



COUNTY OF SANTA CRUZ 0287

PLANNING DEPARTMENT

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KATHLEEN MOLLOY PREVISICH, PLANNING DIRECTOR

April 9, 2013

AGENDA DATE: April 23, 2012

Board of Supervisors
County of Santa Cruz
701 Ocean Street
Santa Cruz, CA 95060

SUBJECT: ACCEPT AND FILE ANNUAL REPORT ON IMPLEMENTATION OF CLIMATE ACTION STRATEGY

Members of the Board:

On February 26, 2013 your Board adopted a resolution approving the Climate Action Strategy (CAS). Your Board also directed the Departments of Planning, Public Works, Health Services, General Services, Agriculture Commissioner, Agricultural Extension, Emergency Services, and other departments as necessary to prepare Annual CAS Work Program Reports; and directed the Planning Director to compile the annual reports for your consideration in April of each year. Your Board further directed staff to form an interdepartmental task force to oversee implementation of the CAS, to identify funding for a sustainability manager to lead implementation of the CAS, and to encourage the public to plant trees.

Interdepartmental Climate Action Task Force

To assist the County to achieve the adopted emissions reduction targets of 80 percent below 1990 levels by 2050, an implementation plan was included in the CAS. The plan facilitates tracking and periodic evaluation of the activities that are being relied upon to reduce greenhouse gas emissions and prepare for the impacts of climate change. To that end, an Interdepartmental Climate Action Task Force has been formed to guide and coordinate implementation of the strategy, to ensure that all departments are part of the implementation process, and to ensure that the effort is coordinated across our various areas of expertise and function.

The first meeting of the newly created Interdepartmental Climate Action Task Force was held on March 18, 2013. Attendees included department heads and/or representatives from Planning, Public Works, General Services (representing Office of Emergency Services and Fire Agencies), Health Services Agency (including Environmental Health Services), Human Services Department (Workforce Investment Board), and the Agricultural Commissioner (also representing University of California Cooperative Extension), and the County Administrative Office. The purpose of the meeting was to review the Board direction and vision for the task force, determine structure, meeting pattern, and initial scope of the task force, and discuss the implementation program with respect to FY 2013/14 Annual Work Program Reports by each department. The task force will meet a minimum of three times per year with additional meetings as necessary to discuss time-sensitive issues.

Annual Work Program Reports

In order to assist the Departments with the new task of preparing the initial Annual Work Program Report, Planning Department staff prepared worksheets customized for each department listing the strategies relevant to each department. The reports were completed by staff in the various departments in less than two weeks. The reports include information on the ongoing programs and projects each department is pursuing, and new initiatives each department intends to pursue to implement the CAS in the coming fiscal year. While many of the programs and projects were not conceived specifically to implement the CAS, they are activities that address various aspects of emissions reduction and climate change adaptation and are included as strategies or actions in the CAS.

Planning Department staff compiled the reports for emissions reduction strategies (Attachment 1) and for adaptation strategies (Attachment 2). With respect to emissions reduction, Tables 3-1 through 3-3 in the CAS list a number of specific actions to implement each emissions reduction strategy and this is reflected in Attachment 1. Implementation of adaptation strategies will involve further evaluation to develop specific actions, and Table 7-1 in the CAS presents a set of possible adaptation actions, or strategies, for each of the vulnerabilities and impacts that have been recognized and evaluated. Accordingly, Attachment 2 provides information on the approaches being taken by departments to implement various adaptation strategies.

Because this is the first year of the formal implementation program, information on previous years' activities was not requested. However, the General Services Department and Environmental Health Services did provide this information in their reports.

While this first report focuses on formation of the task force and initiation of the departmental reporting, future annual reports will monitor progress on those emissions reduction and adaptation strategies and actions. The strategy tables in Chapter 3 of the CAS and the Monitoring Program summarized in Table 4-2 outline the performance indicators that will be monitored to measure success for each strategy. The information will be obtained primarily from County departments and also, to the extent feasible, from outside agencies and organizations. The emission inventories and the estimates of emissions reduction will be periodically updated as well. Staff is planning to update the emissions inventory in 2014. Future monitoring reports will correlate this information and evaluate the overall effectiveness of the mitigation portion of the CAS, and may make recommendations to modify the CAS, if necessary, for greater effectiveness.

As mentioned in our report of February 26th, a Planning Department Resource Planner will undertake efforts in 2013-14 to coordinate and pursue identified CAS strategies, and staff will continue work to identify grant funding that could be used to fund additional staff resources for this effort. Staff will also work with the Parks Division of the Public Works Department to consider if there are collaborative activities that could be undertaken in the following year with public agencies such as State Parks, the University of California, Santa Cruz and Cabrillo College that could increase residents' awareness of opportunities to plant trees.

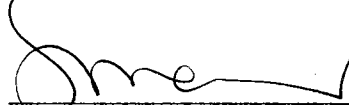
It is therefore RECOMMENDED that your Board accept and file the 2013 annual Climate Action Strategy Report.

Sincerely,



Kathy M. Previsich
Planning Director

RECOMMENDED:



SUSAN A. MAURIELLO
County Administrative Officer

Attachments:

1. Emissions Reduction Strategies Annual Work Program Report
2. Adaptation Strategies Annual Work Program Report

Cc: Department of Public Works General Services Department
Office of Emergency Services Health Services Agency
Environmental Health Services Human Services Department (W.I.B.)
Agricultural Commissioner University of California Cooperative Extension

**Santa Cruz County Climate Action Strategy
Annual Work Program Report
Fiscal Year 2013 / 2014**

Planning		
Emissions Reduction Strategy	Action	Status
E-1 Community Choice Aggregation	E-1.1 & 1.2 Feasibility	Resolution adopted by BOS on 3/5/13 confirming County's participation in inter-jurisdictional effort to investigate feasibility of CCA. County representative(s) to the Project Development Advisory Committee have been designated by the County Administrative Officer.
E-2 Energy Efficiency	E-2.5 Time of Sale Ordinance	Evaluate options for ordinance development
E-5 Education	E-5.2 Website	Update our website to provide information and tools to help the public with energy efficiency and renewable energy initiatives. Seek intern support.
E-6 Green Building	E-6.1 Beyond CalGreen	Adopt the State building code (CalGreen) on the regular code adoption cycle (2014), and local amendments that exceed State standards for energy efficiency and renewable energy.
T-1 Vehicle Miles Traveled Reduction	T-1.4 Regional Cooperation	Participate in regional efforts to improve the Regional Traffic Model, Regional Sustainable Communities Plan, Regional Housing Needs Assessment with a focus on climate action goals
	T-1.3 Transit Corridors Plan	The Transit Corridors Plan for Sustainable Communities is underway.
	T-1.7 Economic Development Strategy	A County Economic Vitality Strategy is being developed
	T-1.6 Davenport Cement Plant Reuse	The county has obtained grants funds to study issues and opportunities surrounding reuse of the Davenport cement plant
Public Works		
Emissions Reduction Strategy	Action	Status
E-2 Energy Efficiency	E-2.8 Green Government Certification	Completed in 2012. Staff is working on solar funding for County buildings. Still in the feasibility process
	E-2.9 LED Streetlights	Incorporate LED streetlights in all new projects; continue to submit grant applications to retrofit existing streetlights.
E-3 Green Business Program	E-3.1 – E-3.4 Support/Expand GBP	Ongoing
E-4 Renewable Energy	E-4.9 Solar at Landfills	DPW and GSD are working together on solar for landfill, transfer station and County buildings
E-5 Education	E-5.1 Green Schools Program	The County contracts with O'Neill Sea Odyssey, Save Our Shores and Coastal Watershed Council to bring environmental education to Countywide schools. This education ranges from marine debris education, resource

Public Works		
Emissions Reduction Strategy	Action	Status
		conservation and carbon footprint education.
T-2 Bicycle and Pedestrian Infrastructure	T-2.1 Transportation/Roadside Improvement Fees (with Planning)	Continue to collect developer fees and budget for specific bike and roadside improvements.
	T-2.3 County Bicycle Plan	Requires an update every five years to qualify for BTA grants. Coordinate updates with the RTC Bicycle Committee.
	T-2.6 Safe Paths of Travel (Pedestrian)	Developed brochure for sidewalk repair. Continue to respond to complaints regarding broken sidewalks and work with owners to ensure repair is performed per Design Criteria.
	T-2.4 Safe Routes to School	Continue to submit grant applications for area school improvements – State and Federal programs.
T-1 VMT Reduction	T-1.2 Transportation/Roadside Improvement Fees	Continue to incorporate multi-modal (ped, bike, transit) into all improvement projects.
	T-1.4 Regional Cooperation	Continue to meet goals and follow policies of the Regional Transportation Plan.
	T-1.9 Complete Streets (with Planning)	Continue to utilize this tool when evaluating needed improvements.
T-5 Reduce County Fleet Emissions	T-5.5 and T-5.5 Biodiesel	Using 5% blend at BV and BL landfills; Roads Maintenance considering implementing similar usage.
W-1 through W-3 Waste to Energy	W-1.1 through W-3.3 Landfill Gas and Waste to Energy	Continue planning upgrades to landfill methane gas capture system as funding becomes available. Actively following developments in Waste to Energy Technology and participating in Statewide planning efforts.

General Services Department		
Emissions Reduction Strategy	Action	Status
Annual Work Program		
E-1 Community Choice Aggregation	E-1.1 through E-1.3 Feasibility with Planning	Resolution adopted by BOS on 3/5/13 confirming County's participation in inter-jurisdictional effort to investigate feasibility of CCA.
E-2 Energy Efficiency	E-2.7 County Facilities Energy Efficiency	General Services currently working with PG&E and their Sustainable Solutions Turnkey program to identify appropriate buildings and projects to reduce energy use.
	Purchasing Policies	Ongoing. County Purchasing Policy requires evaluation of "green" factors, including, but not limited to: recycled content, sustainable wood content, energy star rating, "green" custodial products, and local food preference; County paper use is tracked closely to ensure declining use; recycling is integral part of warehouse operations
E-4 Renewable Energy	E-4.10 Increase renewable energy	General Services working with Public Works to determine feasibility of solar

General Services Department		
Emissions Reduction Strategy	Action	Status
Annual Work Program		
T-2 Bicycle infrastructure	T-2.8 through T-2.10 County bicycle facilities	installations at various County buildings. General Services will apply for grant from MBUAPCD in Spring 2013 for bike locker funding.
T-3 Vehicle infrastructure	T-3.3 Installation of publicly available EV charging stations	Currently there are three charging stations at County locations. General Services will look for funding to install additional stations.
T-4 Alternative commute modes	T-4.3 Alternative Transportation Program	General Services is a member of Ecology Action's TRIP program for 2013.
T-4 Alternative commute modes	T-4.4 Ridespring	General Services will apply for grant from MBUAPCD in Spring 2013 to re-instate Ridespring
T-5 Reduce County Fleet Emissions	T-5.1 through T-5.3 Purchases, Programs	Awarded Air Resources Board Grant for \$115,000 for pool vehicles purchase. Alternate fuel vehicle capacity at 91 flex fuel, 19 electric/hybrids, and 5 CNG. Continue to seek grant funding for telematics system for fleet management.

General Services Department		
Emissions Reduction Strategy	Action	Status
Previous Year's Activities		
E-1 Community Choice Aggregation	E-1.1 through E-1.3 Feasibility with Planning	General Services Director was appointed by BOS to represent the County on the CCA discussions
E-2 Energy Efficiency	E-2.7 County Facilities Energy Efficiency	Received grant from Federal Govt ARRA funds through CEC to perform five retrofit projects at various County buildings. Received loan from CEC to perform outdoor lighting retrofit projects.
E-4 Renewable energy	E-4.10 Increase renewable energy	Began discussions regarding which County buildings would be appropriate for solar installation
T-3 Vehicle infrastructure	T-3.3 Installation of publicly available EV charging stations	Installed 24/7 charging stations at 701 Ocean, 1080 Emeline and 1430 Freedom
T-4 Carpooling	T-4.3 Alternative Transportation Program	As member of Ecology Action's TRIP program, provided zero interest bike loans and emergency ride home vouchers to County employees
T-2 Bicycle infrastructure	T-2.8 through T-2.10 county bicycle facilities	Received grant from MBUAPCD to install 16 dual capacity bike lockers at County Government Center. Upgraded existing bike lockers and installed better lighting and security measures.

Environmental Health Services		
Emissions Reduction Strategy	Action	Status
Annual Work Program		
E-8 Water Conservation / Energy Efficiency	E-8.1 Water Conservation Ordinance	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Complete update of county water conservation ordinances (Chapters 7.69, 7.74, and 7.75) • Explore the possibility of including a water conservation impact fee on new development to mitigate additional

Environmental Health Services		
Emissions Reduction Strategy	Action	Status
Annual Work Program		
	E-8.3 Greywater Systems	water demand and fund conservation programs. Work with water agencies and Greywater Alliance on public outreach and training to promote installation of greywater systems.

Environmental Health Services		
Emissions Reduction Strategy	Action	Status
Previous Year's Activities		
E-8 Water Conservation / Energy Efficiency	E-8.1 Water Conservation Ordinance	Updated Water Conservation Ordinance has been prepared and reviewed by the Water Advisory Commission
	E-8.3 Greywater Systems	Brochures and procedures have been developed to allow and promote the use of greywater reuse for irrigation.
	Promote irrigation efficiency for large water users as a condition of well permit approval.	Required installation of water use efficiency measures as a condition of approval for 15 large wells (using more than 2 acre-feet/year).

Agricultural Commissioner and University of California Cooperative Extension		
Emissions Reduction Strategy	Action	Status
Reduce use of petroleum based mosquitocides	Evaluate mosquito breeding sources, and use biological pesticides when possible	Ongoing
Reduce vehicle emissions	Replace surveillance truck with a hybrid vehicle	Vehicle is on order

Health Services Agency		
Emissions Reduction Strategy	Action	Status
T-2 Bicycling and Walking	T-2.5 Community Traffic Safety Coalition (CTSC)	Continued staff support of CTSC through funding by RTC

Human Services Department		
Emissions Reduction Strategy	Action	Status
E-7 Participate in collective action and cooperative agreements	E-7.3 Green Job Training	The WIB plans on continuing to promote Green Jobs to its participants in an effort to foster job creation opportunities that enhance the local environment. The role of the WIB in this effort is provide training funds, labor market information, career counseling, and job placement assistance to local job seekers who wish to explore a career in a Green Job occupation. Source of funding to support our role is Department of Labor Workforce Investment Act Adult and Dislocated Worker funds. This funding is secure for the next fiscal year.

**Santa Cruz County Climate Action Strategy
Annual Work Program Report
Fiscal Year 2013 / 2014**

Planning	
Adaptation Strategy	Status
Section 3 Table 7-1 Amend the Safety Element of the General Plan and revise implementing regulations to increase the efficacy of the damage prevention and flood protection aspects of the National Flood Insurance Program.	This work is underway and is supported by a Disaster Recovery Initiative (DRI) grant.
Section 2 Table 7-1 Continue to require that the County Geologist review development in areas of suspected landsliding.	Ongoing
Section 2 Table 7-1 Continue to require that an engineering geologist and/or geotechnical engineer investigate the site of any proposed construction or repair near landsliding.	Ongoing
Section 5 Table 7-1 Consider how climate-related goals and strategies can be incorporated into an amendment of the General Plan. This may be coordinated with policies that flow from the Transit Corridors Plan for Sustainable Communities and the Disaster Recovery Initiative grant funded update of the Safety Element.	Underway

Public Works	
Adaptation Strategy	Status
Section 1 of Table 7-1 Infrastructure siting	Continue to maintain and replace existing infrastructure as current resources allow.
Section 1 of Table 7-1 Priority list of infrastructure.	Continue prioritizing vulnerable infrastructure.
Section 1 of Table 7-1 Elevate E. Cliff Dr.	Proposed to be elevated as part of the Twin Lakes Beachfront project.
Section 1 of Table 7-1 Drainage improvements at Rio Del Mar Esplanade/Flats	DPW applied for a FEMA Flood Hazard Mitigation Grant. The application is currently being reviewed. The improvements as proposed by the grant will address smaller storms and will provide some benefits for all storms. However, for cases of the less frequent, over 10-year frequency storms, the flooding will still be an issue in the Rio Del Mar flats area. The proposed drainage improvements, while will provide additional protection to flood events, were not conceived to address the Climate Action Plan.
Section 1 of Table 7-1 Improve wastewater collection system	Continue to replace collection system as part of annual CIP.
Section 1 of Table 7-1 Coordinate with City re: Neary Lagoon plant	Working with stakeholder of plant regularly.
Section 2 of Table 7-1 Develop a priority list of vulnerable infrastructure.	Continue prioritizing vulnerable infrastructure such as roads, bridges, and drainages structures.
Section 3 of Table 7-1 Pajaro River flood control alternatives	The General Re-evaluation Report and the EIS/EIR for the Pajaro River Flood Reduction Project is currently scheduled for public release in Jan. 2014.
Section 3 of Table 7-1 Evaluate. current policies and ordinances to limit stormwater runoff	Evaluate current Policies and Ordinances to limit stormwater. The County adopted the Runoff and Pollution Control Ordinance in March 2012. The County Planning, Environmental Health and Public Works Departments are continuously working on addressing the impacts of impervious areas and reviewing its policies to identify gaps to minimize impervious area impacts, including studying the allowable percentage of parcels' impervious areas coverage by different land uses. There is still much to be worked on regarding different County Code sections such as the Riparian ordinance, Geologic/flood Hazard Ordinance, zoning regulations and other related county policies and regulations to address the Climate Action Plan to protect natural areas, restore water courses to their natural conditions and daylight water courses or not allow open water courses to be piped or

Public Works	
Adaptation Strategy	Status
	hard lined. Additional work is necessary to limit impervious area coverage by unroofed structures, which is now not addressed in the County Code.
Section 3 of Table 7-1 Prepare Stormwater Facilities Master Plan	The County is in the process of completing an update to the Santa Cruz County Flood Control and Water conservation District-Zone 5 Master Plan as well as develop a new Drainage Master Plan for Zone 6. The Master Plans will be completed by June 30, 2013. Like the first item above, the Master plan was not conceived to address the Climate Action Plan. Issues identified in the second item above have more relevance to the Climate Action Plan, for stormwater management issues.

Environmental Health Services	
Adaptation Strategy	Status
Annual Work Program	
Table 7-1 Section 3 Incorporate findings of the Integrated Regional Water Management Plan (IRWMP) into county water policy	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Complete the update of the IRWMP. • Recommend adoption of the IRWMP by the Board of Supervisors as the County water policy
Table 7-1 Section 3 Consider implementing additional water conservation measures	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Work with Soquel Creek Water District and other agencies to implement a supplemental water supply with water conservation strategies or implement water use curtailment programs to bring groundwater extraction into balance with sustainable yield. • Adopt and implement updated water conservation ordinance.
Table 7-1 Section 3 Support PVWMA	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Support completion of the EIR, refinement and adoption of the updated BMP, and establishment of funding mechanisms. • Work with the Resource Conservation District and other stakeholders to complete the College Lake management plan and Watsonville Slough hydrologic model.
Table 7-1 Section 3 Support development of additional water supply	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Complete Water Exchange Feasibility study and support approval of short term water transfers. • Support development of a supplemental water supply adequate to meet current and demand, while addressing fish and other environmental needs.
Table 7-1 Section 3 Promote more effective groundwater storage	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Implement Prop 84 stormwater grant to finance groundwater recharge projects in mid-county and Scotts Valley. • Fully implement stormwater management policies to require infiltration of stormwater for new development and remodels.
Table 7-1 Section 3 Water supply plans to reflect climate change	Review water supply plans, EIRs and the updated IRWMP to ensure that plans incorporate expected declines in groundwater recharge and increase in irrigation demand,
Table 7-1 Section 3 Promote drought planning by 130 small water systems	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Disseminate information on drought planning and improving water use efficiency to small public water systems. • Consider amending water system ordinance to require metering and drought planning.

Environmental Health Services	
Adaptation Strategy	Status
Previous Year's Activities	
Table 7-1 Section 3 Incorporate IRWMP	Secured Prop 84 to update IRWMP. Update is 50% complete.
Table 7-1 Section 3 Support PVWMA	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • County staff served on the Basin Management Plan Ad Hoc Advisory Committee. • County staff worked with the Resource Conservation District to secure Prop 84 grant funding for the College Lake Management Plan and Watsonville Slough Hydrology Model

Table 7-1 Section 3 Water supply plans to reflect climate change	County staff contracted with USGS to complete an assessment of climate change impacts on groundwater recharge, and water supply.
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Office of Emergency Services	
Adaptation Strategy	Status
Table 7-1 Section 4 Update hazard mitigation plans addressing wildland fires.	In progress. Update to be completed by September of 2015.
Table 7-1 Section 4 Maintaining a cooperative working relationship with the Area Fire Coordinator to address staffing needs during red flag warnings.	Ongoing during fire season
Table 7-1 Section 4 Monitor weather and participate in weather conference calls with Cal EMA, county emergency services partners and the National Weather Service (NWS).	Ongoing during the winter months. Update the Emergency Operation Plan by December of 2014 to include weather conference call plans.
Table 7-1 Section 4 Notify the public through our public information officers and social media before the event occurs. Utilize early warning notification systems in cooperation with SCR911.	Ongoing during the winter months. Update the Emergency Operation Plan (EOP) by December of 2014 to include the implementation of early notification systems.
Table 7-1 Section 4 Monitor weather and participate in weather conference calls with Cal EMA, county emergency services partners and NWS. Identify cooling centers.	Ongoing during the summer months. Update EOP by December 2014 to reflect the opening of cooling centers.

Fire Agencies	
Adaptation Strategy	Status
Table 7-1 Section 4 Area Fire Coordinator to maintain a cooperative working relationship with the Regional Fire Coordinator and Cal Fire to increase staffing during red flag warnings.	Ongoing during the summer months. Continue to train local firefighters and prepare for large wildland fire response in Santa Cruz County.
Table 7-1 Section 4 Monitor weather through the National Weather Service (NWS) to identify changes in weather in advance of events.	Continue receive alerts from the NWS.
Table 7-1 Section 4 Monitor weather through the NWS to allow for time to prepare for storm response support efforts.	Continue receive alerts from the NWS.
Table 7-1 Section 4 Area Fire Coordinator to maintain a cooperative relationship with the Office of Emergency Services, Public Works, Law Enforcement, the Red Cross and other emergency services partners to assure that effective communication and coordinated response.	Develop incident action plans for fire burned areas subject to an increase in slides during heavy rain events. Continue to participate in mixed discipline disaster exercises and after action reviews.

Agricultural Commissioner and University of California Cooperative Extension	
Adaptation Strategy	Status
Table 7-1 Section 4 Encourage efforts by growers and agricultural organizations to adjust to climate change	The University of California Cooperative Extension develops and maintains tools to assist growers to adapt to climate change and conducts ongoing outreach and education for growers and organizations about available tools

Health Services Agency	
Adaptation Strategy	Status
Table 7-1 Section 4 Update existing public health plans and designation of Emergency Cooling Centers	Cooling centers have previously been designated during extreme heat events. Met with County OES to commence review and update.
Table 7-1 Section 4 System to contact homebound or disabled residents	GIS Mapping Met with County OES & Commission on Disabilities to create survey to determine medical needs