

# Making Public Health an Important Part of Climate Action Plans



# Climate Action, Sustainability, and Adaptation Planning

- \* Local jurisdictions (cities and counties) are encouraged to develop GHG emissions inventories and reduction plans under AB 32 Scoping Plan, CEQA and Guidance from the AG's office
- \* Some communities are developing CAPS, broader sustainability plans or integrated Climate Mitigation and Adaptation Plans
- \* Some examples of regional planning:
  - \* LA (LARC-LA Regional Action on Climate and Sustainability)
  - Bay Area (Bay Area Climate and Energy Resilience Project)

# Why include Public Health in a Climate Action Plan?

- Climate change is a critical public health issue.
- Existing Public Health conditions intersect in important ways with climate mitigation efforts.
- Health is a strong motivator for action.
- Addressing health inequities is a key focus of Public Health agencies
  across the state, which intersects in critical ways with climate change
  impacts on .
- Including health issues in a CAP can promote greater efficiency, costeffectiveness, and enhance the collaborative nature of local government.

# Co-benefits: Transforming climate threat into opportunity for healthier communities

## **Health and Active Transportation**

- \* Increased Physical Activity
- Overweight and obesity

### Land Use Planning/Sustainable Communities

- \* Increased Physical Activity
- Connecting housing with amenities, safety

### **Local Access to Healthy Food**

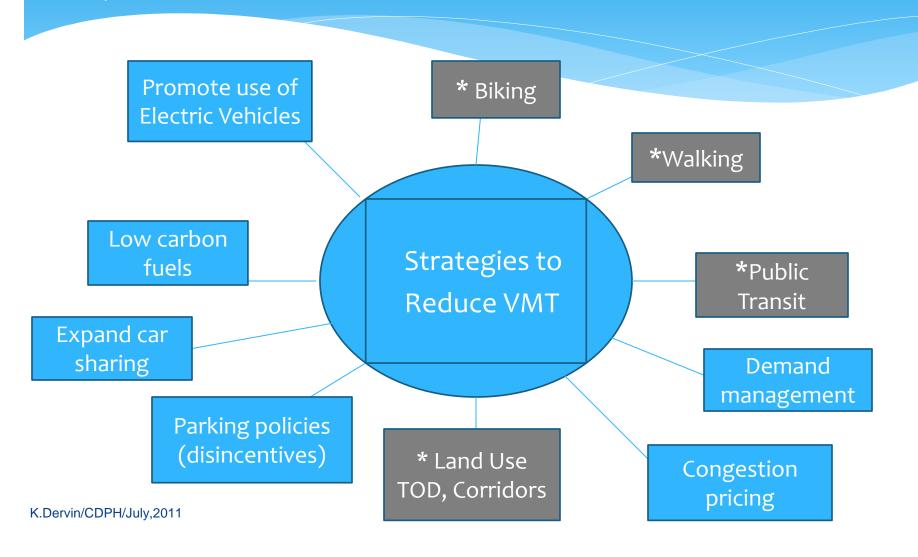
Increased local food security

#### Parks, Urban Greening, and Places to be Active

Noise, heat, physical activity, safety, mental health

## Maximize Health Co-benefits

(Promote physical activity while reducing GHG emissions)



## **Examples of CAPs with Health Content**

#### San Diego Climate Protection Action Plan

- Develop and adopt an urban heat island mitigation plan
- Link GHG reduction efforts with air quality goals

#### Sustainable Long Beach Action Plan

- Increase bike ridership 1% to 16% by 2016
- Establish community gardens in every park over 5 acres by 2020

#### Green Fresno Plan

• Promote the public health/environmental benefits of supporting locally grown and organic foods.

#### Oakland Energy and Climate Action Plan

- Accelerate completion of bike/pedestrian plans
- Develop urban forestry master plan
- Remove barriers to renter-occupied energy retrofit programs

# Guidance For Making Public Health Part of a Climate Action Plan

- Voluntary guidance and sample language for local planners and public health staff and organizations
- Expand on health effects of climate change \*
- ID co-benefit areas and discuss how to make connections
- Provide health resources and data sources
- Provide examples from existing CAPs
- Encourage collaboration planning 🛶 public health
- \* Available ~ Sept, 2011

# Resources

# **Climate Action Planning:**

- \* Cool California: www.coolcalifornia.org
- \* Institute for Local Government: www.ilg.org
- \* Local Government Commission: www.lgc.org
- \* ICLEI: www.iclei.org

# **Adaptation Planning:**

\* Cal Adapt: www.caladapt.org

