Draft List of Near-Term Priorities

Introduction

The OurCounty Sustainability Plan ("the Plan") is a regional sustainability plan for Los Angeles County. It outlines a bold, inclusive, and truly regional vision for the present and future generations of Los Angeles. OurCounty lays out what local governments and stakeholders can do to enhance the well-being of every community in the County while reducing damage to the natural environment and adapting to the changing climate, particularly for those communities that have been disproportionately burdened by environmental pollution. It is organized around twelve cross-cutting goals that describe our shared vision for a sustainable Los Angeles County, and it outlines 159 actions that County departments will take to achieve that vision over the next 30 years.

The Los Angeles County Board of Supervisors adopted the Plan on August 6, 2019. In the three months since Plan adoption, County departments have been hard at work identifying priority actions to be initiated within the first two years after the Plan's adoption. A draft list of the near-term priorities that will be implemented if funding is available, in addition to a list of actions that are already completed or underway with existing resources, can be found below. Some of the actions in these lists can be completed within one year; others will be implemented over the course of multiple years and will require sustained funding. The list of near-term priorities is in response to the August 6, 2019 Board motion; it will be used to inform both the final response to the Board on February 28, 2020 and the first annual progress report by August 2020.

Development

The draft list of near-term priorities was developed through an iterative process led by the Chief Sustainability Office (CSO) in collaboration with the County Sustainability Council (CSC), made up of all County departments. County departments were asked to identify near-term action(s) from the Plan that they wanted to prioritize along with potential resources for implementation. Departments were invited to provide input both on the overall County priorities and on the actions that the department was directly involved.

The CSO compiled the departments' priorities and input, working with departments with the goal of developing this draft of the near-term priorities that would be

initiated if funding were made available. To refine the priorities list, CSO used several factors. Primarily, CSO weighed more heavily whether a lead department wanted to prioritize an action. Additionally, CSO identified areas of alignment between departments, reviewed for any necessary chronological sequencing, and considered budgetary constraints. CSO and the departments also identified actions already underway with existing resources.

Budget

It is important to note that the list of priorities below does not yet include an estimate of costs and benefits, nor have funding sources been identified. As such, we are asking stakeholders to help identify their highest priorities from among these actions to help inform the budget process for Fiscal Year 20-21 during which these actions will be considered for funding. Given the number of actions on this list, it is not expected that all actions will be funded next year, and some actions may only receive partial funding to initiate action. Unfunded actions may be considered for funding in future years. Having stakeholder input on the highest priorities from among this list will be valuable as we move to the next step.

Next Steps

We will be accepting feedback on this draft list of priorities through December 13, 2019. Comments may be submitted to the Chief Sustainability Office at sustainability@lacounty.gov. The CSO will also host a stakeholder feedback session on November 20, 2019 from 2-4 p.m. in Room 739 of the County Hall of Administration. The County will review public comments in December and work with stakeholders in January to revise the list of near-term priorities, in preparation for submitting the finalized list of near-term priorities to the Board of Supervisors by the required reporting date of February 28, 2020. The finalized list of near-term priorities will inform County budgeting decisions for Fiscal Year 2020-2021.

Information for Public Review and Feedback

The following chart makes up the draft list of OurCounty actions proposed as near-term priorities. The “Action #” column references the numbering used in the Plan. The “Action Description” column displays a short-hand description of the full text of the action in the Plan. The “Requires New Funds” column indicates which actions will require a new source of funding, whether from the County budget or an external source. The “Lead Department” column lists the already approved lead County departments. All supporting departments listed in the Plan for specific actions are still in place but are not noted here for the sake of brevity. Items marked with an asterisk (*) are either completed or already underway. Please reference the full OurCounty document when reviewing this list.

When providing comments on this draft list, we encourage stakeholders to consider the following questions:

- Recognizing that the County has limited resources to fund OurCounty actions, what are your highest priorities from among this list?
- Does this reflect our co-equal values of equity, environment, and economy?
- Is this list achievable?
- Does this list surprise you in any way?
- Will the actions here help provide guidance to cities without a sustainability plan?
- Will these actions support progress towards the regional targets outlined in the Plan?
- Do you see opportunities for collaboration with you/your organization on these actions?

Related Actions

While the near-term priorities list identifies actions directly from the Sustainability Plan, the County is taking additional enabling actions related to the Plan's goals that may not be specified in the Plan. For example, the County is currently updating the Climate Action Plan of the County General Plan as a tool to achieving carbon neutrality by 2045. Led by the Department of Regional Planning, the updated Climate Action Plan will be actively monitored during implementation and updated every five years. We encourage all stakeholders who participated in the OurCounty process to also participate in the Climate Action Plan update. Please visit http://planning.lacounty.gov/climate/ for more information.

Draft OurCounty Near-Term Priority Actions

Action #	Action Description (paraphrased)	Requires New Funds	Lead Dept.
Goal 1: Resilient and healthy community environments where residents thrive in place			
1*	Limit siting of new sensitive uses at least 500 feet from freeways		DRP
2	Expand the setback distance for oil and gas operations from sensitive land uses		DRP
4	Require oil and gas facility operators to prepare and make available to the public a comprehensive Community Safety Plan	X	DPH
5	Expand the role for DPH in the initial siting process and the ongoing enforcement of regulations for industrial facilities	X	DPH
7	Utilize fenceline and community air monitoring data to improve emissions regulations on refineries and other industrial facilities	X	DPH
8*	Plan and implement a new lead-based paint hazard remediation program		DPH, LACDA
11*	Develop a public engagement, enforcement and compliance plan for illegal dumping.		PW
12*	Complete development and start implementation of the Green Zones Program		DRP
14*	Enact a permanent rent stabilization ordinance		CDA
15*	Adopt an inclusionary housing ordinance that promotes mixed income housing		DRP
Goal 2: Buildings and infrastructure that support human health and resilience			
28A&B*	Conduct a climate vulnerability assessment addressing infrastructural and social vulnerability		CEO
29	Develop a comprehensive urban heat island mitigation strategy and implementation plan	X	DPH
34*	Invest in multi-benefit water management solutions		PW
35*	Develop a local water supply plan.		PW
42*	Develop a plan to ensure effective, well-maintained flood risk mitigation infrastructure		PW
43	Create and implement a community-informed Urban Forest Management Plan	X	CEO
Goal 3: Equitable and sustainable land use and development without displacement			

Action #	Action Description (paraphrased)	Requires New Funds	Lead Dept.
49*	Expand the number and extent of transit-oriented communities		DRP
52*	Promote walkability through various tools, including zoning and pedestrian enhancements		DRP
53*	Develop equitable design guidelines that promote high quality living environments for all.		DRP
56*	Evaluate options to limit new large-scale development in high climate-hazard areas	X	DRP
58*	Regularly update the building code, fire code and Hazard Mitigation Plan to reflect best practice in wildland-urban interface.		PW
Goal 4: A prosperous LA County that provides opportunities for all residents and businesses and supports the transition to a green economy			
60	Connect graduates and workers with on-the-job training and employment opportunities	X	WDACS
65*	Promote the development and growth of affordable rental and ownership housing		DRP
Goal 5: Thriving ecosystems, habitats, and biodiversity			
70	Expand county personnel training on biodiversity	X	CEO, DPR
Goal 6: Accessible parks, beaches, recreational waters, public lands, and public spaces that create opportunities for respite, recreation, ecological discovery and cultural activities			
74*	Plan, implement, and maintain parks and other public green spaces		DPR
75	Implement Community Parks and Recreation Plans and park projects	X	DPR
81	Adopt and implement the Principles of Universal Design		DPR, DBH
Goal 7: A fossil fuel-free LA County			
85	Develop standards that put the County on a path towards building decarbonization	X	PW
88*	Maximize the installation of solar and energy storage systems on County property		ISD
90	Develop and implement a strategy to eliminate fossil fuels in County cogeneration facilities	X	ISD
92*	Install electric vehicle (EV) chargers at County facilities and properties	X	ISD
94*	Convert Sheriff's Department fleet to zero emission by partnering with vehicle manufacturers to develop a zero emission pursuit vehicle and transport bus.	X	LASD

Action #	Action Description (paraphrased)	Requires New Funds	Lead Dept.
93	Revise and regularly update the County's fleet policy		ISD
95	Partner with LAFD and equipment manufactures to pilot a zero-emission fire engine	X	FIRE
Goal 8: A convenient, safe, clean, and affordable transportation system that enhances mobility and quality of life while reducing car dependency			
99	Develop and implement a comprehensive parking reform strategy		DRP
100	Offer free transit passes for students, youth, seniors, disabled, and low- income populations	X	PW
104*	Pilot an alternative work site program for County employees		ISD
105	Implement the County's Vision Zero Action Plan	X	PW, DPH
Goal 9: Sustainable production and consumption of resources			
107*	Develop and implement an equitable strategy to phase out single use plastics	X	PW, ISD
108	Adopt and advocate for producer and manufacturer responsibility requirements	X	CEO, PW
110*	Conduct regular Waste Characterization Studies for sectors and sub-sectors and public space, including County facilities		PW
114	Develop a Net Zero Water Ordinance for new development	X	PW
119	County facilities report to Energy Star Portfolio Manager and decrease energy use	X	ISD
122	Expand existing countywide programs that incentivize the development of local upcycling	X	PW
Goal 10: A sustainable and just food system that enhances access to affordable, local, and healthy food			
128*	Enhance and expand the County's existing Food DROP food donation and redistribution program		PW
132	Implement the Good Food Purchasing Policy	X	DPH
Goal 11: Inclusive, transparent, and accountable governance that facilitates participation in sustainability efforts, especially by disempowered communities			
138	Develop equity goals and metrics for OurCounty initiatives		CEO
145	Develop climate-related health equity data initiative	X	DPH

Action #	Action Description (paraphrased)	Requires New Funds	Lead Dept.
148*	Implement arts-based civic engagement strategies to support OurCounty		A/C
149*	Work with communities to produce asset maps of community resources		A/C
Goal 12: A commitment to realize OurCounty sustainability goals through creative, equitable, and coordinated funding and partnerships			
150	Coordinate multi-jurisdictional efforts to seek funding to support OurCounty initiatives		CEO
151	Inventory and document County-owned arts and cultural assets		A/C
152*	Obtain a Transformative Climate Communities implementation grant		CEO
156*	Apply sustainability as a lens for consideration of departmental budget requests		All
157*	Develop a Master Services Agreement to simplify the County contracting process		DPH
158	Modernize the County's purchasing and contracting policies		ISD

* Denotes actions that are completed or already underway