File No. 251192

Committee Item	No.	
Board Item No.	47	

COMMITTEE/BOARD OF SUPERVISORS

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Prepared by: Lisa Lew	Date: December 5, 2025	
Prepared by: Lisa Lew Date: December 5, 2025 Prepared by: Date: December 5, 2025		

1	[Affirming San Francisco's Commitment to Decarbonization Efforts that Center Environmental
2	Justice]
3	Resolution affirming San Francisco's commitment to advancing equitable building
4	decarbonization efforts in the State of California by centering the leadership and needs
5	of environmental justice communities.
6	
7	WHEREAS, The draft 2025 San Francisco Climate Action Plan (April 2025)
8	(https://www.sfenvironment.org/CAP-2025) not only sets ambitious targets for the City to
9	reduce community-wide greenhouse gas emissions (GHGs) by 2030, and reduce GHGs to
10	net-zero by 2040, it also proposes among its top five Energy Supply strategies that San
11	Francisco plan for the equitable decommissioning of the City's natural gas system; and
12	WHEREAS, Buildings represent the City's second-highest source
13	(https://www.sf.gov/datagreenhouse-gas-emissions) of GHG emissions after transportation
14	and must be decarbonized for the City to reach its 2025 Climate Action Plan targets; and
15	WHEREAS, Studies show (https://pubmed.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/23962958/) methane gas
16	released from the sourcing and transportation of fossil gas used in buildings is 84 times more
17	potent than carbon dioxide over a 20-year period than other fuels for climate change; and
18	WHEREAS, Structural housing disinvestment, redlining, and discrimination have long
19	undermined economic and social stability in urban frontline environmental justice communities
20	across California and the United States, which disproportionately have been hit first and worst
21	by both the climate crisis and by gentrification; and
22	WHEREAS, Burning gas for cooking and heating releases harmful pollutants like
23	nitrogen dioxide, carbon monoxide, and formaldehyde, which are linked to respiratory
24	illnesses, asthma, and cardiovascular disease, and studies show

Supervisors Fielder; Melgar, Chen, Mahmood **BOARD OF SUPERVISORS**

1	(https://pubmed.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/23962958/) that children in homes with gas stoves have a
2	42% increased risk of having current asthma; and

WHEREAS, These indoor air quality dangers hit hardest in low-income communities and communities of color, which already are exposed to poor outdoor air quality and its accompanying negative health impacts; and

WHEREAS, Effectively addressing the intersecting challenges of climate change, housing displacement, and indoor air quality requires an equitable, holistic approach to building decarbonization that not only curbs GHGs that lead to the negative impacts from the climate crisis, but also reduces housing-related and other forms of economic disparity; protects tenants, low-income residents, and building owners from displacement; and supports the climate resilience of low-income housing; and

WHEREAS, Whole-home green retrofits, through relatively less well known compared to one-off appliance upgrade approaches that do not lead to whole building electrification, are critical to equitable building decarbonization efforts because they provide a holistic approach to reducing GHGs, while improving indoor air quality for residents, address health and safety issues that often cause homes to be passed for many electrification programs, reduce tenants' utility bills; and protect residents from extreme heat and power outages; and

WHEREAS, Green retrofits must include explicit tenant protections to prevent displacement, and true environmental justice means healthy, dignified homes where working families are not forced to choose between staying warm or cool, breathing safely, and remaining in their homes; and

WHEREAS, An equitable building decarbonization transition requires the active participation of climate-critical trades; both whole-home retrofits and appliance upgrades that are a path to whole building electrification are an opportunity for the City to strengthen and build a high-road workforce that will support and implement the City's climate, housing and

1	business development goals; and inserting contractor training, preparedness, and capacity
2	building initiatives in tandem with decarbonization efforts ensures an equitable implementation
3	approach; and
4	WHEREAS, Environmental justice community-based organizations, such as People
5	Organizing to Demand Environmental & Economic Rights (PODER) (https://podersf.org/), the
6	Emerald Cities Collaborative Northern California (ECC) (https://emeraldcities.org), South of
7	Market Community Action Network (SOMCAN) (https://www.somcan.org/), and Bay View
8	Hunter's Point Community Advocates (BVHPCA) (https://bvhpadvocates.org/) are leading the
9	way on equitable building decarbonization, including advocacy for whole-home retrofit
10	approaches to electrification; and
11	WHEREAS, Having established the Equitable Building Decarbonization (EBD) Program
12	through the passage of Assembly Bill 209
13	(https://legiscan.com/CA/text/AB209/id/2606026#:~:text=California%20Assembly%20Bill%202
14	09%20(AB%20209)%20is,*%20**Section%206254.5%20of%20the%20Government%20Code
15	**) in 2022, to reduce GHGs in homes and advance energy equity, California is a national and
16	global public policy leader in reducing GHGs through equitable building decarbonization; and
17	WHEREAS, In 2024, the California legislature passed Senate Bill 1221 (SB1221)
18	(https://www.cpuc.ca.gov/industries-and-topics/natural-gas/SB-1221-implementation),
19	requiring the California Public Utilities Commission to establish a voluntary zonal building
20	decarbonization program and to designate priority neighborhoods, where a total of up to thirty
21	pilot zonal decarbonization projects statewide will be implemented that facilitate the transition
22	of residents' natural gas service to cost-effective, zero-emission alternatives; and
23	WHEREAS, The draft 2025 Climate Action Plan proposes that the City's Department of
24	Environment conduct community outreach to potential SB1221 gas decommissioning pilot
25	sites in 2026; and

1	WHEREAS, Robust grassroots organizing is critical to obtaining community consent for
2	a zonal project, given that SB1221 requires that no less than 67% of the property owners with
3	natural gas service within the pilot project boundary consent to the pilot project; and
4	WHEREAS, California's building decarbonization programs like SB1221 risk inequitably
5	excluding environmental justice communities, if they do not utilize maps developed by
6	environmental justice communities to define priority zones for program implementation; and
7	WHEREAS, In January 2023, an Environmental Justice Communities Map
8	(https://generalplan.sfplanning.org/images/environmental-justice-
9	framework/Environmental_Justice_Communities-Map.pdf) of disadvantaged communities was
10	created in consultation with environmental justice communities to meet the needs of Senate
11	Bill 1000 (SB1000)
12	(https://leginfo.legislature.ca.gov/faces/billNavClient.xhtml?bill_id=201520160SB1000) and
13	exists as a tool available for use in other equitable building decarbonization efforts in
14	California, such as SB1221; and
15	WHEREAS, The Climate Equity Hub, founded through strong community leadership
16	and engagement, emerged from the Energy Efficiency Coordinating Committee established in
17	2015, whose participating organizations now serve on the Hub's Advisory Committee, and
18	continue to refine the Hub's equitable building electrification offerings through ongoing
19	stakeholder input; and
20	WHEREAS, City programs such as the Climate Equity Hub help facilitate
21	implementation of the Equitable Building Decarbonization Program by acting as centralized
22	point of contact and coordinating a service portal for affordable electrification in environmental
23	justice communities that have disproportionately borne the brunt of air pollution and other
24	environmental hazards; and

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1	of this program through partnerships with community-based organizations such as PODER,
2	ECC, and BVHPCA; and, be it
3	FURTHER RESOLVED, The Board of Supervisors fully supports an SB1221 pilot in the
4	Mission District, the Tenderloin District, or elsewhere in San Francisco, with the stated goal of
5	modeling equitable whole-home electrification for an entire city block that will improve
6	housing, public health, and environmental outcomes for working-class residents of color; and
7	commits to being an active and avid partner in supporting successful implementation by
8	identifying at least one staff member to participate in regular meetings and to support
9	coordination across relevant departments; and, be it
10	FURTHER RESOLVED, The Board of Supervisors strongly urges efforts to increase
11	funding to continue implementing the Climate Action Plan and ensure that all San Franciscans
12	benefit from the transition to an all-electric, net-zero emission City; and, be it
13	FURTHER RESOLVED, The Board of Supervisors urges the San Francisco
14	Environment Department and the Mayor's Office of Housing & Community Development to
15	explore partnerships with community-based environmental justice organizations to continue
16	implementing and scaling equitable building decarbonization projects in neighborhoods
17	throughout the City; and, be it
18	FURTHER RESOLVED, The Board of Supervisors directs the Clerk of the Board to
19	transmit copies of this Resolution to the Mayor's Office of Housing & Community
20	Development, the San Francisco Environment Department, the California Public Utilities
21	Commission, and the City's State Legislature.
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SB-1000 Land use: general plans: safety and environmental justice. (2015-2016)

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Senate Bill No. 1000

CHAPTER 587

An act to amend Section 65302 of the Government Code, relating to land use.

[Approved by Governor September 24, 2016. Filed with Secretary of State September 24, 2016.]

LEGISLATIVE COUNSEL'S DIGEST

SB 1000, Leyva. Land use: general plans: safety and environmental justice.

(1) The Planning and Zoning Law requires the legislative body of each county and city to adopt a comprehensive, long-term general plan for the physical development of the county or city and of any land outside its boundaries that bears relation to its planning. That law requires this general plan to include several elements, including, among others, a safety element for the protection of the community from unreasonable risks associated with the effects of various geologic hazards, flooding, wildland and urban fires, and climate adaptation and resilience strategies. That law requires that the safety element be reviewed and updated, in the case of flooding and fire hazards, upon the next revision of the housing element after specified dates or, in the case of climate adaptation and resilience strategies, upon either the next revision of a local hazard mitigation plan after a specified date or on or before January 1, 2022, as applicable. That law also requires, after the initial revision of the safety element to address flooding, fires, and climate adaptation and resilience strategies, that for each subsequent revision the planning agency review and, if necessary, revise the safety element to identify new information that was not available during the previous revision of the safety element.

This bill would instead require a planning agency to review and revise the safety element to identify new information, as described above, only to address flooding and fires.

This bill would, in addition, add to the required elements of the general plan an environmental justice element, or related goals, policies, and objectives integrated in other elements, that identifies disadvantaged communities, as defined, within the area covered by the general plan of the city, county, or city and county, if the city, county, or city and county has a disadvantaged community. The bill would also require the environmental justice element, or related environmental justice goals, policies, and objectives integrated in other elements, to identify objectives and policies to reduce the unique or compounded health risks in disadvantaged communities, as specified, identify objectives and policies to promote civil engagement in the public decisionmaking process, and identify objectives and policies that prioritize improvements and programs that address the needs of disadvantaged communities. The bill would require the environmental justice element, or the environmental justice goals, policies, and objectives in other elements, to be adopted or reviewed upon the adoption or next revision of 2 or more elements concurrently on or after January 1, 2018. By adding to the duties of county and city officials, this bill would impose a state-mandated local program.

- (2) This bill would incorporate additional changes to Section 65302 of the Government Code, proposed by AB 2651 that would become operative only if this bill and AB 2651 are enacted and become effective on or before January 1, 2017, and this bill is chaptered last.
- (3) The California Constitution requires the state to reimburse local agencies and school districts for certain costs mandated by the state. Statutory provisions establish procedures for making that reimbursement.

This bill would provide that no reimbursement is required by this act for a specified reason.

Vote: majority Appropriation: no Fiscal Committee: yes Local Program: yes

THE PEOPLE OF THE STATE OF CALIFORNIA DO ENACT AS FOLLOWS:

SECTION 1. Section 65302 of the Government Code is amended to read:

- **65302.** The general plan shall consist of a statement of development policies and shall include a diagram or diagrams and text setting forth objectives, principles, standards, and plan proposals. The plan shall include the following elements:
- (a) A land use element that designates the proposed general distribution and general location and extent of the uses of the land for housing, business, industry, open space, including agriculture, natural resources, recreation, and enjoyment of scenic beauty, education, public buildings and grounds, solid and liquid waste disposal facilities, and other categories of public and private uses of land. The location and designation of the extent of the uses of the land for public and private uses shall consider the identification of land and natural resources pursuant to paragraph (3) of subdivision (d). The land use element shall include a statement of the standards of population density and building intensity recommended for the various districts and other territory covered by the plan. The land use element shall identify and annually review those areas covered by the plan that are subject to flooding identified by flood plain mapping prepared by the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) or the Department of Water Resources. The land use element shall also do both of the following:
 - (1) Designate in a land use category that provides for timber production those parcels of real property zoned for timberland production pursuant to the California Timberland Productivity Act of 1982 (Chapter 6.7 (commencing with Section 51100) of Part 1 of Division 1 of Title 5).
 - (2) Consider the impact of new growth on military readiness activities carried out on military bases, installations, and operating and training areas, when proposing zoning ordinances or designating land uses covered by the general plan for land, or other territory adjacent to military facilities, or underlying designated military aviation routes and airspace.
 - (A) In determining the impact of new growth on military readiness activities, information provided by military facilities shall be considered. Cities and counties shall address military impacts based on information from the military and other sources.
 - (B) The following definitions govern this paragraph:
 - (i) "Military readiness activities" mean all of the following:
 - (I) Training, support, and operations that prepare the men and women of the military for combat.
 - (II) Operation, maintenance, and security of any military installation.
 - (III) Testing of military equipment, vehicles, weapons, and sensors for proper operation or suitability for combat use.
 - (ii) "Military installation" means a base, camp, post, station, yard, center, homeport facility for any ship, or other activity under the jurisdiction of the United States Department of Defense as defined in paragraph (1) of subsection (g) of Section 2687 of Title 10 of the United States Code.
- (b) (1) A circulation element consisting of the general location and extent of existing and proposed major thoroughfares, transportation routes, terminals, any military airports and ports, and other local public utilities and facilities, all correlated with the land use element of the plan.
 - (2) (A) Commencing January 1, 2011, upon any substantive revision of the circulation element, the legislative body shall modify the circulation element to plan for a balanced, multimodal transportation network that meets

the needs of all users of streets, roads, and highways for safe and convenient travel in a manner that is suitable to the rural, suburban, or urban context of the general plan.

- (B) For purposes of this paragraph, "users of streets, roads, and highways" mean bicyclists, children, persons with disabilities, motorists, movers of commercial goods, pedestrians, users of public transportation, and seniors.
- (c) A housing element as provided in Article 10.6 (commencing with Section 65580).
- (d) (1) A conservation element for the conservation, development, and utilization of natural resources including water and its hydraulic force, forests, soils, rivers and other waters, harbors, fisheries, wildlife, minerals, and other natural resources. The conservation element shall consider the effect of development within the jurisdiction, as described in the land use element, on natural resources located on public lands, including military installations. That portion of the conservation element including waters shall be developed in coordination with any countywide water agency and with all district and city agencies, including flood management, water conservation, or groundwater agencies that have developed, served, controlled, managed, or conserved water of any type for any purpose in the county or city for which the plan is prepared. Coordination shall include the discussion and evaluation of any water supply and demand information described in Section 65352.5, if that information has been submitted by the water agency to the city or county.
 - (2) The conservation element may also cover all of the following:
 - (A) The reclamation of land and waters.
 - (B) Prevention and control of the pollution of streams and other waters.
 - (C) Regulation of the use of land in stream channels and other areas required for the accomplishment of the conservation plan.
 - (D) Prevention, control, and correction of the erosion of soils, beaches, and shores.
 - (E) Protection of watersheds.
 - (F) The location, quantity and quality of the rock, sand, and gravel resources.
 - (3) Upon the next revision of the housing element on or after January 1, 2009, the conservation element shall identify rivers, creeks, streams, flood corridors, riparian habitats, and land that may accommodate floodwater for purposes of groundwater recharge and stormwater management.
- (e) An open-space element as provided in Article 10.5 (commencing with Section 65560).
- (f) (1) A noise element that shall identify and appraise noise problems in the community. The noise element shall analyze and quantify, to the extent practicable, as determined by the legislative body, current and projected noise levels for all of the following sources:
 - (A) Highways and freeways.
 - (B) Primary arterials and major local streets.
 - (C) Passenger and freight online railroad operations and ground rapid transit systems.
 - (D) Commercial, general aviation, heliport, helistop, and military airport operations, aircraft overflights, jet engine test stands, and all other ground facilities and maintenance functions related to airport operation.
 - (E) Local industrial plants, including, but not limited to, railroad classification yards.
 - (F) Other ground stationary noise sources, including, but not limited to, military installations, identified by local agencies as contributing to the community noise environment.
 - (2) Noise contours shall be shown for all of these sources and stated in terms of community noise equivalent level (CNEL) or day-night average sound level (Ldn). The noise contours shall be prepared on the basis of noise monitoring or following generally accepted noise modeling techniques for the various sources identified in paragraphs (1) to (6), inclusive.
 - (3) The noise contours shall be used as a guide for establishing a pattern of land uses in the land use element that minimizes the exposure of community residents to excessive noise.

- (4) The noise element shall include implementation measures and possible solutions that address existing and foreseeable noise problems, if any. The adopted noise element shall serve as a guideline for compliance with the state's noise insulation standards.
- (g) (1) A safety element for the protection of the community from any unreasonable risks associated with the effects of seismically induced surface rupture, ground shaking, ground failure, tsunami, seiche, and dam failure; slope instability leading to mudslides and landslides; subsidence; liquefaction; and other seismic hazards identified pursuant to Chapter 7.8 (commencing with Section 2690) of Division 2 of the Public Resources Code, and other geologic hazards known to the legislative body; flooding; and wildland and urban fires. The safety element shall include mapping of known seismic and other geologic hazards. It shall also address evacuation routes, military installations, peakload water supply requirements, and minimum road widths and clearances around structures, as those items relate to identified fire and geologic hazards.
 - (2) The safety element, upon the next revision of the housing element on or after January 1, 2009, shall also do the following:
 - (A) Identify information regarding flood hazards, including, but not limited to, the following:
 - (i) Flood hazard zones. As used in this subdivision, "flood hazard zone" means an area subject to flooding that is delineated as either a special hazard area or an area of moderate or minimal hazard on an official flood insurance rate map issued by the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA). The identification of a flood hazard zone does not imply that areas outside the flood hazard zones or uses permitted within flood hazard zones will be free from flooding or flood damage.
 - (ii) National Flood Insurance Program maps published by FEMA.
 - (iii) Information about flood hazards that is available from the United States Army Corps of Engineers.
 - (iv) Designated floodway maps that are available from the Central Valley Flood Protection Board.
 - (v) Dam failure inundation maps prepared pursuant to Section 8589.5 that are available from the Office of Emergency Services.
 - (vi) Awareness Floodplain Mapping Program maps and 200-year flood plain maps that are or may be available from, or accepted by, the Department of Water Resources.
 - (vii) Maps of levee protection zones.
 - (viii) Areas subject to inundation in the event of the failure of project or nonproject levees or floodwalls.
 - (ix) Historical data on flooding, including locally prepared maps of areas that are subject to flooding, areas that are vulnerable to flooding after wildfires, and sites that have been repeatedly damaged by flooding.
 - (x) Existing and planned development in flood hazard zones, including structures, roads, utilities, and essential public facilities.
 - (xi) Local, state, and federal agencies with responsibility for flood protection, including special districts and local offices of emergency services.
 - (B) Establish a set of comprehensive goals, policies, and objectives based on the information identified pursuant to subparagraph (A), for the protection of the community from the unreasonable risks of flooding, including, but not limited to:
 - (i) Avoiding or minimizing the risks of flooding to new development.
 - (ii) Evaluating whether new development should be located in flood hazard zones, and identifying construction methods or other methods to minimize damage if new development is located in flood hazard zones.
 - (iii) Maintaining the structural and operational integrity of essential public facilities during flooding.
 - (iv) Locating, when feasible, new essential public facilities outside of flood hazard zones, including hospitals and health care facilities, emergency shelters, fire stations, emergency command centers, and

emergency communications facilities or identifying construction methods or other methods to minimize damage if these facilities are located in flood hazard zones.

- (v) Establishing cooperative working relationships among public agencies with responsibility for flood protection.
- (C) Establish a set of feasible implementation measures designed to carry out the goals, policies, and objectives established pursuant to subparagraph (B).
- (3) Upon the next revision of the housing element on or after January 1, 2014, the safety element shall be reviewed and updated as necessary to address the risk of fire for land classified as state responsibility areas, as defined in Section 4102 of the Public Resources Code, and land classified as very high fire hazard severity zones, as defined in Section 51177. This review shall consider the advice included in the Office of Planning and Research's most recent publication of "Fire Hazard Planning, General Plan Technical Advice Series" and shall also include all of the following:
 - (A) Information regarding fire hazards, including, but not limited to, all of the following:
 - (i) Fire hazard severity zone maps available from the Department of Forestry and Fire Protection.
 - (ii) Any historical data on wildfires available from local agencies or a reference to where the data can be found
 - (iii) Information about wildfire hazard areas that may be available from the United States Geological Survey.
 - (iv) General location and distribution of existing and planned uses of land in very high fire hazard severity zones and in state responsibility areas, including structures, roads, utilities, and essential public facilities. The location and distribution of planned uses of land shall not require defensible space compliance measures required by state law or local ordinance to occur on publicly owned lands or open-space designations of homeowner associations.
 - (v) Local, state, and federal agencies with responsibility for fire protection, including special districts and local offices of emergency services.
 - (B) A set of goals, policies, and objectives based on the information identified pursuant to subparagraph (A) for the protection of the community from the unreasonable risk of wildfire.
 - (C) A set of feasible implementation measures designed to carry out the goals, policies, and objectives based on the information identified pursuant to subparagraph (B) including, but not limited to, all of the following:
 - (i) Avoiding or minimizing the wildfire hazards associated with new uses of land.
 - (ii) Locating, when feasible, new essential public facilities outside of high fire risk areas, including, but not limited to, hospitals and health care facilities, emergency shelters, emergency command centers, and emergency communications facilities, or identifying construction methods or other methods to minimize damage if these facilities are located in a state responsibility area or very high fire hazard severity zone.
 - (iii) Designing adequate infrastructure if a new development is located in a state responsibility area or in a very high fire hazard severity zone, including safe access for emergency response vehicles, visible street signs, and water supplies for structural fire suppression.
 - (iv) Working cooperatively with public agencies with responsibility for fire protection.
 - (D) If a city or county has adopted a fire safety plan or document separate from the general plan, an attachment of, or reference to, a city or county's adopted fire safety plan or document that fulfills commensurate goals and objectives and contains information required pursuant to this paragraph.
- (4) Upon the next revision of a local hazard mitigation plan, adopted in accordance with the federal Disaster Mitigation Act of 2000 (Public Law 106-390), on or after January 1, 2017, or, if a local jurisdiction has not adopted a local hazard mitigation plan, beginning on or before January 1, 2022, the safety element shall be reviewed and updated as necessary to address climate adaptation and resiliency strategies applicable to the city or county. This review shall consider advice provided in the Office of Planning and Research's General Plan Guidelines and shall include all of the following:

- (A) (i) A vulnerability assessment that identifies the risks that climate change poses to the local jurisdiction and the geographic areas at risk from climate change impacts, including, but not limited to, an assessment of how climate change may affect the risks addressed pursuant to paragraphs (2) and (3).
 - (ii) Information that may be available from federal, state, regional, and local agencies that will assist in developing the vulnerability assessment and the adaptation policies and strategies required pursuant to subparagraph (B), including, but not limited to, all of the following:
 - (I) Information from the Internet-based Cal-Adapt tool.
 - (II) Information from the most recent version of the California Adaptation Planning Guide.
 - (III) Information from local agencies on the types of assets, resources, and populations that will be sensitive to various climate change exposures.
 - (IV) Information from local agencies on their current ability to deal with the impacts of climate change.
 - (V) Historical data on natural events and hazards, including locally prepared maps of areas subject to previous risk, areas that are vulnerable, and sites that have been repeatedly damaged.
 - (VI) Existing and planned development in identified at-risk areas, including structures, roads, utilities, and essential public facilities.
 - (VII) Federal, state, regional, and local agencies with responsibility for the protection of public health and safety and the environment, including special districts and local offices of emergency services.
- (B) A set of adaptation and resilience goals, policies, and objectives based on the information specified in subparagraph (A) for the protection of the community.
- (C) A set of feasible implementation measures designed to carry out the goals, policies, and objectives identified pursuant to subparagraph (B) including, but not limited to, all of the following:
 - (i) Feasible methods to avoid or minimize climate change impacts associated with new uses of land.
 - (ii) The location, when feasible, of new essential public facilities outside of at-risk areas, including, but not limited to, hospitals and health care facilities, emergency shelters, emergency command centers, and emergency communications facilities, or identifying construction methods or other methods to minimize damage if these facilities are located in at-risk areas.
 - (iii) The designation of adequate and feasible infrastructure located in an at-risk area.
 - (iv) Guidelines for working cooperatively with relevant local, regional, state, and federal agencies.
 - (v) The identification of natural infrastructure that may be used in adaptation projects, where feasible. Where feasible, the plan shall use existing natural features and ecosystem processes, or the restoration of natural features and ecosystem processes, when developing alternatives for consideration. For the purposes of this clause, "natural infrastructure" means the preservation or restoration of ecological systems, or utilization of engineered systems that use ecological processes, to increase resiliency to climate change, manage other environmental hazards, or both. This may include, but is not limited to, floodplain and wetlands restoration or preservation, combining levees with restored natural systems to reduce flood risk, and urban tree planting to mitigate high heat days.
- (D) (i) If a city or county has adopted the local hazard mitigation plan, or other climate adaptation plan or document that fulfills commensurate goals and objectives and contains the information required pursuant to this paragraph, separate from the general plan, an attachment of, or reference to, the local hazard mitigation plan or other climate adaptation plan or document.
 - (ii) Cities or counties that have an adopted hazard mitigation plan, or other climate adaptation plan or document that substantially complies with this section, or have substantially equivalent provisions to this subdivision in their general plans, may use that information in the safety element to comply with this subdivision, and shall summarize and incorporate by reference into the safety element the other general plan provisions, climate adaptation plan or document, specifically showing how each requirement of this subdivision has been met.

- (5) After the initial revision of the safety element pursuant to paragraphs (2) and (3) upon each revision of the housing element, the planning agency shall review and, if necessary, revise the safety element to identify new information relating to flood and fire hazards that was not available during the previous revision of the safety element.
- (6) Cities and counties that have flood plain management ordinances that have been approved by FEMA that substantially comply with this section, or have substantially equivalent provisions to this subdivision in their general plans, may use that information in the safety element to comply with this subdivision, and shall summarize and incorporate by reference into the safety element the other general plan provisions or the flood plain ordinance, specifically showing how each requirement of this subdivision has been met.
- (7) Prior to the periodic review of its general plan and prior to preparing or revising its safety element, each city and county shall consult the California Geological Survey of the Department of Conservation, the Central Valley Flood Protection Board, if the city or county is located within the boundaries of the Sacramento and San Joaquin Drainage District, as set forth in Section 8501 of the Water Code, and the Office of Emergency Services for the purpose of including information known by and available to the department, the agency, and the board required by this subdivision.
- (8) To the extent that a county's safety element is sufficiently detailed and contains appropriate policies and programs for adoption by a city, a city may adopt that portion of the county's safety element that pertains to the city's planning area in satisfaction of the requirement imposed by this subdivision.
- (h) (1) An environmental justice element, or related goals, policies, and objectives integrated in other elements, that identifies disadvantaged communities within the area covered by the general plan of the city, county, or city and county, if the city, county, or city and county has a disadvantaged community. The environmental justice element, or related environmental justice goals, policies, and objectives integrated in other elements, shall do all of the following:
 - (A) Identify objectives and policies to reduce the unique or compounded health risks in disadvantaged communities by means that include, but are not limited to, the reduction of pollution exposure, including the improvement of air quality, and the promotion of public facilities, food access, safe and sanitary homes, and physical activity.
 - (B) Identify objectives and policies to promote civil engagement in the public decisionmaking process.
 - (C) Identify objectives and policies that prioritize improvements and programs that address the needs of disadvantaged communities.
 - (2) A city, county, or city and county subject to this subdivision shall adopt or review the environmental justice element, or the environmental justice goals, policies, and objectives in other elements, upon the adoption or next revision of two or more elements concurrently on or after January 1, 2018.
 - (3) By adding this subdivision, the Legislature does not intend to require a city, county, or city and county to take any action prohibited by the United States Constitution or the California Constitution.
 - (4) For purposes of this subdivision, the following terms shall apply:
 - (A) "Disadvantaged communities" means an area identified by the California Environmental Protection Agency pursuant to Section 39711 of the Health and Safety Code or an area that is a low-income area that is disproportionately affected by environmental pollution and other hazards that can lead to negative health effects, exposure, or environmental degradation.
 - (B) "Public facilities" includes public improvements, public services, and community amenities, as defined in subdivision (d) of Section 66000.
 - (C) "Low-income area" means an area with household incomes at or below 80 percent of the statewide median income or with household incomes at or below the threshold designated as low income by the Department of Housing and Community Development's list of state income limits adopted pursuant to Section 50093.
- **SEC. 1.5.** Section 65302 of the Government Code is amended to read:
- **65302.** The general plan shall consist of a statement of development policies and shall include a diagram or diagrams and text setting forth objectives, principles, standards, and plan proposals. The plan shall include the

following elements:

- (a) A land use element that designates the proposed general distribution and general location and extent of the uses of the land for housing, business, industry, open space, including agriculture, natural resources, recreation, and enjoyment of scenic beauty, education, public buildings and grounds, solid and liquid waste disposal facilities, greenways, as defined in Section 816.52 of the Civil Code, and other categories of public and private uses of land. The location and designation of the extent of the uses of the land for public and private uses shall consider the identification of land and natural resources pursuant to paragraph (3) of subdivision (d). The land use element shall include a statement of the standards of population density and building intensity recommended for the various districts and other territory covered by the plan. The land use element shall identify and annually review those areas covered by the plan that are subject to flooding identified by flood plain mapping prepared by the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) or the Department of Water Resources. The land use element shall also do both of the following:
 - (1) Designate in a land use category that provides for timber production those parcels of real property zoned for timberland production pursuant to the California Timberland Productivity Act of 1982 (Chapter 6.7 (commencing with Section 51100) of Part 1 of Division 1 of Title 5).
 - (2) Consider the impact of new growth on military readiness activities carried out on military bases, installations, and operating and training areas, when proposing zoning ordinances or designating land uses covered by the general plan for land, or other territory adjacent to military facilities, or underlying designated military aviation routes and airspace.
 - (A) In determining the impact of new growth on military readiness activities, information provided by military facilities shall be considered. Cities and counties shall address military impacts based on information from the military and other sources.
 - (B) The following definitions govern this paragraph:
 - (i) "Military readiness activities" mean all of the following:
 - (I) Training, support, and operations that prepare the men and women of the military for combat.
 - (II) Operation, maintenance, and security of any military installation.
 - (III) Testing of military equipment, vehicles, weapons, and sensors for proper operation or suitability for combat use.
 - (ii) "Military installation" means a base, camp, post, station, yard, center, homeport facility for any ship, or other activity under the jurisdiction of the United States Department of Defense as defined in paragraph (1) of subsection (g) of Section 2687 of Title 10 of the United States Code.
- (b) (1) A circulation element consisting of the general location and extent of existing and proposed major thoroughfares, transportation routes, terminals, any military airports and ports, and other local public utilities and facilities, all correlated with the land use element of the plan.
 - (2) (A) Commencing January 1, 2011, upon any substantive revision of the circulation element, the legislative body shall modify the circulation element to plan for a balanced, multimodal transportation network that meets the needs of all users of streets, roads, and highways for safe and convenient travel in a manner that is suitable to the rural, suburban, or urban context of the general plan.
 - (B) For purposes of this paragraph, "users of streets, roads, and highways" mean bicyclists, children, persons with disabilities, motorists, movers of commercial goods, pedestrians, users of public transportation, and seniors.
- (c) A housing element as provided in Article 10.6 (commencing with Section 65580).
- (d) (1) A conservation element for the conservation, development, and utilization of natural resources including water and its hydraulic force, forests, soils, rivers and other waters, harbors, fisheries, wildlife, minerals, and other natural resources. The conservation element shall consider the effect of development within the jurisdiction, as described in the land use element, on natural resources located on public lands, including military installations. That portion of the conservation element including waters shall be developed in coordination with any countywide water agency and with all district and city agencies, including flood management, water conservation, or groundwater agencies that have developed, served, controlled, managed, or conserved water of

any type for any purpose in the county or city for which the plan is prepared. Coordination shall include the discussion and evaluation of any water supply and demand information described in Section 65352.5, if that information has been submitted by the water agency to the city or county.

- (2) The conservation element may also cover all of the following:
 - (A) The reclamation of land and waters.
 - (B) Prevention and control of the pollution of streams and other waters.
 - (C) Regulation of the use of land in stream channels and other areas required for the accomplishment of the conservation plan.
 - (D) Prevention, control, and correction of the erosion of soils, beaches, and shores.
 - (E) Protection of watersheds.
 - (F) The location, quantity, and quality of the rock, sand, and gravel resources.
- (3) Upon the next revision of the housing element on or after January 1, 2009, the conservation element shall identify rivers, creeks, streams, flood corridors, riparian habitats, and land that may accommodate floodwater for purposes of groundwater recharge and stormwater management.
- (e) An open-space element as provided in Article 10.5 (commencing with Section 65560).
- (f) (1) A noise element that shall identify and appraise noise problems in the community. The noise element shall analyze and quantify, to the extent practicable, as determined by the legislative body, current and projected noise levels for all of the following sources:
 - (A) Highways and freeways.
 - (B) Primary arterials and major local streets.
 - (C) Passenger and freight online railroad operations and ground rapid transit systems.
 - (D) Commercial, general aviation, heliport, helistop, and military airport operations, aircraft overflights, jet engine test stands, and all other ground facilities and maintenance functions related to airport operation.
 - (E) Local industrial plants, including, but not limited to, railroad classification yards.
 - (F) Other ground stationary noise sources, including, but not limited to, military installations, identified by local agencies as contributing to the community noise environment.
 - (2) Noise contours shall be shown for all of these sources and stated in terms of community noise equivalent level (CNEL) or day-night average sound level (Ldn). The noise contours shall be prepared on the basis of noise monitoring or following generally accepted noise modeling techniques for the various sources identified in paragraphs (1) to (6), inclusive.
 - (3) The noise contours shall be used as a guide for establishing a pattern of land uses in the land use element that minimizes the exposure of community residents to excessive noise.
 - (4) The noise element shall include implementation measures and possible solutions that address existing and foreseeable noise problems, if any. The adopted noise element shall serve as a guideline for compliance with the state's noise insulation standards.
- (g) (1) A safety element for the protection of the community from any unreasonable risks associated with the effects of seismically induced surface rupture, ground shaking, ground failure, tsunami, seiche, and dam failure; slope instability leading to mudslides and landslides; subsidence; liquefaction; and other seismic hazards identified pursuant to Chapter 7.8 (commencing with Section 2690) of Division 2 of the Public Resources Code, and other geologic hazards known to the legislative body; flooding; and wildland and urban fires. The safety element shall include mapping of known seismic and other geologic hazards. It shall also address evacuation routes, military installations, peakload water supply requirements, and minimum road widths and clearances around structures, as those items relate to identified fire and geologic hazards.
 - (2) The safety element, upon the next revision of the housing element on or after January 1, 2009, shall also do the following:

- (A) Identify information regarding flood hazards, including, but not limited to, the following:
 - (i) Flood hazard zones. As used in this subdivision, "flood hazard zone" means an area subject to flooding that is delineated as either a special hazard area or an area of moderate or minimal hazard on an official flood insurance rate map issued by the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA). The identification of a flood hazard zone does not imply that areas outside the flood hazard zones or uses permitted within flood hazard zones will be free from flooding or flood damage.
 - (ii) National Flood Insurance Program maps published by FEMA.
 - (iii) Information about flood hazards that is available from the United States Army Corps of Engineers.
 - (iv) Designated floodway maps that are available from the Central Valley Flood Protection Board.
 - (v) Dam failure inundation maps prepared pursuant to Section 8589.5 that are available from the Office of Emergency Services.
 - (vi) Awareness Floodplain Mapping Program maps and 200-year flood plain maps that are or may be available from, or accepted by, the Department of Water Resources.
 - (vii) Maps of levee protection zones.
 - (viii) Areas subject to inundation in the event of the failure of project or nonproject levees or floodwalls.
 - (ix) Historical data on flooding, including locally prepared maps of areas that are subject to flooding, areas that are vulnerable to flooding after wildfires, and sites that have been repeatedly damaged by flooding.
 - (x) Existing and planned development in flood hazard zones, including structures, roads, utilities, and essential public facilities.
 - (xi) Local, state, and federal agencies with responsibility for flood protection, including special districts and local offices of emergency services.
- (B) Establish a set of comprehensive goals, policies, and objectives based on the information identified pursuant to subparagraph (A), for the protection of the community from the unreasonable risks of flooding, including, but not limited to:
 - (i) Avoiding or minimizing the risks of flooding to new development.
 - (ii) Evaluating whether new development should be located in flood hazard zones, and identifying construction methods or other methods to minimize damage if new development is located in flood hazard zones.
 - (iii) Maintaining the structural and operational integrity of essential public facilities during flooding.
 - (iv) Locating, when feasible, new essential public facilities outside of flood hazard zones, including hospitals and health care facilities, emergency shelters, fire stations, emergency command centers, and emergency communications facilities or identifying construction methods or other methods to minimize damage if these facilities are located in flood hazard zones.
 - (v) Establishing cooperative working relationships among public agencies with responsibility for flood protection.
- (C) Establish a set of feasible implementation measures designed to carry out the goals, policies, and objectives established pursuant to subparagraph (B).
- (3) Upon the next revision of the housing element on or after January 1, 2014, the safety element shall be reviewed and updated as necessary to address the risk of fire for land classified as state responsibility areas, as defined in Section 4102 of the Public Resources Code, and land classified as very high fire hazard severity zones, as defined in Section 51177. This review shall consider the advice included in the Office of Planning and Research's most recent publication of "Fire Hazard Planning, General Plan Technical Advice Series" and shall also include all of the following:
 - (A) Information regarding fire hazards, including, but not limited to, all of the following:

- (i) Fire hazard severity zone maps available from the Department of Forestry and Fire Protection.
- (ii) Any historical data on wildfires available from local agencies or a reference to where the data can be found.
- (iii) Information about wildfire hazard areas that may be available from the United States Geological Survey.
- (iv) General location and distribution of existing and planned uses of land in very high fire hazard severity zones and in state responsibility areas, including structures, roads, utilities, and essential public facilities. The location and distribution of planned uses of land shall not require defensible space compliance measures required by state law or local ordinance to occur on publicly owned lands or open space designations of homeowner associations.
- (v) Local, state, and federal agencies with responsibility for fire protection, including special districts and local offices of emergency services.
- (B) A set of goals, policies, and objectives based on the information identified pursuant to subparagraph (A) for the protection of the community from the unreasonable risk of wildfire.
- (C) A set of feasible implementation measures designed to carry out the goals, policies, and objectives based on the information identified pursuant to subparagraph (B) including, but not limited to, all of the following:
 - (i) Avoiding or minimizing the wildfire hazards associated with new uses of land.
 - (ii) Locating, when feasible, new essential public facilities outside of high fire risk areas, including, but not limited to, hospitals and health care facilities, emergency shelters, emergency command centers, and emergency communications facilities, or identifying construction methods or other methods to minimize damage if these facilities are located in a state responsibility area or very high fire hazard severity zone.
 - (iii) Designing adequate infrastructure if a new development is located in a state responsibility area or in a very high fire hazard severity zone, including safe access for emergency response vehicles, visible street signs, and water supplies for structural fire suppression.
 - (iv) Working cooperatively with public agencies with responsibility for fire protection.
- (D) If a city or county has adopted a fire safety plan or document separate from the general plan, an attachment of, or reference to, a city or county's adopted fire safety plan or document that fulfills commensurate goals and objectives and contains information required pursuant to this paragraph.
- (4) Upon the next revision of a local hazard mitigation plan, adopted in accordance with the federal Disaster Mitigation Act of 2000 (Public Law 106-390), on or after January 1, 2017, or, if a local jurisdiction has not adopted a local hazard mitigation plan, beginning on or before January 1, 2022, the safety element shall be reviewed and updated as necessary to address climate adaptation and resiliency strategies applicable to the city or county. This review shall consider advice provided in the Office of Planning and Research's General Plan Guidelines and shall include all of the following:
 - (A) (i) A vulnerability assessment that identifies the risks that climate change poses to the local jurisdiction and the geographic areas at risk from climate change impacts, including, but not limited to, an assessment of how climate change may affect the risks addressed pursuant to paragraphs (2) and (3).
 - (ii) Information that may be available from federal, state, regional, and local agencies that will assist in developing the vulnerability assessment and the adaptation policies and strategies required pursuant to subparagraph (B), including, but not limited to, all of the following:
 - (I) Information from the Internet-based Cal-Adapt tool.
 - (II) Information from the most recent version of the California Adaptation Planning Guide.
 - (III) Information from local agencies on the types of assets, resources, and populations that will be sensitive to various climate change exposures.
 - (IV) Information from local agencies on their current ability to deal with the impacts of climate change.

- (V) Historical data on natural events and hazards, including locally prepared maps of areas subject to previous risk, areas that are vulnerable, and sites that have been repeatedly damaged.
- (VI) Existing and planned development in identified at-risk areas, including structures, roads, utilities, and essential public facilities.
- (VII) Federal, state, regional, and local agencies with responsibility for the protection of public health and safety and the environment, including special districts and local offices of emergency services.
- (B) A set of adaptation and resilience goals, policies, and objectives based on the information specified in subparagraph (A) for the protection of the community.
- (C) A set of feasible implementation measures designed to carry out the goals, policies, and objectives identified pursuant to subparagraph (B) including, but not limited to, all of the following:
 - (i) Feasible methods to avoid or minimize climate change impacts associated with new uses of land.
 - (ii) The location, when feasible, of new essential public facilities outside of at-risk areas, including, but not limited to, hospitals and health care facilities, emergency shelters, emergency command centers, and emergency communications facilities, or identifying construction methods or other methods to minimize damage if these facilities are located in at-risk areas.
 - (iii) The designation of adequate and feasible infrastructure located in an at-risk area.
 - (iv) Guidelines for working cooperatively with relevant local, regional, state, and federal agencies.
 - (v) The identification of natural infrastructure that may be used in adaptation projects, where feasible. Where feasible, the plan shall use existing natural features and ecosystem processes, or the restoration of natural features and ecosystem processes, when developing alternatives for consideration. For the purposes of this clause, "natural infrastructure" means the preservation or restoration of ecological systems, or utilization of engineered systems that use ecological processes, to increase resiliency to climate change, manage other environmental hazards, or both. This may include, but is not limited to, floodplain and wetlands restoration or preservation, combining levees with restored natural systems to reduce flood risk, and urban tree planting to mitigate high heat days.
- (D) (i) If a city or county has adopted the local hazard mitigation plan, or other climate adaptation plan or document that fulfills commensurate goals and objectives and contains the information required pursuant to this paragraph, separate from the general plan, an attachment of, or reference to, the local hazard mitigation plan or other climate adaptation plan or document.
 - (ii) Cities or counties that have an adopted hazard mitigation plan, or other climate adaptation plan or document that substantially complies with this section, or have substantially equivalent provisions to this subdivision in their general plans, may use that information in the safety element to comply with this subdivision, and shall summarize and incorporate by reference into the safety element the other general plan provisions, climate adaptation plan or document, specifically showing how each requirement of this subdivision has been met.
- (5) After the initial revision of the safety element pursuant to paragraphs (2) and (3) upon each revision of the housing element, the planning agency shall review and, if necessary, revise the safety element to identify new information relating to flood and fire hazards that was not available during the previous revision of the safety element.
- (6) Cities and counties that have flood plain management ordinances that have been approved by FEMA that substantially comply with this section, or have substantially equivalent provisions to this subdivision in their general plans, may use that information in the safety element to comply with this subdivision, and shall summarize and incorporate by reference into the safety element the other general plan provisions or the flood plain ordinance, specifically showing how each requirement of this subdivision has been met.
- (7) Prior to the periodic review of its general plan and prior to preparing or revising its safety element, each city and county shall consult the California Geological Survey of the Department of Conservation, the Central Valley Flood Protection Board, if the city or county is located within the boundaries of the Sacramento and San Joaquin Drainage District, as set forth in Section 8501 of the Water Code, and the Office of Emergency Services for the purpose of including information known by and available to the department, the agency, and the board required by this subdivision.

- (8) To the extent that a county's safety element is sufficiently detailed and contains appropriate policies and programs for adoption by a city, a city may adopt that portion of the county's safety element that pertains to the city's planning area in satisfaction of the requirement imposed by this subdivision.
- (h) (1) An environmental justice element, or related goals, policies, and objectives integrated in other elements, that identifies disadvantaged communities within the area covered by the general plan of the city, county, or city and county, if the city, county, or city and county has a disadvantaged community. The environmental justice element, or related environmental justice goals, policies, and objectives integrated in other elements, shall do all of the following:
 - (A) Identify objectives and policies to reduce the unique or compounded health risks in disadvantaged communities by means that include, but are not limited to, the reduction of pollution exposure, including the improvement of air quality, and the promotion of public facilities, food access, safe and sanitary homes, and physical activity.
 - (B) Identify objectives and policies to promote civil engagement in the public decisionmaking process.
 - (C) Identify objectives and policies that prioritize improvements and programs that address the needs of disadvantaged communities.
 - (2) A city, county, or city and county subject to this subdivision shall adopt or review the environmental justice element, or the environmental justice goals, policies, and objectives in other elements, upon the adoption or next revision of two or more elements concurrently on or after January 1, 2018.
 - (3) By adding this subdivision, the Legislature does not intend to require a city, county, or city and county to take any action prohibited by the United States Constitution or the California Constitution.
 - (4) For purposes of this subdivision, the following terms shall apply:
 - (A) "Disadvantaged communities" means an area identified by the California Environmental Protection Agency pursuant to Section 39711 of the Health and Safety Code or an area that is a low-income area that is disproportionately affected by environmental pollution and other hazards that can lead to negative health effects, exposure, or environmental degradation.
 - (B) "Public facilities" includes public improvements, public services, and community amenities, as defined in subdivision (d) of Section 66000.
 - (C) "Low-income area" means an area with household incomes at or below 80 percent of the statewide median income or with household incomes at or below the threshold designated as low income by the Department of Housing and Community Development's list of state income limits adopted pursuant to Section 50093.
- **SEC. 2.** Section 1.5 of this bill incorporates amendments to Section 65302 of the Government Code proposed by this bill and Assembly Bill 2651. It shall only become operative if (1) both bills are enacted and become effective on or before January 1, 2017, (2) each bill amends Section 65302 of the Government Code, and (3) this bill is enacted after Assembly Bill 2651, in which case Section 65302 of the Government Code, as amended by Assembly Bill 2651, shall remain operative only until the operative date of this bill, at which time Section 1.5 of this bill shall become operative, and Section 1 of this bill shall not become operative.
- **SEC. 3.** No reimbursement is required by this act pursuant to Section 6 of Article XIII B of the California Constitution because a local agency or school district has the authority to levy service charges, fees, or assessments sufficient to pay for the program or level of service mandated by this act, within the meaning of Section 17556 of the Government Code.



Bill Text: CA SB1221 | 2023-2024 | Regular Session | Chaptered California Senate Bill 1221 (*Prior Session Legislation*)

Bill Title: Gas corporations: ceasing service: priority neighborhood decarbonization zones.

Spectrum: Partisan Bill (Democrat 1)

Status: (Passed) 2024-09-25 - Chaptered by Secretary of State. Chapter 602, Statutes of 2024. [SB1221 Detail]

Download: California-2023-SB1221-Chaptered.html

Senate Bill No. 1221

CHAPTER 602

An act to add and repeal Section 451.9 of, and to add and repeal Article 11 (commencing with Section 660) of Chapter 3 of Part 1 of Division 1 of, the Public Utilities Code, relating to gas corporations.

[Approved by Governor September 25, 2024. Filed with Secretary of State September 25, 2024.]

LEGISLATIVE COUNSEL'S DIGEST

SB 1221, Min. Gas corporations: ceasing service: priority neighborhood decarbonization zones.

Existing law vests the Public Utilities Commission with regulatory authority over public utilities, including gas corporations. Existing law requires every public utility to furnish and maintain adequate, efficient, just and reasonable service, instrumentalities, equipment, and facilities as are necessary to promote the safety, health, comfort, and convenience of its patrons, employees, and the public.

This bill would require each gas corporation, on or before July 1, 2025, and annually thereafter, to submit to the commission a map containing certain information, including the location of all potential gas distribution line replacement projects identified in its distribution integrity management plan and other foreseeable gas distribution pipeline replacements. The bill would require the commission, on or before January 1, 2026, to designate priority neighborhood decarbonization zones considering, among other things, the concentration of gas distribution line replacement projects identified in the maps. The bill would require the commission, on or before July 1, 2026, to establish a voluntary program to facilitate the cost-effective decarbonization of priority neighborhood decarbonization zones, as defined, not to exceed 30 pilot projects across the state and affecting no more than 1% of each gas corporation's customers within its service territory, except as provided. The bill would prohibit the commission from establishing pilot projects on or after January 1, 2030. The bill would require the commission to establish various processes, criteria, methodology, and requirements in administering the pilot projects, including by establishing the criteria and methodology for determining the costeffectiveness of zero-emission alternatives, as defined, and establishing the appropriate rate of return and recovery period that a gas corporation is eligible to receive for their costs to implement zero-emission alternatives. The bill would authorize a gas corporation to cease providing, and would require the commission to relieve the gas corporation of its obligation to provide, service in an area within the gas corporation's service territory where a pilot project has been implemented if the commission determines that adequate substitute energy service is reasonably available to support the energy end uses of affected gas corporation customers, as provided. The bill would also require the commission to submit various reports to the relevant committees of the Legislature regarding the pilot projects, as provided. The bill would, except as provided, repeal the above-described provisions on January 1, 2031.

Under existing law, a violation of the Public Utilities Act or an order, decision, rule, direction, demand, or requirement of the commission is a crime.

Because the above requirements would be codified in the act and a violation of those requirements or a commission action implementing those requirements would be a crime, this bill would impose a state-mandated local program.

The California Constitution requires the state to reimburse local agencies and school districts for certain costs mandated by the state. Statutory provisions establish procedures for making that reimbursement.

This bill would provide that no reimbursement is required by this act for a specified reason.

Digest Key

Vote: majority Appropriation: no Fiscal Committee: yes Local Program: yes

Bill Text

THE PEOPLE OF THE STATE OF CALIFORNIA DO ENACT AS FOLLOWS:

SECTION 1. (a) The Legislature finds and declares all of the following:

- (1) California is leading the nation in moving toward clean, renewable forms of energy to fight climate change and improve the health and well-being of residents.
- (2) Natural gas demand is already declining as California transitions away from natural gas to achieve the state's energy efficiency, climate, and air quality objectives.
- (3) Without active planning and management, reduced demand for natural gas will result in higher gas rates, with a disproportionate burden on vulnerable customers.
- (4) A longer term planning process is necessary to evaluate zero-emission alternatives, including neighborhood electrification and thermal energy networks, that could avoid new capital investment in the gas system that may become stranded assets and to reduce upward pressure on gas rates.
- (5) Installation of electric heat pump space conditioning systems, which provide both efficient heating and cooling, is particularly valuable in frontline communities to improve occupant comfort and increase resilience to heat waves because members of those communities are more likely to lack access to air conditioning.
- (6) Cost-effective, zero-emission alternatives to pipeline replacement projects both reduce gas system costs and further California's efforts to reduce greenhouse gas emissions and improve air quality.
- (7) Deployment of zero-emission alternatives should prioritize high road jobs for workers.
- (8) Deployment of zero-emission alternatives should prioritize benefits to disadvantaged and low-income communities and include tenant protections.
- (b) It is the intent of the Legislature that the Public Utilities Commission authorize gas corporations to deploy a limited and targeted number of pilot projects to decommission portions of the natural gas corporation distribution system.
- (c) It is further the intent of the Legislature that pilot projects authorized by the Public Utilities Commission will provide lessons, including by identifying, documenting, and reporting on key challenges and successes, hurdles to customer participation, cost and affordability implications, customer satisfaction, and other outcomes concerning natural gas corporation distribution system decommissioning and electrification.

SEC. 2. Section 451.9 is added to the Public Utilities Code, to read:

- **451.9.** (a) Notwithstanding Section 451, a gas corporation may cease providing service in an area within its service territory where a pilot project has been implemented pursuant to Section 663 if the commission determines that adequate substitute energy service is reasonably available to support the energy end uses of affected gas corporation customers.
- (b) (1) In determining what constitutes adequate substitute energy service and when the substitute energy service is reasonably available, the commission shall adopt guidelines necessary to ensure that the rates for substitute energy service are just and reasonable as provided by a load-serving entity as the provider of last resort pursuant to Section 387.
 - (2) The commission may authorize a gas corporation to recover the undepreciated costs of any gas plant or asset, including the cost to retire the gas plant or asset that will no longer be used and useful. The commission shall determine the just and reasonable recovery of undepreciated costs, including the period over which the undepreciated costs are recovered so as to minimize impacts to remaining gas distribution system customers.
- (c) This section does not modify the authority of the commission to determine adequate, efficient, just, and reasonable service.
- (d) (1) Except as provided in paragraph (2) or (3), this section shall remain in effect only until January 1, 2031, and as of that date is repealed.
 - (2) Paragraph (1) does not affect the termination of a gas corporation's obligation to provide service that is authorized under this section on or before January 1, 2031.
 - (3) Paragraph (1) does not affect the authority of the commission under this section to relieve a gas corporation of its obligation to provide service within the approved boundary of a pilot project approved pursuant to Section 663 that is pending as of January 1, 2031.
- **SEC. 3.** Article 11 (commencing with Section 660) is added to Chapter 3 of Part 1 of Division 1 of the Public Utilities Code, to read:

Article 11. Neighborhood Decarbonization Zone Pilot Projects

- **660.** For purposes of this article, the following definitions apply:
- (a) "Disadvantaged community" means a community identified pursuant to Section 39711 of the Health and Safety Code.
- (b) "Distribution integrity management plan" means a plan developed pursuant to Part 192 (commencing with Section 192.1) of Subchapter D of Chapter I of Subtitle B of Title 49 of the Code of Federal Regulations.
- (c) "Gas distribution line" means either a gas distribution main line or gas distribution service line.
- (d) "Gas distribution main line" has the same meaning as "main" set forth in Section 192.3 of Title 49 of the Code of Federal Regulations.
- (e) "Gas distribution service line" has the same meaning as "service line" set forth in Section 192.3 of Title 49 of the Code of Federal Regulations.
- (f) "Low-income" means having a household income no greater than 80 percent of area median income or qualifying for participation in the California Alternate Rates for Energy (CARE) program or Family Electric Rate Assistance (FERA) program.
- (g) "Priority neighborhood decarbonization zone" means a zone identified pursuant to Section 662.
- (h) "Thermal energy network" means a network of piped noncombustible fluids used for transferring heat into and out of buildings for purposes of providing zero-emission heating and cooling services.
- (i) "Tribe" means a California Native American tribe, as defined in Section 21073 of the Public Resources Code.
- (j) "Zero-emission alternatives" means methods of providing gas customers with suitable substitute energy service that does not require new investment in gas distribution lines, including, but not limited to, electrification of gas end uses and energy efficiency, thermal energy networks, and demand flexibility measures to alter energy needs.
- **661.** (a) On or before July 1, 2025, and each year thereafter, each gas corporation shall submit to the commission a map that includes all of the following:
 - (1) The location of all potential gas distribution line replacement projects identified in its distribution integrity management plan and any foreseeable gas distribution pipeline replacements.
 - (2) The city, county, and census tract boundaries within the gas corporation's service territory.
 - (3) Locations of disadvantaged communities, tribes, and priority neighborhood decarbonization zones, as designated by the commission pursuant to Section 662, that are within the gas corporation's service territory.
 - (4) Any additional information required by the commission.
- (b) This section does not modify a gas corporation's safety requirements under state or federal law.
- (c) On or after January 1, 2030, the commission may determine whether gas corporations will continue to be subject to the requirements of this section.
- **662.** (a) On or before January 1, 2026, in a new or existing proceeding and following recommendations from each gas corporation and the opportunity for public comment, the commission shall designate priority neighborhood decarbonization zones. In designating the zones, the commission shall consider factors that include, but are not limited to, all of the following:
 - (1) Presence of disadvantaged or low-income communities in high-temperature climate zones or low-temperature climate zones that disproportionately lack cooling or heating.
 - (2) Presence of environmental and social justice communities as defined in the commission's Environmental and Social Justice Action Plan.
 - (3) Availability of supportive local government or community partners.
 - (4) Concentration of gas distribution line replacement projects identified in the map submitted pursuant to Section 661.
- (b) The commission shall coordinate with relevant agencies to identify nonratepayer funding, such as state and federal funds, that may be used to execute pilot projects in priority neighborhood decarbonization zones that would be cost effective with supplemental nonratepayer funding.
- (c) If pilot projects for zero-emission alternatives pursuant to Section 663 are implemented in a priority neighborhood decarbonization zone, the commission may direct gas corporations and electrical corporations, if appropriate, to leverage other available programs, including, but not limited to, energy efficiency, low-income weatherization, and distributed generation programs.
- (d) The commission may, after providing an opportunity for public comment, update the priority neighborhood decarbonization zones as necessary.
- **663.** (a) On or before July 1, 2026, in a new or existing proceeding, the commission, in consultation with the state's gas corporations, shall establish a voluntary program to facilitate the cost-effective decarbonization of priority neighborhood decarbonization zones, not to exceed 30 pilot projects across the state and affecting no more than 1 percent of each gas corporation's customers within their

service territory. A pilot project where a gas corporation obtains the consent of 100 percent of property owners with natural gas service within the pilot project boundary shall not count toward the 30 pilot project limit.

- (b) In administering the pilot projects established pursuant to subdivision (a), the commission shall establish all of the following:
 - (1) A process for gas corporations to determine and submit pilot projects for approval.
- (2) Criteria and methodology for determining the cost-effectiveness of a zero-emission alternative as compared to replacement, repair, or continued operation of the affected asset of the gas system. Nonenergy benefits may be considered in prioritizing pilot projects, but shall not be used to calculate cost-effectiveness. The total cost incurred by the gas corporation for the zero-emission alternative shall be less than the total cost that would have otherwise occurred. Gas corporations shall use nonratepayer funding when available.
- (3) Requirements and programs to ensure that a substitute for gas service for low-income customers is affordable, adequate, efficient, and just and reasonable.
- (4) A requirement that no less than 67 percent of the property owners with natural gas service within the pilot project boundary consent to the pilot project. The commission shall establish the manner in which consent shall be received and notifications about the pilot project shall be provided to property owners and affected customers. Notifications shall include information about the anticipated costs and benefits of the zero-emission alternative offering. Notifications shall be made available in the zone's prevailing languages.
- (5) A requirement for addressing master-metered properties to ensure tenants receive adequate notification and engagement.
- (6) A preference for pilot projects that provide prevailing wages and use high road job programs.
- (7) A requirement that gas corporations and electrical corporations, local publicly owned electric utilities, load-serving entities, local governments, and, if feasible, core transport agents affected by the pilot project coordinate and collaborate.
- (8) A requirement that gas corporations recover costs related to the pilot projects that are deemed just and reasonable and a requirement that prohibits a gas corporation from recovering behind-the-meter costs associated with the pilot projects as capital costs that are afforded a rate of return.
- (9) The appropriate rate of return and recovery period that a gas corporation is eligible to receive for its costs to implement a zero-emission alternative. A gas corporation shall not receive ratepayer funding for the costs of a zero-emission alternative that are covered by incentives under federal, state, or local laws.
- (c) Notwithstanding any other law, if the commission approves a pilot project proposed by a gas corporation pursuant to subdivision (a), the commission shall, pursuant to Section 451.9, relieve the gas corporation of its obligation to provide service within the pilot project boundary upon completion of all affected customers' conversion to zero-emission alternatives. A property owner's withholding of consent to a pilot project shall not give rise to a right to continued natural gas service if the commission approves a pilot project that includes that property within its boundary.
- (d) The commission shall not establish pilot projects under this section on or after January 1, 2030.
- **664.** (a) (1) Beginning on January 1, 2029, the commission, in a new or existing proceeding, shall review the efficacy of the pilot projects established pursuant to Section 663 in providing benefits to gas corporation customers and in assisting the state in meeting the state's climate change goals.
 - (2) On or before March 1, 2030, the commission shall submit to the relevant policy committees of the Legislature a report on the review performed pursuant to paragraph (1).
- (b) On or before March 1, 2026, and on or before March 1 of each year thereafter, the commission shall submit a progress report to the relevant policy committees of the Legislature summarizing the findings of the pilot projects, including the locations of the pilot projects, the number of customers affected, the costs of the pilot projects, the funding used to pay for the pilot projects, any assistance provided to customers, and any outcomes, challenges, and recommendations.
- (c) Reports submitted pursuant to this section shall be submitted in compliance with Section 9795 of the Government Code.
- **665.** In a new or existing proceeding, the commission shall evaluate the costs and benefits of thermal energy networks and identify potential implementation barriers.
- **666.** (a) Except as provided in subdivision (b) or (c), this article shall remain in effect only until January 1, 2031, and as of that date is repealed.
- (b) Notwithstanding subdivision (a), a pilot project that has been established pursuant to Section 663 and is pending as of January 1, 2031, may continue until the completion of the pilot project.
- (c) Subdivision (a) does not affect the commission's authorization to relieve a gas corporation of its obligation to provide service within a pilot project boundary under subdivision (c) of Section 663.
- **SEC. 4.** No reimbursement is required by this act pursuant to Section 6 of Article XIII B of the California Constitution because the only costs that may be incurred by a local agency or school district will be incurred because this act creates a new crime or infraction, eliminates a crime or infraction, or changes the penalty for a crime or infraction, within the meaning of Section 17556 of the Government Code, or changes the definition of a crime within the meaning of Section 6 of Article XIII B of the California Constitution.

Environmental Justice Communities

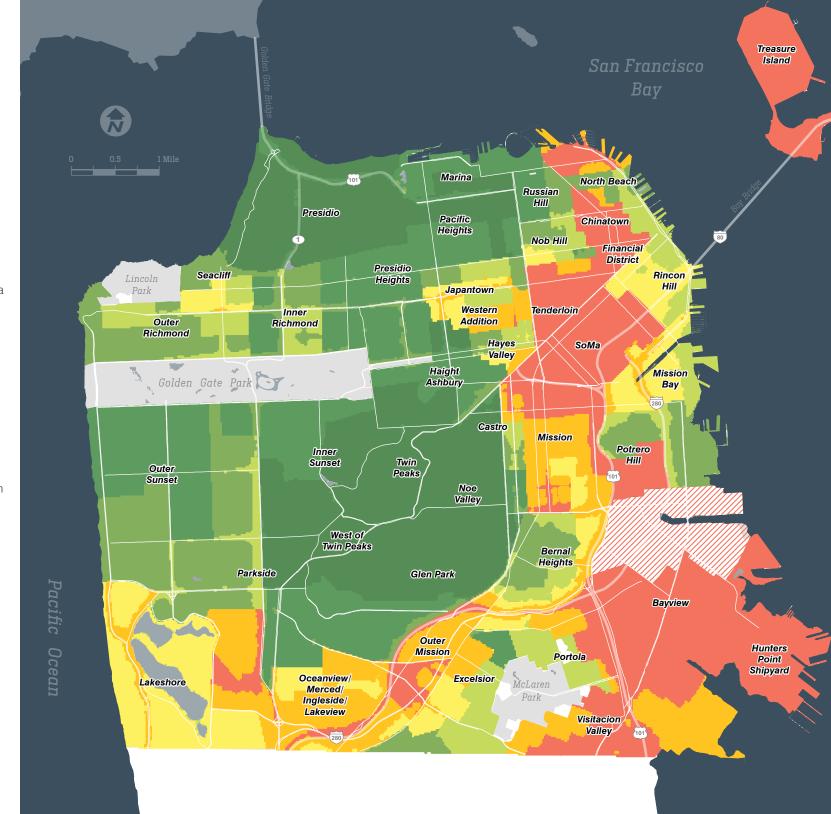
Environmental Justice Burden

Top one-third of burdened area

Data Not Available

Area with high pollution burden (not included in OEHHA CalEnviroScreen 4.0 due to missing data/low population)

NOTE: This map was created to meet the requirements of CA Senate Bill 1000. The legislation requires that municipalities identify where "Disadvantaged Communities" are located, defined as areas facing elevated pollution burden coupled with a high incidence of low-income residents. This map is based on OEHHA's CalEnviroScreen 4.0 Map, modified to incorporate additional local data on pollution burden and socioeconomic disadvantage.



Introduction Form

(by a Member of the Board of Supervisors or the Mayor)

I here	by subm	it the following item for introduction (select only one):
	1.	For reference to Committee (Ordinance, Resolution, Motion or Charter Amendment)
	2.	Request for next printed agenda (For Adoption Without Committee Reference) (Routine, non-controversial and/or commendatory matters only)
	3.	Request for Hearing on a subject matter at Committee
	4.	Request for Letter beginning with "Supervisor inquires"
	5.	City Attorney Request
	6.	Call File No. from Committee.
	7.	Budget and Legislative Analyst Request (attached written Motion)
	8.	Substitute Legislation File No.
	9.	Reactivate File No.
	10.	Topic submitted for Mayoral Appearance before the Board on
The p	roposed	legislation should be forwarded to the following (please check all appropriate boxes):
	□ Sn	nall Business Commission Youth Commission Ethics Commission
	□ Pla	anning Commission Building Inspection Commission Human Resources Department
Genei	ral Plan	Referral sent to the Planning Department (proposed legislation subject to Charter 4.105 & Admin 2A.53):
	□ Ye	es 🗆 No
(Note	: For Im	perative Agenda items (a Resolution not on the printed agenda), use the Imperative Agenda Form.)
Spons	sor(s):	
Subje	ct:	
Long	Title or	text listed:
		Signature of Spansoring Supervisor
		Signature of Sponsoring Supervisor: