



DATE: February 9, 2015

AGENDA ITEM # 3

TO: Environmental Commission
FROM: J. Logan, Staff Liaison
SUBJECT: Greenhouse Gas Dashboard

RECOMMENDATION:

Receive report on the Greenhouse Gas Dashboard

BACKGROUND

The Environmental Commission Climate Action Plan/Dashboard sub-committee members, Commissioners Bray and Eyre, developed a Greenhouse Gas (GHG) Dashboard for presentation to the Commission and for discussion of its use as an educational resource.

DISCUSSION

Commissioner Bray's outline and presentation of the Dashboard provided the following information:

A City website-based Dashboard presenting annual community resources use data, GHG emissions and reduction targets will help engage the community in Climate Action Plan (CAP) implementation.

Dashboard objections are:

- Present foundational data on aggregate annual resources use, GHG emissions and associated trends
- Describe resource use and GHG emissions data relative to CAP targets to help answer the question "how are we doing?" year over year, and versus general CAP targets
- Provide the information in a visually interesting, easy to understand format that engages residents
- Address usage metrics and trends for key resources comprising the community GHG inventory:
 1. Total GHGs and pie chart breakdown vs goals
 2. Annual vehicle miles traveled/GHG per VMT
 3. Residential natural gas use/GHG
 4. Residential electricity use/GHG
 5. Commercial electricity use/GHG
 6. Commercial natural gas use/GHG
 7. Annual community-wide water use/GHG
 8. Annual community-wide solid waste disposal tonnage/GHG
 9. Household/per capita averages

- Update with data reported by staff annually to the Environmental Commission and City Council utilizing implementation and monitoring tool described in Chapter 5 of the CAP.

The proposed usage of the Dashboard is to have the dashboard on the City of Los Altos website to provide status of environmental progress and measures for Los Altos Climate Action Plan on an ongoing basis. The GHG Dashboard is designed to have past usage, trends, and goals for water, natural gas, electric use, waste diversion, vehicle miles traveled, GHG emissions and other pertinent data.

The Commission will continue discussion of the GHG Dashboard and utilization of GHG data and review updates to the Dashboard as presented by the subcommittee.