- The City Council has been monitoring proposed legislation adopted positions on bills under consideration.
- Make your voice heard:
 - Subscribe to receive email updates on proposed bills
 - Share your thoughts on a proposed bill with your State representatives
 - Submit a position letter to the Committee considering the bill using the State's Position Letter Portal

Learn More and Stay Engaged

Plan Bay Area:

www.saratoga.ca.us/planbayarea

Regional Housing Needs Allocation:

www.saratoga.ca.us/RHNA



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