



Agenda

Sustainability Task Force

A Committee of the Chico City Council

Meeting of Thursday, April 11, 2019 – 5:30 p.m.

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

1. **CALL TO ORDER AND ROLL CALL**
2. **SELECTION OF CHAIR AND VICE-CHAIR (Deputy Director Vieg)**
3. **APPROVE FEBRUARY 28, 2019 MEETING MINUTES** - *Draft 02/28/19 minutes attached.*
4. **SPRINGBOARD BIODIESEL PRESENTATION (Matt Roberts)** – Chico is home to Springboard Biodiesel LLC, a manufacturing company that makes equipment that produces biodiesel. Across the country, municipal-driven used cooking oil collection programs are gaining popularity because collected oils stay out of municipal drains, and oils can be converted into clean burning biodiesel fuel. Biodiesel fuel made from a local waste stream can be used to power municipal diesel vehicles, generators, etc. The presentation will include case studies and information about biodiesel usage.
5. **REPORT BACK FROM SUB-COMMITTEE DEVELOPING FORMAT FOR FUTURE CAP OUTREACH SESSIONS (STF Member Chastain)** - At the February 29, 2019 STF meeting, the STF discussed how to proceed with initial public outreach/listening sessions to support the development of an updated Climate Action Plan. A sub-committee was formed to develop questions and an appropriate format to serve a variety of stakeholder groups. The STF will receive an update from the sub-committee.
6. **OPTIONS FOR THE MAKE-UP OF A STANDING CLIMATE COMMISSION (CivicSpark Fellow Charter)** – In anticipation of potentially becoming a “standing commission”, research has been conducted regarding how other California communities made the same transition. CivicSpark Fellow Charter will share her research with the STF. *Various options for the make-up of a standing climate commission attached.*
7. **REPORTS & COMMUNICATIONS** - These items are provided for the STF's information. Although the STF may discuss the items, no action can be taken at the meeting. Should the STF determine that action is required, an item may be included on a subsequent agenda.
8. **BUSINESS FROM THE FLOOR** - Members of the public may address the STF at this time on any matter not already listed on the agenda, with comments being limited to three minutes. The STF cannot take any action at this meeting on requests made under this section of the agenda.
9. **ADJOURNMENT** - Next meeting scheduled for May 23, 2019

ATTACHMENT(S): 02/28/19 STF Meeting Minutes (Draft)
Options for the make-up of a standing climate commission

Agenda available from the City's website at www.ci.chico.ca.us under “**Minutes & Agendas**”

Prepared: 04/03/19

Posted: 04/03/19

Prior to: 5:30 pm

Community Development Department

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Sustainability Task Force Members:

Mark Stemen, Chair

William Loker

Cheri Chastain, Vice Chair

Molly Marcussen

Danielle Baxter

Mandi McKay

Dave Donnan

**CITY OF CHICO SUSTAINABILITY TASK FORCE
MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF
FEBRUARY 28, 2019**

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

STF Members Present: Mark Stemen, Chair
Cheri Chastain, Vice Chair
Daniel Baxter
Dave Donnan
Molly Marcussen
Mandi McKay

STF Members Absent: William Loker

Staff Members Present: Brendan Vieg, Deputy Director, CDD
Courtney Charter, CivicSpark Fellow

Guests Present: Randall Stone, Ann Ponzjo, Kathleen Oman, Ashley Manning, Brittany White, Mary Kay Benson, Susan Dobra, Karen Laslo, Steven Marquardt, Aaron hoar, Pamm Lary, Nate Rettigner

1. CALL TO ORDER AND INTRODUCTION OF NEW MEMBER

Chair Stemen called the meeting to order at 5:33pm. New STF member, Mandi McKay, introduced herself and shared her background and interest in sustainability. STF members, City staff, and guests were present as noted.

2. APPROVE JANUARY 10, 2018 MEETING MINUTES

The 01/10/19 STF Meeting Minutes were approved 6-0-1 (Loker absent).

3. OVERVIEW OF SUSTAINABILITY TASK FORCE UPDATE TO CITY COUNCIL AND NEXT STEPS

STF Chair Stemen provided the STF with an overview of his Update to the City Council at its February 19th meeting. The update highlighted the City's efforts in achieving its GHG emissions reduction goal, new State GHG emission targets, and STF achievements. The Update also included recommendations to Council to adopt new GHG emission reduction targets, prepare a new CAP to achieve the State's latest targets, formalize the STF into a standing commission, and provide staff support.

Mayor Randall Stone briefly addressed the STF and shared his appreciation for its hard work and the commitment to the all the individuals who participate in the important work of sustainability. Ultimately, Council agreed to adopt new GHG emission reduction targets and directed staff to seek funding to prepare a new CAP. There was not agreement on the timing of the STF becoming a commission, and the provision of dedicated staff, but there appeared to be support for those concepts in the future.

Deputy Director Vieg also shared that the City Council had highlighted the evolving role of the STF and the importance of addressing GHG emissions and climate change at its recent priority setting session several weeks ago.

The STF discussed a number of issues, including the fact that there is not grant funding available for the preparation of CAPs, that permanent staffing is critical to a successful City effort to combat climate change, that climate change is a public safety issue, and that it is important to highlight these facts as part of the City's budget prioritization process.

The STF also discussed how it could proceed with initial public outreach and listening sessions to support the future development of an updated CAP.

The STF discussed options how best to proceed, and provided direction.

STF Member Chastain made a motion to create a sub-committee consisting of STF members Chastain, Marcussen, and Baxter to develop questions and an appropriate format for future CAP outreach/listening sessions that the STF could hold with a variety of stakeholder groups. The questions and format are to be brought back to the STF at its April 11th meeting. Motion seconded by STF Member Baxter. The motion passed 6-0-1 (Loker absent).

STF Member Donnan emphasized the need to coordinate the listening session with education groups.

4. DECLARATION OF A CLIMATE EMERGENCY

Chico 350 and Allies presented a draft of a resolution that it is requesting the Chico City Council adopt. The resolution would declare a climate emergency and initiate an emergency mobilization effort to restore a safe climate.

There were a number of speakers, including Aaron Haar, Ann Ponzio, Kathy Oman, Steven Marquardt, Pamm Lary, and May Kay Benson. The topics discussed included, but were not limited to: a desire to work closely with STF, the need for emergency declaration (outlined in the Draft Resolution), Camp Fire impacts, other communities that have either made the declaration or that are working towards making the declaration, the need for an aggressive agenda to become a 100% fossil free community by 2030, a template Implementation Plan that Chico can use to achieve the aggressive goals, other resources available to Chico that can be used if Council supports the declaration (e.g., Carbon Free City Handbook), divesting pension funds from fossil fuel companies, the need for a sustainable food system, importance of appropriate urban landscaping both in urban and open space environments, benefits of community supported

agriculture (GRUB) and community gardens, regenerative farming best practices, the tenuous aspects of the nation's food supply and how to address them, the need for stable food prices, making Chico a Farm-to-Fork destination, and the importance of addressing food waste through community composting (*see attached full 350 & Allies presentation*).

The STF thanked the presenters for the comprehensive and thoughtful overview, and provided direction.

STF Member Chastain made a motion that the STF agendaize the Draft Council Resolution Declaring a Climate Emergency for STF endorsement at its April 11, 2019 meeting. Motion seconded by STF Member Baxter. The motion passed 6-0-1 (Loker absent).

5. **2018/19 CIVICSPARK UPDATE**

CivicSpark Fellow Charter provided the STF with an update on research she has conducted regarding recent Climate Action Plans prepared and standing commissions created to address climate change in various California communities.

The STF directed staff to bring back various options for the make-up of a standing climate commission for the STF's consideration at its April 11, 2019 meeting.

STF Member Donnan shared that there are opportunities for collaboration between the City and CARD on various sustainability fronts.

6. **REPORTS & COMMUNICATIONS**

Deputy Director Vieg shared that the STF will be electing a Chair and Vice Chair at its next meeting.

7. **BUSINESS FROM THE FLOOR**

None.

8. **ADJOURNMENT**

There being no further business from the STF, the meeting adjourned at 6:45pm to the meeting of Thursday, April 11, 2019.

Date Approved

Brendan Vieg, Deputy Director, CDD

**Chico 350 & Allies Presentation to Chico Sustainability Task Force 2/28/19
& for the Public Record:**

Greetings: Good evening. We pay homage to the Mechoopda tribe and thank you all for your dedicated compassionate service to our community. We obviously want to work with STF, for you and and through you to show the way a frontline community can respond after a climate-caused catastrophe by stepping up and leading, as Chico has always led in our area.

Preface: The Climate Mobilization volunteers have helped us every step of the way by providing us the documents from the other CA cities that have already Declared Climate Emergencies for which we have the utmost gratitude: It's called City By City. BERKELEY, HAYWARD, LOS ANGELES, OAKLAND, RICHMOND, and SANTA CRUZ. *In process like Chico are Woodland, Santa Rosa, Davis, and Sacramento.*

<https://www.theclimatemobilization.org/city-by-city>

Additionally, 350.org, Sierra Club and Food & Water Watch are all in for the Green New Deal.

Aaron Haar:

WHY A DECLARATION OF A CLIMATE EMERGENCY

- 1) Declaration of Climate Emergency Resolutions was provided to STF
<https://docs.google.com/document/d/1sU0MA160OIShRAzPKhiMFwM6jla3YngKeT1ZwMjVjYk/edit?usp=sharing>
- 2) AMERICANS WHO ACCEPT CLIMATE CHANGE OUTNUMBER THOSE WHO DON'T BY 5 TO 1.

<https://e360.yale.edu/digest/americans-who-accept-climate-change-outnumber-those-who-dont-5-to-1>

- 3) CLIMATE CHANGE REPORT: CALIFORNIA TO SEE 77% MORE LAND BURNED
<https://www.sfchronicle.com/science/article/Climate-change-report-California-to-see-77-13185429.php>
- 4) A SUMMARY OF KEY FINDINGS FROM CALIFORNIA'S 4TH CLIMATE CHANGE ASSESSMENT

The 4th Assessment addresses critical information gaps that decision makers at the state, regional and local levels need addressed in order to protect California's people, infrastructure, natural systems, working lands and waters.

<http://www.climateassessment.ca.gov/state/docs/20180827-SummaryBrochure.pdf>

- 5) SUMMARY FOR POLICYMAKERS OF IPCC - Special Report On Global Warming
The report finds that limiting global warming to 1.5°C would require rapid and far-reaching" transitions in land, energy, industry, buildings, transport, and cities.
<https://www.ipcc.ch/2018/10/08/summary-for-policymakers-of-ipcc-special-report-on-global-warming-of-1-5c-approved-by-governments/>

Ann Ponzio and Kathy Oman:

MODELS AND RESOURCES FOR IMPLEMENTATION:

The Declaration of Climate Emergency, which City Council will be considering soon, proposes an aggressive and immediate response to the dangers of our changing climate.

Chico has an opportunity to be among the US cities that are pioneering a carbon neutral path for their communities. Considering the devastation of the Camp Fire, it only makes sense that Chico be up front and center in the movement to become a carbon neutral city.

We believe the goal of becoming a carbon neutral city will require an all-out mobilization, but is feasible and affordable.

Some models of how to continue Chico's good work and move speedily towards a Carbon Free Chico include:

1. Implementation Plan: prepared by John Mitchell, a consultant to the Climate Mobilization Project; Mitchell has prepared plans for Atlanta, San Francisco, Boston, Hoboken, NJ, Boulder, Sonoma County, and others. He uses a template which he adjusts factoring in demographics and climate of the area to come up with his calculations. You will see that this IP does not reflect some of the existing policies and initiatives of City of Chico. It is probably best viewed as a starting point for development of a more accurate IP for Chico that reflects existing City policies and initiatives.

<https://docs.google.com/uc?export=download&id=0B4J1oo34PoMQU0NTSlppVDM2SFZVUE9jQ1N5ZkZNVFZOVVc4>

2. Carbon Free Cities Handbook. Comprehensive guide to all aspects of becoming carbon free; over seventy pages long, it has five sections: Big Picture, Buildings, Transportation, Electricity, Industry. The Carbon Free Cities Handbook also has a comprehensive section on financing mechanisms.

<https://rmi.org/insight/the-carbon-free-city-handbook/>

3. Montgomery County, MD has passed a DCE and created a Climate Emergency Work Group report; this may also be a model for Chico.

onemontgomerygreen.org/wordpress/wp-content/.../ClimateMobilizationReport.pdf

4. Six cities in the US have already hit their target of 100% clean energy from non-polluting, renewable sources: Aspen, CO; Burlington, VT; Greensburg, KS; Rockport, MO; Kodiak Island, AK and Georgetown, Texas. Georgetown, Tx, (population 67,000), made the transition to 100% renewables in two years led by a Republican mayor, Dale Ross.

<https://www.citylab.com/environment/2018/12/green-new-deal-bernie-sanders-dale-ross-climate-town-hall/577279/>

City of Chico could consult with these cities for models of success.

5. 100 cities in US have pledged to go 100% renewables, many by 2030, 2025, 2035. The City of Chico could consult with the ones that have similar demographic and climate profiles. <https://www.sierraclub.org/ready-for-100/commitments>

6. ICLEI- Local Governments for Sustainability USA. Their mission is to build and serve the movement of local governments pursuing deep reduction in carbon pollution and tangible improvements in sustainability and resilience.

Steven Marquardt: Sustainable Food Systems

The DCE states that people desire clean water, air, food and soil. Those things can only be achieved if we have a truly sustainable food system, one in which the food provides an economic stimulus, is environmentally sound, and is socially equitable. Chico has the infrastructure, resources, and people necessary to attain such a system. With funding, extensive outreach, and humane guidance, we will create the food system alluded to in this resolution.

The DCE states that Chico commits to a just transition through the creation of jobs and to initiate efforts to draw down carbon through regenerative agriculture and other strategies including planting trees.

Fortunately, significant grant funding, through entities such as the Butte County University of California Cooperative Extension, is available for good paying agricultural jobs, specifically for youth and veterans, two vulnerable populations. Regenerative practices are being used right here in Chico, and the Chico Tree Advocates are ready to plant more trees.

Here is a snapshot of how Chico's already existing pieces can be leveraged to transform our food system to become sustainable.

Economic stimulus: Community Supported Agriculture - supporting the growth of CSA's is vital. This is the most economically sound way of producing healthy, accessible food that benefits both farmers and consumers. GRUB, our local CSA, is staffed by compassionate, well-connected, community members and will be key in creating larger scale CSA.

Jobs: create a "Green Gardens" development workforce program to develop front and backyard gardens, or Victory Gardens, and other community gardens including those to be built at CHAT's incoming Simplicity Village. This development workforce can be led by Chico's existing Federally supported Food Corps member and our local farmers, and by grant and governmentally funded positions.

Environmentally sound: The DCE calls on the City to draw down carbon through regenerative agriculture, among other strategies. The city must partner with the farmers, such as the founders of Farmelot, who operate regenerative agriculture farms in Chico and Vina, and sell their produce at Chico Farmers markets. This single entity is simultaneously providing our citizens with healthy soil, air, and food. Farmelot's farmers are prominent community members with backgrounds in politics and education, valuable experiences which will enable them to help effectively lead the necessary outreach efforts to educate other farmers on the need, and

benefits, of adopting regenerative practices. Partnering with Chico State's Regenerative Agriculture Initiative will also speed up the wide scale adoption of regenerative practices.

Socially equitable: In order to ensure that our food system is equitable, farmer's markets, and all food distributors, must accept EBT. Schools and churches may also serve as produce pick up stations in order to increase accessibility and biking brigades will deliver food to those unable to access these stations.

These are just a few of my ideas as to how Chico can rapidly transform its food system through the demands stated in the DCE. I hope the Task Force gives these, and all of my fellow members', ideas serious consideration and relays any of the ideas they deem feasible to the City Council. We are here to help achieve this transition so please allow us to be of service.

Pamm Larry: Nov 8 and its aftermath have been a wakeup call for all of us. We were blessed to have food keep arriving for the community. But what if that food supply had been cut off? How secure and resilient is our food supply?

Food Chain Reaction was a simulation game played by governments, military, investors, agricultural industry, etc in 2015. The model suggested that due to climate, fuel, and unrest, food prices could increase as much as 395% by 2026. Food prices went up 8.2% in 2017, 1.6% in 2018. The increases for 2019 are projected at 1.5-4%.

At this point in time, we have a 4 month global grain supply. Grocery stores stock about 3 days' worth of food. In February 2019, Washington state experienced runs on store and empty shelves when a large storm was predicted to keep people housebound for a few days. We are not food prepared for catastrophe.

Climate Change and Agriculture-

It's only recently that Agriculture has started to be included in the conversation about climate and yet how we farm and maintain our landscapes can be both major causes OR major mitigators of climate chaos. In fact, many of the thought leaders I read on climate breakdown point to ag as the first causative factor in the progression of change and the major reason for desertification.

Simultaneously, global crop production is already being impacted by climate changes already. Our farmers in Butte County are already dealing with it. Last year there was a 25% reduction in the global grain crop due to climate-drought in EU, China, Korea, Japan, Australia and NZ. Flooding in our East Coast and France impacted crops. Studies show that with every degree Celsius increase, crop production goes down 10%. Scientists predict this as our new normal.

Estimates of food production contribution to greenhouse gasses vary from 14-51% depending on what they include in the calculation. The world bank says the figure is 51% and includes not only methane but transportation, inputs, processing, and more, accounting for externalities that

others don't include. At the same time, with regenerative ag practices, it is estimated that if we converted only 10% of all ag land to regenerative practices, and continue to things like switch to renewable energy, reduce carbon in every way possible, etc., the land could sequester all the heritage CO2 in 20 years.

In addition to agriculture's greenhouse gas contribution, unhealthy soils cause erosion, runoff and lead to desertification. This degraded land impacts climate systems. In contrast, soils that are healthy retain water and recharge aquifers. There are areas in the world, primarily the Loess Plateau of China, that have regenerated a tract of land (35,000 square KM) from a desert (due to degenerative ag practices) to a green, healthy landscape. Deserts are literally being re-lushifying, streams are coming back to areas that have been deserts for decades or centuries. We can no longer

Finally, agricultural inputs and poisons kill species that help the planet and us process greenhouse gasses, toxins and the causes of the imbalances of the earth. The toxic algae blooms that are impacting ocean species are directly linked to agricultural chemicals. Insect populations are crashing as much as 75%, reducing the food supply for their immediate predators. The cascading impacts are evident in lower bird, frog and bat populations.

Environmental breakdown is a holistic and systemic problem that cannot be reduced to one causation or one strategy for change.

So what can we do?

Create a strong local food system. There are many successful models and programs going around the state, the country and in other countries.

A few ideas-

Work with county and other cities to do a Food Assessment and create a Food Policy Council.

Health in all Policies ordinance- first enacted by Richmond, lays the basis for other laws

Victory Gardens and Farms 2.0 increase local food security -growing our own food is vital, but supporting our local farmers is just as important. I get 80 to 85% of my food at the market. These farmers need to be supported- huge topic but they must be able to make a living and attract young farmers who need support to succeed in a tricky farming environment.

- Mobilization to grow more food locally and support policy that supports local farmers
- Low barriers to growing food for the community
- Open up city land that's empty to create more community gardens OR give 5 year lease to young farmers so they can farm and get their careers going, sell at market, winwinwinwin
- Create food forests, utilize public land to grow fruit trees
- Water farming
- Incentivize gardening- free classes, events, "garden raisings"

- Work with Farmers Market to get more people there, get non-choir.
- Convert city land to IPM and transition to organic- Irvine as an example- saving money on water
- Become a Farm to Fork destination- good for agritourism, supports local farmers
- Other benefits of a strong local food system- local economy, increased quality of life, healthier environment, healthier food.

Mary Kay Benson: I'll address **City wide Food Waste & Composting** to greatly reduce methane gases and reduce landfill trash.

Speaking with City staff Linda Garcia today, she said the area to focus on first is to stop the food waste before it needs to be composted, composting is the last resort. Last year the Jesus Center received a half-million grant for that purpose - to collect food from restaurants, farms, caterers - to not only stop food waste but to use the food to feed the needy.

<https://krctrv.com/news/butte-county/jesus-center-awarded-500000-grant>

Both Waste Management & Recology have plans they are working on, but they don't want to add another bin, because of its cost. Linda Garcia suggested building a network of places that have food they would throw away with places that would use it. There are some groups, like From The Ground Up, and Jason Jaques from Drop in the Bucket Bicycle Compost Service which delivers to Kentfield Gardens already.

As I looked into it, many CA cities do this already, and because it is mandated by CA law soon, with \$10K per day per city fines for non-compliance starting in a couple of years. Chico has to do per state law at the same time reducing methane which is 34x worse than carbon, by adding another bin per residence. Multi Bin waste improvements to include Food Waste Composting can save money for customers by composting more and reducing the size canister used for trash that can't be recycled (i.e. 32 gallon down to 20). Because the organic compost is sold or distributed to local farms, that could help offset costs.

It is ranked #3 on Drawdown's 100 success global models list as it reduces atmospheric carbon by 70.53% <https://www.drawdown.org/solutions-summary-by-rank>

1. As composting increases, Gray bins for landfill/trash can be reduced in size, and there should be incentives and lower price for those who do so.
<https://www.waste360.com/composting/california-adopts-four-laws-develop-recycling-composting-waste-reduction>
2. In 2016, California passed SB 1383, which targets a 50 percent reduction in organic wastes disposed (over 2014 quantities) by 2020, and 75 percent reduction by 2025.

3. CalRecycle will adopt regulations to meet these diversion goals by the end of 2018, but the regulations will not go into effect until 2022 to allow time to develop the necessary infrastructure. “Beginning 2024, CalRecycle can start assessing penalties for noncompliance,” explains Matthew Cotton of Integrated Waste Management Consulting, an organics recycling consultant in California.

“Local governments will be subject to fines of up to \$10,000/day for noncompliance with the requirements in the regulations.”

<https://www.biocycle.net/2018/03/12/california-composting/>

Solar: We met Shyla Black from GRID Alternatives North Valley - Solar - CA last week who is gearing up to put \$50M into roof top solar installations for low-income people in our area, and she endorsed our DCE. <https://gridalternatives.org/regions/northvalley/about/programs>

Transportation: We were told that Butte County buys most transport vehicles, like electric buses, but to the extent that Chico buys any vehicles, we will address that going forward.

Insurance crisis: I just watched the first Commission on Catastrophic Wildfire Cost and Recovery MEETING AGENDA Sacramento City Hall Council Chamber webcast on Monday, February 25 ·10:00am – 2:00pm to see the state is as overwhelmed by our Climate Emergency as much as our local governments are - especially insurance companies are melting down, but committed to the work now, as we must.

<http://opr.ca.gov/meetings/wildfire-commission/2019-02-25/>

Guillermo Mash: Wind Turbines

Onshore Wind Turbines a Climate Change White Paper by
Without a Roof
woarof.tumblr.com

Why?

Wind is a clean source of renewable energy that produces no air or water pollution. And since the wind is free, operational costs are nearly zero once a turbine is erected. Mass production and technology advances are making turbines cheaper, and many governments offer tax incentives to spur wind-energy development.

 NATIONAL GEOGRAPHIC **Wind Power** Feb-2019

Wind power offers a sustainable option in the pursuit of renewable energy.
nationalgeographic.com/environment/global-warming/wind-power 2 MINUTE READ



Where Does Butte County's Power Come From, And How Much Comes From Renewable Sources?

mynspr.org/post/where-does-butte-countys-power-come-and-how-much-comes-renewable-sources
By ADIA WHITE • JAN 16, 2018



"We can't specify per county what the energy mix is, but we do know that systemwide, because our grid is interconnected about 70 percent of power that we provide to our customers comes from carbon-free sources," Moreno, a PG&E spokesperson said.

Energy and Environment

Wind energy is supposed to help fight climate change. It turns out climate change is fighting back.



Say What!

So how could changing wind patterns affect the deployment and effectiveness of wind energy?

The realities of climate change in Butte County was laid bare for all but the most rigid climate change deniers on November 8, 2018 as the Camp Fire, a climate fueled wildfire, raced through the town of Paradise, California at a rate of a football field a second[1]. The need for shifting to renewables such as onshore wind turbines is a pressing reality with the affects of unmitigated climate change forecasted to be irreversible in a decade. How apropos it would be to realize the installation of large scale wind farms on the same Ridge that lost nearly 14,000 homes leaving over 50,000 residents Without a Roof.

[1] 60-Minutes clip from 12/2/2018 — <https://tinyurl.com/CampFireVelocity>

Conclusion and our ask:

So tonight, we introduced some ways in which we can start working on solutions together in addition to all the work the STF and City are doing. We are constantly reading and researching the latest science on this, our single focus, and we will take deeper dives in future meetings. We are asking you as STF to endorse our Declaration of Climate Emergency Resolutions which is agendized before the Chico City Council now. If for whatever reasons STF cannot endorse, then we ask each of you personally to endorse it here tonight. You have in us dedicated solutions-oriented volunteers. We offer to help you in good faith for the benefit of our future livable community and planet based on the Green New Deal which 626 green groups sent to Congress: <https://www.scribd.com/document/397201459/Green-New-Deal-Letter-to-Congress>



STF Agenda Report

Meeting Date: April 11, 2019

TO: STF

FROM: Courtney Charter, CivicSpark Fellow (879-6923; courtney.charter@chicoca.gov)

RE: Permanent Commission Make-up

REQUEST

The STF requested that I present my research on the make-up of commissions created to address climate change related issues in other California communities.

RESEARCH

An overview of my research on such commissions can be found in **Attachment A**.

After completing this research, as well as speaking with municipal staff and CivicSpark fellows in other communities, I recommend the following approach:

The creation of a seven-member commission which will serve as a technical advisory commission for city matters related to climate change mitigation and adaptation. More specifically, that the commission 1) aid in the development, implementation and tracking of the next Climate Action Plan (CAP); and 2) advise Council on matters related to greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions and adaptation to climate change.

While commissions in other communities have set requirements for some members to come from specific sectors (e.g., a local business owner), this can lead to difficulty in filling these positions. I recommend instead utilizing similar criteria set forth by Council at the formation of the STF which required three of the seven STF members to have experience in at least one of the following areas: energy, transportation, economics, community engagement, or a business leader or owner. I recommend also including experience in GHG accounting and reporting.

Some communities require a student representative as a member, most frequently a high school junior who joins the commission for two years. This can be challenging in terms of turnover but offers the opportunity to include the voice and knowledge of a motivated young person. If it is decided that a student representative is desired, I recommend expanding the pool of applicants beyond CUSD to include CSU Chico students as well.

Additionally, while some communities have chosen to utilize ex-officio members, non-elected representatives and/or alternatives, it is recommended that membership remain simplified and include standard voting members. This also reflects the membership composition of Chico's other standing commissions.

Finally, it is recommended that the city make an effort to recruit applicants from diverse backgrounds to provide diverse representation on the commission.

CURRENT CITY COMMISSION REQUIREMENTS

Article X of the City of Chico's Code of Ordinances details city-wide requirements for boards and

commissions. Requirements specific to commission membership include:

- No board or commission can consist of less than five members
- Members must be residents of the city and are appointed by the council.
- Members are appointed to a term of four years, these terms are to be staggered.
- At the first meeting of each calendar year, one member shall be elected to serve as presiding officer.
- Meetings are regular in their scheduling and all meetings and proceedings shall be open to the public.

ATTACHMENTS

A. Table with Permanent Commission Examples

Permanent Commission Examples

Attachment A

Municipality	Title	Membership	Member details	Notes
City of Albany	Climate Action Committee • Has a 3 member CAP 2.0 Subcommittee	7 members	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 5 appointed by council • 1 at-large appointed by council • 1 youth member appointed by Albany Unified School District Board of Trustees 	Also originated as a task force
City of Benicia	Community Sustainability Commission	7 members + 4 ex-officio members	Ex-officio members are from: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Good Neighbor Steering Committee • Valero (refinery) • Amports (operates Port of Benicia) • School district employee 	Ex-officio members are non-voting members selected to represent major groups/orgs. in the city
City of Chula Vista	Sustainability Commission • Has a Climate Change Working Group Subcommittee	7 members		
City of Cupertino	Sustainability Commission	5 members	2 member specifications <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Cupertino-based educational institution (non-student) • Cupertino-based business 	
City of Davis	Natural Resources Commission	7 members + 1 alternate	+ 1 non-voting liaison from Planning Commission	
City of Fremont	Environmental Sustainability Commission	7 members + 1 non-elected employee rep. from unified school district	5 member specifications <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Student from FUSD • Business community • Development / Construction industry • Environmental Org. 	
City of Long Beach	Sustainable City Commission	11 members		
City of Milpitas	Energy & Environmental Sustainability Commission	7 members + 2 alternates	2 member specifications <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Business representative • School district representative 	City council can appoint a Council liaison to serve on commission in a non-voting capacity
City of San Mateo	Sustainability & Infrastructure Commission	5 members		Formed upon consolidation of Public Works Commission & Sustainability Commission