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# Agenda

## Sustainability Task Force

A Committee of the Chico City Council

Meeting of Thursday, January 14, 2016 – 5:30 p.m.

Municipal Center - 421 Main Street, Conference Room No. 1 in the Council Chambers

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1. **CALL TO ORDER AND ROLL CALL**
2. **APPROVE DECEMBER 15, 2015 MEETING MINUTES**  
*Draft 12/10/15 minutes attached.*
3. **DEVELOP STF WORK PLAN FOR CALENDAR YEAR 2016 (Principal Planner Vieg)** – At its last meeting, the STF discussed 2015 achievements, and began development of its 2016 Work Plan. Staff has prepared a draft memo to Council highlighting the STF's 2015 achievements, and identifying possible 2016 Work Plan items and a meeting schedule. The STF agreed to use the draft memo to continue its discussion of 2016 Work Plan priorities. Attached is the *Draft Memo to Council*.
4. **BUSINESS FROM THE FLOOR** - Members of the public may address the Task Force at this time on any matter not already listed on the agenda, with comments being limited to three minutes. The Task Force cannot take any action at this meeting on requests made under this section of the agenda.
5. **REPORTS & COMMUNICATIONS** - These items are provided for the Task Force's information. Although the Task Force may discuss the items, no action can be taken at the meeting. Should the Task Force determine that action is required, an item may be included on a subsequent agenda.
6. **ADJOURNMENT** - Next meeting will be Thursday, January 28, 2016

**ATTACHMENTS:** 12/10/15 STF Meeting Minutes  
Draft Memo to Council re STF 2015 Achievements and 2016 Work Plan

Agenda available from the City's website at [www.ci.chico.ca.us](http://www.ci.chico.ca.us) under "**Meetings/Agendas**"

Prepared: 01/07/16  
Posted: 01/07/16  
Prior to: 5:30 p.m.

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### **Sustainability Task Force Members:**

Cheri Chastain  
Lucas RossMerz

Dave Donnan  
Mike Rubio, Vice Chair

Ryne Johnson  
Mark Stemen, Chair

William Loker

**CITY OF CHICO SUSTAINABILITY TASK FORCE  
MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF  
December 10, 2015**

Municipal Center  
421 Main Street  
Council Chambers, Conference Rm. 1

STF Members Present:           Mark Stemen, Chair  
  Mike Rubio, Vice Chair  
  Cheri Chastain  
  Dave Donnan

STF Members Absent:           Ryne Johnson  
  William Loker  
  Lucas RossMerz

Staff Members Present:         Brendan Vieg, Principal Planner

Guests Present:                 Ben Winter, Chamber Representative

**1. CALL TO ORDER**

Chair Stemen called the meeting to order at 6:35 pm. STF members and City staff were present as noted.

**2. APPROVE DECEMBER 29, 2015 MEETING MINUTES**

*The 10/29/15 minutes were approved (4-0-3; RossMerz, Johnson, and Loker absent).*

**3. DISCUSSION OF CALIFORNIA'S CAP-AND-TRADE FUNDING PRIORITIES**

Chair Stemen provided a summary of a recent meeting held at the CARD offices regarding how the State is utilizing its Cap-and-Trade auction proceeds to achieve its climate goals. The State has released a FY16/17 through FY18/19 Draft Investment Plan highlighting GHG reduction fund appropriations. The group discussed how the monies are being invested, and how certain funds may be accessible to the City via grant opportunities. This topic was introduced to support the STF's discussion of its 2016 Work Plan.

**4. DEVELOP STF WORK PLAN AND MEETING SCHEDULE FOR CALENDAR YEAR 2016**

Principal Planner Vieg shared that at its last meeting, the STF requested that staff prepare a draft

memo to Council highlighting the STF's 2015 achievements, and identifying possible 2016 Work Plan items and a meeting schedule. The draft memo was included in the agenda packet and is intended to serve as a starting place for the STF's discussion of its 2016 Work Plan priorities. Vieg also identified the following additional topics to include in the draft Work Plan: 1) invite PG&E back to discuss opportunities to coordinate and collaborate on reducing GHG emissions; 2) update the GHG Indicator.

STF member Chastain provided an update on the last workshop of the Sustainable Business Series, which focused on recycling and composting. She expressed concern over the City's and County's lack of preparation and intent to enforce State requirements for diversion of organics.

STF member Donnan suggested that the following sustainability partners be invited to future STF meetings: Cal Water, BCAG, City and County solid waste representatives, CUSD, and Butte County's Community Development Department to discuss implementation of the County's CAP. Donnan also urged that the North Valley Property Owners' Association and Chico Association of Realtors be contacted and engaged regarding the Sustainable Business Series.

STF member Chastain requested that when BCAG is invited to the next STF meeting that local bike advocacy groups also be invited, including Chico Velo and Butte Bike Coalition.

The STF agreed that in 2016 there is a need to scrutinize and prioritize Phase II CAP Actions, and Chair Stemen identified the following Phase I Actions to continue to focus on (Cool Roofs, Low Income Housing Energy Efficiency), and the following Phase II Actions to prioritize (EV Fueling Stations, Adopting Voluntary Green Building Code, and Waste/Composting Education and Outreach).

Chair Stemen suggested that staff attempt to schedule STF guests (i.e., PG&E, Cal Water, etc.) prior to the relevant Sustainable Business Series workshop date (i.e., energy efficiency, water conservation, etc.).

The group discussed the need to schedule an additional STF meeting in early January so the entire STF could discuss the 2016 Work Plan, and work could begin in earnest. An additional meeting date of January 14, 2016 was added to the meeting schedule and the only topic agenda topic will be the Work Plan.

STF member Rubio shared research regarding development of a gas tax to support offsetting transportation GHG emissions. A number of communities in Oregon have adopted these types of local gas taxes. The STF acknowledged the significant political effort of implementing a gas tax, and directed staff to inquire with the City attorney regarding the proposal's feasibility, and also to contact League of Oregon Cities regarding the magnitude of the process.

## **5. BUSINESS FROM THE FLOOR**

None.

6. **REPORTS & COMMUNICATIONS**

Chair Stemen shared that BEC and other environmental stakeholders are sponsoring a Climate Rally in City Plaza on 12/12 @ 12pm. There will be a number of important speakers and booths. The STF will have a booth presence highlighting how citizens can make a difference in local government, and promoting the City's Sustainability website.

7. **ADJOURNMENT**

There being no further business from the STF, the meeting adjourned at 6:50pm to the meeting of **Thursday, January 14, 2016.**

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Date Approved

Brendan Vieg, Principal Planner



# CITY OF CHICO MEMORANDUM

TO: City Council DATE: January 22, 2016  
FROM: Mark Stemen, STF Chair FILE: STF File  
SUBJECT: Sustainability Task Force Annual Update

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In November 2012, the City Council adopted a Climate Action Plan (CAP), which identifies actions to be taken by the City and the community to reduce greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions to 25% below 2005 levels by 2020. The City's goal is consistent with State and Federal efforts to reduce emissions of greenhouse gases linked to climate change. In November 2013, Council appointed a seven member Sustainability Task Force (STF) to function as a "working committee" to lead the City's implementation of the CAP, and directed staff to work with the ad hoc committee as needed.

The CAP is broken up into Phase I and Phase 2 actions. Phase I actions are to be implemented prior to 2015 and are projected to reduce GHG emissions to 10% below 2005 levels, with the remaining 15% of the 25% goal to be achieved in Phase 2 between the years 2016 and 2020. Many of the CAP's Phase I actions have already been implemented, are underway, or are ongoing.

The STF has been meeting regularly over the past two years at both the full committee and sub-committee level to review the status of the CAP and to prioritize Actions for implementation.

## **2015 Accomplishments**

The STF met eight times in 2015. Below are key accomplishments:

- Established 6- and 12-month Work Plan priorities, and developed meeting schedule.
- Launched and updated the City's Sustainability website - [www.chicosustainability.org](http://www.chicosustainability.org)
- Partnered with the Chamber, DCBA, Sierra Nevada Brewery, and others to host a year-long Sustainable Business Series that included workshops on the following topics: 1) energy efficiency, 2) alternative transportation, and 3) recycling and composting (see attached flyer). The series engaged and connected area businesses with information (e.g., rebates), inspiration, and motivation to incorporate sustainable business practices. The series was extremely successful and will run again in 2016. The dates for the 2016 Sustainable Business Series are February 25<sup>th</sup>, August 11<sup>th</sup>, and November 17<sup>th</sup>.
- Developed a community-wide greenhouse gas emissions inventory to serve as an annual indicator of the City's progress in reaching its GHG reduction goal. The inventory, which

was provided to Council under a separate memo, is a combination of estimates of GHG emissions associated with activity in three Sectors – Energy, Transportation and Waste. The methodology used in the inventory is transparent, consistent, and easily replicable.

- Submitted a proposal to the Local Government Commission’s CivicSpark program for a half-year member to assist the STF and other local partners to implement a number of community engagement and education efforts identified in the City’s CAP. The response from CivicSpark was extremely positive, but in order to place a member in Chico, the program needs a full-year member commitment. The STF intends to submit a proposal again next year.
- Held special meetings with community sustainability partners, including:
  - PG&E: Discussed PG&E’s numerous energy efficiency programs and efforts, and coordinated opportunities to collaborate in implementing the City’s CAP.
  - CalWater: Discussed Cal Water’s efforts to promote water conservation and reduce water use, the status of CAP Actions involving Cal Water, and coordinated on the Governor’s directive to reduce water use state-wide.
  - Neal Road Land Fill, local waste haulers, and City Recycling Coordinator: Discussed the following topics: 1) use of metrics for assessing reductions of GHGs, 2) addressing the state’s mandates regarding commercial recycling, 3) plans to address state mandated organic waste reductions, and 4) the effect of state mandates on operational costs and cost to clients.
- Consistent with the CAP, supported a comprehensive LED light installation throughout all City government buildings resulting in improved energy efficiency and a reduction of GHG emissions.
- The STF re-confirmed and implemented several of its previous Council recommendations:

#### Energy Sub-Committee

Increased Building Code Requirements - City should adopt voluntary Green Building Code measures that would further the City’s GHG emissions reduction goal during the Building Plan Check process. (**Status**: Recommendation is a Phase 2 Action, which will be brought to Council in 2016)

Incentives for Alternative Energy Installation – City should incentivize Building Fees (e.g., reduce fees) for alternative energy installations. (**Status**: As part of its adoption of revised Building fees in October 2015, Council agreed to reduce the Building fee for single-family residential solar installations from \$164.00 to \$77.00. This approximately 53% fee reduction is intended to serve as an incentive to advance an important City initiative.)

#### Transportation Sub-Committee

Provision of EV Fueling Stations – City should amend development standards (Title 19) to require EV fueling stations for new parking lots of a certain size, and retrofit strategic City-owned Downtown parking lots to include EV fueling stations. (**Status**: Recommendation regarding amending development standards will be incorporated into 5-Year General Plan

Update process to proceed in 2015/2016. Meanwhile, the City plans to install an EV fueling station at two of its Downtown parking lots in 2016, and BCAG has submitted a County-wide EV fueling station readiness grant to the State.)

#### Solid Waste Sub-Committee

Solid Waste Franchise Agreement – Incorporate the following two recommendations into the underdevelopment Franchise Agreement: 1) ensure that the Solid Waste Franchise Options document includes all relevant actions and concepts from the City's adopted Climate Action Plan, and that any future franchise agreement provide an opportunity to incorporate new technology that would further the Climate Action Plan's goals; and 2) ensure that the Solid Waste Franchise Options document includes a requirement that any future hauler under a new franchise agreement provide quarterly reporting on its education and outreach efforts regarding recycling to multi-family and commercial clients and provide quantitative data regarding meeting state-mandated recycling goals. (**Status:** Recommendations have been forwarded to the City's consultant, R3, and are consistent with previous direction.)

#### **2016 Work Plan**

At its last meeting in 2015, the STF developed a Work Plan to focus its 2016 efforts. Below are the key components and proposed timeframes:

- Collaborate with the Chamber and Sierra Nevada Brewery to re-run the highly successful Sustainable Business Series (3 workshops over 12 months).
- Continue to focus on the following Phase I Actions: cool roofs and low income housing energy efficiency upgrades.
- Review and prioritize Phase II CAP Actions with a focus on EV fueling stations, adopting voluntary Green Building Code, and waste/composting education and outreach.
- Continue to meet with key sustainability partners to discuss relevant CAP Actions, identify areas of mutual support, and assist the STF in its development of recommendations for Council's consideration. Partners to invite, include: 1) PG&E; 2) CalWater; 3) BCAG/Chico Velo/Butte Bike Coalition; 4) City and County solid waste representatives; 5) CUSD; 6) Butte County Community Development Department regarding implementation of the County's CAP; and 6) Butte County regarding its under-development PACE program (6 months).
- Update the City's annual GHG Indicator and share information with Council and community.
- Maximize use of the City's Sustainability website as an information hub for how residents and businesses can implement sustainable practices (ongoing).
- Re-submit a proposal to the Local Government Commission for a CivicSpark member to assist the STF and other local partners to implement a number of community engagement and education efforts identified in the City's (12 months).

**Proposed 2016 Meeting Schedule**

The STF plans to meet nine (9) times in 2016:

Thursday, January 14<sup>th</sup> @ 5:30pm in CR 1

Thursday, January 28<sup>th</sup> @ 5:30pm in CR 1

Thursday, March 10<sup>th</sup> @ 5:30pm in CR 1

Thursday, April 28<sup>th</sup> @ 5:30pm in CR 1

Thursday, June 9<sup>th</sup> @ 5:30pm in CR 1

Thursday, July 28<sup>th</sup> @ 5:30pm in CR 1

Thursday, September 8<sup>th</sup> @ 5:30pm in CR 1

Thursday, October 27<sup>th</sup> @ 5:30pm in CR 1

Thursday, December 8<sup>th</sup> @ 5:30pm in CR 1

cc: CM, ACM, CDD, L. Herman, STF, Chamber of Commerce, BEC