



Office of the City Manager

January 12, 2021

To: Honorable Mayor and Members of the City Council

From: *DWR* Dee Williams-Ridley, City Manager

Re: Berkeley Recognized for Climate Leadership

The City of Berkeley has been recognized by two important international organizations for successful climate action during 2020. Berkeley was one of 88 cities, out of more than 800 worldwide, to receive an “A” score from the [Carbon Disclosure Project](#) (CDP). The CDP awards an “A” score to those cities in the “Leadership” category that make progress towards achieving ambitious climate emission goals and demonstrate best practice adaptation and mitigation strategies. These leading cities also have strategic, comprehensive plans to ensure their actions will reduce climate impacts and vulnerabilities for their citizens, businesses and organizations. The City also earned compliance badges for mitigation and adaptation from the [Global Covenant of Mayors](#) (GCoM).

As reported to CDP and GCoM, the City has reduced overall GHG emissions by 26% since 2000, despite population increasing by 18% and an expanding economy.<sup>1</sup> This progress is largely due to reduced energy use in buildings and the transition to purchasing cleaner electricity provided by East Bay Community Energy (EBCE), Alameda County’s community-based electricity provider, which started enrolling customers in 2018.

While the Planning Department’s Office of Energy & Sustainable Development (OESD) had reported annual greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions data previously to CDP for compliance with the GCoM program, this was the first year that the City participated in the full CDP disclosure program. In addition to sharing the most recently available GHG inventory (2018) as reported in the [2020 Climate Action update to Council](#) this summer, OESD provided a comprehensive report to CDP on the city’s progress to address climate change in the areas of economic sustainability, energy, transportation, food, waste, and water. The report highlighted programs, policies and plans such as the

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<sup>1</sup> Staff Report: Berkeley Economic Dashboards, March 26, 2019:  
[https://www.cityofberkeley.info/uploadedFiles/Manager/Economic\\_Development/2019-03-26%20Item%2026%20Berkeley%20Economic%20Dashboards.pdf](https://www.cityofberkeley.info/uploadedFiles/Manager/Economic_Development/2019-03-26%20Item%2026%20Berkeley%20Economic%20Dashboards.pdf)

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[City's Climate Action Plan](#), [Resilience Strategy](#), [Electric Mobility Roadmap](#) and [Local Hazard Mitigation Plan](#) that demonstrate the City's strategic efforts to both mitigate and adapt to climate change.

Berkeley's CDP "A" score and GCoM "badges" provide recognition of the City Council's climate leadership and ongoing efforts from council and staff to achieve our Fossil Fuel Free goals. For more information please contact Jordan Klein, Interim Director of Planning and Development, at (510) 981-7534 or [jklein@cityofberkeley.info](mailto:jklein@cityofberkeley.info).

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