



DATE: March 14, 2016

AGENDA ITEM # 2

**TO:** Environmental Commission

**FROM:** J. Logan, Staff Liaison

**SUBJECT:** Develop 2015/16 Environmental Commission Accomplishments and formulate 2016/17 Work Plan

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## **BACKGROUND**

The Environmental Commission should consider its 2015/16 Environmental Commission Accomplishments and formulate its proposed 2016/17 Work Plan to be presented at the April 19, 2016 Joint meeting with Council. The Joint meeting with Council will be at the Hillview Community Center, Room 2, at 6:15 pm.

The Environmental Commission Accomplishments serve to focus the Commission for discussions, revisions and development of a subsequent Work Plan that in-turn serves to focus the Commission's agenda items and discussions and services as a roadmap for the year.

## **DISCUSSION**

Environmental Commission Goals targeted for 2015/16:

1. Provide environmentally relevant information to the community to improve sustainability
2. Climate Action Plan and Community Choice Energy
3. Water Conservation and drought measures
4. Solid waste diversion and source reduction practices
5. Green Business practices

To be developed:  
2016/2017 Environmental Commission Work Plan

Attachments:

- A. Draft Accomplishments
- B. 2015/2016 Work Plan (3/14/2016)

City Council, Environmental Commission Meeting  
Apr. xx, 2016

DRAFT

Good evening,

Before you is the Environmental Commission 2015/16 work plan and accomplishments (covering the period April 2015 - March 2016) and the 2016/17 draft work plan.

There were five target areas in 2015/16. Here are the accomplishments.

1. Climate Action Plan.

CAP progress report received in April; comments and suggestions offered.

A dashboard to track progress developed; dashboard posted on City website in January.

The feasibility of Community Choice Energy (CCE) evaluated;

Recommendation to join Silicon Valley Clean Energy made in January.

2. Water Conservation.

Possible Los Altos measures, including resolutions and ordinances discussed.

Close communication with Cal. Water maintained.

A booth at the Farmers' Market staffed in Sept. providing outreach and education about Los Altos efforts to conserve water.

Water use included in the dashboard.

3. Solid Waste Diversion.

The draft solid waste ordinance reviewed in December and comments and suggestions offered.

4. Green Business Practices.

A well attended presentation to encourage local businesses to pursue green business certification held in June.

5. Community Outreach.

Web site improvements implemented along with timely updates.

The same five target areas are in the draft 2016/17 work plan.

1. Climate Action Plan.

Work with staff to provide CCE education and outreach.

Work with staff to prepare for a comprehensive evaluation of CAP progress, including the addition of CCE as one of the measures.

Investigate and recommend measures to improve energy efficiency, e.g. programs offered by PG&E, Acterra, Energy Upgrade California, plus the impact of building codes and City planning requirements.

Investigate and recommend measures to reduce transportation ghg emissions, e.g. more biking/walking to schools, employee car share, shuttle options.

Maintain and enhance the environmental resources dashboard.

Continue to investigate and resolve the VMT problem.

Work with staff on the tree inventory and the list of recommended trees.

2. Water Conservation.

Work with staff on drought related measures.

Work with staff on green infrastructure measures.

Continue to track water use on the environmental resources dashboard.

3. Solid Waste Diversion.

Work with staff on measures to increase waste diversion.

4. Green Business Practices.

Continue to encourage local businesses to pursue green business certification.

Evaluate the value and impact of the program.

5. Community Outreach.

Continue to implement web site improvements and add content.

Continue to invite interesting speakers to EC meetings.

We welcome your input and guidance.

Thank you,

xxxx

Chair, Environmental Commission

**ENVIRONMENTAL COMMISSION**  
**2015/16 Work Plan 3-14-2016**

Goal	Projects	Assignments	Target Date	Status
Climate Action Plan	Evaluate Feasibility of Community Choice Energy (CCE)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Recommend specific goals/priorities</li> <li>• Explore various CCE options</li> <li>• Explore business decisions necessary to join or form a JPA</li> <li>• Report to Council in a phased approach (Gary, Don B, Laura)</li> </ul>	2015 on-going 7/13/15 - EC Study session 8/25/15 - interim report to Council 1/26/16 - final report to Council	Presented to Council on 4/28/2015. Approval of modified goals and approach plan Subcommittee weekly meetings Council approval for CCE on 2/23/2016
	Develop, Implement and Publish CAP Dashboard	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Continue development; attain PG&amp;E data (Don B, Joe, Heather)</li> </ul>	2015 on-going	Data received Development of Dashboard in progress Published on website
	Evaluate Feasibility of Bus/Shuttle Service	(Joe, Lei, Gary)	2015	On hold
	Support Staff with CAP Implementation	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Work with CAP staff – David Kornfield</li> <li>• Green Business Forum held 6/25/15 (Gary, Lei)</li> </ul>	2015 on-going June 25, 2015	Subcommittee to meet to discuss Dashboard Completed

Water Conservation	Identify and Promote Incentives and Rebates  Consider Additional City Water Saving Resolutions Consider a Los Altos Water Conservation Ordinance Distribution center	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Develop FAQ for community outreach and education on recent water initiatives – not completed due to available materials from other sources</li> <li>Develop CWS annual water data for use in CAP Dash Board</li> <li>Website pages enhanced CWS, SCVWD</li> <li>Distribution center for buckets and yard signs</li> <li>Farmers' Market outreach effort (Joe, Don W., Heather)</li> </ul>	<p>suspended</p> <p>Done</p> <p>Reso 2015-15 adopted; Muni op process approved September</p>	Subcommittee briefing with staff on Governor emergency measures and CWS drought plan  Review of reports on water production data  Completed
Outreach and Education	For all Projects	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Provide outreach and education</li> <li>Evaluate and utilize best practices</li> <li>Partner with local community groups</li> </ul>	2015 on-going	Website- drought content added; Green Business content added
Green Business Practices	Encourage Green Business Practices	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Co-sponsor Green Business Forum with Chamber, LAVA, GTLA, &amp; Santa Clara Green Business (Lei, Gary)</li> </ul>	June 25, 2015; 8:00-9:30 am First Republic Bank	Developing flyer and details for meeting Successful Forum held
Solid waste & C&D ordinance	Revise ordinance – Review staff's drafts and provide input	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Receive report from staff and provide input</li> <li>Review C&amp;D draft ordinance revisions (Lei, Don W., Joe)</li> </ul>	August 10, 2015 December 2015	Received report and provided input December 2015 & as requested by staff

On-going
Complete