

Alameda County Legislative Priorities: Climate, Environment, and Sustainability

Alameda County aims to support a healthy environment where thriving and resilient communities enjoy livable neighborhoods and a prosperous economy. Climate change has increased the frequency and intensity of extreme weather events and climate-related disasters such as heatwaves, wildfires, droughts, and floods. These threaten the well-being, health, and economic vitality of residents, with an unequal burden on low-income households that face greater exposure to environmental health risks. The County supports comprehensive solutions that address the needs of the most climate-vulnerable communities.

State and federal policies can support local government efforts to reduce greenhouse gas emissions, help communities prepare and adapt to climate change, and build a clean, green economy. In alignment with Board-approved **Vision 2036** and the **2025-2026 Legislative Platform**, Alameda County aims to support legislation and funding to:



- Reduce greenhouse gas emissions by shifting away from fossil fuels to **clean energy** in residential, commercial, and public buildings. Modernize the electrical grid and advance clean energy supply and distribution.
- Help communities prepare and **adapt to climate change impacts** such as wildfires, extreme heat, flooding, and sea-level rise by reducing climate risks, increasing emergency preparedness, and building the adaptive capacity of community-managed resilience hubs to include services such as an uninterrupted supply of clean energy.
- Minimize carbon emissions from the lifecycle of goods and materials by encouraging **reuse and repair** to eliminate waste, keeping resources and materials in circulation, and adopting **sustainable farming** practices.
- Support local agricultural production, protect **working landscapes**, and protect **public lands and natural ecosystems** to benefit public health and ensure access to clean air, water, and land for all communities.
- Promote **water conservation and water efficiency** and provide a reliable supply of safe and clean water.
- Advance **clean transportation strategies** such as public transit, active transportation, research on alternative fuels, and electric vehicle infrastructure.
- Ensure access to educational opportunities that help build a modern, **climate-ready workforce** and expand access to programs that increase the number of qualified workers in the clean energy sector.
- Reduce exposure to **environmental health hazards and climate threats** that affect vulnerable populations.