



NextGen California's 2024 Climate 100 Legislative Priorities

HOW DO ALL CALIFORNIA INVESTMENTS IMPACT OUR CLIMATE FUTURE?

NextGen California created the [Climate 100 project](#) with the conviction that every dollar of our state government spending can help in the fight against the climate crisis. If we rise to this challenge, we will build a more resilient, equitable, and prosperous future for all Californians. Our state government must stop treating climate as a niche spending category, separate from the primary functioning of the state.

PRIORITY - STATE BUDGET: PROTECT THE CALIFORNIA CLIMATE COMMITMENT

As the state's fiscal outlook worsens for 2024 and beyond, it is especially important that California invests in resilience and demonstrates creative leadership on addressing the climate crisis. That means making careful use of limited potential bond funding, enabling a massive return on investment for a master plan to help schools leverage available federal funding, and ensuring that, when we make difficult tradeoffs in the budget itself, we are not being penny-wise and pound-foolish.

Every taxpayer dollar spent is connected to the climate crisis. With these goals as our northstar, we urge the Legislature to act on these priority bills and budget items, and bring the Climate 100 vision one step closer to reality: putting 100 percent of our taxpayer dollars to work in a manner that is consistent with our state's climate goals.

- **Restore the proposed \$200 million cut to Active Transportation** by backfilling the proposed cut from the State Highway Account, as well as proposed cuts to the **Infill Infrastructure** grant program (\$200 million), the **Regional Early Action Planning (REAP) 2.0** grant program (\$300 million), and the **Multifamily Housing Program** (\$250 million).
- **Oppose any further cuts** to vital climate equity programs, affordable housing, transit, and clean transportation programs in the historic California Climate Commitment.
- **Support funding to implement SB 253 (Wiener) and SB 261 (Stern)** which allow the state to bring the resources of the private sector to bear on climate efforts like never before, at near-negligible cost to taxpayers.
- **Support a Climate Resilience Bond with \$10 billion** to support clean water, clean air, healthy lands, and protection from floods, fires, and to protect Californians from extreme heat, and other devastating climate impacts.
- **Support SB 1182 (Gonzalez)** to create a comprehensive Master Plan for healthy, sustainable, and climate-resilient schools, and to prepare California schools to draw down significant new funding from the federal Inflation Reduction Act.

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PRIORITY - CLIMATE & TRANSPORTATION JUSTICE

California's near-exclusive commitment to car-dependent infrastructure is holding our state back from meeting its climate, health, and equity goals. If California does not shift gears on transportation policy, we will suffer hundreds of thousands of premature deaths, cost households thousands of dollars per year in extra expenses, and we will not achieve carbon neutrality in 2045.

Thanks to the federal Bipartisan Infrastructure Law, the state is more flush with cash for transportation infrastructure than ever before, even as we face an overall deficit. But [this funding](#) is being spent in a manner that deepens inequality, worsens air pollution, and moves us backwards on climate. We need thoughtful policy to drive smart investments instead of continuing to shovel taxpayers' dollars towards a broken status quo.

- **Support SB 960 (Wiener)** To strengthen requirements that state-owned roads provide for safe and easy use by pedestrians, cyclists, and transit riders.
- **Support AB 2086 (Schiavo)** To require Caltrans to regularly demonstrate how its transportation investments are advancing the state's climate and equity goals.
- **Support AB 2535 (Bonta)** To better prioritize zero-emission freight infrastructure in California's transportation investments.
- **Support AB 6 (Friedman)** To ensure alignment of Regional Transportation Plans with California's climate goals.

PRIORITY - POLLUTER ACCOUNTABILITY

The fossil fuel industry continues to rely on unjust practices to impose financial and environmental harms on all Californians. The fossil fuel industry is the most profitable and the most deadly enterprise ever to exist on this planet. It is unconscionable that oil, gas, and utility companies routinely hide their true costs of doing business, benefit from sweetheart tax breaks and other subsidies, and leave behind scarred communities and depleted resources when they inevitably extract the last drop of wealth they can from our people. It is time to hold them accountable.

- **Support AB 1866 (Hart)** To provide a much-needed update to the state's outdated and lax idle well clean-up requirements.
- **Support AB 3233 (Addis)** To ensure local governments have the ability to protect their residents from harmful oil and gas drilling practices.
- **Support AB 2083 (Berman)** To create a pathway for cleaning up California's most-polluting heavy industries
- **Support SB 1036 (Limon)** To protect consumers, businesses, and the environment from deceptive practices in the sale of voluntary carbon offsets.
- **Support SB 1497 (Menjivar)** To make big polluters pay for the direct climate harms they have caused to all Californians
- **Support ACA 16 (Bryan)** To establish a state-constitutional right to clean air, water, and a healthy environment.