

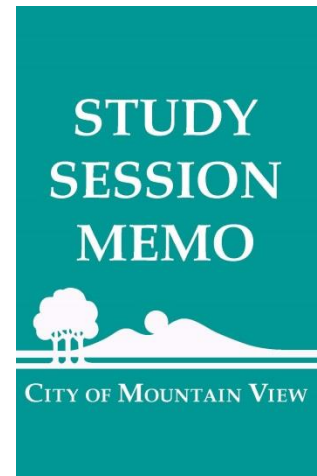
DATE: June 26, 2018

TO: Honorable Mayor and City Council

FROM: Steve Attinger, Environmental Sustainability Coordinator
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VIA: Daniel H. Rich, City Manager

TITLE: **Environmental Sustainability Task Force 2 Recommendations**



PURPOSE

This Study Session memorandum summarizes the key recommendations of Mountain View's Environmental Sustainability Task Force 2 (ESTF-2 or Task Force), which can be found in full in Attachment 1. The Study Session is an opportunity to hear from the Task Force, ask questions, and provide any initial Council input on these recommendations prior to staff reviewing them, and returning to Council in the fall with an analysis of them.

BACKGROUND

In February 2008, the Mayor convened an Environmental Sustainability Task Force of more than 65 residents and business leaders to help the City shape its short- and long-term sustainability goals. Concluding its work in September 2008, the Task Force proposed more than 89 recommendations across 11 topic areas, which became the foundation for Mountain View's sustainability activities.

Since 2008, the City has undertaken numerous sustainability initiatives, such as (1) adopting short- and long-term greenhouse gas (GHG) reduction targets (through 2050), (2) developing and implementing three Environmental Sustainability Action Plans (94 actions between 2008 and 2019), (3) producing three broader climate action plans (one for municipal operations, one for the community, and one for CEQA compliance), (4) adopting a green building code, (5) implementing a successful residential energy conservation program called Energy Upgrade Mountain View, (6) developing and implementing several recycling and zero waste programs (including single-family residential and commercial composting, and polystyrene food container and reusable

bag ordinances), (7) undertaking numerous transportation-related initiatives (with increased staffing) to make it easier and safer to get around Mountain View without a car, and (8) successfully encouraging the community to reduce water usage.

One of the major goals established by the City Council for Fiscal Years 2017-19 was to: “Promote environmental sustainability with a focus on measurable outcomes.” As part of this goal-setting process, the Council voted to establish a second Environmental Sustainability Task Force to support the City’s sustainability initiatives.

During the summer of 2017, staff created an ESTF-2 application, advertised to solicit applicants, reviewed applications, and selected 33 members. On September 5, 2017, staff received Council feedback on proposed scope, tasks, deliverables, and timeframe, and ESTF-2 held its first meeting on September 28, 2017.

DISCUSSION

Greenhouse Gas Emissions

The original 2008 Environmental Sustainability Task Force made 89 recommendations across a broad array of sustainability topics; e.g., adaptation to climate change, water, waste, energy, transportation, transit, land use, buildings, natural ecosystems, biodiversity, and quality of life. Some of those 89 recommended actions would reduce greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions, while others would provide non-GHG benefits such as improved air quality and public health, and healthier, more resilient local ecosystems on which the community depends.

In 2015, Mountain View generated a total of 768,365 metric tons of carbon dioxide equivalent (MT CO_{2e}) emissions communitywide, with transportation accounting for 59.5 percent of total emissions (up from 53.1 percent in 2005) and building energy making up an additional 32.9 percent (down from 42.0 percent in 2005). Total 2015 emissions were 9.1 percent higher than in 2005, and 21.3 percent above the 2015 reduction target of 10 percent. With a 2020 reduction target of 15 percent to 20 percent, and emissions likely to have increased since 2015 due to residential and commercial growth, the 21.3 percent gap will likely increase. As a result, ESTF-2 was tasked with focusing primarily on actions with the greatest likelihood of reducing communitywide emissions (versus those from municipal operations), as opposed to focusing on environmental sustainability initiatives more broadly.

Task Force Deliverables

The Task Force was chartered with two major deliverables.

1. Preparing a report for the City Council that documents how Mountain View can maximize the likelihood it will meet its GHG reduction goals for 2020, 2025, and 2030, with recommendations, including an estimate of the amount of GHG emissions each initiative will eliminate and its implementation cost.
2. Providing on-the-ground support toward staff's community education and outreach efforts, targeting the residential and commercial sectors.

Task Force Achievements

Between September 2017 and June 2018, the Task Force:

- Held 17 general meetings.
- Hosted two public input meetings (in January and April), which were attended by more than 130 community members.
- Tabled at the City's Arbor Day event, three corporate Earth Day events (at Fenwick & West, Google, and NASA Ames), and three Farmer's Market events, engaging approximately 750 people in the process.
- Participated in, and tabled at, the Spring Family Parade.
- Received 961 responses to a community sustainability survey.
 - Respondents included 705 people who live in Mountain View and work elsewhere, 206 people who live and work in Mountain View, and 50 people who only work in Mountain View.
 - Ninety percent (90%) of respondents are concerned about climate change, with 67 percent being extremely concerned.
- Worked at least 10,000 hours (the equivalent of about five full time equivalent employees) and produced a Final Report detailing 36 priority recommendations.

Task Force Recommendations

ESFT-2 developed 36 recommendations across five topic areas: Transportation (8), Buildings and Land Use (12), Circular Economy (7), Outreach, Regional Collaboration, and Legislative Advocacy (4), and Measurement and Metrics (5). The vast majority of the recommendations are community-focused, while a small minority pertains to municipal operations.

Overall, the recommendations focus on various strategies, policies, and programs to:

- Increase staff capacity and program funding to enable increased residential and commercial outreach and improved regional collaboration and tracking of sustainability initiatives and legislation.
- Significantly enhance transportation and reduce single-occupancy vehicle trips through incentives, improved bicycle infrastructure, new transit and ride-sharing options, restricted parking, and a Citywide Transportation Demand Management (TDM) program.
- Make new and existing buildings more energy-efficient and less carbon-intense through new or more stringent ordinances and policies (including for electric vehicle chargers), financial and nonfinancial incentives, migrating away from natural gas, and modifying the Utility Users Tax.
- Encourage a “circular economy” model that reduces waste through increasing composting and sustainable landscaping, banning specific plastics, addressing the challenges with recycling, supporting more sustainable eating habits, and enhancing the City’s GHG measurement methodology.
- More closely measure and track sustainability program results and modify the GHG reduction targets to facilitate better decision-making by City staff and leadership, and the community.

Of the 36 recommendations, the Task Force ranked their top 12 “Highest-Priority” actions, as shown in the following table.

| Priority | Recommendation | Start Date |
|----------|--|------------|
| 1 | Create a new Sustainability Office for Mountain View (O1) | 2018 |
| 2 | Revolutionize transportation in Mountain View (T1) | 2018 |
| 3 | Adopt a decarbonization policy for buildings (B1) | 2019 |

| Priority | Recommendation | Start Date |
|----------|---|------------|
| 4 | Manage Mountain View's emissions budget as carefully as its financial budget (M1) | 2020 |
| 5 | Solve the local solo-trip problem: Pilot discounted pooled ridesharing (T4B) | 2020 |
| 6 | Adopt a consumption-based emissions inventory for Mountain View's GHG accounting (W16) | 2020 |
| 7 | Create financial and nonfinancial incentives for new above-code buildings (BN3) | 2018 |
| 8 | Implement a residential and business outreach initiative (O2A) | 2018 |
| 9 | Update Green Building Code to move towards low-carbon buildings (BN1) | 2019 |
| 10 | Set GHG reduction targets according to per-capita goals based on service population (M2) | 2020 |
| 11 | Adopt a Citywide ban on single-use disposable plastic foodware (W9) | 2020 |
| 12 | Solve the local solo-trip problem: MV Shuttle 2.0 and 3.0 (T4A) | 2022 |

Note: The Task Force also identified priorities for five themes that are inherent in the 12 highest-priority actions above. Recommendations within a given theme often have interdependencies, and the Task Force suggests the Council may want to consider committing to implementing all the recommendations within a theme before starting any of them. ESTF-2 prioritized the themes as follows:

1. Chief Sustainability Office and funding for community outreach (O1 and O2A)
2. Transportation recommendations (T1, T4A, and T4B)
3. Building-related recommendations (B1, BN1, and BN3)
4. Measurement, tracking, and goal setting (M1, M2, and W16)
5. Eliminating single-use plastic to achieve multiple environmental benefits (W9)

According to the latest available City statistics and various Task Force assumptions and modeling, if the City Council supports implementing all ESTF-2 recommendations, Mountain View will be able to close its GHG emissions gap and meet its 2030 reduction target. Without further analysis, it is not totally clear what the aggregate direct costs to the City would be to fully implement all the recommendations.

NEXT STEPS

Since the Task Force report was completed just shortly before this Study Session, staff has not had the time to analyze the recommendations in detail. Based on input received during this Study Session, staff will conduct a review of the cost-benefit analysis in the Task Force recommendations, identify any high-priority projects that would benefit from midyear funding, and then develop Environment Sustainability Action Plan 4 (ESAP-4) for Fiscal Years 2019-22.

As indicated in the June 12 agenda packet memo entitled “Environmental Sustainability Updated Recommendations,” in addition to adding 0.5 FTE focused on outreach, the City recommends hiring a consulting firm with expertise in environmental sustainability, municipal operations, and organizational best practices that will work with staff to: (1) assess current staffing and operations to provide the City with options for organizational structures and staffing levels going forward; and (2) develop a strategic plan for the Environmental Sustainability program.

As noted in that memo, staff anticipates the following tasks and timeline:

| # | TASK | OWNER | TIMELINE |
|---|---|------------|----------------------------|
| 1 | Analyze ESTF-2 recommendations | Staff | Summer/Fall 2018 |
| 2 | Recommend any priority projects and request midyear funding | Staff | Late 2018/Early 2019 |
| 3 | Conduct Environmental Sustainability program assessment | Consultant | Q1 2019 |
| 4 | Draft ESAP-4 | Staff | Q1 2019 |
| 5 | Develop Environmental Sustainability Strategic Plan | Consultant | Spring 2019 |
| 6 | Determine budget recommendations | Staff | Fiscal Year 2019-20 Budget |

PUBLIC NOTICING

Agenda posting and e-mails sent to community members interested in environmental sustainability.

SA-WC-RT/2/CAM

816-06-26-18SS-E

Attachment: 1. Final Report of the 2017-18 Environmental Sustainability Task Force

cc: CDD, PWD, ACDD, APWD – Cameron, APWD – Hosfeldt, PP, ZA, DZA, EDM – Andrade, SWPM, FFM, TM – Lo, PSM – Trconic, SP – Anderson, TP – Baird, TP – Kim, ESA – Brewster, ESF – Perkins