



Item 8: 2025 Building Energy Action Plan

August 17, 2026 Business Meeting

Owen Howlett, Supervisor, Policy and Analysis Unit, Existing Buildings Branch
Efficiency Division



Overview

AB 758 (Skinner 2009)

- Directed CEC to implement a program to save energy in existing buildings

SB 350 (De Leon, 2015)

- Directed CEC to update legislature via the Action Plan every three years

AB 3232 (Friedman, 2018)

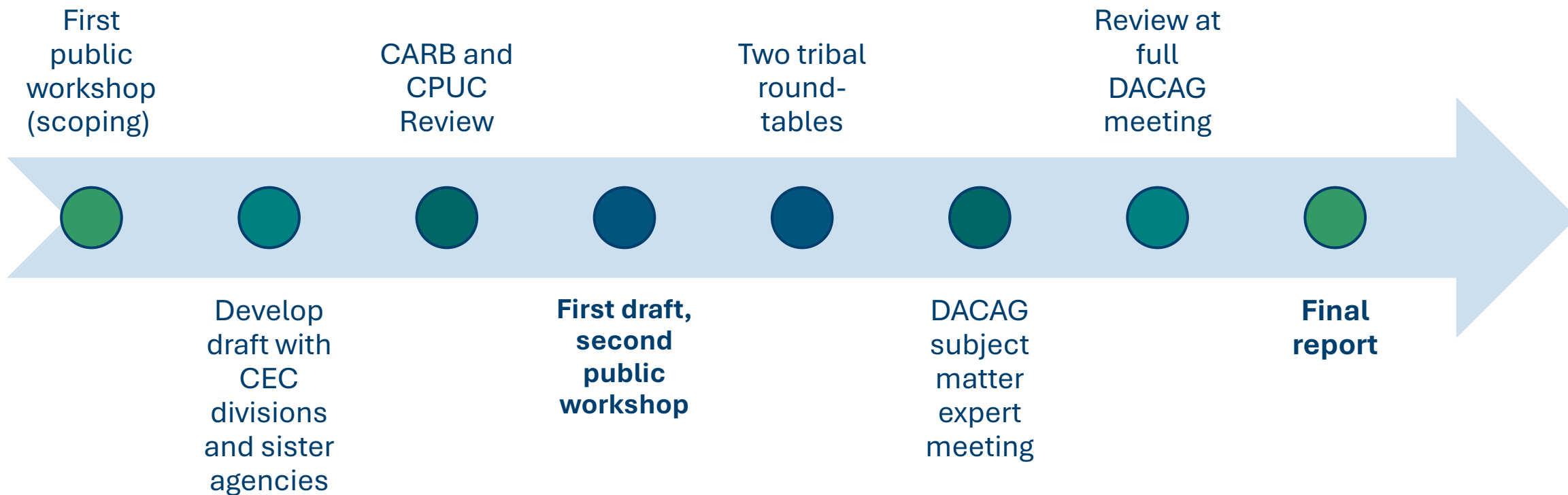
- Directed CEC to assess the feasibility of reducing buildings' greenhouse gas emissions from 1990 levels by 40% by 2030

2025 Action Plan update

- Provides an update on progress and recommends action to accelerate towards above goals.
- Developed in coordination with multiple divisions, CPUC and CARB.



Developing the 2025 Action Plan



Staff processed and addressed 180 discrete comments from stakeholders



Benefits to Californians

- **Reinforces California's commitment to GHG reduction in existing buildings**
- **Creates a forum for coordination between agencies to align strategies**
 - Goals, metrics, and barriers
 - Public and private research funding to address barriers and opportunities
 - Data collection and analysis, program design, and regulations
- **Facilitates communication with stakeholders**
- **Supports required public reporting on progress toward goals**
 - Doubling of energy efficiency savings (SB350)
 - Equitable Decarbonization Program (SB306)



Selected Action Plan Recommendations

- Continue to prioritize funding for incentives to achieve GHG targets
- Prioritize energy efficiency investments to improve affordability
- Maintain focus on equity
- Increase equitable access to low-cost and zero-cost financing
- Expand the decarbonization workforce with well-paid jobs
- Strengthen alignment across agencies and levels of government
- Enhance Energy Code compliance strategies
- Design building performance standards for large commercial and multifamily buildings



Request for Action

Approve the adoption of the 2025 Building Energy Action Plan

Approve staff's determination that the adoption is exempt from the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA)



Thank you!

<https://www.energy.ca.gov/programs-and-topics/programs/energy-efficiency-existing-buildings>



Full List of Recommendations: 1-2

- Continue to prioritize funding for incentives to achieve GHG targets.
- Maintain focus on equity.
- Prioritize energy efficiency investments to improve affordability.
- Continue investing in technology innovation.
- Increase equitable access to low-cost and zero-cost financing.
- Expand the decarbonization workforce with well-paid jobs.
- Empower homeowners and building owners with decision-making resources.
- Strengthen alignment across agencies and levels of government to maximize the benefits of building decarbonization for all Californians.



Full List of Recommendations: 2-2

- Enhance Energy Code compliance strategies.
- Design building performance standards for large commercial and multifamily buildings.
- Implement an accessible home energy rating and labeling program.
- Develop automated load flexibility programs to support grid reliability and energy affordability.
- Collect and analyze actionable data to guide the energy transition.
- Create market conditions that position heat pumps as the leading technology for decarbonizing buildings.