



Agenda

Sustainability Task Force

A Committee of the Chico City Council

Meeting of Thursday, January 22, 2015 – 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. **APPROVE DECEMBER 11, 2014 MEETING MINUTES**

Draft 12/11/14 minutes attached.

3. **DEVELOP 2015 STF WORK PLAN**

4. **STF MEETING SCHEDULE FOR CALENDAR YEAR 2015**

5. **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.

6. **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 this meeting. Should the Task Force determine that action is required, the item or items may be included for action on a subsequent posted agenda.

7. **ADJOURNMENT**

Next meeting to be determined by Agenda Item 4.

ATTACHMENTS: Draft 12/11/14 STF Meeting Minutes
Work Plan Priorities and Ideas Provided by STF Members

Agenda available from the City's website at www.ci.chico.ca.us under "**Meetings/Agendas**"

Prepared: 01/16/15
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Sustainability Task Force Members:

Cheri Chastain
Lucas Ross Merz

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 11, 2014**

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

STF Members Present: Mark Stemen, Chair
Cheri Chastain
Dave Donnan
Ryne Johnson
William Loker
Lucas Ross Merz

STF Members Absent: Mike Rubio, Vice Chair

Staff Members Present: Brendan Vieg, Principal Planner
Mark Wolfe, Community Development Director

Guests Present: Jon Clarke, Executive Director, BCAG

1. CALL TO ORDER

Chair Stemen called the meeting to order at 6:31 pm. STF members, staff, and guests were present as noted.

2. APPROVE OCTOBER 9, 2014 MEETING MINUTES

The minutes were approved (6-0-1, Rubio absent) as submitted.

Katie Simmons, Executive Director, Chico Chamber of Commerce, shared with the STF her desire to collaborate with the STF as they move recommendations forward to the City Council, and offered to meet with STF members to discuss how to successfully move implementation of the CAP forward.

3. DISCUSSION REGARDING BCAG'S TRANSIT SYSTEM AND IMPLEMENTATION OF CAP ACTIONS TO ENHANCE TRANSIT RIDERSHIP – STF RECOMMENDATIONS

Jon Clarke, Executive Director, BCAG, provided a comprehensive overview of BCAG's efforts to improve and enhance B-Line ridership.

The STF and Mr. Clark discussed the following topics: availability of BCAG studies and ridership data on the BCAG website; transit innovations planned for the future to improve ridership; the possibility of "on demand" routes, smaller buses, and electric buses; standardization of the fleet;

the use of a cleaner diesel fuel vs. CNG (reliability, cost); alternative fuels for the fleet in the future (biodiesel); enhancing the marketing of the B-Line, specifically connecting better with the University by using Wildcat logos and providing information on the buses regarding sporting and cultural events at Chico State; efforts by BCAG to quantify GHGs reductions; and, providing better options for bikes on buses and at the B-Line facilities.

The STF made the following recommendations or requests:

- Highlight BCAG's "B-Line Tracker" App on the City's Sustainability website.
- When available for public review, staff will agendaize BCAG's *Transit & Non-Motorized Plan* for STF review and comment.
- The STF offered to work with the Chamber of Commerce to conduct outreach with larger employers in the community and bring them together with BCAG staff to discuss opportunities for improving or subsidizing employee transit use to improve ridership.
- The STF requested a tour of the Butte Regional Transit Operations Center when construction is complete.
- The STF requested BCAG provide the task force with the estimated reduction of GHGs from increased ridership in Chico in the form of metric tons of carbon dioxide equivalents (MtCO_{2e}) to better compare with CAP estimates.

4. STATUS OF STF RECOMMENDATIONS TO COUNCIL

Brendan Vieg shared with the STF that the CAP clearly directs that Phase II actions should not proceed until there has been an assessment of the success of the Phase I actions and other external actions via a GHG Inventory. This assessment is due to take place in 2015, and Phase II actions are to proceed in 2016-2020. For this reason, several of the STF's previous recommendations (which are Phase II actions) are not proceeding to the Planning Commission until the new GHG indicator is completed (anticipated completion date is February 2015). Several other STF recommendations, however, are being acted upon.

STF members expressed concern and some frustration regarding the committee's direction and the pace at which its efforts are being implemented. The STF and staff had a dialogue about the STF's focus, priorities, and the need to develop a work plan. The STF also discussed how it might work better with the community and the private sector.

STF member Chastain recommended that at its January 2015 meeting, the STF develop a clear and concise Work Plan to guide its efforts for the upcoming year. STF member Merz seconded the motion, which passed unanimously 6-0-1 (Rubio absent).

Staff offered to provide the STF with a sample work plan, and each STF member was directed to forward their 6-month and 12-month priorities, as well as identify community organizations to reach out to, prior to the January 22, 2015 meeting so that the information could be shared as part of the meeting agenda.

STF members also highlighted their desire for future meetings not to exceed an hour and a half in length.

5. **STF MEETING SCHEDULE FOR CALENDAR YEAR 2015**

The STF and staff agreed to discuss the upcoming meeting schedule at its January 22, 2015 meeting.

6. **BUSINESS FROM THE FLOOR**

Angela Casler, a representative from the Chamber of Commerce, offered to collaborate with and provide her expertise with the STF.

7. **REPORTS & COMMUNICATIONS**

None.

8. **ADJOURNMENT**

There being no further business from the STF, the meeting adjourned at 7:25pm to the **meeting of Thursday, January 22, 2015.**

Date Approved

Brendan Vieg, Principal Planner

Priorities/Ideas Provided By Sustainability Task Force Members For 2015 Work Plan

Cheri Chastain

The City of Chico's Sustainability Task Force (STF) was established by City Council to implement the City of Chico's 2020 Climate Action Plan. The plan includes three target areas for greenhouse gas (GHG) reductions: Energy, Transportation and Solid Waste.

Goal: engage the business community on the three target areas to drive GHG reductions

Strategy 1: partner with the Chico Chamber of Commerce, Downtown Business Association and any other avenue that arises to engage local business.

Targeted businesses: large employers in consumer centers (Chico Mall, Target, Build.com, Khols, Trader Joe's complex, large grocery complexes, Enloe, etc.) along with large non-city government/utility employers (Chico Unified, CalWater, PG&E, CSUC, etc.)

To create engagement, the following workshops could be hosted to provide information, inspiration and motivation.

Proposed workshops:

- Energy Efficiency
 - PG&E – energy efficiency rebates, tools and special programs available to businesses and how they can save businesses money
- Water Conservation
 - CalWater – rebates, tools and special programs available for businesses
- Alternative Transportation
 - BCAG – regional transit subsidized passes, bike maps, etc.
 - Butte Bicycle Coalition/Chico Velo – employee bike workshops, lunch & learns, bike mechanic days, national bike challenge, etc.
 - Chico Chapter of the Electric Auto Association – work to increase the use of electric vehicles in the community along with the charging infrastructure to support an increased use
- Solid Waste
 - Local solid waste/recycling haulers – educational sessions on what is recyclable where
 - US Zero Waste Business Council – tools and certifications for businesses

Strategy 2: Networking and sharing of information within the business community – almost like a mentorship program. Collect testimonials from businesses already engaging in sustainability efforts as they relate to energy, water, alternative transportation, and solid waste. These should be shared with other business members in the community to inspire GHG reduction changes.

The Chico Chamber of Commerce could be a good partner to not only help collect these testimonials but to format and distribute them and help mentorship relationships be established.

Mike Rubio

Below are my suggested priorities and community organizations.

6-month priorities

- Publish and optimize website
- Finalize GHG metric to track goal of 25% reduced levels from 2005 to 2020
- Engage with community organizations

12-month priorities

- 2015 review and evaluation of Phase I and CAP amendment, if necessary. (CAP, pg49)
- Identify new GHG emission and water reduction opportunities
- Community engagement (i.e., [community guide](#))

Community organizations to reach out to:

- Work with PG&E to improve Upgrade CA adoption in Chico
- Solar companies and Energy contractors
- Localpower.com (if interested in offering citizens a cleaner utility alternative to PG&E as implemented in Marin and Sonoma)

Mark Stemen

From the CAP: Phase II will begin in 2016 and end in 2020. The target for Phase II is to further reduce emissions, ultimately achieving the overall CAP goal of 2020 emissions being 25% below the 2005 base year levels.

The focus in the second phase will be:

- 1) Building on successful Phase I actions;
- 2) Expanding community support for the Plan; and
- 3) Implementing additional Phase II actions.

Dave Donnan

One of the most important issues that needs to take place like all of the other committees is voting on a new chairman. I would like to see that on next agenda.

First item on work plan should be to submit to council what has been accomplished up to 1/1/15 in phase 1

Second is where are we at with website

Last is what needs to be done to finish phase 1 and start on phase 2

Bill Loker

Among organizations I think we should consult regarding the Climate Action Plan and the work of the STF are (in no particular order):

1. Butte Environmental Council
2. Chamber of Commerce
3. Cal Trans
4. PG&E
5. Cal Water
6. Department of Public Works
7. Sierra Club
8. Chico Velo or other representatives of the biking community
9. VP of Business and Finance at Chico State
10. Chico Unified School District
11. Valley Contractors Exchange (encouraging green building practices, solar installations, tankless water heaters, etc).

Among the priorities for the STF, I would like to see discussed:

1. Strategies for moving forward on recommendations made to date. I'd like to see a summary of this, perhaps in a matrix, and where we stand on each of them in terms of review and implementation.
2. Discussion of strategies for raising awareness and changing behavior among city residents. Can we create a toolkit for renters/homeowners on 10 things to do to reduce greenhouse gas emissions? (See #3 below.)
3. The use of social marketing to encourage behavior change among Chico citizens. We might be able to collaborate with Chico State faculty/students on such a campaign.
4. The possibility of a Climate Action Summit convened by the City. Might even be done to coincide with or complement the This Way to sustainability conference.
5. A meeting with one or more Council members to find out if there is still interest in the work and recommendations of the STF. If the STF is no longer a priority, or perhaps viewed as a liability, we should consider disbanding.

These are my initial ideas. I think #5 might be the most important.