



# Sustainability Task Force Agenda

A Committee of the Chico City Council  
Mayor Ann Schwab, Chair

**Meeting of October 4, 2010 – 3:00 p.m. to 5:00 p.m.**  
Council Chamber Building, 421 Main Street, Conference Room No. 1

## 1. CONSIDERATION OF A LETTER OF SUPPORT FOR AN EPA BROWNFIELD ASSESSMENT GRANT

The City's Housing and Neighborhood Services Department will be applying for a grant with the Environmental Protection Agency to conduct environmental assessments of Brownfields located in the South West Chico Neighborhood Planning Area. Brownfield is real property, of which the expansion, redevelopment, or reuse of such property may be complicated by the presence or potential presence of a hazardous substance, pollutant, or contaminant. The Task Force will consider the attached letter of support for the grant application. A copy of a map of the South West Chico Neighborhood is also attached.

## 2. UPDATE ON THE "RIGHT TO RECYCLE" MULTIFAMILY RECYCLING CAMPAIGN.

Task Force member Cliff Friedman will provide an update on the CSU, Chico Community Legal Information Center's pilot project to work with the waste haulers and property owners/managers to conduct a multifamily recycling education campaign among students and residents living in the student housing areas.

## 3. CONSIDERATION OF FORMING AD-HOC COMMITTEES TO WORK ON CLIMATE ACTION PLAN PHASE 1 MEASURES

The Task Force will consider plans to implement the Phase I measures of the Climate Action Plan that was conceptually approved by the City Council. The Task Force will also consider forming Ad-Hoc Committees to assist in this process. A copy of a power point presentation outlining the Phase I measures and potential Ad-Hoc Committee is included with this agenda.

## 4. BUSINESS FROM THE FLOOR

Members of the public may address the Committee at this time on any matter not already listed on the agenda, with comments being limited to three minutes. The Committee cannot take any action at this meeting on requests made under this section of the agenda.

## 5. ADJOURNMENT – The meeting will adjourn no later than 5:00 p.m. to a meeting scheduled for 3:00 p.m. on Monday, November 1, 2010.

### ATTACHMENTS:

EPA Brownfield Grant Letter of Support  
Map of South West Chico Neighborhood Planning Area  
Climate Action Plan Power Point

Distribution available in the office of the City Clerk:

Prepared: 9/29/10  
Posted : 9/29/10  
Prior to: 3:00 p.m.

Chico City Clerk's Office  
411 Main Street, Chico, CA 95928  
(530) 896-7250



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### Members:

Dwight Aitkens  
Cliff Friedman  
Jim Pushnik

BT Chapman  
Chris Giampaoli  
Ann Schwab, Chair

Tom DiGiovanni  
Ken Grossman  
Jon Stallman

Tim Dobbs  
Jon Luvaas  
Jim Stevens

Trudy Duisenberg  
Scott McNall  
Scott Wolf

Julian Zener



## OFFICE OF THE MAYOR

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October 1, 2010

Ms. Noemi Emeric-Ford Regional Brownfields Coordinator  
U. S. Environmental Protection Agency, Region 9  
75 Hawthorne Street, SFD 9-1  
San Francisco, California 94105

Environmental Management Support, Inc.  
Attn: Mr. Don West 8601 Georgia Avenue, Suite 500  
Silver Springs, Maryland 20910

Re: Brownfields Community-Wide Assessment Grant Proposal: Petroleum/Hazardous  
Substances, City of Chico, California

Dear Mr. West and Ms. Ford:

On behalf of the City of Chico Sustainability Task Force, I want to convey our strong support for the Chico Redevelopment Agency's effort to secure a 2010 U.S. Environmental Protection Agency Brownfields Assessment Grant. The City's grant application seeks funding to conduct a community-wide assessment of hazardous materials and petroleum substances in the Southwest Chico Neighborhood. This area is of prime concern because of the high concentration of blight, brownfields, and underutilized properties, which hinders the Agency's ability to develop these properties and implement the Southwest Chico Neighborhood Plan. The Agency intends to use the grant funds to expand its current brownfield inventory, to develop a site prioritization process, and to conduct sixteen Phase I and six Phase II environmental assessments on potentially contaminated properties within the project area.

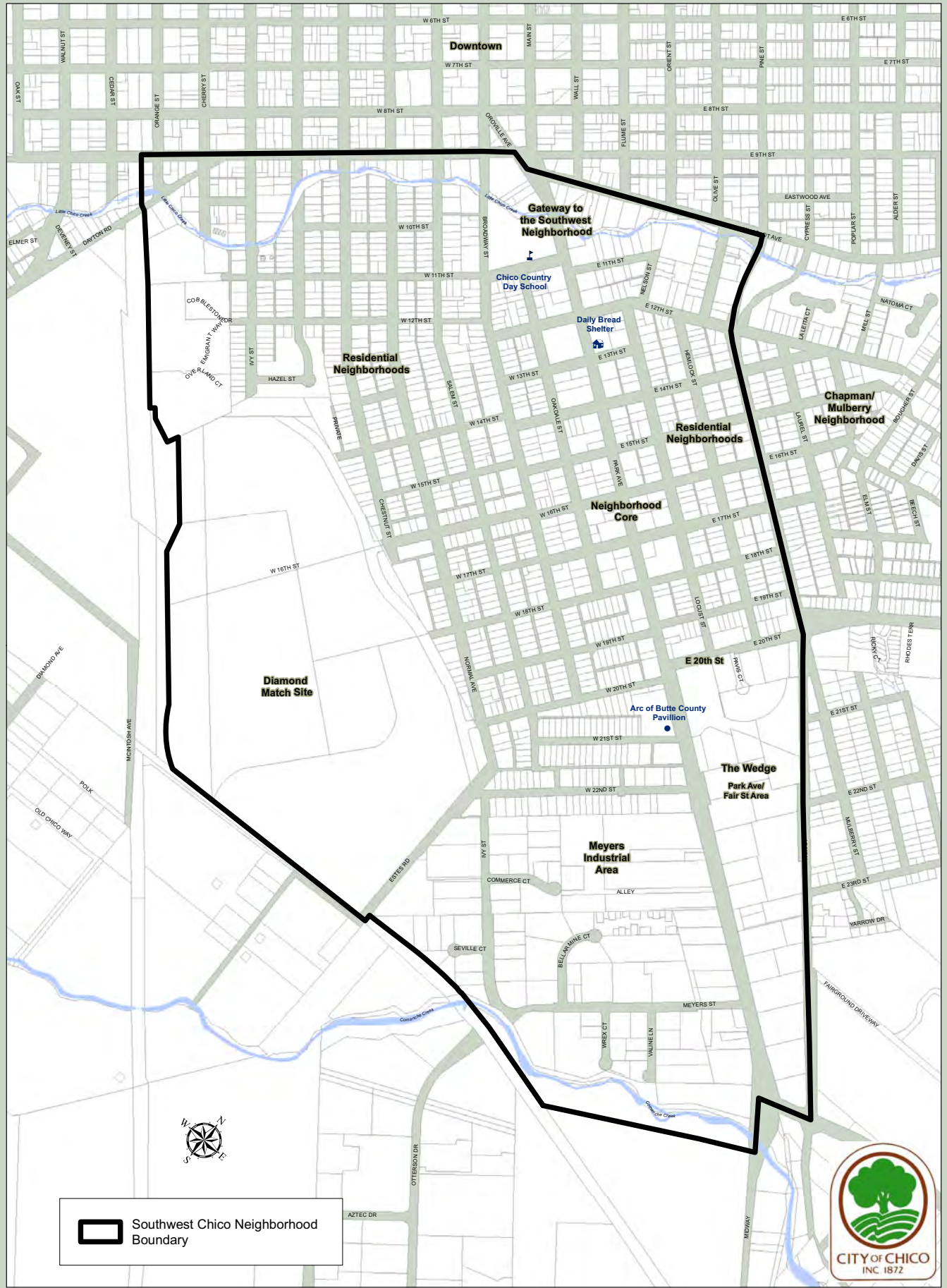
The Sustainability Task Force, which consists of sixteen members representing various sectors of the community, was formed by the City Council to advise the Council on how to reduce greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions and on other sustainability issues. The City Council has established a goal to reduce GHG emissions by 25% by the year 2020, and the Task Force is in the process of preparing a Climate Action Plan (CAP) to identify actions the City could take to meet this goal.


Since transportation sector produces over 54% of the GHG emissions in the community, reducing vehicle miles traveled is an important component of the City's CAP. This grant, if awarded, would be huge boost to the City's efforts to obtain these goals by helping to facilitate infill development and walkable communities. The funds will also help the City obtain its other sustainability goals by creating jobs and increasing the tax base, as well as improving future opportunities for commercial, retail and affordable housing projects.

Sincerely,

Ann Schwab, Mayor  
Chair, Sustainability Task Force

# City of Chico Southwest Chico Neighborhood Neighborhood Plan Area






CITY OF CHICO  
CLIMATE ACTION PLAN

Discussion of Plan Component Development

## CAP Components in Development

- Potential STF Ad-Hoc Committees
  - Outreach/ Education Development
  - Business Climate Partnership Development
  - Transportation Planning
  - Adaptation Planning
  
- Additional Updates
  - Website Development
  - Document Development
    - Have we identified all of the key components?



## Direct Outreach

- Direct Outreach to Residents
  - Sustainability Task Force (STF) Education Committee
    - Farmer's Markets
    - Sustainability Events
    - Materials: *Residents' Guide*, Free Efficiency Equipment
  - Website Promotion
  
- Conferences/Workshops
  - October: Great Valley Center Sacramento Valley Forum
  - November: *This Way to Sustainability*
  - December: Business Climate Partnership Kickoff



## Direct Outreach to Schools

### **Outreach: Key to Successful Climate Action Campaigns**

“Engaging youth in climate change deliberations helps enrich a community’s climate change conversations and educates young people about climate change and sustainability issues.”

-California Air Resources Board



## School Outreach Overview

### 2011-2012 School Year

Target 1: Upper-level Elementary School

Target 2: Lower-level High School



## Elementary School Overview

### Key Components

- Education
- Engagement
- Exploration



## Education Component

- What are Greenhouse Gasses?
- What is Climate Change?
  
- What are the potential implications?
  - Globally
  - Locally
- What is being done about it?
  - Globally/Nationally
  - Locally



## Curriculum

- Develop lessons that can incorporate/ hit on multiple components of the grade level curriculum
  
- Prepare a workshop for summer of 2011 for teachers interested in the curriculum
  
- For students in this age group the most effective way to bring the curriculum home is to pair it with engaging activities



## Potential Engagement Activities

- Crosswords, Word-Searches
- Scavenger Hunt, Other Games
- Poster Contest, Photo Contest
  
- On-campus Audits of Energy, Waste, Water, etc.
- Student Petitions for School Action
  
- Traveling Climate Change Science Box



## Take-Home Challenge

- Design a Challenge for students to take home and work on with their families
- Will first take baseline measurements of energy consumption and vehicle miles traveled for a period of one month
- Will then attempt to reduce both
- Could also include waste diversion, water consumption, etc.





## Exploration

- Gateway Science Museum
  - Climate Change Conference, Winter 2011
  - Sustainability Exhibit, Summer 2011
  
- Student Involvement
  - Assist in developing exhibits
  - Visits to exhibit
  - Interactive components?
  
- Good models for future Collaborations



## High School Overview

### Key Components

- Education
  
- Service-Learning Projects



## Education

- Curriculum would cover issues in greater depth
- Discussion of the science behind Climate Change and arguments that have been made against it
- Discussion of Climate Action: best approaches, what's happening locally



## Potential Curriculum Sources

- World Wildlife Fund
  - Fifteen lesson plan
- Department of Energy
  - Twenty eight lesson plan
- Environmental Protection Agency
  - 'Back to Basics' Background Info
- Alliance to Save Energy *Green Campus Program*
  - 'Energy Saving Success Stories'
- Many other good sources



## Engagement

- Community Service/ Service-Learning Projects
  
- Potential Projects:
  - Assist in development of GSM exhibit
  - Assist in implementation of Phase I of the City of Chico Climate Action Plan
  - Additional direct action in the community to reduce GHG emissions
  - Essay Contest?
  - Video Contest?



## Summary

- We are looking to educate kids about one of the seminal global issues of our time
  
- We would like to foster in them a sense of involvement in and ownership of climate action in their community
  
- Through educating and engaging students we hope to indirectly reach other members of their families and communities
  
- By teaching kids about climate change we would be developing a vital resource in the long-term fight to curb climate change



## Business Climate Partnership

- A Forum for Community Businesses to:
  - Acknowledge Climate Change as a important issue, and one which they are a part of
  - Come together with like-minded businesses to discuss the problem and potential solutions
  - Commit to some degree of Climate Action
  - Connect with relevant, valuable resources
  - Receive recognition for their leadership



## Primary Resources on Website

- Organizational GHG Emissions Inventorying
- Organizational Climate Action Planning
- *Green Office Challenge*
- Alternative Transportation Option Clearinghouse
- Business Resource Directory
  - Energy Efficiency
  - Green Building
  - Green Purchasing
  - Recycling & Composting
  - Water Efficiency



## Potential Additional Resources

- Green Business Rating/ Certification System
- Audits
- Consultations
- Financial Incentive Programs
- Programs Tailored for:
  - Restaurants
  - Hotels, Property Managers
  - Industry
  - Others



## Potential Stakeholders

- Chico Chamber of Commerce
- Downtown Chico Business Association
- North Valley Property Owners Association
- Association of Realtors
- Mayor's Business Advisory Committee
- CSU Chico College of Business
  - Key Questions:
    - How to best add value for businesses?
    - How to establish a partnership that will be long-lasting?



## Transportation Planning

- Butte County Association of Governments (BCAG)
  - SB 375 Sustainable Communities Strategy
  - Transportation Advisory Committee
  - Social Services Transportation Advisory Council
  - BCAG Board of Director Meetings
- City of Chico
  - Bicycle Advisory Committee



## Climate Change Adaptation Plan

- How Climate Change may affect Chico
  - Range of Scenarios
- How we as a community can best prepare for and adapt to these impacts/changes
- Many finalized CAPS include sections of this nature
  - A number of good examples/models



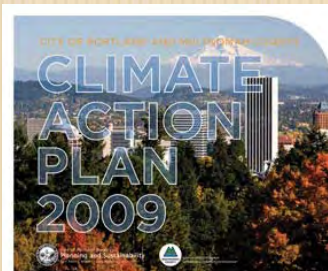
## Website Components

- PGE Innovators Pilot
- Inventory Report, CAP Document
- Interactive Action Registry
- Personal Footprint & Personal Action Calculator
- News & Information, Links, Resources, Updates
- 'Climate Change Affects on Chico' & Adaptation
- Pages for: Businesses, Residents, Institutions



## CAP Document Formatting

- Working with Molly Knappen at UGSD on document formatting
- Portland CAP identified as best model
- Document text complemented with highlight boxes
- Focus on reader-friendliness and ease of accessibility



## Draft Document Table of Contents

- General Climate Action Discussion
- Discussion of Chico Approach/ Highlights
- Inventory, Projections
- Targets, Timeline
- Phase I Breakdown
- Phase II, III: Cost-Benefit Results, Programs, Policies
- Adaptation Plan
- Prioritization, Funding, Oversight/Monitoring
- Appendices (Calculations)



## Updates for Next Meeting

- Phase II and III Cost-Benefit Analysis Project
- Collaborating with General Plan Team on Connecting the Cap with the General Plan
- Development of Monitoring Mechanisms





## Contact Information

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