



**CITY OF NOVATO**  
CALIFORNIA

**Sustainability Commission**

**AGENDA**

**Thursday, January 18, 2024 - 6:00 p.m.**

Novato City Hall, 901 Sherman Avenue

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**Chair**

Bob Brown

**Vice Chair**

Chris Yalonis

**Members**

Tim Blofeld, Zach Brownstone, Pablo Paster, Dhanya Subramanian, and Nicole Tai

**Staff Liaison**

Gretchen Schubeck

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The Sustainability Commission welcomes your attendance at its meetings, which are held on the third Thursday of each month at 6:00 p.m. Your interest is encouraged and appreciated.

**Public Participation Options**

Members of the public may provide public comments and participate in Sustainability Commission meetings as follows:

- **Written Public Comments:** May be submitted via [sustainability@novato.org](mailto:sustainability@novato.org). Written public comments received more than 3 hours before the start of the meeting will be distributed to the Commission prior to the meeting. Written public comments will not be read during the meeting.
- **In-person Public Comments:** May be made during the meetings, which are held at Novato City Hall, 901 Sherman Avenue.

In compliance with the Americans with Disabilities Act, if you need special assistance to participate in this meeting, please contact the City Clerk at (415) 899-8986. Notification at least 48 hours prior to the meeting will enable the City to make reasonable accommodation to help ensure accessibility to this meeting. The Sustainability Commission may discuss and/or take action on any or all of the items listed on the agenda irrespective of how the agenda items are described.

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**A. CALL TO ORDER AND ROLL CALL**

**B. APPROVAL OF FINAL AGENDA**

**C. PUBLIC COMMENT**

*There is a three-minute time limit to speak, although the Chair may shorten the time based on the number of speakers or other factors. A speaker may not yield their time to another speaker.*

*For issues raised during Public Comment that are not on the published agenda, except as otherwise provided under the Ralph M. Brown Act, no action can legally be taken. The Commission may direct that the item be referred to the Staff Liaison for action or may schedule the item on a subsequent agenda.*

## **D. CONSENT ITEMS**

### **D.1 Approve minutes of meeting held on November 16, 2023**

## **E. GENERAL BUSINESS**

*These items include significant and administrative actions of special interest and will usually include a presentation and discussion by the Commission. They will be enacted upon by a separate vote.*

### **E.1 Climate Action Plan (CAP) Update**

- 1) Receive and discuss draft CAP actions;**
- 2) Receive revised CAP update timeline;**
- 3) Discuss community outreach and engagement process; and**
- 4) Establish an ad-hoc sub-committee to review draft CAP actions.**

## **F. COMMISSIONER & STAFF LIAISON REPORTS**

*This section is used for Commissioners and the Staff Liaison to orally report on topics that can be considered for discussion at a future meeting.*

### **F.1 Commissioner Reports**

### **F.2 Staff Liaison Reports**

## **G. ADJOURNMENT**

*Materials that are submitted to members of the Commission after the distribution of the meeting's agenda packet will be available upon request.*

### **AFFIDAVIT OF POSTING**

I, Gretchen Schubeck, certify that on January 12, 2024, the agenda was posted on the City Community Service Board at 922 Machin Avenue and on the City's website [www.novato.org](http://www.novato.org).

/ Gretchen Schubeck /

Gretchen Schubeck, Sustainability Coordinator



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**CITY OF NOVATO**  
**CALIFORNIA**

**Sustainability Commission**

**MINUTES**

**Thursday, November 16, 2023 - 6:00 pm**

Novato City Hall, 901 Sherman Avenue, Novato

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**Chair**

Bob Brown

**Vice Chair**

Chris Yalonis

**Members**

Tim Blofeld, Bob Brown, Zach Brownstone, Pablo Päster, and Dhanya Subramanian

**Staff Liaison**

Gretchen Schubeck

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**A. CALL TO ORDER AND ROLL CALL**

Commission Chair Brown called the meeting to order at 6:04pm.

**Commissioners Present:** Bob Brown (Chair), Pablo Päster, Dhanya Subramanian, and Nicole Tai

**Staff Present:** Gretchen Schubeck, Sustainability Coordinator

**B. APPROVAL OF FINAL AGENDA**

*Upon a motion of Commissioner Tai and second by Commissioner Päster the Commission voted 5-0-2 to approve the final agenda.*

**AYES: BROWN, PÄSTER, SUBRAMANIAN, TAI, YALONIS**

**NOES: NONE**

**ABSENT: BLOFELD, BROWNSTONE**

*Motion carried.*

**C. PUBLIC COMMENT**

None

**D. CONSENT ITEMS**

*Upon a motion of Commissioner Tai and second by Commissioner Päster, the Commission voted 5-0-2 to approve the meeting minutes of October 19, 2023.*

**AYES: BROWN, PÄSTER, SUBRAMANIAN, TAI, YALONIS**

**NOES: NONE**  
**ABSENT: BLOFELD, BROWNSTONE**

*Motion carried.*

## **E. GENERAL BUSINESS**

### **E.1 Workshop: Climate Action Plan Update (Adaptation and Sequestration)**

- Coordinator Schubeck presented an overview of climate adaptation and carbon sequestration impacts and strategies (PowerPoint attached).
- Following the presentation, Commissioners and members of the public were invited to join one of two topic-focused tables to review a set of draft adaptation and sequestration-related actions for potential inclusion in the updated CAP.
- 18 community members and four Commissioners reviewed the proposed actions and discussed whether to keep the action as proposed, or to modify. There was also an opportunity to propose new actions.
- Table one focused on the *Urban Forest, Healthy Soils, and Trees on Public Land*; and table two focused on *Sea Level Rise and Climate-Driven Events*.
- The CAP consultant and staff will transcribe feedback provided at the workshop for review by the Commission at a future meeting.

### **E.2 Discuss and consider recommending that the City Council consider adopting the County of Marin's model reach code related to electric vehicle infrastructure.**

*Upon a motion of Commissioner Yalonis and second by Commissioner Tai, the Commission voted 5-0-2 to recommend that the City Council consider adoption of the County of Marin's model reach code related to electric vehicle infrastructure.*

**AYES: BROWN, PÄSTER, SUBRAMANIAN, TAI, YALONIS**  
**NOES: NONE**  
**ABSENT: BLOFELD, BROWNSTONE**

*Motion carried.*

## **F. COMMISSIONER AND STAFF LIAISON REPORTS**

### **F.1 Commissioner Reports**

Commissioner Tai proposed adding an agenda item to the next Commission meeting to establish an ad-hoc subcommittee to review the draft Climate Action Plan actions.

*Upon a motion of Commissioner Tai and second by Commissioner Päster, the Commission voted 5-0-2 to add an agenda item to the next Commission to establish an ad-hoc subcommittee to review the draft Climate Action Plan actions.*

**AYES: BROWN, PÄSTER, SUBRAMANIAN, TAI, YALONIS**  
**NOES: NONE**  
**ABSENT: BLOFELD, BROWNSTONE**

*Motion carried.*

Commissioner Brown reported that the Marin Green Home Tour held on October 26, 2023 was a big success and a recording is available at [www.maringreentour.org](http://www.maringreentour.org)

**F.2 Staff Liaison Reports**

No update.

**G. ADJOURNMENT**

*Upon a motion by Commissioner Tai and second by Commissioner Yalonis, the Commission voted 5-0-2 to adjourn the meeting at 7:45pm.*

**AYES: BROWN, PÄSTER, SUBRAMANIAN, TAI, YALONIS**

**NOES: NONE**

**ABSENT: BLOFELD, BROWNSTONE**

*Motion carried.*

DRAFT



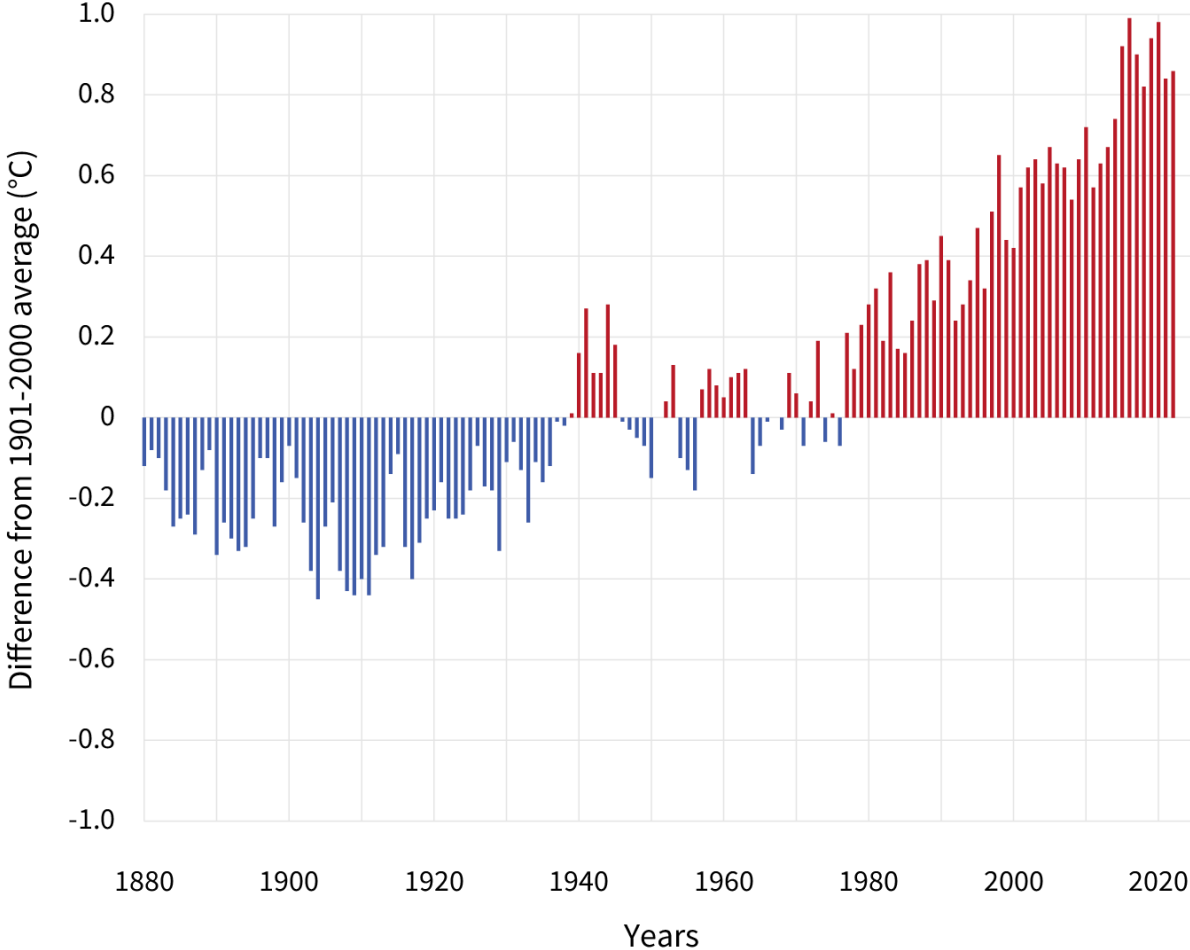
# **Climate Action Plan Carbon Sequestration & Climate Adaptation Strategies**

**Novato Sustainability Commission**

**November 16, 2023**

# The Climate is Warming – And Will Continue to Do So

## GLOBAL AVERAGE SURFACE TEMPERATURE



Source: NOAA

# Climate Change Impacts in California

- More intense and frequent heat waves/drought
- More severe and frequent wildfires
- More severe storms and extreme weather events
- Greater river flows
- Shrinking snowpack and less overall precipitation
- Accelerating sea level rise
- Ocean acidification, hypoxia, and warming





## Climate Change Impacts in Novato

	Historical Average (1961-1990)	Low Emissions Scenario (RCP 4.5)		High Emissions Scenario (RCP 8.5)	
		Mid-Century (2035-2064) average	End-Century (2070-2099) average	Mid-Century (2035-2064) average	End-Century (2070-2099) average
Annual Average Maximum Temperature	70.6°F	73.3°F	74.4°F	74.1°F	77.2°F
Annual Average Minimum Temperature	46.2°F	49.0°F	50.1°F	49.9°F	53.0°F
Annual Cooling Degree Days	362 CDD	736 CDD	939 CDD	888 CDD	1,507 CDD
Annual Heating Degree Days	2,769 HDD	2,066 HDD	1,823 HDD	1,905 HDD	1,331 HDD
Annual Extreme Heat Days	3.8 days	9 days	10 days	9 days	29 days

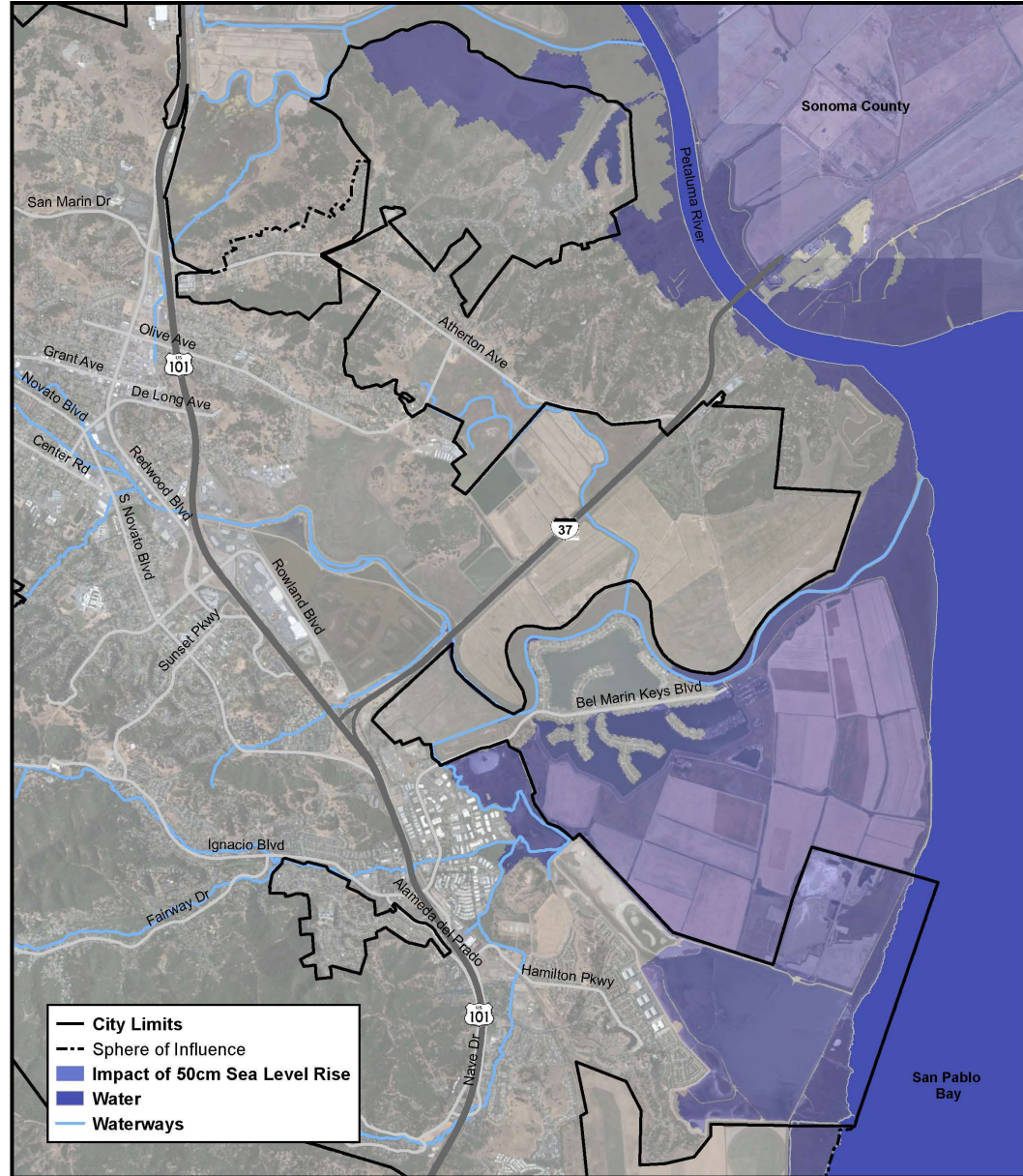
Source: Cal-Adapt

## Climate Change Impacts in Marin

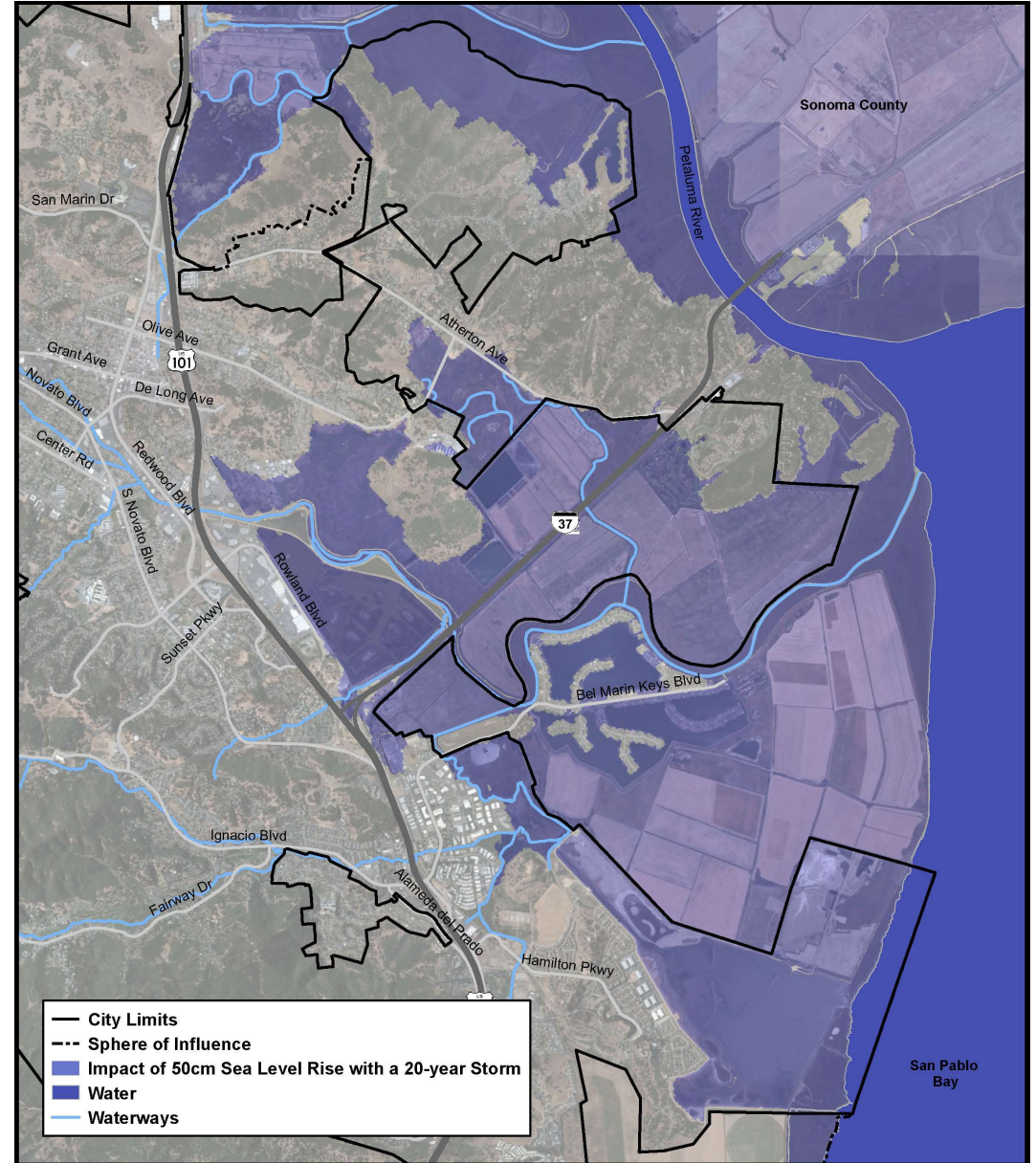
- By end of century, models predict a 35% increase in burned areas in Marin
- 4-5” increase in rainfall expected in Marin by mid-century
- As much as 9” increase by end of century in high emissions scenario
- “Likely” sea level rise of 10” by 2040; 2.4’ (low-emissions scenario) to 3.4’ (high-emissions scenario) by end of century



# 50cm (20-inch) Sea Level Rise



# 50cm (20-inch) Sea Level Rise with a 20-year Storm



# Adaptation Planning and Emergency Response Documents

- Marin Shoreline Sea Level Rise Vulnerability Assessment (2017)
- Multi-Jurisdictional Local Hazard Mitigation Plan (2018)  
*(Currently being updated)*
- Adaptation Land Use Planning Guide (2020)
- Sea Level Rise Adaptation Planning Framework (2019)
- City of Novato General Plan 2035 (2020)
- Vulnerability Assessment : Marin Countywide Plan Safety Element (2022)
- City of Novato Emergency Operations Plan (2023)



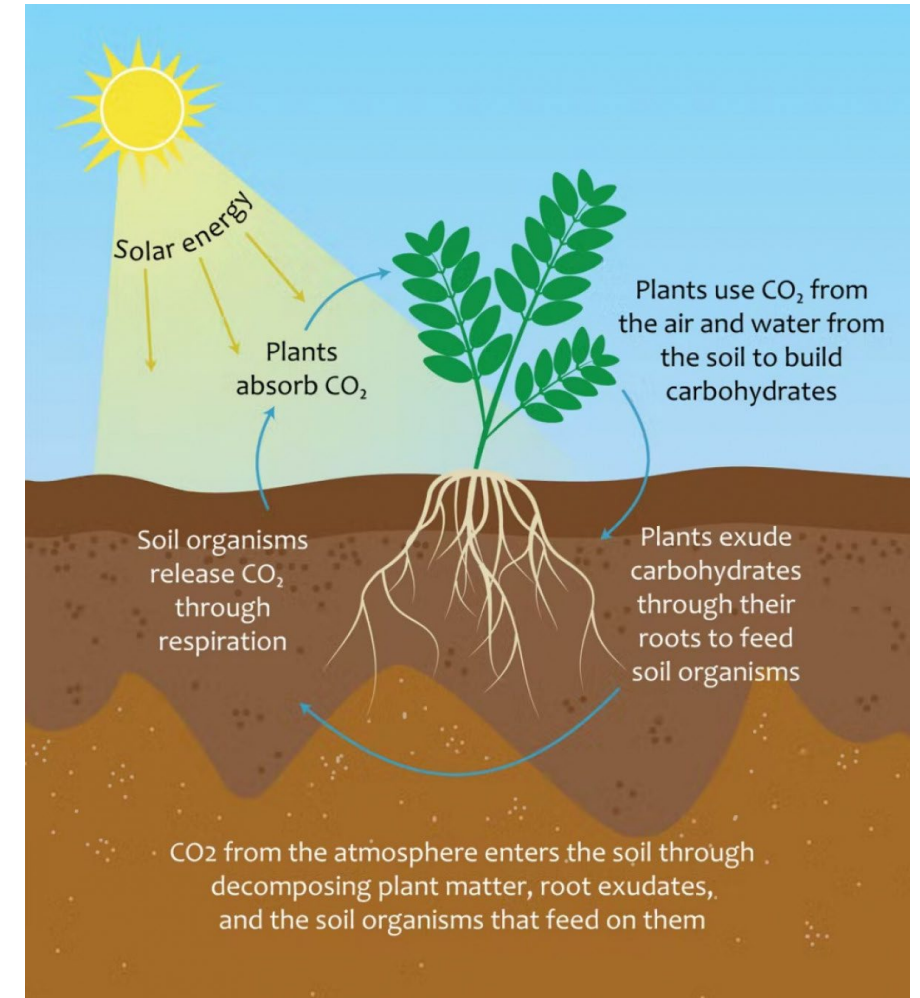
# Carbon Sequestration & Climate Adaptation Strategies

## Strategies to Sequester Emissions

- Preserving and Expanding the Urban Forest
- Sequestering Carbon in Our Soils

## Strategies to Adapt to Climate Change

- Planning for Sea Level Rise
- Preparing for Climate-Driven Events



# Workshop Flow and Format

## Flow

- Group Discussion – 40 minutes
- Report Out – 5 minutes each group
- Commission Discussion – 20 minutes

## Format

- Choose a strategy of interest
- Choose a note taker and someone to report out
- Review and discuss draft actions
- Record comments on flip chart

