



Siemens: Los Angeles Must Transform Energy, Transit Systems To Hit Sustainability Goals

Siemens is a main driver and global leader in Smart City technology. So, Siemens tells Los Angeles what its problems are (energy, transit) and then proceeds to sell solutions that will 'fix' the problems, 'helping' the city meet its United Nations-imposed Sustainable Development goals. □
TN Editor

Today, Los Angeles reports a use of 33% renewable energy and 14% transit and active transport, making the city's 2050 goals fairly aggressive. While the city was able to reduce its GHG emissions by 20% from 1990 to 2013, efforts for continued reductions are growing increasingly challenging as the city's population [approaches 4 million people](#).

LA Today to 2050

LA has already reduced GHG emissions by 20% below 1990 levels as of 2013 across all sectors^{**}, but in order to reach its targets of 60x35 and 80x50, it will need to accelerate its actions to decarbonize the grid and move people onto transit, all while maintaining a high quality of life for the 4.0 million people who call Los Angeles home. Our analysis draws on plans from LADWP, LADOT, LA Metro, and others to estimate how LA in 2035 and 2050 might look different from today.

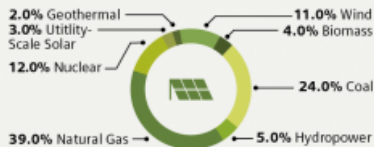
LA Today

POPULATION

4.0M

ELECTRICITY MIX

33% Renewable



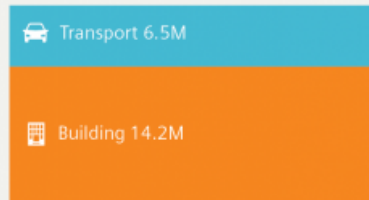
MODE SHARE

14% Transit & Active Transport



CYPT-ESTIMATED ANNUAL GHG EMISSIONS*

20.7MMT
(Million Metric Tons)



Today

LA 2035

POPULATION

4.2M

ELECTRICITY MIX

65% Renewable



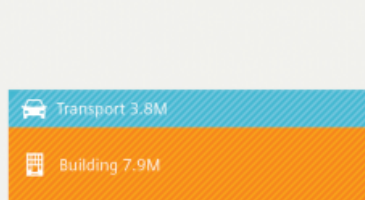
MODE SHARE

26% Transit & Active Transport



CYPT-ESTIMATED ANNUAL GHG EMISSIONS*

11.7MMT
(Million Metric Tons)



2035 BAU

ESTIMATED % REDUCTIONS IN GHG EMISSIONS**

-43.5%

TARGET % REDUCTIONS IN GHG EMISSIONS**

-60%

LA 2050

POPULATION

4.9M

ELECTRICITY MIX

100% Renewable



MODE SHARE

45% Transit & Active Transport



CYPT-ESTIMATED ANNUAL GHG EMISSIONS*

8.6MMT
(Million Metric Tons)



2050 BAU

ESTIMATED % REDUCTIONS IN GHG EMISSIONS**

-58%

TARGET % REDUCTIONS IN GHG EMISSIONS**

-80%

* For energy, buildings, and transport sectors only. See the section on "City Performance Tool" for more information on the methodology and scope of the CyPT.

** Based on 1990 Levels

One of the most challenging aspects of these targets will be the reduction of citywide car usage from 86% to 54.5% by 2050. In February, Los Angeles topped the Inrix annual list of [the world's most gridlocked cities](#) for the sixth year, noting that the average driver spends 102 hours in traffic during peak hours in the city. Los Angeles' transit

and active transport target calls for a significant increase in metro rail and bus usage to alleviate car dependency, but the city will need to work diligently to promote and incentivize these services in order to draw in more passengers.

For Los Angeles to reach 100% renewables, the Los Angeles Department of Water and Power (LADWP) will [need to reassess how it operates](#). Spencer Fields, Synapse Energy Economics associate, told sister publication Utility Dive that reaching 100% renewables “does not require any more renewable generating capacity [in Los Angeles] ... They just need to adjust to a new system operating paradigm.”

[Read full story here...](#)