

State Climate Change Legislation of Local Significance

This matrix discusses recent statewide climate change legislation. While other topic-specific bills have been adopted by the State legislature, the three discussed here present the most immediate impacts and opportunities for local agencies.

State Legislation	Year Approved	Summary	Implementation Milestones	Oversight Agency
<p>AB 32 Sets target to reduce GHG emissions</p>	2006	<p>AB 32 requires the California Air Resources Board (CARB) to develop regulations and market mechanisms to reduce California's greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions back to 1990 levels by 2020. Mandatory caps on GHG emissions will begin in 2012 to achieve reduction targets.</p> <p>County Impacts: Specific requirements for local agencies as well as impacts associated with noncompliance are expected to be outlined by 2012.</p>	<p>2008 – Baseline for mandatory GHG emissions and 2020 statewide cap adopted by CARB.</p> <p>2009 – CARB adopts Scoping Plan indicating how emission reductions will be achieved from significant sources.</p> <p>2012 – GHG rules and market mechanisms adopted by CARB take effect and are legally enforceable.</p> <p>2020 – Deadline for emission reduction target.</p>	CARB OPR
<p>SB 97 Ties GHG analysis to CEQA</p>	2007	<p>SB 97 requires the State Office of Planning and Research (OPR) to develop legal guidelines for analysis and mitigation of GHG emissions, pursuant to CEQA.</p> <p>County Impacts: CEQA documents, including negative declarations, mitigated negative declarations, and environmental impact reports are required to address GHG emissions.</p>	<p>2009 – Preparation of guidelines for the feasible mitigation of greenhouse gas emissions or the effects of greenhouse gas emissions, as required by CEQA.</p> <p>2010 – Certification and adoption of guidelines.</p>	OPR
<p>SB 375 Implements one portion of AB 32</p>	2008	<p>SB 375 addresses one of the eighteen implementation measures called for by AB 32 through alignment of the Regional Housing Needs Allocation (RHNA) and the Regional Transportation Plan. This includes development of a Sustainable Communities Strategy (SCS) that would be adopted by SBCAG. Certain types of infill projects that are consistent with the SCS would receive CEQA exemptions and/or streamlining under SB 375.</p> <p>County Impacts: SB 375 calls for a new regional planning process, new requirements for environmental analysis, and strengthens the Housing Element rezone mandate overseen by the State Housing and Community Development Department (SHCD).</p>	<p>2010 – GHG reduction targets related to SB 375 are established by CARB and assigned to Metropolitan Planning Organizations (such as SBCAG).</p> <p>2013 – Local Regional Transportation Plan updates, including adoption of the SCS & RHNA.</p> <p>2015-2023 – Housing Element updates.</p>	CARB SHCD SBCAG