



# COUNCIL REPORT

**DATE:** August 30, 2022

**CATEGORY:** Consent

**DEPT.:** City Manager's Office

**TITLE:** **Authorization of an Agreement with Strategic Energy Innovations to Host Two Climate Corps Fellows**

## **RECOMMENDATION**

Authorize the City Manager or designee to execute an agreement with Strategic Energy Innovations for a total not to exceed \$110,000 to host two Climate Corps Fellows.

## **BACKGROUND**

On October 22, 2019, the City Council adopted Sustainability Action Plan 4 (SAP-4) as a roadmap for strategic investment in sustainability. SAP-4 contains actions and goals across seven sectors: Transportation, Buildings and Energy, Land Use, Zero Waste, Water, Parks and Ecosystems, and Core Sustainability Program and Governance. The Council also funded a \$7.5 million, three-year Capital Improvement Program for projects to make measurable improvements across all sustainability areas with a focus on greenhouse gas emissions reductions.

Strategic Energy Solutions is a nonprofit organization that hosts Climate Corps, a fellowship program that provides professional development opportunities to emerging climate leaders through implementation of sustainability and resiliency projects with local governments and nonprofits. Since 2010, Climate Corps has worked with over 200 partners and 800 Fellows on high-impact sustainability projects. Mountain View has hosted Climate Corps Fellows since 2017.

## **ANALYSIS**

Typically, the City hosts one Climate Corps Fellow (Fellow) each year. This year staff has identified the added value of hosting two Fellows. Authorization of the Strategic Energy Solutions contract would allow placement of two Fellows in the Sustainability Division of the City Manager's Office. The full-time fellowship would last 10 months, from September 2022 through June 2023. The Fellows would support implementation of SAP-4, other initiatives related to sustainability and climate resiliency, and community engagement initiatives. In addition, at the City Council's direction, the Council Sustainability Committee is exploring acceleration of the City's Carbon Neutrality Goal. If an accelerated goal is adopted by Council later this year, the Fellows would also support this effort.

Fiscal Year 2022-23 will be the fifth year Mountain View participates as a host organization with the Climate Corps Fellows Program. Funds to support the placement of one Fellow were included in the Adopted Budget, and salary savings will be used to fund the second Fellow. Since the contract to host two Fellows now exceeds \$100,000, staff is bringing authorization of the contract to Council.

**FISCAL IMPACT**

In the Fiscal Year 2022-23 Adopted Budget, the City Council approved \$55,000 to support placement of one Climate Corps Fellow. Salary savings associated with vacancies in Sustainability Analyst I/II positions and the Management Fellow position in the City Manager's Office (recruitments under way) will be used to fund the second Fellow. The contract for participation in the fellowship program as a host to two Fellows totals \$109,675.

**ALTERNATIVES**

1. Do not authorize the agreement with Strategic Energy Innovations for the placement of two Climate Corps Fellows.
2. Provide other direction.

**PUBLIC NOTICING**—Agenda posting.

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