

Local Governments Empowering Our Communities

City of Santa Rosa Climate Action Subcommittee **BayREN Overview**

Anna Oliva, BayREN Local Government Liaison

Dori Estrella and Christine Condon, Climate Action and Resiliency Division Department Analysts

April 3, 2024

Agenda

- BayREN Overview
- 2024 Program Offerings
- Services for Local Government
- Outreach and Education



Overview

The Bay Area Regional Energy Network (BayREN) is a coalition of the Bay Area's **nine counties** — a network of local governments and the Association of Bay Area Governments (ABAG) partnering to promote energy, water and greenhouse gas reduction for residents, small businesses and local governments.









Lead by the Regional Climate Protection Authority

- BayREN Local Government Liaison
- County of Sonoma Climate
 Action and Resiliency Division







BayREN Priorities

BayREN provides three main areas of expertise and services:

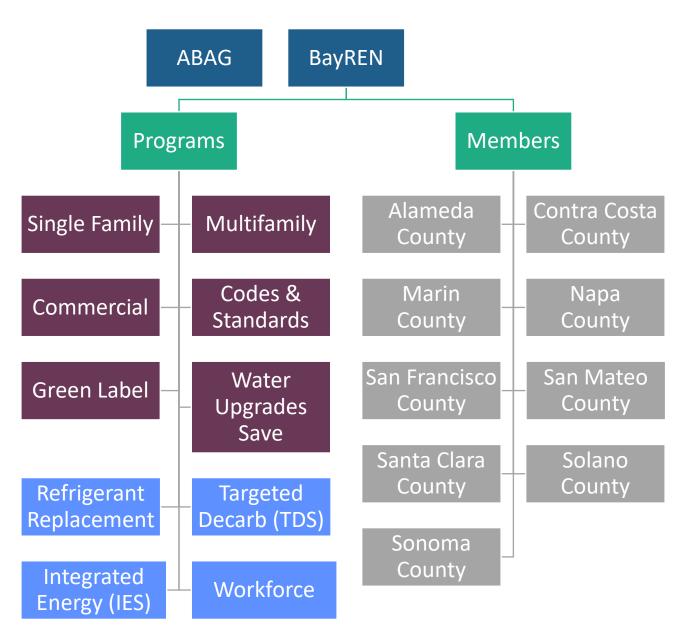
- Promoting healthy and energy efficient buildings for residents and businesses
- **Building capacity** for local governments to increase their impact
- Reducing carbon emissions by catalyzing regional activities



Strategic Vision and 2024-2027 Budget

A significant **60%** of the forthcoming four-year budget of **\$171 million** will be allocated to enhance equity initiatives for underserved residents.

BayREN Portfolio — 2024 to 2027







PROGRAM OFFERINGS



Residential

- Single Family Home+
- Bay Area Multifamily Building Enhancements Program (BAMBE)
- Green Labeling



Commercial

- BayREN Business
- BayREN Refrigerant Replacement Program (BRRR)



Public Sector

- Integrated Energy Services (IES)
- Targeted Decarbonization Services (TDS)



Cross Cutting

- Codes & Standards
- Climate Careers
- Water Upgrades Save



Single Family Home+

Currently undergoing redesign

Offering: Whole home upgrades for households that wouldn't be able to access or afford it on their own.

Proposed key changes:

- Audience: moderate income
- Comprehensive concierge service
- Focused on energy efficiency: weatherization and remediation



Single Family Home+ Redesign Process

- 2022: New Program Goal Discussions
 - 2023: Identify Gaps & Proposed Program Objectives
 - Q1 2024: Gather Community Feedback & Suggestions
 - Q2 2024: Share Program Proposal & Receive Feedback
 - Q3 2024: More Program Development
- Q4 2024: Launch New Program Pilot!



Community Feedback and Engagement Strategy

February through mid-March:

- Surveys (web survey to 1000+ HHs, phone survey to 500 HHs)
- Contractor 1-1 interviews
- County-led focus group discussions
 - Aiming for 3-5 discussions
 - Goal is to include groups representative of target communities; can be community members or CBOs with the right expertise

Late March-Late April:

Small group meetings with key stakeholders, contractors, and possible implementers







Green Labeling

The **Green Labeling** program oversees the Home Energy Score (HES) offering, providing residents with insights into their home's efficiency potential prior to undertaking home upgrade projects. BayREN has been approved to launch HES statewide.

• \$200 assessment rebate for score

The program also provides **training and resources for real estate professional**s to become green home experts.

 NAR Green Designation Training April 17th and 18th in Santa Rosa at the Advanced Energy Center







Bay Area Multifamily Building Enhancements Program (BAMBE)

The program seeks to remove obstacles for improving multifamily buildings, promoting energy savings, and enhancing resident well-being.

Services:

- The program provides no-cost technical assistance and rebates ranging from **\$500** to over **\$6,000 per unit**.
- **Technical assistance** includes personalized guidance and referrals to contractors and incentive programs.
- To qualify for rebates, properties must install at least
 2 upgrades reducing energy usage by 10% or more.

Audience: Multifamily property owners





Codes and Standards

The program supports local governments with developing, adopting, and implementing energy policies, including reach codes and the California Energy Code.

Services:

- Open reach codes calls: offering assistance to develop and adopt local energy policies and building codes
- Providing training and resources for implementation and enforcement of the California Energy Code and local reach codes
- Supplying no-cost technical assistance to help municipal buildings
- Organizing quarterly Bay Area Regional Forums on a variety of energy and emission reduction topics

Audience: Local government staff





BayREN Business

The program supports local small, hard-to-reach businesses through energy efficiency projects to save energy and money.

Services:

- Free energy efficiency assessments
- Financial incentives
- Expert technical support

Audience: Hard-to-reach small businesses

Upgrades: Air conditioning, Energy Star® appliances, LED lighting, refrigeration equipment, space and water heating equipment



Water Upgrades SAVE

Lower your utility bills and save water!



A Simple Offer

- Save more than you pay
- Little-to-no upfront cost
- ✓ No new debt
- ✓ No credit check







It's Easy!



- ☐ Select your upgrades
- □ Installation by program contractor
- □ Pay a charge on a lower water bill

Lasting Rewards!



- · Immediately lower your utility bills
- · Upgrade your home
- · Save water and energy

Water Upgrades Save

The program is available in participating jurisdictions.

Water Upgrades Save is an *inclusive utility investment* program that enables customers to install water efficiency upgrades while using a portion of their utility bill savings to pay for the project over time.

It removes barriers to participation, such as upfront cost, while providing affordable turnkey installation and QC service to support bill savings.

The program can easily integrate with existing City water programs and expand the City's capacity to reach its resource and equity goals. By serving renters, property owners, and all customers regardless of household income, Water Upgrades Save is an effective equity focused program.

New BayREN Programs Launching in 2024







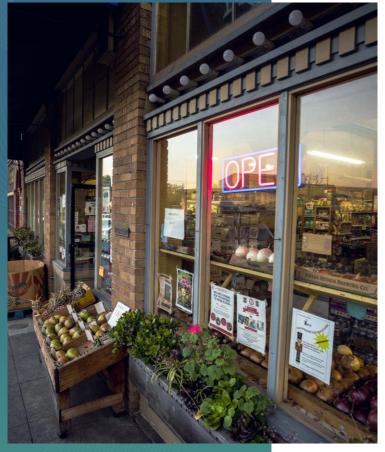
Targeted Decarbonization Services (TDS)



Integrated Energy Services (IES)







BayREN Refrigerant Replacement Program (BRRR)

The program aims to replace environmentally harmful refrigerants with eco-friendlier options at low-to-no cost to food service sector businesses.

Services:

Offering eco-friendly refrigerant replacements, leak repairs, energy-efficient upgrades, and expert education on refrigeration system maintenance.

Audience: Small food-service businesses

- Cornerstones
- Grocery stores
- Restaurants

NEW!







Targeted Decarbonization Services (TDS)

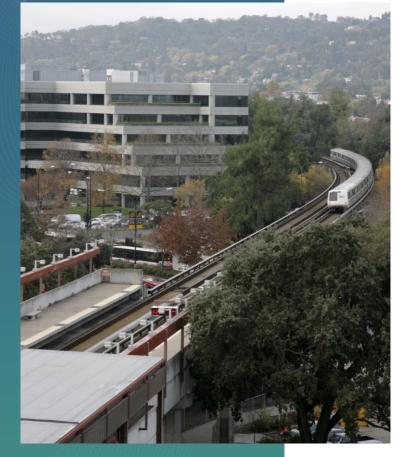
The program will include a Decarbonization Showcase and will provide training and resources related to new equipment and technologies for decarbonizing public buildings.

Services:

- Decarbonization Showcase
- Decarbonization Education and Financing

Audience: Local Government





Integrated Energy Services (IES)



The program will continue to be developed to supplement existing resources provided by the **PG&E Local Government Partnership**.

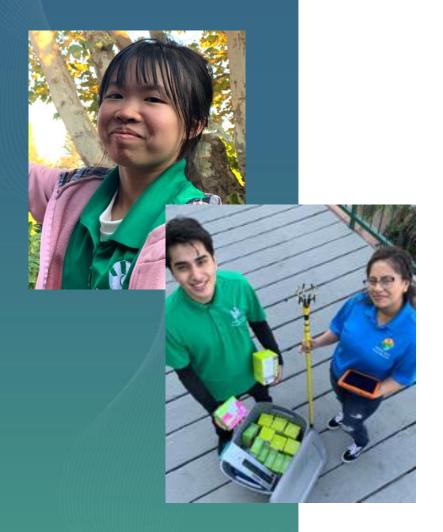
Services:

- Assist local governments and special districts with finding and applying for funds to help improve their public buildings
- Provide a service to develop roadmaps for public building energy improvements

Audience: Local Government







Climate Careers

The program will create job training opportunities in the green economy. Through an existing partnership with **Rising Sun Center for Opportunity**, BayREN has already supported youth with training and employment opportunities since 2019.

• Energy Efficiency Kits



Resources and capacity building for local government staff

Looking forward into 2024

Launch of the BayREN Data Aggregation and Reporting Tool (DART)

- Digital dashboard designed to showcase and share BayREN program metrics at the local level
- Currently developing county dashboards

BayREN Existing Building Study

- Collect, analyze and collate data on the existing building stock in the Bay Area
- Develop detailed information and decarbonization pathways for a subset of building types

Resources and capacity building for local government staff

BayREN Local Government Liaison Service

The service was introduced September 2023 and launched in January 2024. The service is designed to ensure city and county staff can take full advantage of BayREN's extensive efficiency and energy services to benefit their residents and municipal operations.

Services include:

- Communications services Ready-to-post BayREN info for city channels
- Climate policy support City-level BayREN reporting and analysis to support policy goals
- **Equity policy support** Equity-focused programs serving disadvantaged and hard to reach communities

Better Buildings – What We Do

- Site Visits and Audits
- Sustainability Workshops
- Individual Consultations
- Financing and Rebates

- Green Business Certification
- Qualified Contractor List
- Specialized Trainings
- Projects and Leads







Planning and Resources

We serve

Local Governments

Special Districts

K-12 Schools

Small/Medium Businesses

Services

- Evaluate energy use and building systems
- Create an Energy Efficiency Roadmap as a guide for upgrades and savings
- Connect client and contractors to match needs





Better BuildingsSolar and Battery Storage

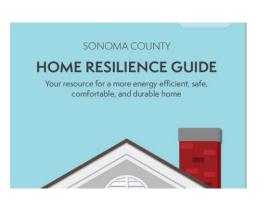
- Provided at no cost
- Create a project plan
- Review improvement options
- Bid analysis
- Financing and incentives

Outreach and Education

In-person workshops, events and webinar series topics:

- Your Energy Efficient and Resilient Home
- Converting to Electricity at Home
- Healthy Homes Why Indoor Air Quality Matters
- Assessing Your Home
- Understanding Residential Heat Pumps
- Heat Pumps for Domestic Water Heating
- Heat Pumps for Residential Heating and Cooling

- Electrification 101: Creating a Plan
- **Electrical Panel Optimization**
- Pre-electrification Considerations
- Solar, Storage, and Electrification A Perfect Match
- Saving Energy at Home
- Induction Cooking Expo
- Funding Your Improvements Incentives and Financing



Educational materials provided in both English and Spanish

Webinar Series

Workshops and Events











Website Portal

Video Library Resources

Contractor Outreach

Training Support

Consultations

Better Buildings Solar and Storage





Thank You!

Anna Oliva

BayREN Local Government Liaison

Regional Climate Protection Authority

anna.oliva@rcpa.ca.gov

main 707.565.5373 direct 707.565



Dori Estrella Christine Condon

Department Analysts

County of Sonoma Climate
Action and Resiliency Division

Dori.Estrella@sonoma-county.org

Christine.Condon@sonoma-county.org

