

CLIMATE ACTION TEAM Public Health Working Group

Near-Term Implementation Plan

Strategy 2: Outreach, Training, and Technical Assistance

CAT Working Group Overview: The Public Health Working Group of the Climate Action Team was established to address cross-cutting issues related to climate change and health. The purpose of the Working Group is to provide a forum for communication, coordination, and education across agencies and with stakeholders. The Working Group is responsible for providing public health input into the AB 32 implementation process, as well as other public health issues related to climate change mitigation and adaptation. Climate change will significantly increase disease burden in California. Public health impacts will result from more severe extreme heat and other weather events, a decline in air quality, increases in allergenic plant pollen, more frequent wildfires, altered environmental conditions that foster the spread of communicable and vector-borne diseases, and impacts on food supply, water quality, shelter, and mental health. Public health has important roles in preventing the most catastrophic climate outcomes through engagement in climate change mitigation, in ensuring that climate change adaptation efforts address likely public health impacts, and in public health preparedness for response to climate-related emergencies.

Working Group Agencies: California Department of Public Health (designated lead), California Air Resources Board, Office of Environmental Health Hazard Assessment, California Environmental Protection Agency, Department of Pesticide Regulation, California Natural Resources Agency, California Department of Fish and Game, California Department of Forestry & Fire Protection, California Department of Water Resources, California Department of Conservation, California Energy Commission, California Department of Food and Agriculture, California Occupational Safety and Health Administration, Local Health Departments, and Stakeholder Organizations.

Measure / Strategy

- A) **Description:** Through this Strategy, CDPH and partners will provide training and technical assistance to build the capacity of state and local agencies and organizations to promote mitigation strategies with health co-benefits and to respond to the public health risks of climate change.
- B) **Agencies Involved:** California Department of Public Health, California Conference of Local Health Officers, Metropolitan Planning Organizations, Regional Transportation Planning Agencies, Public Health and Environmental Stakeholder Organizations, Health in All Policies Task Force Member Agencies (see Task 2.5).
- C) **Scoping Plan/Adaptation Plan Reference:** This strategy is drawn from Public Health Strategy 2 (Educate, Empower and Engage California Citizens, Organizations, and Businesses to Take Actions to Reduce Individual and Community Vulnerability to Climate Change through Mitigation and Adaptation) and Public Health Strategy 6 (Work in Partnership with Multiple Agencies, e.g., Environmental, Agricultural, Transportation, and Education at Local, State, and Federal levels, as well as Business, Labor, Schools, and Community-Based Organizations), Near-Term Action (a), Institutional Capacity, in the 2009 California Climate Adaptation Strategy.

- D) Metrics: The metrics used to define success for this Strategy are process measures that vary with each Task (see enumerated Deliverables below).
- E) Crosscutting Issues: CDPH will consult with all CAT Working Groups on issues related to public health.
- F) Tasks and Deliverables:

Task 2.1: Expand CDPH Participation in other Climate Action Team Working Groups

1. Description: Nearly every CAT Working Group addresses issues related to public health, either directly or indirectly. In order to provide public health input into the discussions and decisions of other CAT Working Groups, CDPH will make staff available to attend meetings of other CAT Working Groups.
2. Deliverables: CDPH staff attend and participate as staff resources allow in other CAT Working Group meetings.
3. Agency Roles: CDPH will assign staff to participate in other CAT Working Group meetings. Other CAT Working Groups will inform CDPH staff when meetings are to occur.
4. Timeline: By August 2010, CDPH will contact chairpersons of other CAT Working Groups and offer to designate a CDPH staff person to regularly attend Working Group meetings. On an ongoing basis, CDPH staff will participate in the Working Group meetings, as staff resources allow.

Task 2.2: Conduct regional workshops on land use, transportation, and public health

1. Description: CDPH shall conduct workshops for staff from local health departments (LHDs) and metropolitan planning organizations (MPOs) on how to evaluate and consider community health impacts of land use, transportation, and housing choices. LHD and MPO staff together will explore data, tools, and opportunities to incorporate health impacts into modeling that each MPO is required to utilize to produce plans that address transportation and housing needs and meet regional greenhouse gas emission targets under SB 375.
2. Deliverables: One-day regional workshops on land use, transportation, and public health held in Oakland, Fresno, and Los Angeles.
3. Agency Roles: CDPH is the lead agency sponsoring the training. Training materials will be reviewed by California Department of Transportation and Governor's Office of Planning and Research staff. Attendees will be drawn from MPOs, LHDs, and Regional Transportation Planning Agencies throughout California. The California Conference of Local Health Officers, Bay Area Regional Health Inequities Initiative, and other organizations will assist with attendee recruitment. Urban Design 4 Health will provide consulting and training services. Funding is provided by The California Endowment.
4. Timeline: The 3 regional workshops will be held in June 2010.

Task 2.3: Increase the capacity of State agencies to conduct Health Impact Assessments

1. Description: CDPH will sponsor a 2-day training for CDPH staff and staff of other interested State agencies on health impact assessment.
2. Deliverables: A 2-day training session held.
3. Agency Roles: CDPH is the lead agency and sponsor of the training. HIA experts from academia, local health departments, and a non-profit organization will lead training

sessions. Other state agencies interested in learning about and conducting HIAs are welcome to attend.

4. Timeline: Training will be held in the summer of 2010.

Task 2.4: Increase the capacity of local health departments to address climate change

1. Description: CDPH will co-sponsor the California Conference of Local Health Officers (CCLHO) Spring 2010 Continuing Education Program, "Public Health in a Changing Environment." The Program, aimed at local health officers and local health department staff, will feature sessions on public health and climate change.
2. Deliverables: Conduct CCLHO Spring 2010 Continuing Education Program, "Public Health in a Changing Environment" sessions on Climate Change and Public Health Practice and Climate Change Mitigation through Land Use, Transportation and Planning.
3. Agency Roles: CCLHO is the primary sponsor, with CDPH co-sponsoring. Staff from LHDs and public health organizations will attend.
4. Timeline: Conference was held in May 2010.

Task 2.5: Staff and Facilitate the Health in All Policies Task Force

1. Description: In February 2010, Governor Arnold Schwarzenegger signed Executive Order S-04-10 to establish a Health in All Policies Task Force under the auspices of the Strategic Growth Council (SGC), to be facilitated and staffed by the California Department of Public Health. The Task Force shall identify priority programs, policies, and strategies to improve the health of Californians while advancing the SGC's goals of improving air and water quality, protecting natural resources and agricultural lands, increasing the availability of affordable housing, improving infrastructure systems, promoting public health, planning sustainable communities, and meeting the state's climate change goals.
2. Deliverables: Per E.O. S-04-10, the Task Force shall convene regular public workshops to present its workplan and shall solicit input from stakeholders in developing its report. SGC staff shall submit a report to the SGC outlining recommended programs, policies, and strategies for consideration, as well as describing the benefits for health, climate change, equity, and economic well-being that may result if the recommendations are implemented. The report shall be based on recommendations from the Task Force.
3. Agency Roles: CDPH will staff and facilitate the Task Force. 19 State agencies, departments, and offices will participate: Health and Human Services Agency, Department of Social Services, Department of Community Services and Development, Business, Transportation and Housing Agency, Department of Transportation, Department of Housing and Community Development, Office of Traffic Safety, Environmental Protection Agency, Air Resources Board, Natural Resources Agency, Department of Forestry and Fire Protection, Department of Parks and Recreation, Governor's Office of Planning and Research, Department of Food and Agriculture, Labor and Workforce Development Agency, Department of Finance, Governor's Office of Gang and Youth Violence Policy, Office of the Attorney General, and Department of Education. Public health organizations will provide consultation assistance.
4. Timeline: SGC staff shall submit a report to the SGC by December 8, 2010. At least 3 public forums to solicit stakeholder input will be conducted between August and December 2010.

Task 2.6: Strategic Planning for Climate Change

1. **Description:** Numerous programs with CDPH address climate change mitigation and adaptation. CDPH also plays an important role in supporting local health departments throughout California by providing guidance, training, and technical assistance to increase local capacity to address climate change and public health. CDPH will develop a strategic plan to address climate change and public health in California, based on a thorough assessment of its own and statewide capacity, needs, gaps, and opportunities.
2. **Deliverables:** CDPH Strategic Plan for Climate Change
3. **Agency Roles:** CDPH is the lead agency. Local health departments and public health stakeholders will provide input to CDPH through surveys and key informant interviews.
4. **Timeline:** Plan developed by October, 2010.

G) SUMMARY TABLE:

Deliverable	Agencies	Deadline
CDPH Staff Attend Other CAT Working Group Meetings	CDPH	August 2010 and ongoing
Regional Workshops (3) on Land Use, Transportation, and Public Health	CDPH	Hold in June 2010
HIA Training for CDPH and Other State Agency Staff	CDPH	Hold in Summer 2010
Continuing Education Program on Public Health in a Changing Environment	CDPH	Held in May 2010
Health in All Policies Task Force Public Forums (3)	CDPH	Hold by December 2010
Health in All Policies Task Force Report	CDPH, SGC	Submit to SGC by December 8, 2010
Departmental Strategic Plan for Climate Change	CDPH	Completed by October 2010