

# **FRESNO GREENHOUSE GAS (GHG) REDUCTION PLAN UPDATE**

## **CEQA PROJECT CONSISTENCY CHECKLIST**

**March 2021**



## **Fresno Greenhouse Gas (GHG) Reduction Plan Update – CEQA Project Consistency Checklist**

### **INTRODUCTION**

The City of Fresno updated its 2014 Greenhouse Gas (GHG) Reduction Plan (the Plan) in the year 2021 to conform with existing applicable State climate change policies and regulations. The GHG Plan Update outlines strategies that the City will undertake to achieve its proportional share of GHG emission reductions. The purpose of this GHG Reduction Plan Update Consistency Checklist (Checklist) is to help the City provide a streamlined review process for new development projects that are subject to discretionary review pursuant to the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) Guidelines Section 15183.5.

This Checklist has been developed as part of the GHG Plan Update implementation and monitoring process and will support the achievement of individual GHG reduction strategies as well as the City's overall GHG reduction goals. In addition, this Checklist will further the City's sustainability goals and policies that encourage sustainable development and aim to conserve and reduce the consumption of resources, such as energy and water. Projects that meet the requirements of this Checklist will be deemed to be consistent with the Fresno GHG Reduction Plan Update and will be found to have a less than significant contribution to cumulative GHG (i.e., the project's incremental contribution to cumulative GHG effects is not cumulatively considerable), pursuant to CEQA Guidelines Sections 15064(h)(3), 15130(d), and 15183(b). Projects that do not meet the requirements in this Checklist will be deemed to be inconsistent with the Fresno GHG Reduction Plan Update and must prepare a project-specific analysis of GHG emissions, including quantification of existing and projected GHG emissions and incorporation of the measures in this Checklist to the extent feasible. This GHG Checklist can be updated to reflect adoption of new GHG reduction strategies or to comply with any changes and updates in the Plan or local, State or federal regulations. Note that not all the measures in the checklist are applicable to all projects. The projects should comply with applicable measures from the checklist.

<b>1. Project Information</b>	
<b>Contact Information</b>	
<b>Project No./Name:</b>	
<b>Address:</b>	
<b>Applicant Name/Co:</b>	
<b>Contact Information:</b>	
<b>Project Information</b>	
<b>1. What is the Site acreage of the Project?</b>	
<b>2. Identify all Applicable Proposed Land uses:</b>	
<b>a. Residential (Indicate number of single-family units)</b>	
<b>b. Residential (Indicate number of multi-family units)</b>	
<b>c. Commercial (total square footage)</b>	
<b>d. Industrial (total square footage)</b>	
<b>e. Other (describe)</b>	
<b>3. Is the project or a portion of the project located in a transit priority area? (Y/N)</b>	
<b>4. Provide a brief description of the project proposed:</b>	

2. Determining Land Use Consistency		
Checklist Item		
As the first step in determining the consistency with the GHG Reduction Plan for discretionary development projects, this section allows the City to determine the project's consistency with the land use assumptions used in the GHG Reduction Plan.		
	Yes	No
<p>1. Is the proposed project consistent with the approved General Plan, Specific Plan, and Community Plan planned land use and zoning designations?</p> <p>If the answer is <b>Yes</b>, then proceed to the GHG Plan Update Consistency Checklist.</p> <p>If the answer is <b>No</b>, then proceed to question 2.</p>		
<p>2. If the proposed project is not consistent with the approved planned land use and zoning designation(s), then provide estimated GHG project emissions under both existing and proposed designation(s) for comparison. Compare the maximum buildout of the existing designation with the maximum buildout of the proposed designation.</p> <p>If the estimated project emissions at maximum buildout of the proposed designation(s) is <b>equivalent to or less than</b> the estimated project emissions at maximum buildout of the existing designation(s), then in accordance with the City's Significance Determination Thresholds, the project's GHG impact is less than significant. If there is a proposed development project associated with this plan amendment and or rezone then complete the GHG Plan Update Consistency Checklist and incorporate applicable measures, otherwise there is no further step required.</p> <p>If the estimated project emission at maximum buildout of the proposed designation(s) is <b>greater than</b> the estimated project emissions at maximum buildout of the existing designation(s), then in accordance with the City's Significance Determination Thresholds, the project's GHG impact is significant. The project must either show consistency with applicable GP objectives and policies (provide applicable GP objectives and policies here) or provide analysis and measures to incorporate into the project to bring the GHG emissions to a level that is less than or equal to the estimated project emission at maximum buildout of the existing designation(s) unless the decision-maker finds that a measure is infeasible in accordance with CEQA Guidelines Section 15091. If there is a proposed development project associated with this plan amendment and or rezone then complete the GHG Plan Update Consistency Checklist and incorporate applicable measures, otherwise there is no further step required.</p>		

### 3. Greenhouse Gas (GHG) Reduction Plan Update - CEQA Project Consistency Checklist

GHG Reduction Plan Update consistency review involves the evaluation of project consistency with the applicable strategies of the GHG Reduction Plan Update. The GHG reduction strategies identified in the GHG Reduction Plan Update relies upon the General Plan and additional local measures as the basis of the development related strategies to reduce GHG emissions. This checklist is developed based on the key local GHG reduction strategies and actions identified in the GHG Reduction Plan Update that are applicable to proposed development projects. Note that not all strategies listed below will apply to all projects. For example, not all projects will meet mixed-use related policies of the General Plan, because not all projects are required to be mixed use.

Checklist Item (Check the appropriate box and provide an explanation for your answer)	Relevant General Plan Policy	Yes	No	Not Applicable (NA)	Explanation
<b>1: Land Use and Transportation Demand Strategies</b>					
a. Does the project include mixed-use, development? For GHG Reduction Plan consistency, mixed-use development is defined as pedestrian-friendly development that blends two or more residential, commercial, cultural, or institutional, uses, one of which must be residential	Policy UF-1-c, LU-3-b, Objective-UF 12, UF-12-a, UF-12-b, UF-12-d, Policy RC-2-a				
b. Is the project high density? For GHG Reduction Plan consistency, is the project developed at 12 units per acre or higher?	LU-5-f				
c. Is the project infill development, pursuant to the General Plan definition of location within the City limits as of December 31, 2012?	LU-2-a, Objective-12, UF-12-a, UF-12-b, UF-12-d				
d. Does the project implement pedestrian bicycle, and transit linkages with surrounding land uses and neighborhoods? For GHG Reduction Plan consistency, the project must include all sidewalks, paths, trails, and facilities required by the General Plan and Active Transportation Plan, as implemented through the Fresno Municipal Code and project conditions of approval.	Policy UF-1-c, UF-12-e, Policy RC-2-a, Objective MT-4,5,6, Policy MT-4-c, Policy MT-6-a, Policy POSS-7-h Objective MT 8, Policies MT-8-a, MT-8-b				
e. If the project includes mixed-use or high density development, is it located within ½ mile of a High Quality Transit Area as defined in the City's CEQA Guidelines for Vehicle Miles Traveled? Or, is the project located within 500 feet of an existing or planned transit stop?	Policy UF-12-a, UF-12-b, LU-3-b, Objective MT 8, Policies MT-8-a, MT-8-b				
f. Will the project accommodate a large employer (over 100 employees) and will it implement trip reduction programs such as increasing transit use, carpooling, vanpooling, bicycling, or other measures to reduce vehicle miles traveled pursuant to San Joaquin Valley Air Pollution Control District Rule 9410?  See the SJVAPCD website for details: <a href="https://www.valleyair.org/rules/currentrules/r9410.pdf">https://www.valleyair.org/rules/currentrules/r9410.pdf</a>	Policy MT-8-b, Objective MT-9, Policy MT-10-c, San Joaquin Valley Air Pollution Control District Rule 9410				

Checklist Item (Check the appropriate box and provide an explanation for your answer)	Relevant General Plan Policy	Yes	No	Not Applicable (NA)	Explanation
g. If the project includes modifications to the transportation network, do those improvements meet the requirements of the City of Fresno's Complete Streets Policy, adopted in October 2019? According to the policy, a complete street is a transportation facility that is planned, designed, operated, and maintained to provide safe mobility for all users - including bicyclists, pedestrians, transit vehicles, trucks, and motorists - appropriate to the function and context of the facility while connecting to a larger transportation network.  See City of Fresno website for details: <a href="https://www.fresno.gov/publicworks/wp-content/uploads/sites/17/2019/10/Complete-Streets-091119.pdf">https://www.fresno.gov/publicworks/wp-content/uploads/sites/17/2019/10/Complete-Streets-091119.pdf</a>	MT-1-g, MT-1-h				
h. Does the project have a less than significant VMT impact, either through satisfying screening criteria or mitigating VMT impacts, pursuant to the City's adopted VMT thresholds?  See City of Fresno website for details: <a href="https://www.fresno.gov/darm/wp-content/uploads/sites/10/2021/01/CEQA-Guidelines-for-Vehicle-Miles-Traveled-Final-Adopted-Version.pdf">https://www.fresno.gov/darm/wp-content/uploads/sites/10/2021/01/CEQA-Guidelines-for-Vehicle-Miles-Traveled-Final-Adopted-Version.pdf</a>	MT-2-b, MT-2-c				
<b>2: Electric Vehicle Strategies</b>					
a. For new multi-family dwelling units with parking, does the project provide EV charging spaces capable of supporting future EV supply equipment (EV capable) at 10% of the parking spaces per 2019 California Green Building Standards Code (CALGREEN, Title 24, Part 11), Section 4.106.4	Policy RC-8-j				
b. For new commercial buildings, does project provide EV charging spaces capable of supporting EV capable spaces at 4% to 10% of the parking spaces per 2019 California Green Building Standards Code (CALGREEN, Title 24, Part 11), Section 5.106.5.3	Policy RC-8-j				
<b>3: Energy Conservation Strategies</b>					
a. Does the project meet or exceed mandatory state building energy codes? If yes, does the project follow any other GreenPoint ratings such as LEED, Energy Star or others? If yes, indicate level of certification-Silver, gold, platinum if applicable?	Policy RC-5-c, Objective RC-8, Policy RC 8-a				
b. For commercial projects, does the project achieve net zero emissions electricity?  Mark NA if project will be permitted before 2030. Mark Yes if voluntary. Add source and capacity in explanation.	Additional Recommended GHG Plan Measure, supports Objective RC-8				

Checklist Item (Check the appropriate box and provide an explanation for your answer)	Relevant General Plan Policy	Yes	No	Not Applicable (NA)	Explanation
<b>4: Water Conservation Strategies</b>					
<p>a. Does the project meet or exceed the mandatory outdoor water use measures of the 2019 California Green Building Standards Code (CALGREEN, Title 24, Part 11), Section 4.304?</p> <p>If the project exceeds CalGreen Code mandatory measures provide methods in excess of requirements in the explanation.</p> <p>Examples include outdoor water conservation measures such as; drought tolerant landscaping plants, compliant irrigation systems, xeriscape, replacing turf etc. Provide the conservation measure that the project will include in the explanation.</p>	Objective RC-7, Policy RC-7-a, RC-7-h				
<p>b. Does the project meet or exceed the mandatory indoor water use measures of the 2019 California Green Building Standards Code (CALGREEN, Title 24, Part 11), Section 4.303?</p> <p>If the project exceeds CalGreen Code, mandatory measures provide methods in excess of requirements in the explanation. Examples may include water conserving devices and systems such as water leak detection system, hot water pipe insulation, pressure reducing valves, energy efficient appliances such as Energy Star Certified dishwashers, washing machines, dual flush toilets, point of use and/or tankless water heaters.</p>	Objective RC-7, Policy RC-7-a, RC-7-e				
<b>5: Waste Diversion and Recycling Strategies</b>					
a. Does the project implement techniques of solid waste segregation, disposal and reduction, such as recycling, composting, waste to energy technology, and/or waste separation, to reduce the volume of solid wastes that must be sent to landfill facilities?	Policy PU-9-a, RC-11-a				
b. During construction will the project recycle construction and demolition waste?	Policy RC-11-a				
c. Does the project provide recycling canisters in public areas where trashcans are also provided?	Policy RC-11-a				

Note: The GHG reduction strategies included in this checklist are based on the GHG reduction strategies identified in the Chapter 5 of the GHG Reduction Plan Update.