



DATE: April 11, 2016

AGENDA ITEM # 3

**TO:** Environmental Commission

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

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

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## **BACKGROUND**

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

The Environmental Commission Accomplishments serve to focus the Commission and Council for discussions, revisions and development of a subsequent Work Plan that in-turn serves to focus the Commission's agenda items and discussions and serves as a roadmap for the subsequent 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 2015/16 Accomplishments and Work Plan
- B. Draft 2016/2017 Work Plan

# ATTACHMENT A

DRAFT – EC Report and oral remarks

Joint Meeting of the City Council and Environmental Commission  
April 19, 2016

Good evening,

Before you are the Environmental Commission 2015/16 completed Work Plan and Accomplishments that cover the period from April 2015 - March 2016 and the Draft 2016/17 Work Plan.

The Work Plan contained five target areas in 2015/16. Here are Accomplishment highlights:

## 1. Climate Action Plan (CAP)

- a. Reviewed Draft 2014 CAP Report to Council and provided staff with comments and suggestions
- b. Developed an Environmental Resources Dashboard to track City-wide usage of electricity, natural gas, water, vehicle miles traveled and resulting production of greenhouse gas emissions. Dashboard was posted on City website in January 2016.
- c. Evaluation of and reports to Council and community on feasibility of Community Choice Energy (CCE) as an initiative for meeting CAP goals. Recommendation to Council to join Silicon Valley Clean Energy (SVCE) in January 2016.
- d. Council completed steps to join SVCE in February 2016, and appointed Councilmember Jan Pepper as Board member and Commissioner Don Bray as alternate. Council will reconsider appointment of Mayor Bruins as the Board member appointment.
- e. Hosted CCE Community Meeting with SVCEEP and produced resource flyer.

## 2. Water Conservation

- a. Reviewed staff recommendations for Water Conservation Ordinance in coordination with provisions issued by Cal Water Service and Santa Clara Valley Water District for reduction and conservation of water usage
- b. Provided outreach and education on water reduction and conservation to the community at the Farmers' Market in Sept. 2015. Water usage is a metric included in the Environmental Resources Dashboard.

## 3. Solid Waste Diversion

- a. The draft solid waste ordinance was reviewed in December and comments and suggestions offered to staff.

### 4. Green Business Practices

- a. A well-attended presentation by Santa Clara County Environmental Services was convened in June 2015 to encourage local businesses to pursue green business certification

### 5. Community Outreach

- a. Environmental Commission and Green Initiatives website improvements implemented along with timely updates
- b. Environmental Resources Dashboard added to website
- c. CCE webpage added with resource links

### **There are five target areas in the draft 2016/17 work plan**

#### 1. Climate Action Plan

- a. Work with staff to support and promote CCE education and outreach
- b. Support the Council SVCE Board member and provide assistance as needed
- c. Work with staff on a CAP implementation plan, the preparation for a comprehensive evaluation of CAP progress, and the addition of CCE as one of the mitigation measures
- d. Investigate and recommend measures to improve energy efficiency, e.g. by encouraging programs offered by PG&E, Acterra, Energy Upgrade California
- e. Investigate best practices for building codes and planning requirements to enhance energy efficiency, electric car charging readiness, solar panel installation and other green building measures
- f. Investigate and recommend measures to reduce transportation GHG emissions, e.g. more biking/walking to schools, employee car share, shuttle options
- g. Maintain and enhance the environmental resources dashboard, including continuing to investigate and resolve the VMT problem
- h. Work with staff on the tree inventory and the list of recommended trees

#### 2. Water Conservation & Stormwater Management

- a. Work with staff on water conservation measures
- b. Work with staff on stormwater reporting and permit compliance
- c. Continue to track water use on the Environmental Resources Dashboard

#### 3. Solid Waste Diversion

- a. Continue to provide comments and input to staff on C&D ordinance update
- b. Arrange for an update from Mission Trail

#### 4. Visioning Process

- a. Work with staff to provide an environmental perspective to the visioning process for Los Altos

## ATTACHMENT A

### 5. Community Outreach

- a. Engage with the community on SVCE and report back to the Council.
- b. Continue to implement web site improvements and add content.
- c. Continue to invite interesting speakers to EC meetings.

We welcome your input and guidance

Thank you,  
Laura Teksler  
Chair,  
Environmental Commission

**ENVIRONMENTAL COMMISSION**  
**2015/16 Work Plan 4-11-2016**

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</li> </ul> (Gary, Don B, Laura)	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</li> </ul> (Don B, Joe, Heather)	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</li> </ul> (Gary, Lei)	2015 on-going June 25, 2015	Subcommittee to meet to discuss Dashboard Completed

Water Conservation	Identify and Promote Incentives and Rebates	<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> </ul>	suspended	Subcommittee briefing with staff on Governor emergency measures and CWS drought plan
	Consider Additional City Water Saving Resolutions Consider a Los Altos Water Conservation Ordinance Distribution center	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <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>	Done  Reso 2015-15 adopted; Muni op process approved September	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

ENVIRONMENTAL COMMISSION  
DRAFT 2016/17 Work Plan  
APRIL 11, 2016

Goal	Projects	Assignments	Target Date	City Priority related to	Status
Climate Action Plan & CCE	Project #1	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Task #1 (Names of Commissioners assigned)</li> <li>Task #2 (Names of Commissioners assigned)</li> </ul>	Month and year	Describe which priority this goal and project relates to	
	Project #2	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Task #1 (Names of Commissioners assigned)</li> <li>Task #2 (Names of Commissioners assigned)</li> </ul>			
	Project #3	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Task #1 (Names of Commissioners assigned)</li> <li>Task #2 (Names of Commissioners assigned)</li> </ul>			
Water Conservation & Stormwater management	Project #1	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Task #1 (Names of Commissioners assigned)</li> <li>Task #2 (Names of Commissioners assigned)</li> </ul>			
Solid Waste Diversion	Project #1	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Task #1 (Names of Commissioners assigned)</li> <li>Task #2 (Names of Commissioners assigned)</li> </ul>			
Visioning Process	Project #1	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Task #1 (Names of Commissioners assigned)</li> <li>Task #2 (Names of Commissioners assigned)</li> </ul>			
Community outreach	Project #1	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Task #1 (Names of Commissioners assigned)</li> <li>Task #2 (Names of Commissioners assigned)</li> </ul>			