



ENVIRONMENTAL COMMISSION MEETING

MONDAY, DECEMBER 10, 2012 - 7:00 P.M.

Community Meeting Chambers, Los Altos City Hall
One North San Antonio Road, Los Altos, California

ESTABLISH QUORUM

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

PUBLIC COMMENTS ON ITEMS NOT ON THE AGENDA

Members of the audience may bring to the Commission's attention any item that is not on the agenda. Please complete a "Request to Speak" form and submit it to the Staff Liaison. Speakers are generally given two or three minutes, at the discretion of the Chair. Please be advised that, by law, the Commission is unable to discuss or take action on issues presented during the Public Comment Period. According to State Law (also known as "the Brown Act") items must first be noticed on the agenda before any discussion or action.

SPECIAL PRESENTATION

Update on Commission procedures and protocols

ITEMS FOR CONSIDERATION/ACTION

1. Commission Minutes
Approve minutes of the regular meeting of October 8, 2012
2. Climate Action Plan
 - a. Accept presentation of Climate Action Plan study
 - b. Review and discuss results of the community Climate Action Plan survey
3. Environmental Public Information Forums
Review and discuss opportunities, topics and methodology for public education and outreach
4. Bird Protection and Habitat Enhancement in the City of Los Altos
Review and discuss potential follow-up activities from the August 13, 2012 Audubon presentation
5. Disposal and Management of Expanded Polystyrene (EPS) and Single-Use Bags
Receive status update on Environmental Impact Report for single-use bags and expanded polystyrene

6. Environmental Commission Website
Receive update on website activity and discuss potential items to add to site
7. Environmental Commission Work Plan
Review and discuss progress on 2012/13 Work Plan
8. 2013 City Council meeting calendar
Review and assign Commissioner attendance at 2013 Council meetings

INFORMATIONAL ITEMS

9. Watershed Awareness and Stewardship in Los Altos
Receive update on watershed signage on creek projects
10. Cal Water Usage Data
Receive summary report on Dashboard for water data usage
11. Electric Vehicle Charging Stations
Receive update on potential public EV charging station program
12. Monthly staff report
Receive information and announcements from City staff

COMMISSIONERS' REPORTS AND COMMENTS

POTENTIAL FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS

ADJOURNMENT

SPECIAL NOTICES TO PUBLIC

In compliance with the Americans with Disabilities Act, the City of Los Altos will make reasonable arrangements to ensure accessibility to this meeting. If you need special assistance to participate in this meeting, please contact the City Clerk at least 48 hours prior to the meeting at (650) 947-2720.

Agendas, Staff Reports and some associated documents for Environmental Commission items may be viewed on the Internet at <http://losaltosca.gov/committees-commissions/environmental/meetings.html>

All public records relating to an open session item on this agenda, which are not exempt from disclosure pursuant to the California Public Records Act, and that are distributed to a majority of the legislative body, will be available for public inspection at the Office of the City Clerk's Office, City of Los Altos, located at One North San Antonio Road, Los Altos, California at the same time that the public records are distributed or made available to the legislative body. Any draft contracts, ordinances and resolutions posted on the Internet site or distributed in advance of the Environmental Commission meeting may not be the final documents approved by the Commission. Contact the City Clerk at (650) 947-2720 for the final document.

If you wish to provide written materials, please provide the Environmental Commission Staff Liaison with **10 copies** of any document that you would like to submit to the Commissioners in order for it to become part of the public record.

**MINUTES OF A REGULAR MEETING OF THE ENVIRONMENTAL COMMISSION
OF THE CITY OF LOS ALTOS, HELD ON MONDAY, OCTOBER 8, 2012 AT
7:00 P.M. AT LOS ALTOS CITY HALL, ONE NORTH SAN ANTONIO ROAD,
LOS ALTOS, CALIFORNIA**

ROLL CALL

PRESENT: Bray, Eyre, DeMichiel, Keller, Reed, Ardehali, Hedden

ABSENT: None

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

PUBLIC COMMENTS ON ITEMS NOT ON THE AGENDA

None

1. Commission Minutes

MOTION BY COMMISSIONER HEDDEN, SECONDED BY COMMISSIONER REED to approve the minutes of the meeting of September 10, 2012. The motion carried 7-0.

DISCUSSION ITEMS

2. Public Information Forums

Commissioners discussed opportunities and methodology for environmental public education and outreach. A Commission Sub-Committee was formed consisting of Commissioners Ardehali and Reed to propose topics at the next meeting that are informational, non-opinionated and within the framework of the approved 2012/13 Environmental Commission Work Plan.

3. Climate Action Plan (CAP)

The Sub-Committee presented a report and discussed preliminary data from the CAP Community Survey. A more detailed report will be presented at the next meeting.

4. Bird Protection and Habitat Enhancement in the City of Los Altos

Report was presented by Vice Chair Eyre on follow-up activities from the August 13, 2012 Audubon presentation.

5. Disposal and Management of Expanded Polystyrene (EPS) and Single-Use Bags

Staff gave status update on San Mateo County's Environmental Impact Report for Single-Use Bags and on EPS.

6. Increasing Watershed Awareness and Stewardship in Los Altos

- a. Fremont Bridge Creek signage – Commissioners recommended signage that is readable from a passing vehicle.
- b. Silicon Valley Watershed Summit – report on Summit by Vice Chair Eyre.
- c. Watershed signage on creeks projects – guiding principle is to be able to read signage from a passing vehicle.

7. Summary of Cal Water City of Los Altos Usage Data
 - a. Presentation by Vice Chair Joe Eyre.
 - b. Dashboard for water data usage should be added to website once it is completed.
8. Environmental Commission Website
 - a. Staff report – 123 monthly hits to website; 1596 hits year-to-date.
 - b. Discussion of information and resources to add to website.
9. Electric Vehicle (EV) Charging Stations

Staff update and discussion about City possibilities of installing EV charging stations.
10. Environmental Commission Work Plan Progress Review

Reviewed and discussed Goals and update on projects in 2012-2013 Work Plan that was approved by Council at the Joint Meeting on April 3, 2012.
11. City of Los Altos 60th Anniversary Celebration
 - a. 60th Anniversary Gala dinner is December 1, 2012.
 - b. Report by Commissioner Hedden about the Sept. 29 & 30 historic weekend walk and bike tour activities.
12. Announcements and Items for Information
 - a. Report by Environmental Commissioner Chair Bray from Sept. 25, 2012 Council meeting. October 9, November 13 and December 11 Council meeting representative is Commissioner DeMichiel; October 23, 2012 representative is Commissioner Ardehali.

COMMISSION REPORTS AND DIRECTIONS ON FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS

Veteran Day Holiday is November 12, the second Monday in November and thus falls on the Environmental Commission regular schedule date.

MOTION BY COMMISSIONER KELLER, SECONDED BY COMMISSIONER HEDDEN to cancel the November 12, 2012 Regular Meeting of the Environmental Commission. Motion carried 7-0.

ADJOURNMENT

Chair Bray adjourned the meeting at 9:15 p.m.

CITY OF LOS ALTOS EXISTING ACCOMPLISHMENTS AND TARGET SETTING DRAFT

Prepared for the City of Los Altos
by



DECEMBER 6, 2012

INTRODUCTION

In 2010, the City of Los Altos Environmental Commission prepared a community-wide inventory of greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions in 2005 (the baseline year). Since then, the Bay Area Air Quality Management District (BAAQMD) has established guidelines for creating GHG inventories and climate action plans as part of a Qualified Greenhouse Gas Reduction Strategy. To ensure consistency with these guidelines, the City of Los Altos (City) commissioned an update to the community-wide inventory and the previously prepared municipal inventory (2009). The City also commissioned a GHG emissions forecast for both municipal and community-wide activities as part of the development of a Climate Action Plan (CAP).

This report documents the impact that specific actions taken since the baseline year (2005) have had on GHG emissions through 2011 and quantifies additional reductions resulting from those actions to 2020 and 2035. These reductions are added to the adjusted business-as-usual forecast to identify expected community-wide emissions in 2020 and 2035. This comprehensive understanding of forecast emissions gives the City credit for existing accomplishments and provides additional information to assist the City in selecting an appropriate GHG reduction target.

This report also describes a range of GHG reduction targets and goals that may be adopted by the City, summarizes GHG reduction targets established by neighboring jurisdictions, and identifies the metric tons of carbon dioxide equivalent (MTCO_{2e}) reductions required in Los Altos to achieve each target option.

Specifically, this report presents:

- Estimated reductions that occurred in 2011 as a result of achievements initiated or completed since 2005, including:
 - Solid Waste Hauling Franchise Agreement (2010)
 - Green Building Ordinance (adopted 2007, revised 2010)
 - Water conservation efforts
 - Bicycle infrastructure improvements
- Forecasts describing how these existing achievements will continue to reduce emissions in 2020 and 2035
- An explanation of common target setting options including:
 - Service population threshold
 - Percent reduction below baseline emissions
 - Percent reduction below business-as-usual forecast emissions

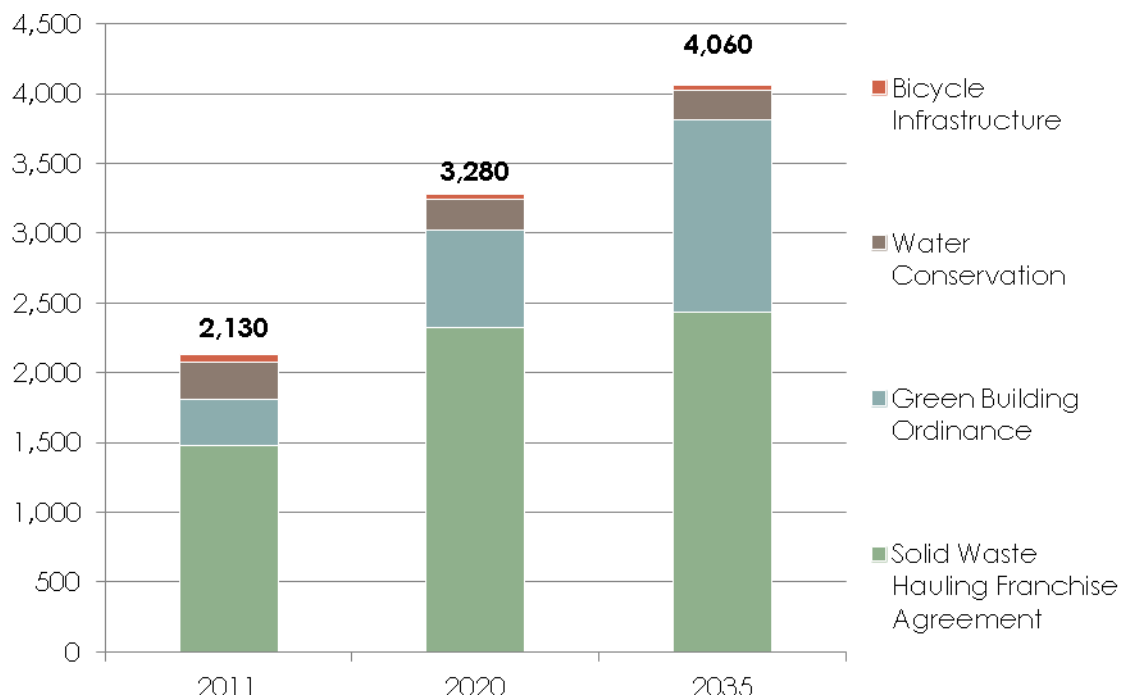
EXISTING ACCOMPLISHMENTS

The City has made significant efforts to implement policies and programs that conserve resources and reduce GHG emissions. This section highlights the GHG reduction benefit of programs and policies initiated or completed since 2005. The comparison year 2011 is the most current full year for which data is available. **Table I** and **Figure I** summarize the GHG reductions that have or will occur from these programs and activities.

Table 1: Emission Reductions from Existing Accomplishments (MTCO_{2e})

	2011	2020	2035
Solid Waste Hauling Franchise Agreement	-1,480	-2,320	-2,430
Green Building Ordinance	-330	-700	-1,380
Water Conservation	-270	-220	-210
Bicycle Infrastructure	-50	-40	-40
Total	-2,130	-3,280	-4,060

Figure 1: Emission Reductions from Existing Accomplishments (MTCO_{2e})



Although the community has reduced GHG emissions as the result of other existing City programs and achievements since 2005, this section reports accomplishments that can be quantified using existing, generally accepted methodologies. The following discussion explains how and why reductions identified in Table I and Figure I are quantified.

Solid Waste Hauling Franchise Agreement

In 2005, Los Altos' solid waste diversion rate was 52 percent. In 2010, the City signed a new franchise agreement with Mission Trail Waste Systems, Inc. (MTWS) for solid waste collection services. As a condition of the agreement, the City required MTWS to increase the diversion rate to 62 percent by December 31, 2011; 69 percent by December 31, 2012; and 78 percent by December 31, 2013. At full implementation, Los Altos will be diverting 50 percent more waste from landfills than it was in 2005.

These increased diversion rate requirements correlate to a downward trend in waste disposed in landfills from 2005 to 2011. As shown in **Table 2**, landfilled waste gradually and steadily declined by between 1 and 3 percent per year from 2005 to 2010. MTWS began hauling solid waste under the new agreement in 2010. Waste disposed in landfills decreased by 31 percent from 2010 to 2011. In total, solid waste disposal decreased by 35 percent from 2005 to 2011.

Table 2: Landfilled Waste (Tons), 2005–2011

	2005	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011	Percent Change, 2005-2011
Solid Waste	21,230	21,017	20,383	20,584	19,167	16,528	13,328	-37%
Alternative Daily Cover	270	309	321	280	977	3,542	545	102%
Total	21,500	21,326	20,704	20,864	20,144	20,070	13,873	-35%
Annual Percent Change	--	-1%	-3%	1%	-3%	0%	-31%	--

Source: CalRecycle 2012

The Inventory and Forecast Report forecasts waste from 2005 ahead to 2010, 2020, and 2035, assuming that solid waste would grow proportionately with the service population. The Report also assumes linear growth between these years. Therefore, the 2011 forecasts for solid waste and alternative daily cover (ADC) are calculated using an annual growth rate.

The 2011 waste forecast is compared to actual 2011 waste disposal activity to measure the effect of increased diversion on GHG emissions. **Table 3** shows emission reductions that occurred in 2011 and those that would occur in 2020 and 2035 if the City continues to maintain a minimum diversion rate of 78 percent. The business-as-usual (BAU) forecast holds the baseline 52 percent diversion rate constant through 2035. Waste reductions from increased diversion rates are identified by first calculating the total waste stream (diverted and landfilled) for 2020 and 2035. The number of forecast tons of landfilled solid waste is divided by the 52 percent baseline diversion rate to identify the expected total waste stream with no change to the diversion rate. The 78 percent diversion rate required by the new franchise agreement is then applied to these figures to estimate the amount of solid waste that would be landfilled in 2020 and 2035. The reduction benefit of the 2010 solid waste hauling franchise agreement represents the difference in landfilled tons between the diversion rate calculations. Given the great variability in reported ADC from 2005 to 2011, additional GHG emissions resulting from increased ADC are estimated using a constant proportion of landfilled solid waste.

Table 3: Landfilled Waste and Emission Reductions, 2011, 2020, and 2035

	2011			2020			2035		
	Solid Waste	ADC	Total	Solid Waste	ADC	Total	Solid Waste	ADC	Total
Tons Expected	21,648	272	21,920	22,440	290	22,730	23,450	300	23,750
Tons Actual	13,328	545	13,873	9,494	581	10,075	9,921	601	10,522
Tons Saved	-8,320	273	-8,047	-12,946	291	-12,655	-13,529	301	-13,228
MTCO _{2e} GHG Emissions*	-1,530	50	-1,480	-2,370	50	-2,320	-2,480	50	-2,430

Source: CalRecycle 2012

*Total may not equal sum of component parts due to rounding.

GREEN BUILDING ORDINANCE

Recognizing the many energy and resource conservation benefits of green building practices, the Los Altos City Council adopted a mandatory Green Building Ordinance (2007 GBO) on October 23, 2007. The 2007 GBO applied to all new buildings (single-family and multi-family residential, commercial, mixed-use, and public and community facilities) and remodel/additions to existing single-family residential buildings over 50 percent, excluding habitable basements. It included the following requirements:

- Private buildings
 - Single-family and multi-family residential buildings: Minimum 50 points on the GreenPoint rating system developed by Build It Green
 - Commercial, mixed-use, and public and community facilities: 15 percent more efficient than current Title 24 standards
- Public (City) buildings:
 - < 7,500 sf = 15 percent above current Title 24 standards
 - > 7,500 sf = LEED Silver minimum
- Historical Commission may exempt historic projects by written findings

On January, 1 2011, the 2010 California Green Building Standards Code (CalGreen or Title 24 Part 11) went into effect. This required each city or county in California in turn to adopt and enforce the minimum standards of the CalGreen code. A city or county may establish more restrictive standards than the minimum CalGreen requirements so long as the findings of the more restrictive standards are established and filed with the California Energy Commission (CEC). The GBO standards were amended (2010 GBO) on November 9, 2010, establishing the following standards:

- For **new buildings** – Require compliance with 2010 California Green Building Standards Code Requirements, with amendments

- Residential and non-residential construction: Tier I requirements adopted as *mandatory* (15 percent above 2008 Title 24)
 - Exception: A minimum 4 kW photovoltaic (PV) system may be installed in lieu of meeting the 15 percent above Title 24 requirement. If a building is \leq 2,000 sf, the PV system may be smaller.
- For **existing buildings** – applies to modifications of 50 percent or more of existing buildings, excluding basements
 - Single-family and multi-family residential: Minimum 50 points on the GreenPoint rating system developed by Build It Green
 - Commercial, mixed-use, and public and community facilities: 15 percent more efficient than Title 24
 - Exception: A minimum 4 kW PV system may be installed in lieu of meeting the 15 percent above Title 24 requirement. If a building is \leq 2,000 sf, the PV system may be smaller.

While the adoption of the Tier I standards and filing of the potential energy savings with the CEC required amendments to the City’s Green Building Ordinance, the actual energy savings to be achieved through compliance with the GBO did not measurably change between the two ordinances. Both the GreenPoint Rated checklist included in the 2007 GBO and the Tier I standards incorporated in the 2010 GBO require residential buildings to exceed current Title 24 standards by a minimum of 15 percent. The 2007 GBO also applied this requirement to new commercial, mixed-use, and public and community facilities, which is also a requirement under the Tier I standards incorporated within the 2010 GBO.

In anticipation of the new CalGreen Standards, and in support of its application to the CEC for more restrictive local standards, the City of Los Altos analyzed the potential energy savings resulting from adopting and implementing voluntary Tier I standards across a range of prototypical building types. **Table 4** shows estimated energy use reductions for both electricity (kilowatt-hours, or kWh) and natural gas (therms) for a range of prototypical buildings that would comply with the 2010 GBO.

Table 4: Green Building Ordinance Anticipated Annual Energy Savings

Building Type and Size	Electricity Savings (kWh)	Natural Gas Savings (Therms)
Single-family Residential (2,500 sq ft)	-187	-73
Single-family Residential (3,000 sq ft)	-235	-77
Single-family Residential (4,000 sq ft)	-249	-74
Single-family Residential (5,000 sq ft)	-306	-86
Single-family Residential (6,000 sq ft)	-354	-88
Multi-family Residential (4-unit building)	-505	-147
Retail (5,000 sq ft)	-27,677	+480
Office (5,000 sq ft)	-2,472	-667

Source: Energy Design Group 2009

GHG emissions reductions attributable to both the 2007 GBO and 2010 GBO are estimated using the savings identified in **Table 4** and a combination of City building permit data (for 2008-2011) and Association of Bay Area Governments (ABAG) projections (for 2020 and 2035). The range of residential project types and sizes built in Los Altos in 2011 is proportionally applied to ABAG housing projections for 2020 and 2035. Nonresidential square footage projections for 2020 and 2035 are determined using current building permit activity, anticipated general plan build-out, and ABAG employment estimates. 2011 building permit activity identifies the square footage of commercial and office buildings. Commercial and office square footage for 2020 and 2035 is projected proportional to ABAG job growth projections, and then normalized to General Plan build-out.

For each year, residential and nonresidential building estimates are matched with anticipated energy savings by building type from **Table 4**. New single-family homes are separated by size categories identified in **Table 4**. Given the variability of possible additions and/or remodel sizes in the city, the 2,500 square feet new home prototype is used as a conservative best estimate for all additions and remodels. The number of new multi-family units is divided by 4 to estimate the number of prototypical multi-family buildings (assuming an average ratio of four units per building). Similarly, office and residential square footages are divided by an average 5,000 square foot size to estimate the number of prototypical buildings. **Table 5** summarizes Green Building Ordinance GHG reductions for 2011, 2020, and 2035.

Table 5: Green Building Ordinance Emission Reductions for 2011, 2020, and 2035 (MTCO_{2e})

	2011	2020	2035
Single Family Residential	-64	-181	-426
Single Family "additions or alterations >50%"	-44	-139	-418
Multi Family Residential	-24	-93	-136
Retail	-135	-170	-218
Office	-59	-118	-181
Total*	-330	-700	-1,380

**Total may not equal sum of component parts due to rounding.*

WATER CONSERVATION

The Inventory and Forecast Report estimates that the Los Altos community consumed 2,280 million gallons of water in 2005. Indirect GHG emissions from water are calculated based on the electricity required to supply, convey, treat, and distribute water to the community. In 2005, delivery of water in Los Altos required approximately 7,065,080 kWh.

Emissions from water-related electricity are forecast from 2005 to 2010, 2020, and 2035 assuming that water consumption would grow at the same rate as the service population. The forecast predicts that 7,204,940 kWh would be used to deliver water in 2011. CalWater data presented at the October Environmental Commission meeting identified an approximately 17 percent decrease in water consumption from 2005 to 2011. This reduction rate is applied to the 2011 kWh forecast, identifying a 1,228,732 kWh savings, which equates to about 280 MTCO_{2e} (**Table 6**). Since no single factor is attributable to the decline, these reductions are not forecast to increase, but rather, hold steady ahead to 2020 and 2035. Although kWh reductions increase through 2020 and 2035, this steady reduction will

yield less GHG savings over time (220 MTCO_{2e} in 2020 and 210 MTCO_{2e} in 2035) due to the expected decrease in carbon intensity of California electricity.

Table 6: Water-Related Electricity Use and Emission Reductions, 2011, 2020, and 2035

	2011	2020	2035
Water kWh (Expected)	7,204,940	7,468,640	7,804,020
Water reduction	-17.05%	-17.05%	-17.05%
Water kWh (Savings)	-1,228,732	-1,273,704	-1,330,900
MTCO _{2e} GHG Emissions	-280	-220	-210

Source: Los Altos Environmental Commission 2012

BICYCLE INFRASTRUCTURE

Reductions from new bicycle infrastructure are estimated using the bikeway inventory in the 2012 Bicycle Transportation Plan (BTP) (Alta Planning + Design 2012) and personal communication with City staff. Based on these sources, approximately 2.2 miles of new bikeways have been constructed in Los Altos since baseline (**Table 7**).

Table 7: New Bikeway Miles, Baseline–2011

Name	Miles
Class I Multi-Use Paths	
Berry Avenue	0.5
Grant Road	0.1
Rosita Avenue	0.3
Total Class I	0.9
Class II Bike Lanes	
Fremont Avenue	0.57
Jardin Drive	0.31
Total Class II	0.88
Class III Bike Routes	
Part of Deodara Drive	0.42
Total Class III	0.42
Total New Bikeway Miles	2.2

Source: Alta Planning + Design 2012; Small, Pers. Comm. 2012

The 2012 BTP projects an increase of 1,981 additional daily bicycle trips as a result of adding 22.96 recommended miles of bikeways by 2032. To estimate the impact of existing accomplishments, the change in ridership from baseline to build-out is divided by total miles to obtain an estimate of ridership increase per miles of bicycle lane. This estimate is then applied to the 2.2 miles of new bikeways. Since school trips and commute trips have different average distances, the anticipated increase in trips per mile by type of cyclist is also important to consider. As shown in **Table 8**, the 2.2 miles of bikeways constructed between baseline and 2011 have likely reduced GHG emissions by 50 MTCO_{2e}. Although vehicle miles traveled (VMT) reductions grow as a result of population growth through 2020 and 2035,

emission reductions are likely to decrease due to external factors such as increased vehicle fuel mileage standards.

Table 8: Vehicle Miles Traveled and Emission Reductions Related to Bicycle Infrastructure (2011, 2020, and 2035)

	2011	2020	2035
Annual School VMT	-13,632	-13,727	-13,905
Annual Commute VMT	-85,226	-85,819	-86,930
Annual Total VMT	-98,859	-99,546	-100,835
MTCO_{2e} GHG Emissions	-50	-40	-40

EXISTING ACCOMPLISHMENTS SUMMARY

Table 9 summarizes City GHG emissions reduction accomplishments since 2005, and how they would continue to reduce emissions through 2020 and 2035. The “BAU with State Actions (Adjusted BAU)” row is the sum of the Business-as-Usual forecast and state reductions, as reported in the Inventory and Forecast Report. BAU emissions are expected to grow faster than state reductions through 2011, which explains the increase in GHG emissions from 2005 to 2011. As state programs are implemented, the reductions from the programs exceed emissions growth in the community, which explains the decrease in emissions from 2011 to 2020 and 2035.

Table 9: Summary of Emission Reduction Accomplishments (MTCO_{2e})

Activities and Accomplishments	GHG Reductions (MTCO _{2e} /year)			
	2005	2011	2020	2035
BAU with State Actions (Adjusted BAU)	182,830	178,860	170,920	165,650
Solid Waste Hauling Franchise Agreement	--	-1,480	-2,320	-2,430
Green Building Ordinance	--	-330	-700	-1,380
Water Conservation	--	-270	-220	-210
Bicycle Infrastructure Improvements	--	-50	-40	-40
Total Reductions	--	-2,130	-3,280	-4,060
Net Emissions	182,830	176,730	167,640	161,590
Percentage Change from 2005	--	-3%	-8%	-12%

Adding existing accomplishments to the forecast gives the City credit for work done to date and helps the community better understand the anticipated GHG emissions from the activities of residents, employees, businesses, and government. Using the information in these reports, the City, with guidance from the Environmental Commission, will establish GHG emission reduction targets.

TARGET SETTING

With the completion of the GHG emissions inventory and forecasts, the next step in the climate action planning process is to evaluate GHG reduction target options and determine the appropriate level of

GHG reductions that Los Altos should strive to achieve in the CAP. This section outlines considerations for setting a GHG reduction target, identifies different types of GHG reduction targets the City can set, provides examples of GHG reduction targets that have been set by other nearby jurisdictions, and recommends a preliminary GHG reduction target for the CAP.

BACKGROUND CONTEXT

Many jurisdictions throughout California have considered reducing their community’s impact on GHG emissions through the preparation of a CAP or GHG reduction strategy. The preparation of these plans are typically motivated by the community’s desire to develop comprehensive sustainability strategies and/or in response to Assembly Bill (AB) 32, Executive Order S-3-05, and Senate Bill (SB) 375 (see **Figure 2**), Attorney General comment letters on general plans, California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) Guidelines, or air district guidance.

Figure 2: California Legislative Context for GHG Reduction Targets

California Global Warming Solutions Act of 2006 (AB 32)	Executive Order S-3-05	Sustainable Communities & Climate Protection Act (SB 375)
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> •Reduce statewide emissions to 1990 levels by 2020 •AB 32 <i>Climate Change Scoping Plan</i> identifies equivalent of 15% below current levels (2005-2008) by 2020 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> •Reduce statewide emissions to 1990 levels by 2020 •80% reduction below 1990 by 2050. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> •Per capita GHG reduction of 8–10% by 2020 •Per capita GHG reduction of 16–18% by 2035

The City’s approach to address GHG reductions within the CAP follows a process similar to many other California jurisdictions that includes:

- i. Completing a baseline GHG emissions inventory and projecting future emissions.
- ii. Identifying a community-wide GHG reduction target.
- iii. Preparing a CAP with GHG reduction measures to meet the reduction target.
- iv. Documenting targets and reduction strategies in the CAP.
- v. Monitoring effectiveness and updating the CAP to reflect changing conditions.

GHG REDUCTION TARGET OPTIONS

Los Altos should consider setting community-wide reduction targets or goals that are consistent with the AB 32 horizon year and General Plan build-out year of 2020, the SB 375 horizon year of 2035, or Executive Order S-3-05’s long-term goal for 2050. In addition to setting a target or goal year, the City should consider the degree to which GHG emissions should be reduced by each horizon year. The City may consider three primary types of GHG reduction targets to adopt as part of the CAP. The merits of each type of target are discussed briefly and compared to each other in **Table 10** below. As current guidelines prepared by the BAAQMD for Qualified GHG Reduction Plans are framed around emission reductions needed to demonstrate consistency with AB 32 in 2020, the following recommendations focus solely on potential 2020 emission reduction targets.

15 Percent Below Baseline

A viewpoint commonly put forward by California air districts like the BAAQMD, or State agencies such as the Attorney General’s office, the Office of Planning and Research, and the California Air Resources Board (CARB) is that appropriate GHG reduction targets consistent with AB 32 would be either to

reduce community-wide emissions to 1990 levels, or to achieve at least a 15 percent reduction from baseline emissions by 2020. The Scoping Plan does not identify 15 percent as a minimum, fair share, or threshold level of reductions, but rather an approximate level that would parallel State commitments under AB 32.

22 Percent Below Business-as-Usual

Similar to a percent below baseline GHG reduction target, some jurisdictions and air districts have adopted a GHG reduction target that identifies a certain percentage below the business-as-usual (BAU) forecast by which GHG emissions should be reduced. Jurisdictions using this approach rely on CARB's AB 32 Scoping Plan forecast to calculate the reductions needed to reduce emissions from 2020 forecasted levels back to 1990 levels. Given considerable uncertainty regarding statewide 2020 GHG emissions levels, and the frequency with which these forecasts are revised, local jurisdictions using this approach have adopted GHG reduction targets ranging from 20 percent to 30 percent below a BAU scenario. For Los Altos, a percent reduction below BAU emissions consistent with GHG reductions needed to return to 1990 levels from the most recent 2020 state forecasts would be equivalent to a 22 percent reduction below BAU emissions. This would be the most aggressive target among the options presented.

6.6 MTCO₂e per Service Population

In June 2010, the BAAQMD released updated CEQA Guidelines to provide additional guidance to lead agencies in addressing GHG emissions as required by SB 97¹. The BAAQMD Guidelines further clarify the intent of the State CEQA Guidelines within the Bay Area, providing cumulative emissions thresholds supported by substantial evidence and guidance for assessing GHG impacts in a manner consistent with State CEQA Guidelines Section 15183.5(b). In addition to identifying a 15 percent below baseline target as an appropriate method for a jurisdiction to demonstrate compliance with AB 32, the BAAQMD identified plan-level efficiency requirements in Section 4.3(B) of the CEQA Guidelines² of 6.6 MTCO₂e per service population (SP) (residents + employees) per year, meaning a plan with a GHG emissions impact higher than the threshold would be considered a significant impact on GHG emissions under CEQA. This efficiency metric allows jurisdictions with more aggressive growth assumptions to focus on efficient growth behaviors rather than absolute GHG reductions, and has been used by various jurisdictions throughout California. Since Los Altos has a comparatively small growth forecast by 2020,

¹ The BAAQMD June 2010 adopted thresholds of significance were challenged in a lawsuit. On March 5, 2012, the Alameda County Superior Court issued a judgment finding that the district had failed to comply with CEQA when it adopted the thresholds and ordered the BAAQMD to examine whether the thresholds would have a significant impact on the environment under CEQA before recommending their use. **The court did not determine whether the thresholds are or are not based on substantial evidence and thus valid on the merits.** The court issued a writ of mandate ordering the district to set aside the thresholds and cease dissemination of them until the district had complied with CEQA. As the court did not determine whether the thresholds are or are not based on substantial evidence and thus valid on the merits, the City can continue to rely on the substantial evidence based on data and analysis relative to AB 32 that underlies the June 2010 BAAQMD thresholds in making an independent determination of significance of plan-level GHG impacts pursuant to State CEQA Guidelines Section 15064.7(c).

² Recent interactions with the BAAQMD and OPR have also identified that these agencies may not continue to view efficiency targets as preferable options, as continued use of these targets may allow for a net increase in overall GHG emissions, which would run counter to the purposes of AB 32, SB 375, and SB 97.

and already falls under the recommended plan-level efficiency metric of 6.6 MTCO₂e per SP per year, this type of GHG reduction target would not result in considerable GHG reductions, and may allow for an increase in overall GHG emissions.

Table 10: GHG Emissions Reduction Comparison between GHG Reduction Target Options

15 Percent Below Baseline Target	2005	2020
BAU	182,830	199,070
Adjusted BAU (State + Local Reductions)	182,830	167,640
Percent Below Baseline		15%
Emissions Reduction (MTCO ₂ e)		-24,140
Emissions Goal (MTCO ₂ e)		143,500
22 Percent Below BAU Target	2005	2020
BAU	182,830	199,070
Adjusted BAU (State + Local Reductions)	182,830	167,640
Percent Below BAU		22%
Emissions Reduction (MTCO ₂ e)		-40,520
Emissions Goal (MTCO ₂ e)		127,120
6.6 MTCO ₂ e per Service Population Target	2005	2020
BAU (MTCO ₂ e/SP)	4.8	4.9
ABAU (MTCO ₂ e/SP)	4.8	4.1
SP Threshold Target		6.6
Required Per SP Reduction (MTCO ₂ e)	+1.83	+2.5
Overall MTCO ₂ e Reduction Required		+101,330
Emissions Goal (MTCO ₂ e)		267,500

GHG REDUCTION TARGETS OF NEIGHBORING JURISDICTIONS

For consideration and comparison purposes, **Table 11** identifies GHG reduction targets set by other jurisdictions in the Bay Area. The three types of potential GHG reduction targets (percent below baseline, percent below BAU, and SP threshold) have all been used by at least one Bay Area jurisdiction, although percent below baseline targets are the most prevalent option.

Table 11: Neighboring Jurisdictions GHG Reduction Targets

Jurisdiction	Year of Adoption	GHG Reduction Target	Jurisdiction	Year of Adoption	GHG Reduction Target
Mountain View	2012	Improve per-SP emissions 15% - 20% below 2005 by 2020	Sunnyvale	Draft	15% below 2008 by 2020
Palo Alto	2007	5% below 2005 by 2012	San Francisco	2004	20% below 1990 by 2012
Newark	2010	5% below 2005 by 2015	Solano County	2011	20% below 2005 by 2020
Hayward	2009	6% below 2005 by 2013	Union City	2010	20% below 2005 by 2020
Benicia	2009	10% below 2000 by 2020	Dublin	2010	20% below BAU by 2020
Marin County	2006	15% below 1990 by 2020	Santa Rosa	2012	25% below 1990 by 2015

Piedmont	2010	15% below 2005 by 2020	Sonoma County	2008	25% below 1990 by 2015
Pleasanton	2011	15% below 2005 by 2020	Albany	2010	25% below 2004 by 2020
Larkspur	2010	15% below 2005 by 2020	Emeryville	2008	25% below 2004 by 2030
Novato	2011	15% below 2005 by 2020	Fremont	2012	25% below 2005 by 2020
Ross	2010	15% below 2005 by 2020	Alameda	2008	25% below 2005 by 2020
San Anselmo	2011	15% below 2005 by 2020	San Leandro	2009	25% below 2005 by 2020
Burlingame	2009	15% below 2005 by 2020	Antioch	2011	25% below 2005 by 2020
Menlo Park	2009	15% below 2005 by 2020	San Rafael	2009	25% below 2005 by 2020
Redwood City	2010	15% below 2005 by 2020	Santa Cruz	2011	30% below 1990 by 2020
San Mateo	2010	15% below 2005 by 2020	San Carlos	2009	35% below 2005 by 2030
Novato	2009	15% below 2005 by 2020.	Oakland	2011	36% below 2005 by 2020
San Ramon	2010	15% below 2008 by 2020	Martinez	2009	80% below 1990 by 2050
Vallejo	2012	15% below 2008 by 2020	Berkeley	2009	80% below 2000 by 2050

PRELIMINARY TARGET RECOMMENDATION

Given the range of GHG reduction target options the City can consider, and the GHG reduction targets set by nearby jurisdictions, PMC recommends setting a preliminary GHG reduction target that meets the AB 32 Scoping Plan and the BAAQMD CEQA Guidelines recommendation of at least 15 percent below baseline 2005 levels by 2020.

While setting a preliminary target does not preclude the City from considering or setting additional GHG reduction targets or goals that are either more aggressive, or for later horizon years, it will ensure that the policies and programs identified for inclusion in the CAP are meeting minimum standards first, before aiming to achieve more aggressive GHG reduction goals.

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City of Los Altos, California

Climate Action Plan Survey Summary

Resource Use and Transportation Characteristics in the Community

December 2012

To support development of the City's Climate Action Plan, Los Altos residents were queried on energy and water use, and transportation habits.

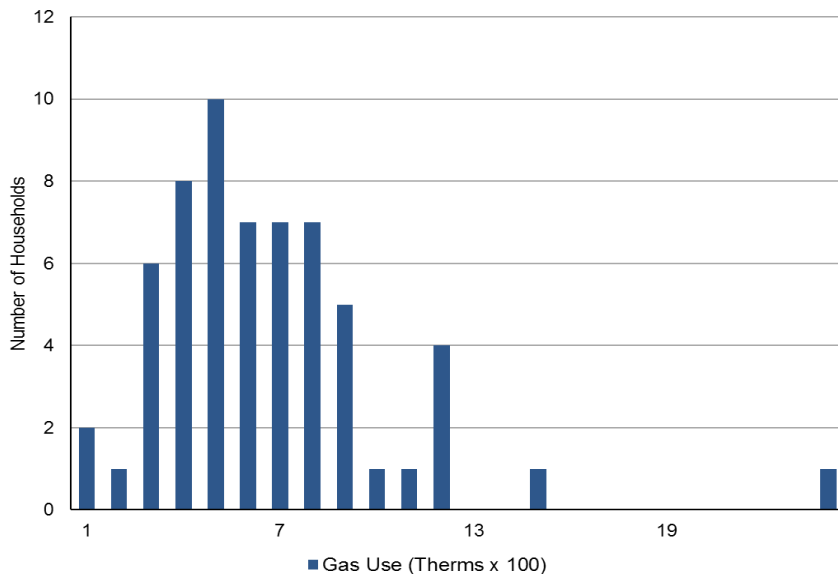
Survey Background

- PMC Consultants, Los Altos City Staff, and the Los Altos Environmental Commission collaborated to develop two web-based surveys:
 - resource use (electricity, gas, water)
 - local transportation habits and air travel
- 83 residents responded to the resource use survey, and provided detailed information on home electricity, gas, and water use, and a range of building-related data
- 117 residents responded to the transportation survey, providing detailed information on means of local transportation and typical mileage and destinations, as well as air travel information
- 'Self selected' survey respondents do not reflect a random sample; from the demographic data provided, responses came disproportionately from residents in their 40's, 50's and 60's
- While not scientifically precise, data captured in the surveys sufficiently describes a number of relevant correlations and directional trends useful in planning effective CAP initiatives
- This survey represents the first of its kind in Los Altos (and for many cities); it will aid in CAP development, and inform future survey efforts

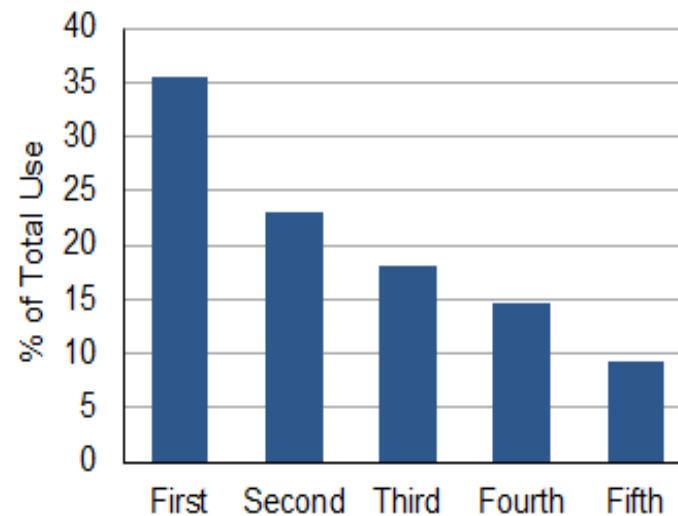
Residential natural gas use varies widely by household. The top 20% of households account for 35% of all use, while the bottom 20% use only 9%.

Understanding Residential Use of Natural Gas

Distribution of Household Gas Use



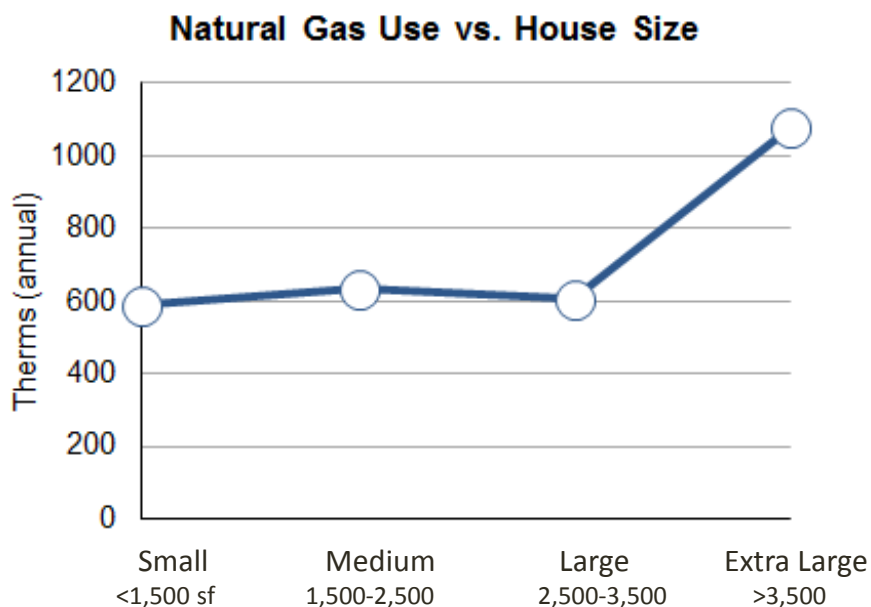
Household Gas Use, by Quintile



- The top ~20% of households using more than ~800 therms/year represent the best opportunities for finding savings (4x the bottom quintile)

While larger homes are generally more efficient on a square foot basis, total gas usage is quite similar for houses of different sizes – with the exception of the largest houses.

What Variables Drive Natural Gas Use?

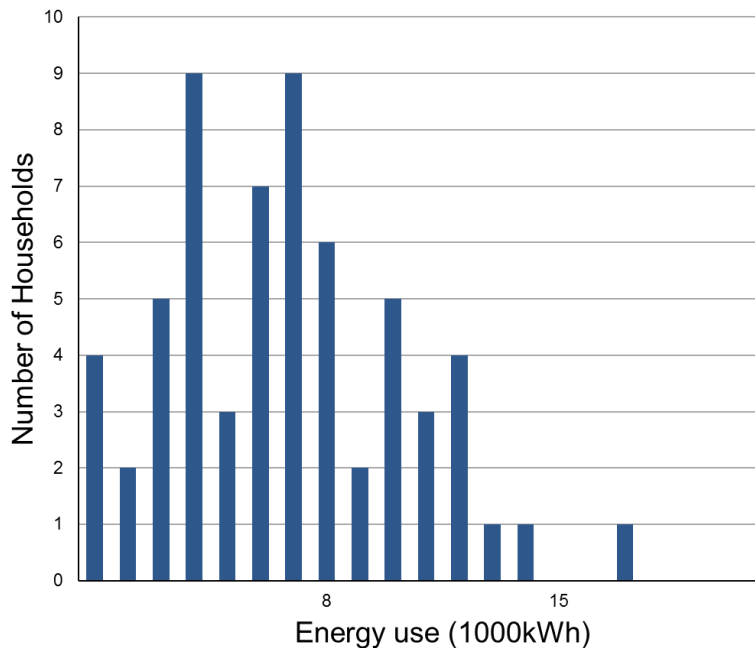


- Overall natural gas use similar for houses of varying size, except for largest homes (>3500 sf)
- Larger homes generally more gas-efficient on a square foot basis
- Difficult to establish any significant correlation (positive or negative) with age of home, extent of remodeling, number of occupants
- Impact of new furnaces, water heaters, appliances difficult to isolate as most reported having these
- Energy audits correlated with higher users!

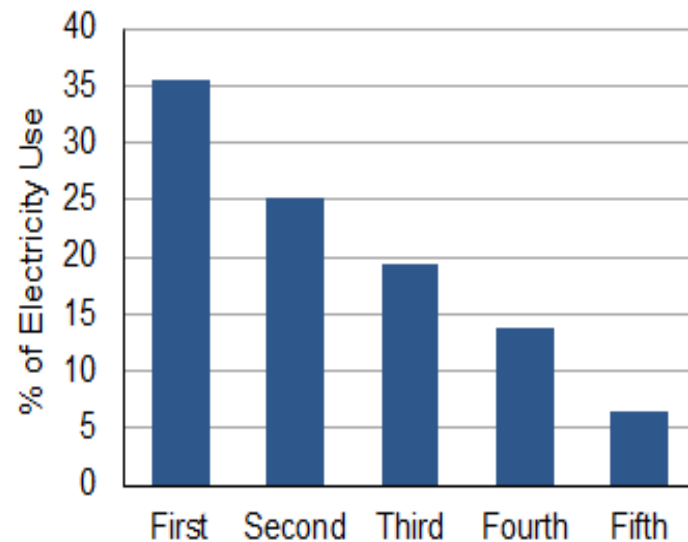
Similar to gas use, electricity use varies widely by household. The top 20% of households represent 36% of all electricity use, while the bottom 20% use only 6%.

Understanding Residential Electricity Use

Distribution of Household Electricity Use



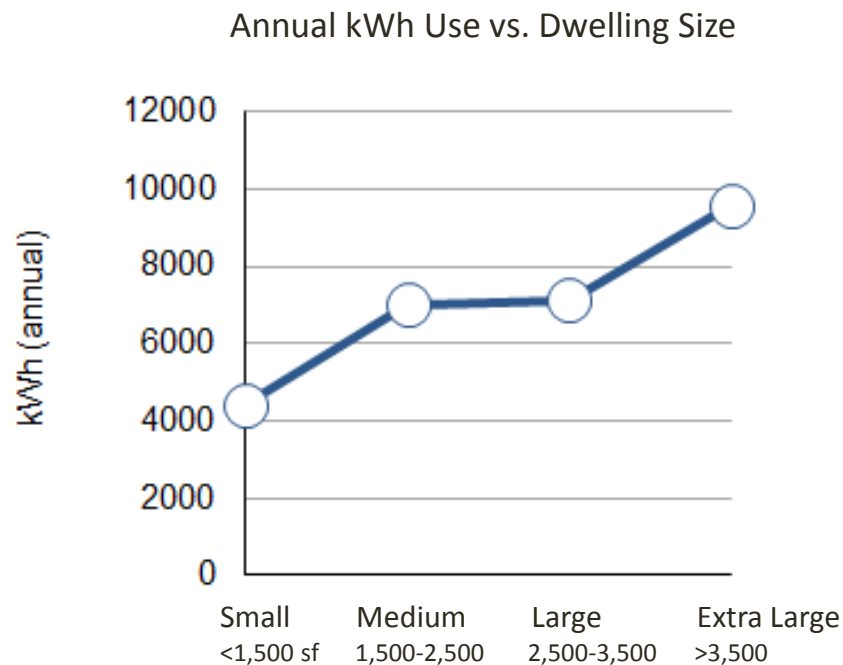
Household Electricity Use, by Quintile



- The top ~20% of households using more than ~10,000 kWh/year represent the best opportunities for finding savings (6x the bottom quintile!)

Residences with air conditioning, a pool and/or spa are typically among the larger users of electricity.

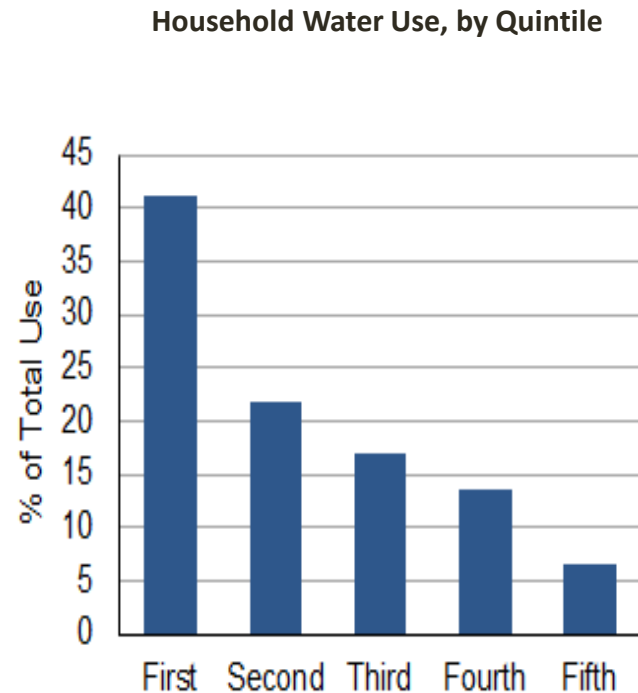
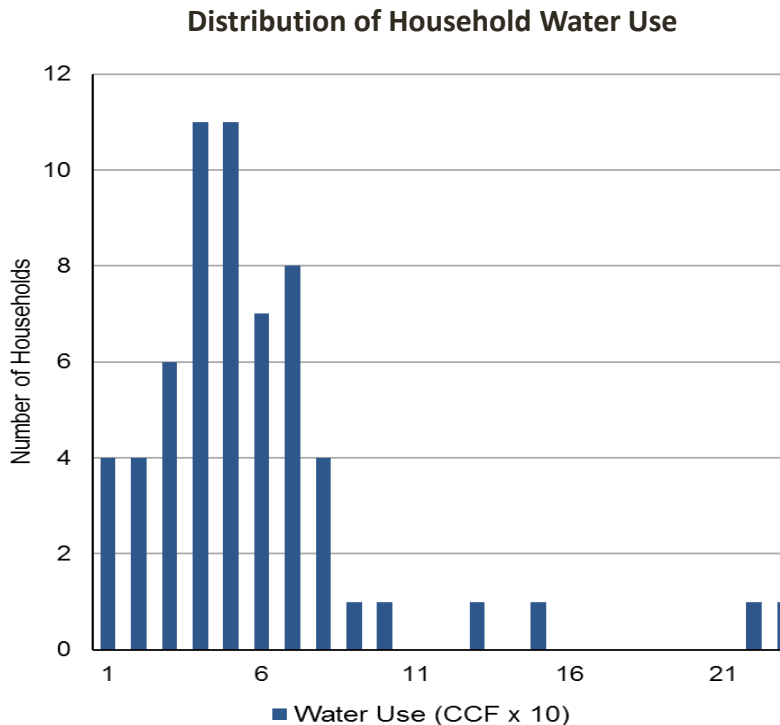
What Variables Drive Electricity Use?



- Electricity use somewhat correlated with size of home
- Top quintile of electricity users strongly correlated with having air conditioning, pool and/or spa
- Negative correlation (in PG&E power use) with installation of solar panels

Water use also varies widely by household – more so than electricity and gas. The top 20% of households represent 42% of all water use, while the bottom 20% use only 6%.

Understanding Residential Water Use

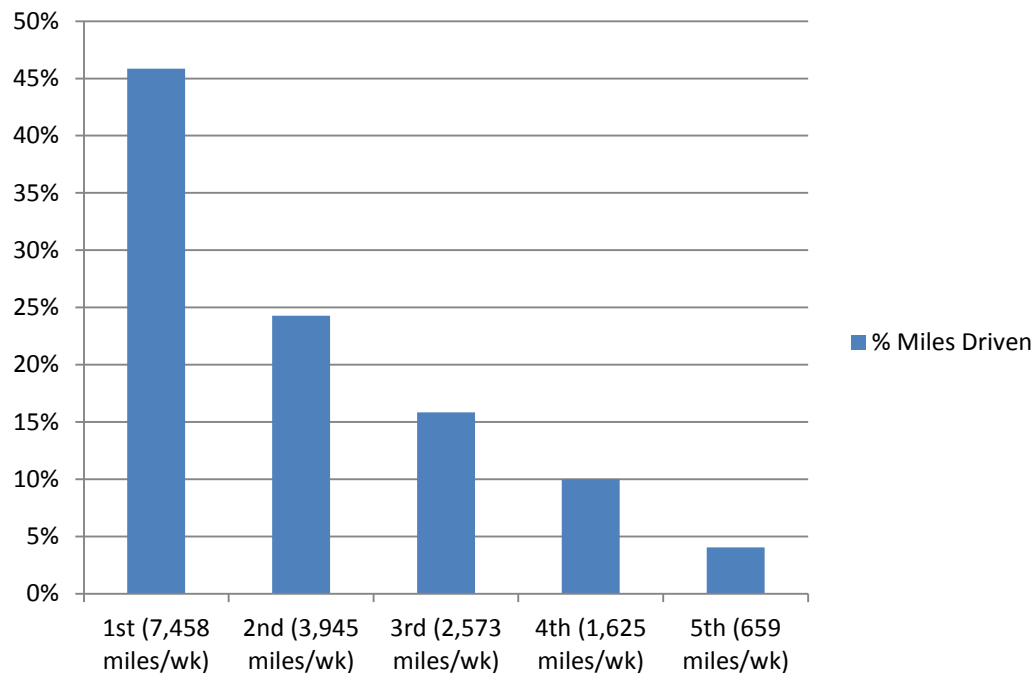


- No meaningful correlation of water use and size of home; do not have data on lot size or landscaping characteristics

Auto transportation is the largest single source of GHGs in Los Altos. The number of miles driven varies greatly by individual, with the top 20% representing 46% of mileage.

Understanding Residential Driving Distances

Miles Driven by Residents, by Quintile



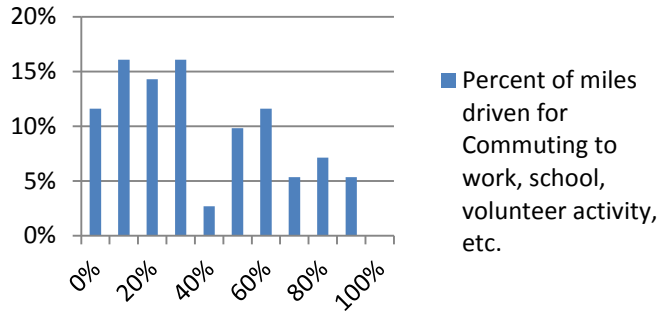
- Top 20% of drivers average 300+ miles per week
- Lowest 20% of drivers average 30 miles/week
- Overall average of approximately 141 miles per week, or 7,352 miles per year

n = 115 Respondents
Each quintile has 23 respondents
Total weekly mileage = 16,260

Commuting represents the largest share of miles driven, over 40% on average and as high as 80-90% for some respondents.

Understanding Driving Patterns

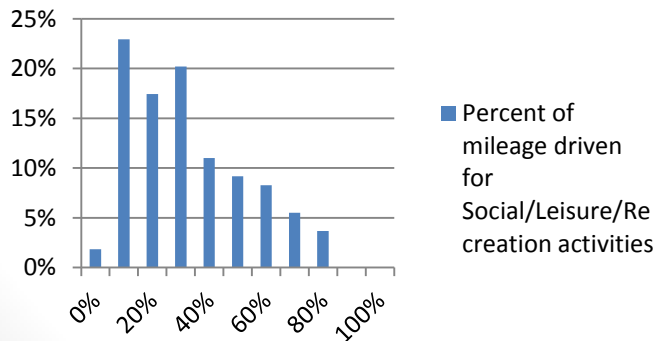
Percent of miles driven for Commuting to work, school, volunteer activity, etc.



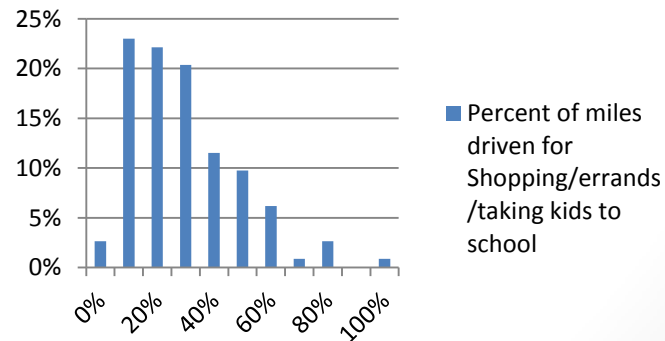
For the 'median' Los Altos driver:

- ~35% of miles driven are for commuting
- ~20% of miles are for social/recreation purposes
- ~25% of miles are for shopping, errands, and taking kids to school

Percent of mileage driven for Social/Leisure/Recreation activities

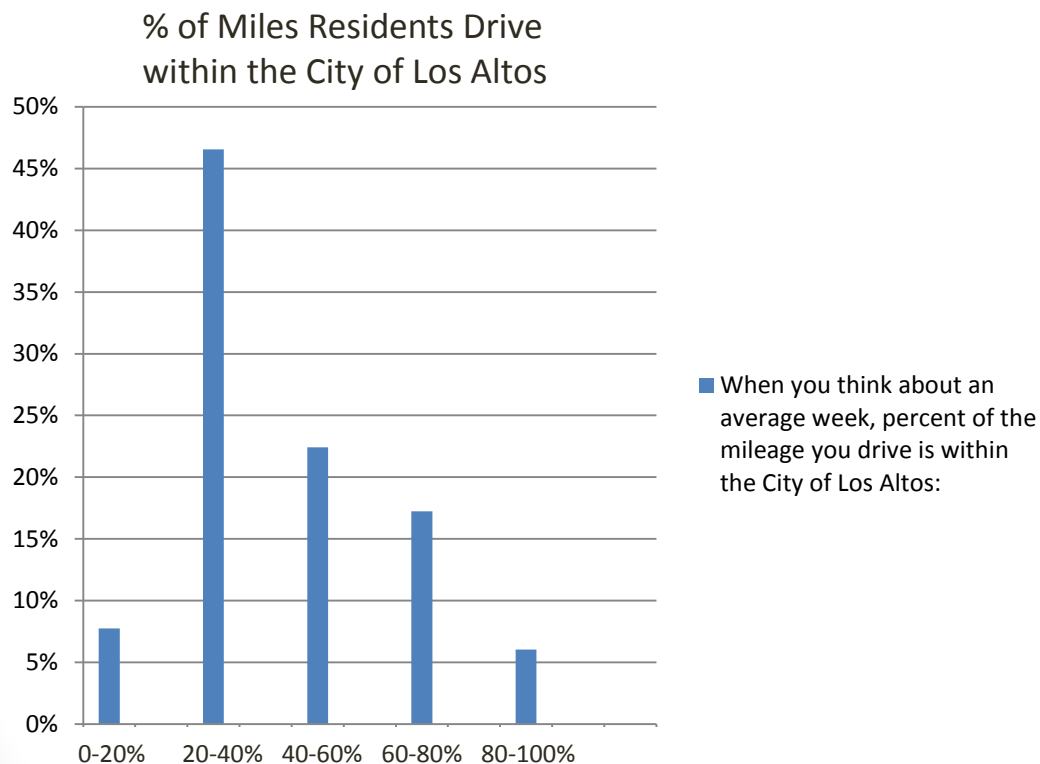


Percent of miles driven for Shopping/errands/taking kids to school



For residents, driving within Los Altos adds up to a significant number of miles each year, about the same distance as a trip from here to Atlanta.

Residential Driving Within Los Altos

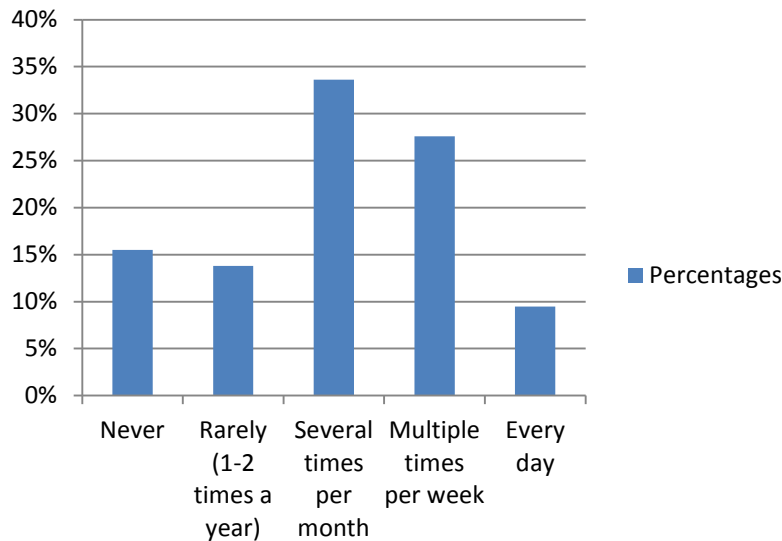


- For the 'median' Los Altos driver, ~30% of miles driven are within the City of Los Altos
- This represents an average of approximately 48 miles per week, or 2,500 miles/year

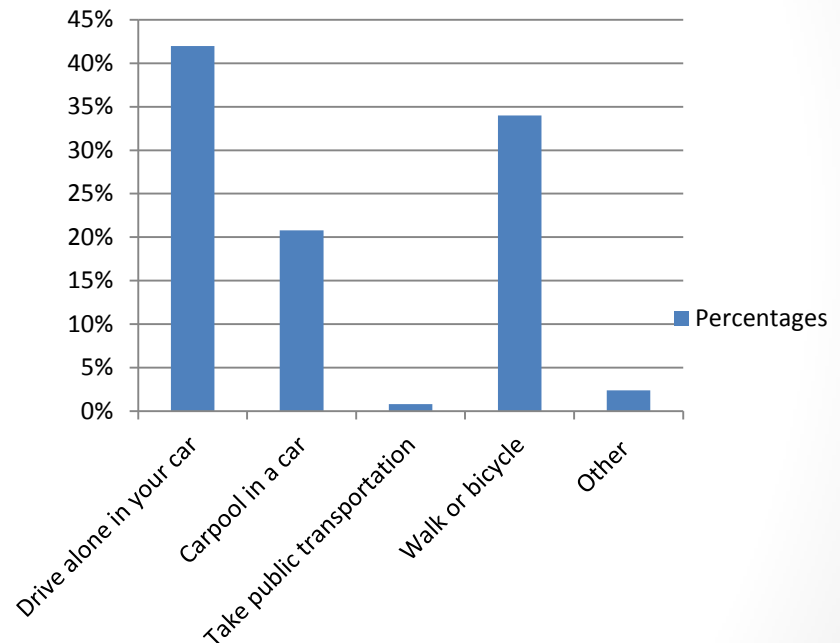
While driving is the most prevalent form of transportation in Los Altos, biking and walking were also common among the survey group.

Other Transportation Within Los Altos

How often do you bike or walk to commute or run an errand (non-recreational)



Methods of Traveling Inside Los Altos

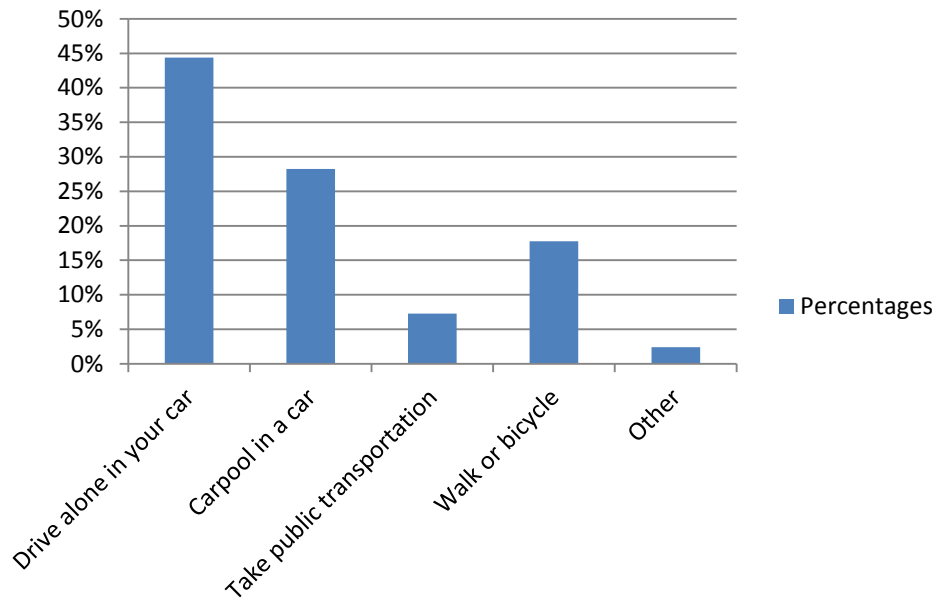


- 37% of respondents reported biking or walking multiple times per week, to commute or run an errand
- 73% reported walking or bicycling as one method, while current use of public transportation is minimal; intra-city buses could help with school & local transport

To lessen auto traffic to points outside Los Altos, options could be improved for bicycling on short commutes, and for public transportation, especially to the southeast and east.

Understanding Travel to Points Outside Los Altos

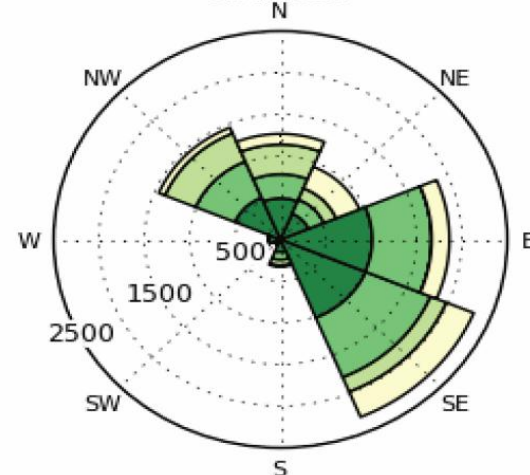
Methods of Travel to Points Outside Los Altos
(percent of respondents)



Los Altos Worker Commutes (from census data)

- 44.7% : <10 miles
- 29.8% : 10-24 miles
- 13.4% : 25-50 miles
- 12.1% : >50 miles

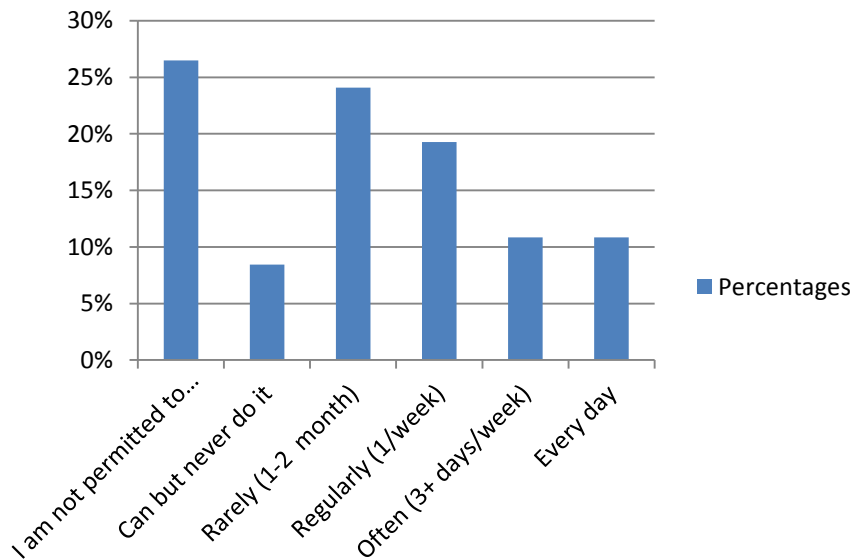
Job Counts by Distance/Direction in 2010
All Workers



Telecommuting practices vary widely, with 41% of respondents telecommuting at least once per week, and 26% not permitted/able to do so.

Understanding Telecommuting Practices

How often do you telecommute in place of traveling to work?



- From census data, a typical commute for workers living in Los Altos is 10-15 miles.
- Nearly two thirds of survey respondents reported telecommuting at least 1-2 times per month
- 22% telecommute often or every day.

Given the characteristics of community resource use and transportation in Los Altos, there are a number of specific opportunity areas for GHG reduction.

Key Survey 'Take Aways' and Recommendations

- Gas, Electricity, and Water use all vary greatly between first and fifth quintile (4 to 7x); efficiency efforts should be expressly targeted toward top quintile(s)
- Certain home attributes (e.g. air conditioning, pool, spa, and heavily irrigated landscape) are significant resource use 'drivers', and should be specifically addressed with efficiency programs
- Owners of residential solar PV show significantly lower electricity usage – this should be encouraged (currently ~6% of residences); also, solar water heating could help offset growing natural gas use
- Shifting a modest percentage of in-town mileage (2,500 miles) from automobiles to a bicycle or pedestrian mode would result in meaningful GHG savings
- Advancement of green building codes is important for making new/remodeled homes more efficient (though benefit is neutralized somewhat when new homes are built larger)
- Given a large number of relatively short commutes, improving local/regional bike routes, expanding bike commuting practices and local bus options could materially reduce GHGs
- Expanded use of telecommuting practices, downtown WiFi, and 'hotel-style' office space options would contribute to reduced GHG impacts and increase downtown vibrancy

Los Altos Environmental Commission – Workplan 2012-13

Approved Projects & Projects for Approval

Goals approved by City Council April, 2012 Projects 2012-2013, updated 11/28/12	Goals -- Progress Updates
1	<p>Provide approved community education and outreach activities to advance natural resource conservation and environmental quality in Los Altos. (Linda DeMichiel, Zahra Ardehali,)</p>
a.	<p>Maintain updated 'Los Altos Environment' website with relevant, high-value content, in a manner that is visually pleasing, navigates well, and ties into the city website. (Owner: Linda)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Zahra to draft hazardous materials page for EC website - CAP documents, survey results, etc., should be included in a new website tab on the EC website (TBD). - Explore development of a 'Birds' page on EC website - Linda has created 'Sustainable Eating' page, now published on website, with pictures by Joe from Farmer's Market - City is redoing overall website; Aha selected as the web design vendor - Periodic reviews and updates to site content, news items on main landing page, and staff-provided website traffic statistics; regular item on EC meeting agenda; traffic of 123 since 9/1, ~1590+ ytd.
b.	<p>Provide approved public information forums for topics of interest to the public. (e.g. Climate Action Plan) (Owner: TBD)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - John and Zahra will draft topic ideas and approach per discussion at October meeting on additional ways to engage the public via education/ information forums, various outreach mechanisms, and possible topics. Ideas discussed included general CAP topics, recycling and waste reduction, composting, food/organics - Conduct forums, receive reports, etc. when there are specific opportunities related to city programs or policies. One upcoming opportunity will be for interim review and public input to Climate Action Plan development process.
2	<p>Work with Planning Services Manager and city residents to develop Climate Action Plan for City Los Altos. (Joe Eyre, Don Bray, TBD)</p>
a.	<p>Aid in developing, reviewing, and facilitating public input to a Los Altos Climate Action Plan (Owner: Joe, Don, Gary)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - CAP sub-team (Joe, Gary, Don) to analyze energy/water/transportation community survey results, and present key findings at December meeting. - City staff (Zach) will work with PMC to establish schedule of activities going forward, including key interaction points with EC, possibly City Council; EC sub-committee to meet with Zach/PMC - PMC/staff presented updated 2005 muni and community GHG inventories, and inventory projections for 2020 and 2035; assuming a 15% reduction from 2005 baseline, 2020 target emissions would be ~157,000 MTCO_{2e}. Adjusted 2020 'Business as Usual' emissions estimated at ~172,000 MTCO_{2e}, so CAP initiatives need to generate ~15,000 MTCO_{2e} in additional reductions.

		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Survey open through August; email address field added so that summary of results may be sent to participants - At joint session, Council and EC discussed the question of the scope of the CAP vs an Environmental or Sustainability element in the General plan; agreement that potential scope additions would have to be identified and addressed after the CAP takes shape. - Work on the CAP began in March, with presentation of the project plan to EC and City Staff by the City's Planning Services Manager, and consultant PMC; EC providing GHG inventory data to PMC - The role of the Environmental Commission will be to: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> o provide input and policy recommendations on reduction targets, reduction measures, and 'level of ambition' o identify issues and opportunities and evaluate feasibility o provide a forum for community participation
3	<p>Improve watershed stewardship for the City of Los Altos (Joe Eyre, Zahra Ardehali)</p> <p>a. Investigate potential education and outreach, and best practices associated with watershed awareness and protection, and identify near-term actions for implementation - improved creek habitats - storm water & runoff (Owner: Joe, Zahra)</p> <p>b. High-level review of selected city policies, practices, & implementation v/v watershed stewardship, to identify potential opportunity areas</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Re status Fremont Ave bridge over Permanente Creek, 'prevailing thinking' is that name of the creek will be on bridge signage, possibly mounted on railing, though not yet designed. J will bring signage recommendation from 'draft final submittal' to EC for review/input. CEQA finished, waiting for consultant to present design. City Economic Dev Manager working on signage and 'Placemaking' – related in some way? - Likely assignment of council consideration in Sept/October timeframe for Storm Drain Master Plan (to be released by the end of the year) and provisions for implementation of standard labeling at storm drain inlets 'NO DUMPING! - Only Rain Down the Drain – Flows to xxxx Creek'. Can it be validated that this labeling will be broadly implemented? Are there pros/cons/constraints? - Advance city storm drain labeling, incorporation of recently establish standards - Investigate development and implementation of creek signage, with possible initial focus on new Fremont Road bridge over Permanente Creek - Continue to support creek restoration activities and education, information on EC website - Monitor findings of quarry-related water discharges - City engineering staff to present new study data on watershed and water quality to EC at October meeting – item DEFERRED due to staffing changes. . - E.g. selected muni guidelines for native landscaping, organic fertilizers/herbicides/pesticides Joe met with Damon (city staff); city doing progressive things.

	(Owner: Joe)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - SCVWD guidelines and standards for land use near streams – Joe reported that these are in place and being utilized by the city; creek testing done every eight years or so as part of Santa Clara County runoff and pollution protection program.
4	Continue to foster water conservation in Los Altos (Joe Eyre, Zahra Ardehali)	
	<p>a. Work with Cal Water to develop detailed Los Altos water usage baseline and trends, and ongoing process for tracking. (Owner: Joe)</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Work with CalWater, City Staff and others to develop and present water use baseline, recent trends; General trend toward reduced water use. Joe led dashboard ideas discussion at October meeting, for posting on EC website/incorporated with climate action plan management; he will draft a proposed one-page water dashboard for further discussion at December meeting.
	<p>b. Incorporate water conservation plans into broader Climate Action Plan above. (Owner: Linda)</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - leveraging water baseline developed above, incorporate specific water efficiency measures into Climate Action Plan.
	<p>c. Continue to actively support community outreach and education activities related to water conservation (Owner: Zahra)</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Additional co-sponsorship of CalWater conservation classes - Promotion of such elements as SCVWD rebates (landscape conversion and hardware upgrades), weather-based irrigation controllers in muni and residential applications
5	Monitor and advance solid waste diversion and source reduction practices in Los Altos. (Don Bray, Joe Eyre, John Reed)	
	<p>a. Monitor MTWS diversion rate and look for ways to help meet and exceed contracted 78% diversion rate in 2013; make results available to community, along w/ education on how they can help improve outcomes. (Owner: Steve, Don)</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Overall diversion rate of 71.44% for calendar year 2011; need to achieve 78% in 2013; in 2011, estimate diversion rate for single family residential at 81% (75% of overall tonnage), commercial at 39% (23% of tonnage), and multi-unit residential at 52% (2% of tonnage). - Publication of 2011 results, and 'leading practices' article featuring top business/commercial participants in Los Altos; Feb 2012 - Discussed possible development of a news article featuring waste management efforts at leading local businesses – to highlight 'best practice' examples, and educate the public and other businesses; Provided input & review for article developed by GreenTown, published in Town Crier (September 2012). - Educational visit to Newby Island conducted with EC, staff, council, community participants; learned about 85-day composting process, and issues with certain items such as compostable tableware that requires substantially longer than 85 days to compost; also, some biodegradable foodscrap bags contain GMOs, so all such bags are placed in the garbage stream;

		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Joe working with Teresa and GTLA on 'best practices' guide for what is best introduced to organics stream to fully enable composting. Cascadia doing testing on compostability of selected materials in MTWS processes. Work is proceeding – likely some results in December timeframe. - Continue to work on supporting and communicating 'Green Events' guidelines, e.g. for 60th anniversary event. Successful Historic Bike Tour held as part of the event.
	<p>b. Monitor overall solid waste volumes relative to source reduction and longer-term 'zero waste' concepts & practices; (Owner: John)</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Incorporate source reduction measure(s) into CAP - Support education and outreach v/v source reduction, zero-waste practices (e.g. participation in free-cycling networks, e-waste collection)
6	<p>a. Engage in on-going analysis of program and implementation options v/v restricting use of expanded polystyrene and 'single use' plastic bags (Owner: Chris)</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Los Altos participated in San Mateo County EIR process for 'Reusable Bags'; final EIR now ratified by San Mateo County. Next steps regarding public input, updates and possible adoption in Los Altos will be determined by the City Council. Still looking at Jan 2014 implementation J will forward info on next steps and when this will be placed on the CC agenda – likely Nov/December according to Jim G. - J maintaining dialog with staff on status of a potential EIR for EPS, and partnership options similar to San Mateo county for bags; currently, no potential EIR partnership opportunities have been identified; timing for EIR uncertain at this point. . - Support city development and implementation of restrictions on use of expanded polystyrene, plastic shopping bags, etc. as recommended by the Santa Clara County RWRC, and required by the Santa Clara Valley Water District Water Board. Environmental Commission will study potential recommendations, timing, and approach. <p>Notes: In January 2012, the EC subcommittee studying EPS met with Los Altos city engineer and staff to discuss perspectives on potential issues such as EPS ban enforceability, inspection, budgets, burden to merchants, etc; It turned out that banning EPS is part of a new Water Board requirement, related to trash load reduction in storm water outflows. City staff has prepared detailed recommendations, including an EPS ban, to meet the Water Board requirements of 40% load reduction by 2014.</p> <p>After a thorough discussion the EC voted to support staff's 'Baseline Trash Load and Short-Term Trash Load Reduction Plan' as written, with two additional recommendations. Firstly, the EPS ban be made effective 1/1/13, consistent with the original RWRC recommendation, and secondly, that the EPS ban requires that replacement products are compostable or recyclable, consistent with the MTWS diversion program (also per the original RWRC recommendation).</p>
7	Other Council goals as directed	

a. City position on potential move at state level to relax CEQA guidelines?	- J talked with City Attorney re knowledge of this; in Jolene's queue; does not believe this is a relaxation, more of a clarification

General Comment from Council: If any programs require funding, case must be presented in time for annual budget cycle.

Miscellaneous Topics for Possible Discussion/Consideration TBD

- disposal of prescription drugs – police department will take; 'drugs and sharps' also collected elsewhere in the city, including some pharmacies?
- use of outdoor chemicals
- use of environmentally-friendly cleaning materials