

# San Bernardino Investment Playbook

## Project Details: Climate-Ready SB

Over the next five years, the City will embark on an extensive suite of investments that will together position San Bernardino as a leader on climate action. Investments in electric vehicle (EV) infrastructure, heat mitigation, transit decarbonization, community solar, and other climate-relevant areas will create a downtown that is powered by clean, renewable energy. The Climate Solutions Team (CST) will oversee these investments with an eye toward leveraging existing efforts and encouraging cross-sector collaboration to accelerate decarbonization.

Central to this five-year initiative will be a deliberate focus on just transition to climate readiness. A just transition will not only equip San Bernardino for the climate crisis but will also spark equitable economic growth and improve quality of life and access to prosperity for all area residents. Close collaboration with stakeholders—particularly those from historically disinvested and disadvantaged communities—will ensure that local needs and priorities guide investment decisions.

The CST will serve as the delivery team for Climate Ready SB. It will seek out subject matter experts and local stakeholders, identify needed investments, develop cost estimates, and devise a roadmap that stages and sequences investments for effective implementation. Total cost cannot be estimated until the specific elements of the roadmap are identified but given the number of infrastructure-related projects involved, the level of investment will be substantial.

## RATIONALE

In San Bernardino, climate readiness has become an existential imperative. The City continues to be seriously afflicted by the negative externalities of the logistics and transportation sector, including freight-related air pollution, poor land use decisions, damaged roadways and related flooding, and intensifying traffic congestion. Much work remains if the City hopes to achieve state-mandated climate goals and become truly climate ready.

## OBJECTIVES

- Position San Bernardino as a leader on climate action and decarbonization
- Create a cleaner and healthier environment for San Bernardino residents and businesses
- Significantly reduce the City's reliance on carbon-based energy

## ADDITIONAL DETAILS

Because the climate crisis implicates countless aspects of human life, coordination among traditionally siloed domains—including education and workforce development, entrepreneurship, planning and public works, private-sector, residential and commercial real estate development, and support service provision—will be essential. Only a holistic strategy will be able to meet the moment.

Investments will be needed across a wide range of areas, including:

- Active transportation solutions
- Building electrification (residential, commercial, industrial)
- City Hall renovation and climate-relevant upgrades for public-sector buildings
- Complete Streets
- Energy-efficient retrofits for single- and multifamily residences as well as commercial and industrial buildings
- EV charging infrastructure for cars and freight transport
- EV carsharing
- Heat mitigation (e.g., green / cool roofing, cool pavements, water spray parks)
- Power grid improvements
- Public climate readiness outreach and education
- Renewable energy generation and storage (e.g., community solar, warehouse solar, parking lot solar canopies)
- Urban greening (e.g., expanded tree canopy, urban meadows, indigenous vegetation)
- Workforce development for climate-implicated occupations (e.g., electric grid management, energy efficiency improvements, manufacturing, zero-emission logistics, zero-emission vehicle operations and maintenance)
- Zero-emission public transit

## POTENTIAL FUNDING

### *Federal*

#### Environmental Protection Agency

Brownfield Remediation Program

Preventing Outages and Enhancing the Resilience of the Electric Grid

### *US Bureau of Reclamation*

Environmental Water Resources Projects

Water and Energy Efficiency Grants

### *US Department of Energy*

Carbon Dioxide Transportation Infrastructure Finance and Innovation Act (CIFIA)

Clean School Bus Program

Energy Efficiency and Conservation Block Grant Program

Energy Infrastructure Federal Financial Assistance Program

New Energy Demonstration Projects

Smart Grid Investment Grant Program

Solar Technologies Office Renewables Advancing Community Energy Resilience (RACER)

Solar Energy Technologies Office Solar Manufacturing Incubator Funding

Title 17 Innovative Energy Loan Guarantee Program

Transmission Facilitation Program

Weatherization Assistance Program

### *US Department of Transportation*

National Electric Vehicle Formula Program

Carbon Reduction Program

Charging and Fueling Infrastructure Grants

Congestion Mitigation and Air Quality (CMAQ) Improvement Program

Electric Vehicle Charging and Refueling Grants

Low / No Emission Vehicle Program

Nationally Significant Freight and Highway Projects (INFRA Program)

Rebuilding American Infrastructure with Sustainability and Equity (RAISE) Grant Program

Safe Streets and Roads for All Grant Program

State of Good Repair Formula Grants

Strengthening Mobility & Revolutionizing Technology (SMART) Grants

Surface Transportation Block Grant Program (STBGP)

Transportation Alternatives Program (TAP)  
Transit-Oriented Development Planning Pilot

*State*

Active Transportation Program  
Affordable Housing and Sustainable Communities  
Assembly Bill 8  
Automated Permit Processing Program (CalAPP)  
CAL FIRE Urban and Community Forestry Program  
CALReUSE Assessment Program  
CalSEED  
CalSTA Transit and Intercity Rail Capital Program  
Carl Moyer Memorial Air Quality Standards Attainment Program  
CCI Advanced Technology Demonstration and Pilot Projects  
CEDA / Dividend Finance / Figtree Financing PACE Partnership  
Clean Mobility Options Pilot Program  
Climate Catalyst Revolving Loan Fund  
Climate Heat Impact Response Program  
Climate Investments  
CNRA Environmental Enhancement and Mitigation Grant Program  
Community Economic Resilience Fund (CERF)  
CSCDA Open PACE Program  
Environmental Enhancement and Mitigation Grant Program  
High Road Construction Careers Program  
High Road Training Partnership  
Hybrid and Zero-Emission Truck and Bus Voucher Incentive Project (HVIP)  
IBank Lending for Energy and Environmental Needs Center (CLEEN Center)  
Multi-Family Energy Efficiency and Renewables Program  
Pollution Control Financing Authority Green Bonds  
Property Assessed Clean Energy (PACE) financing  
Regional Climate Collaboratives (RCC) Program  
ReLeaf Treecoverry Grant Program  
School Bus Replacement Program  
Transformative Climate Communities  
Volkswagen Environmental Mitigation Trust

California Air Resources Board (CARB)  
Community Air Grants Program  
Clean Off-Road Equipment Voucher Incentive Program  
Sustainable Transportation Equity Project  
Supplemental Environmental Projects

California Energy Commission (CEC)  
Clean Transportation Program  
Electric Program Investment Charge Program (EPIC)  
EnerGIZE (Energy Infrastructure Incentives for ZE Commercial Vehicles)  
Energy Conservation Assistance Act (ECAA) program  
Optimizing Long-Duration Energy Storage to Improve Grid Resiliency and Reliability in Under-resourced Communities  
Regional Climate Collaboratives Program  
Reliable, Equitable, and Accessible Charging (REACH)  
Zero-Emission Transportation Manufacturing

Caltrans  
Clean California Local Grant Program  
Sustainable Transportation Planning Grant Awards

Integrated Climate Adaptation and Resiliency Program  
Climate Adaptation Planning Grant Program  
Community Resilience and Heat Grant Program  
Regional Resilience Planning and Implementation Grant

*Local*

City bond financing

*Other*

Corporate sponsorship  
Public-private partnership  
SCAG Last Mile Freight Program

## LEAD ORGANIZATION

City of San Bernardino

## SIMILAR PROJECTS ELSEWHERE

[Helsinki Metropolitan Smart & Clean Foundation](#)

[L.A.'s Green New Deal](#)

[Participatory Agreements for the Climate Transition \(PACTs\)](#)