



Agenda Item Position Slip

City of Oceanside

Submitted On:

Jun 24, 2026, 06:20PM EDT

Email	kristen@brightgridenergy.org
Council Meeting Date	6/24/26
Agenda #	1
Subject	Public Comment - Agenda Item #1: Climate Action Plan Update
Position	In Favor
Name	First Name: Kristen Last Name: Baumes
Oceanside Resident	Yes
Full Address	Street Address: 150 Cregar St City: Oceanside State: CA Zip: 92054
Comments	<p>Dear City Clerk and Members of the Oceanside City Council,</p> <p>I am writing in support of the adoption of the 2026 Climate Action Plan Update and to offer comments for the record.</p> <p>FIRST: I SUPPORT ADOPTION TONIGHT</p> <p>The 2026 CAP Update is meaningfully stronger than the existing CAP, and the timing of adoption is strategically critical. With SB 79 taking effect July 1, 2026, adopting a rigorous CAP now ensures that all future transit-oriented development mandated by state law will be subject to these stronger GHG reduction standards. Staff should be commended for accelerating the adoption schedule to make this possible.</p> <p>CONCERN #1: THE 2045 AND 2050 TARGETS REMAIN UNMET</p> <p>The CAP Update openly acknowledges a gap of approximately 26,000 MT CO₂e in both the 2045 and 2050 reduction targets. While I recognize that CARB does not assign sole responsibility to individual cities for achieving statewide goals, Oceanside has positioned itself as a regional leader by being one of only four San Diego-area jurisdictions attempting to align with AB 1279. That leadership position carries an obligation to close this gap in the next update cycle, with identified measures, realistic funding, and accountability metrics.</p> <p>CONCERN #2: OVER-RELIANCE ON A SINGLE UNFUNDED MEASURE</p>

The most significant structural weakness in the CAP is that the Energy Supply and Building Construction sector, specifically the retrofitting of approximately 60,000 buildings to electric water heating and HVAC, accounts for the overwhelming majority of projected GHG reductions. This single measure carries the plan's emissions math, yet no funded program or implementation pathway currently exists to deliver it at scale.

Without a concrete funding mechanism, this measure remains aspirational rather than actionable. I urge the Council to direct staff to prioritize development of a funded implementation program for building electrification retrofits as an early deliverable following adoption.

REQUEST #1: STRENGTHEN THE CAP CONSISTENCY CHECKLIST TO INCENTIVIZE ALL-ELECTRIC RESIDENTIAL CONSTRUCTION

I understand the CAP Consistency Checklist will be updated administratively by staff rather than formally adopted by Council tonight. This actually represents an opportunity. The existing Building Code already requires new residential construction to be electric-ready. It is less costly to build all-electric from the start than to install gas infrastructure and convert later. I urge staff to incorporate strong incentives for all-electric residential construction into the updated Checklist, and I ask that Council members go on record tonight expressing support for this direction.

REQUEST #2: COMMIT TO AN ACCELERATED CAP UPDATE TIED TO SB 79 GROWTH PROJECTIONS

The CAP Update itself acknowledges that SB 79's mandated upzoning near transit corridors may materially change Oceanside's growth assumptions after adoption. Rather than waiting the standard five years for the next update cycle, I urge the Council to commit tonight to an accelerated CAP revision once SB 79 growth projections are known, with an explicit goal of closing the 2045 and 2050 emissions gaps through realistic, funded actions.

Thank you for your leadership on this issue, your honesty in where we stand, and for the opportunity to comment.

Respectfully,

Kristen Baumes

Stephanie Rojas

From: Patti Langen <plangen@bvaudubon.org>
Sent: Wednesday, June 24, 2026 3:54 PM
To: City Council; City Clerk
Subject: Comments on General Plan
Attachments: BVAS Comments on Oceanside General Plan.pdf

EXTERNAL MESSAGE: Use caution when opening attachments, clicking links, or responding. When in doubt, please contact CustomerCare@oceansideca.org

Honorable Mayor and City Council,

On behalf of Buena Vista Audubon Society, please see the attached comment letter regarding Item #1 on the June 24 City Council Meeting Agenda.

Thank you for considering our comments.

Patti Langen
President, Buena Vista Audubon Society





Buena Vista Audubon Society
PO Box 480
Oceanside, CA 92049-0480

Oceanside City Council

June 24, 2026

Sent Via Email to Council@oceansideca.org, CityClerk@oceansideca.org

Subject: Comments on General Plan

Honorable Mayor and City Council:

On behalf of Buena Vista Audubon Society, I would like to thank you for the City's efforts in updating and improving the General Plan, specifically as it pertains to Vital and Sustainable Resources. Thank you for recognizing that bird-window collisions in the US account for up to 1 billion bird deaths every year, and for adding some language to VSR 5-30 to try to address this issue.

However, the language as currently written is vague and does not accurately reflect recommendations in the CalGreen Bird Friendly Building Design code. The current language states: "New development should consider implementing methods to minimize bird collisions for all openings above 40 feet, such as compliance with the 2x4 pattern rule, or other means available."

VSR 5-30 refers to "all openings above 40 feet," which appears to be derived from the Bird-Friendly Building Design Standards. However, the reference to 40 feet is presented without context and omits important information, including bird-safe design considerations for the first 40 feet of a building. In addition, VSR 5-30 does not specifically reference the Bird-Friendly Building Design Standards. Without a clear reference to the applicable standards or Building Code requirements, it is unclear what guidance will be used to determine compliance.

In order to reduce bird collisions and provide greater clarity to developers and staff, we request that VSR policy 5-30 be revised to include the following language from the CalGreen Building Standards Code A5.107.1 to A5.107.3:

- a. "No less than 90% of building elevation from grade to 40 feet, and no less than 60% of building elevation 40 feet and higher, shall incorporate bird-friendly mitigation strategies."

Or

- b. "No less than 90% of building elevation from grade to 40 feet, and no less than 60% of building elevation 40 feet and higher, shall incorporate bird-friendly mitigation

strategies as described in California Green Building Standards Code A5.107.1 to A5.107.3.”

In addition, recognizing the importance of wildlife connectivity, we request that the City add language to recognize the habitat linkage between Guajome Regional Park and Jeffries Ranch Preserve. This linkage should be prioritized in the City’s conservation planning, and included in the future Biological Resource Protection Ordinance.

Sincerely,

Patti Langen
President
Buena Vista Audubon Society