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# Agenda

## Sustainability Task Force

A Committee of the Chico City Council

Meeting of Thursday, September 10, 2015 – 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 JULY 23, 2015 MEETING MINUTES**  
Draft 07/23/15 minutes attached.
3. **DISCUSSION REGARDING CURRENT AND FUTURE PLANS FOR RECYCLING AND REDUCING GHG EMISSIONS IN THE SOLID WASTE SECTOR (Linda Herman, Butte County, Waste Management, and Recology)** – At its 07/23/15 meeting, the STF requested that staff invite representatives from the local waste haulers, the City’s Recycling Coordinator, and a County representative from the Neal Road Landfill to discuss current and future plans for recycling and reducing GHG emissions in the solid waste sector. Suggested topics for the meeting included: 1) use any 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.
4. **UPDATE ON CIVICSPARK PROGRAM (Principal Planner Vieg)** – Provide STF update on City effort to participate in CivicSpark program.
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, an item may be included for action on a subsequent posted agenda.
7. **ADJOURNMENT** - Next meeting will be Thursday, October 29, 2015

**ATTACHMENT:** Draft 07/23/15 STF Meeting Minutes

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

Prepared: 07/15/15  
Posted: 07/15/15  
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  
July 23, 2015**

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

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

STF Members Absent:           Mike Rubio, Vice Chair  
  Lucas RossMerz

Staff Members Present:         Brendan Vieg, Principal Planner

Guests Present:                 None

**1. CALL TO ORDER**

Chair Stemen called the meeting to order at 6:30 pm. STF members and City staff were present as noted.

**2. APPROVE JUNE 10, 2015 MEETING MINUTES**

*The 06/19/15 minutes were approved (5-0, Rubio and RossMerz absent).*

**3. CONSIDER CAP, DRAFT GHG EMISSION INVENTORY FINDINGS, AND MINUTES FROM STF MEETINGS WITH PG&E, CAL-WATER, AND BCAG, AND REVISIT WORK PLAN PRIORITIES AND COUNCIL RECOMMENDATIONS**

Principal Planner Vieg provided a brief history on the STF's efforts to date, as well as an overview of previous STF recommendations to Council.

The STF re-confirmed previous recommendations to Council as follows:

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. *(Stemen recommended, Chastain seconded. Motion passed unanimously 5-0; Rubio and RossMerz absent).*

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. (*Chastain recommended, Donnan seconded. Motion passed unanimously 5-0; Rubio and RossMerz absent*).

Incentives for Alternative Energy Installation – City should incentivize Building Fees (e.g., reduce fees) for alternative energy installations. (*Loker recommended, Donnan seconded. Motion passed unanimously 5-0; Rubio and RossMerz absent*).

Solid Waste Franchise Agreement – The STF the following two recommendations regarding the under development 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. (*Chastain recommended, Loker seconded. Motion passed unanimously 5-0; Rubio and RossMerz absent*).

***The STF requested staff to provide a status update on the City's Solid Waste Franchise Agreement process.***

The STF had a discussion regarding how to effect change in peoples' behavior, especially as it relates to energy use. The STF again discussed the merits and feasibility of pursuing one big idea that would have a significant effect on GHG emission reductions vs. pursuing numerous small ideas that may be ineffective. It was suggested that it might be possible to “piggy back” on the current local acknowledgement regarding the limitation of water as a resource to help demonstrate the limitation of ever-increasing energy use. Another suggestion was to change the broader GHG reduction discussion away from “global warming” and focus on the more tangible concept of “climate change.” Recognition that there will be dryer and longer droughts and its impact on an individual's everyday life, and the local economy, might be something people can identify with.

The discussion moved to whether or not an educational campaign might be successful. It was generally agreed that it was important to continue partnering with community organizations. Another idea shared was to reach out to the interfaith community so that they could share a catered message to parishioners.

***The STF requested that staff invite representatives from the local waste haulers, the City's Recycling Coordinator, and a County representative from the Neal Road Landfill to the next STF meeting to discuss current and future plans for recycling and reducing GHG emissions in the solid waste sector. Topics for meeting would include: 1) use any 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.*

**4. CONSIDERATION OF CIVICSPARK PROGRAM**

Chair Stemen provided a brief overview of the Local Government Commission's (LGC) CivicSpark program. The program allows local jurisdictions to have access to Climate Readiness Teams at a highly subsidized rate to work on local climate change projects.

*STF member Loker made a motion directing staff to investigate and initiate City participation in the CivicSpark program. The motion was seconded by STF member Donnan, which passed unanimously 5-0; Rubio and RossMerz absent.*

Principal Planner Vieg shared that he would contact LGC regarding its CivicSpark program, and discuss the program with City Manager Orme and Community Development Director Wolfe, to determine how best to proceed with the STF's direction.

**5. RECOMMENDATIONS FOR ALTERNATIVE METRICS FOR FUTURE GHG EMISSIONS INVENTORY**

STF member Johnson shared a number of concerns regarding the accuracy and the legitimacy of the solid waste metric used in the GHG Emission Inventory.

The STF agreed to invite the Neal Road Landfill manager to the next STF meeting to further discuss issues regarding methane capture and GHG emissions.

STF member Johnson agreed to contact ICLEA regarding its GHG emission inventory software, which is the basis for the methodology used in Chico's City-Wide GHG Emission Inventory.

**6. BUSINESS FROM THE FLOOR**

None.

**7. REPORTS & COMMUNICATIONS**

None.

**8. ADJOURNMENT**

There being no further business from the STF, the meeting adjourned at 7:18pm to the meeting of **Thursday, September 10, 2015.**

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Date Approved

Brendan Vieg, Principal Planner