

Air Quality

1. We would like to use energy and water use reduction and reduced VMT as two strategies to improve air quality. To implement this plan, we would like to encourage increasing the water and energy efficiency of the existing buildings in Carson. In addition, we would like to understand the travel patterns for our 97,000 residents and the 68,000 people who work in Carson. We would like to use the travel pattern behavior to form policy decisions that would encourage people to use alternative means of transportation including walking, biking, carpooling, car sharing, and using mass transit to reduce vehicle miles traveled. We believe these actions will be most effective for our community and will complement our efforts that we have already placed on creating a high density mixed use core along Carson Street. Our mixed use district will especially benefit by an efficient mass transit that requires further study included with this proposal. The proposal will also educate people to conserve non-renewable energy by using alternative fuels or more fuel efficient cars.
2. The Action Plan and its implementation tools will quantify reduction of greenhouse gas emission levels. We would like our Action Plan to include a model that estimates the typical emission reduction for a typical home for each of the energy efficiency mitigation measures such as changing windows, upgraded insulation, heating and air conditioning units, upgrading plumbing fixtures with water efficient units, removing grass and replacing it with water efficient plants, etc. We believe this information will encourage the home owners to take the steps necessary in making intelligent and informed home improvement decisions that will reduce their utility bills, increase their property values, and reduce greenhouse gas emissions and water at the same time. We further expect the Action Plan to require long term monitoring of the trip patterns that are either generated in Carson (by the residents) or by trips that end in Carson (by the work force). This monitoring will allow quantification of the reduction in emissions. The proposal will conduct surveys on car ownership trends in the city with alternative energy or more fuel efficiency.
3. The proposed Action Plan will be prepared consistent with the Air Resources Board's State Implementation Plan(s) and the Air Resources Board's (ARB's) newly proposed greenhouse gas emission reduction goals.

Water Quality

4. The City's proposal reduces water demand which in turn makes water available to others and reduces urban runoff. It is proposing to reduce water consumption both inside and outside the homes and businesses by utilizing retrofit programs and water efficient landscaping and irrigation systems. Reducing VMTs will have positive impact in water quality as the amount of contaminants associated with traveling cars would be reduced.
5. The impacts to water quality will be positive but negligible; however, the city will monitor the reduction in water bills and the reduced VMTs through surveys.
6. The proposal is consistent with the Integrated Regional Water Management Plan (Los Angeles Region) from a water quality and water supply point of view as it promotes water efficiency and reduces VMT which would reduce the contaminants produced by vehicles washed into the water supply.

