



# STAFF REPORT

## CITY OF SOLANA BEACH

**TO:** Honorable Mayor and City Councilmembers  
**FROM:** Alyssa Muto, City Manager  
**MEETING DATE:** January 15, 2025  
**ORIGINATING DEPT:** City Manager's Department  
**SUBJECT:** **Climate Action Commission Name Change**

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### **BACKGROUND:**

On May 27, 2015, the City Council directed Staff to establish a Climate Action Commission (Commission) to focus on specific issues surrounding the development of a Climate Action Plan (CAP) including updating the City's Greenhouse Gas (GHG) Emissions Inventory, setting reduction targets, implementing mitigation measures and performing periodic monitoring, verification and evaluations.

At the October 14, 2015 City Council meeting, Staff presented a recommendation that the new Commission be comprised of nine (9) members - two (2) Councilmembers, five (5) residents and two (2) non-resident members of the environmental and/or scientific community. Staff also recommended that the Commission would be advisory to the full City Council and that it must follow the regulations of the Brown Act. Staff recommended that the Commission meet on a monthly basis. City Council established the Climate Action Commission on November 4, 2015.

Since 2015, the Climate Action Commission played a pivotal role in the City adopting its first Climate Action Plan in 2017, and adopting the 2024 Climate Action Plan Update. Additionally, the Climate Action Commission has engaged in public outreach and education to help implement the City's ban on single-use plastic bags, food-related polystyrene initiatives, exploring the feasibility of creating a Community Choice Aggregation program, and more. The Climate Action Commission also took the lead on creating an Adaptation Chapter to the City's Climate Action Plan.

Since the Council recently approved the 2024 Climate Action Plan Update, it makes sense to consider changing the name of the Commission to more adequately describe the role of the Commission, as it shifts its focus to implementation of the CAP Update mitigation measures and associated concentration on adaptation and resiliency. This item is before the Council to consider changing the name of the Climate Action

COUNCIL ACTION:

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Commission to the Climate & Resiliency Commission. The regular meetings of the Climate & Resiliency Commission shall be held as may be necessary and appropriate on a day and at an hour specified by resolution of the Commission, and the Commission may conduct special meetings at a time and location as may be necessary and appropriate, upon the approval of the chairperson or a majority of its members, in accordance with California open meeting laws. Based on input from the CAC at their December 2024 meeting, City Staff is recommending that the Commission meet on a bi-monthly (every other month) basis moving forward.

**DISCUSSION:**

The 2024 Climate Action Plan Update incorporated equity throughout the plan, as well as adaptation and resiliency. Given this new focus, a Commission name that reflects the new additions felt appropriate. Staff presented the Commission with several name options at the December 18, 2024 meeting. Members unanimously voted to change the name to the Climate & Resiliency Commission, as the best representation of the climate action and resiliency work the Commission is committed to implementing.

**CEQA COMPLIANCE STATEMENT:** N/A

**FISCAL IMPACT:**

There are no additional fiscal impacts due to this change. This Commission will continue to comply with required LiveScan background checks paid for by Human Resources.

The work products developed by the Commission may have individual costs but those will be brought to Council for approval and authorization on a case-by-case basis. There may be costs incurred for training the Commission; however, those would generally be consistent with the training implemented for the existing CAC.

**WORKPLAN:**

The proposed Commission will be working on items associated with the Environmental Sustainability - Policy Development "Community-Wide Greenhouse Gas (GHG) Emission Reductions" Priority Item.

**OPTIONS:**

In considering this matter, the City Council has the following options:

- Approve Staff's recommendation.
- Approve Staff's recommendation with modifications.
- Do not approve Staff's recommendation.

**CITY STAFF RECOMMENDATION:**

Staff recommends that the City Council:

1. Adopt Resolution 2025-003 to change the name of the Climate Action Commission to Climate & Resiliency Commission.



Alyssa Muto, City Manager,

Attachments:

1. Resolution 2025-003

## RESOLUTION 2025-003

### A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF SOLANA BEACH, CALIFORNIA, RENAMING THE SOLANA BEACH CLIMATE ACTION COMMISSION TO THE CLIMATE & RESILIENCY COMMISSION

**WHEREAS**, California is at the forefront of Greenhouse Gas (GHG) emission reduction laws, starting with the landmark passing of Assembly Bill 32 (“AB 32”) the California Global Warming Solutions Act of 2006, that established a GHG reduction target of 1990 levels by 2020. Building from that, Governor Brown issued Executive Order B-30-15 that established the most aggressive benchmark enacted by any government in North America to reduce GHG emissions 40% below 1990 levels by 2030. Many cities adopted Climate Action Plans to set targets in alignment with California law and implement quantifiable measures to meet those targets; and

**WHEREAS**, on May 27, 2015, the City Council directed Staff to establish a Climate Action Commission to focus on specific issues surrounding the development of a Climate Action Plan including updating the City’s Greenhouse Gas Emissions Inventory, setting reduction targets, implementing mitigation measures and performing periodic monitoring, verification and evaluations; and

**WHEREAS**, the City Council directed that the Commission be comprised of a cross-section of community members representing all sectors and would require constant and detailed training to comprehend the complex issues surrounding the CAP implementation; and

**WHEREAS**, on October 14, 2015, the City Council directed that all residents and professionals on the Commission be voting members and that the applications to be on the commission require the submission of a C.V. or resume and the support of at least one other resident of the City in addition to the City’s usual requirements for a commission appointment application; and

**WHEREAS**, since 2015, the Climate Action Commission played a pivotal role in the City adopting its first Climate Action Plan in 2017 and adopting the 2024 Climate Action Plan Update. Additionally, the Climate Action Commission has engaged in public outreach and education to help implement the City’s ban on single-use plastic bags, food-related polystyrene initiatives, exploring the feasibility of creating a Community Choice Aggregation program, and more. The Climate Action Commission also took the lead on creating an Adaptation Chapter to the City’s Climate Action Plan; and

**WHEREAS**, since the Council recently approved the 2024 Climate Action Plan Update, it makes sense to consider changing the name of the Commission to more adequately describe the role of the Commission, as it shifts its focus on implementation of the CAP Update mitigation measures and associated concentration on adaptation and resiliency.

**NOW THEREFORE**, the City Council of the City of Solana Beach, California, does resolve as follows:

1. That the foregoing recitations are true and correct.
2. The “Solana Beach Climate Action Commission” (the “Climate Action Commission,” or the “Commission”) was established on November 4, 2015 to serve as an advisory legislative body subordinate to the City Council, established under the authority, and subject to, Chapter 2.60 of the Solana Beach Municipal Code.
3. The name of this Commission will change from Climate Action to Climate & Resiliency to reflect both the climate action work and the resiliency work Commissioners are engaged with.
4. Members of the Climate & Resiliency Commission shall continue to be appointed by the City Council at large. The term of office shall be two years. Members may be appointed to successive terms. Members of the public that apply for an open position on the Commission must submit “curriculum vitae” (CV) or resume with the application. In addition, each resident who applies for a position on the Commission must have a letter of endorsement from another resident of the City of Solana Beach.
5. Membership shall continue to be comprised of nine (9) members as follows:
  - A. Five (5) members shall be residents of the City of Solana Beach.
  - B. Professionals: Two (2) members shall be from the environmental and/or scientific community and the residency requirement of Chapter 2.60 does not apply to these two members.
  - C. Councilmembers: Two (2) Councilmembers will be appointed to the Commission.
  - D. Advisory: Additional advisory members may be appointed to the Commission by the City Council, including residents and non-residents, with specific professional or scientific expertise. These members would not have voting privileges but could be key advisors to the Commission by bringing their expertise, knowledge and experience to the process.
6. Duties of the Commission shall include the development and implementation of a Climate Action Plan, including updating the City's Greenhouse Gas Emissions Inventory, setting reduction targets, implementing mitigation measures and performing periodic monitoring,

verification and evaluations.

7. The Climate & Resiliency Commission shall conduct its meetings as follows:
  - A. The regular meetings of the Climate & Resiliency Commission shall be held as may be necessary and appropriate on a day and at an hour specified by resolution of the Commission. All meetings of the Commission shall be conducted in accordance with California open meeting laws.
  - B. The Commission may conduct special meetings at a time and location as may be necessary and appropriate, upon the approval of the chairperson or a majority of its members, in accordance with California open meeting laws.
  - C. A majority of the members shall constitute a quorum of the Commission for the transaction of business.
8. All Commission recommendations and reports shall be in writing, signed by the chairperson of the Commission, and delivered to City Council and City Manager.
9. Nothing in this Resolution shall be construed as restricting or curtailing any of the powers of the City Council, or as a delegation to the Climate & Resiliency Commission of any of the authority or discretionary powers vested and imposed by law in the City Council. The City Council declares that the public interest, convenience and welfare require the appointment of a Climate & Resiliency Commission to act in a purely advisory capacity to the City Council for the purposes herein enumerated. Any power herein delegated to the Commission to adopt rules and regulations shall not be construed as a delegation of legislative authority but purely a delegation of administrative authority.

**PASSED AND ADOPTED** at a regular meeting of the City Council of the City of Solana Beach, California, held on the 15<sup>th</sup> day of January 2025, by the following vote:

AYES: Councilmembers –  
NOES: Councilmembers –  
ABSENT: Councilmembers –  
ABSTAIN: Councilmembers –

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LESA HEEBNER, Mayor

APPROVED AS TO FORM:

ATTEST:

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JOHANNA N. CANLAS, City Attorney

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ANGELA IVEY, City Clerk