

Existing Building Reach Codes: Cost-Effective Improvements to Buildings

1:45 PM – 2:45 PM

Sierra Ballroom A

The cities of Santa Cruz, San Luis Obispo, and San Mateo share their experiences adopting existing building reach codes, which are local amendments to the Statewide building code. Existing building reach codes are high-impact policies grounded in local permit data that improve residences and busi...

Speakers

Andrea Chow, Sustainability AnalystCity of San Mateo

Chris Read, Sustainability ManagerCity of San Luis Obispo

Tiffany Wise-West, Sustainability + Resiliency OfficerCity of Santa Cruz

Moderator

Marianne Olson, Lead Research Engineer, TRC

Notes: (sorry these are super spotty - I thought that Maya would be in the room)

- What is a reach code
- Reach codes that decrease an energy use must demonstrate that they are cost-effective
- Existing building reach codes - these should take advantage of planned work that a homeowner was already doing; cooling upgrades, remodels
- AB 130
 - Paused reach code amendments for residential changes
- Why did your cities pursue a reach code?
 - Reach codes have a nice story for how to get to carbon neutrality - new buildings can minimize new gas infrastructure; existing building reach codes create space with building developers around the feasibility of retrofits at other points in time
- Selling it to the public
 - Show the size of the project it applies to - 600 sq ft box on the floor with painters tape - helped visualize the scale of the project
 - Talking to contractors - these are \$10k+ Projects