



**TUESDAY, JUNE 9, 2009**

**5:30 P.M. – SPECIAL JOINT MEETING OF THE LOS ALTOS CITY COUNCIL  
AND  
THE ENVIRONMENTAL COMMISSION  
Neutra House  
183 Hillview Avenue, Los Altos, California**

**ROLL CALL**

City Council Members

Environmental Commission Members

**DISCUSSION ITEMS**

1. Review of the FY 2008-2009 Work Plan
2. Goals and Work Plan for FY 2009-2010
3. Mission Statement

**ADJOURNMENT**

In compliance with the Americans with Disabilities Act, the City 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 72 hours prior to the meeting at (650) 947-2720.

**Environmental Committee**  
**Project Accomplishments 2008-9 and Anticipated Projects 2009-10**  
**Prepared for Joint City Council Study Session**  
**June 9, 2009**

The table below shows the goals discussed at the June 2008 meetings with the Los Altos Environmental Committee, and our progress to date.

<b>Goals 2008-2009</b>		<b>Progress</b>
1	Provide input to City Council for which solid waste levels of service for new trash contract RFP	Completed recommendation to City Council; all recommendations adopted and included in RFP.
2	Provide ongoing public outreach and education, including but not limited to appropriate city ordinances as well as environmental programs, opportunities and initiatives.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a) Added content to the environmental commission website, including more depth on existing topics in a new section on hazardous waste. Set up and staffed a booth at the Los Altos community picnic, answered inquiries from community regarding EC activities.</li> <li>b) Arranged educational field trip to Zanker Road Landfill and Greenwaste Recycling Facility.</li> <li>c) Produced recommendation for education and outreach related to re-useable shopping bags; waiting for Council input.</li> <li>d) Produced recommendation for education and outreach related to water conservation; waiting for Council input.</li> </ul>
3	Develop understanding of relationship with the Green Ribbon Citizens Committee (GRCC) and Cool Los Altos	Relationship between GreenTown Los Altos (GTLA) and Environmental Commission has greatly evolved. We have benefited from their expertise while at the same time achieving objective evaluation of their recommendations.
4	Become involved with city's master plan process and encourage green and environmentally conscious solutions	Recommended updates in city Housing Element to reflect water and energy conservation goals. Changes were adopted.
5	Received and participate in additional Brown act training	City Attorney attended one environmental commission meeting to provide training; additional training for all commissioners was held May 5, 2009.
6	Formalize and reevaluate mission and role of environmental committee	New mission statement drafted to reflect change in status from a committee to a commission. Feedback now being sought from City Council.

Listed below are proposed goals for our 2009-2010 workplan, subject to approval by the City Council.

<b>Proposed Goals 2009-2010</b>		<b>Proposed Projects in support of goals</b>
1	Work with staff to secure the best value in waste management services value for Los Altos.	Participate in RFP process and provide support as appropriate.
2	Implement approved education and outreach programs to achieve natural resource conservation for Los Altos.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a) Implement reusable bag program as approved</li> <li>b) Implement water conservation education program as approved</li> <li>c) Implement Sustainable Events education program as approved</li> </ul>
3	Develop baselines and progress indicators for Los Altos usage of water, waste, energy, and greenhouse gases.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a) Review ICLEI results for municipal operations greenhouse gas inventory; provide support as necessary.</li> <li>b) Accomplish greenhouse gas inventory for Los Altos.</li> <li>c)</li> <li>d) Work with city staff and new waste management vendor to develop baselines and monitor volume and diversion for appropriate categories of waste.</li> </ul>
4	Work to continually reduce the carbon footprint of Los Altos.	Work with staff to investigate feasibility of Green Business Certification for some portion of municipal operations
5	Sustainability element to general plan	Work with Planning Commission to develop a Sustainability element to the General Plan.
6	Continue to Improve working relationship between LAEC and City Staff and City Council	

**For discussion:**

How well is the Environmental Commission meeting the needs of the City Council?

**Environmental Commission Mission Statement**

From Commission handbook	Proposed
<p>The environmental commission studies and makes recommendations to counsel on issues that affect the natural and built environment in the city and the region. Additional duties include special projects as directed by the Council.</p>	<p>The <b>mission</b> of the Los Altos Environmental Commission is to advise the City Council on issues related to environmental sustainability, including:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li data-bbox="776 499 1339 625">– Evaluating and recommending policies and programs to make Los Altos an environmentally sustainable place to live and work;</li><li data-bbox="776 646 1339 741">– Providing information and education to the public regarding environmentally sustainable lifestyles; and</li><li data-bbox="776 762 1339 793">– .</li></ul>