



CITY OF SAN MATEO

City Hall
330 W. 20th Avenue
San Mateo CA 94403
www.cityofsanmateo.org

Agenda Report

Agenda Number: 27

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TO: City Council
FROM: Drew Corbett, City Manager
PREPARED BY: City Manager's Office
MEETING DATE: June 07, 2021

SUBJECT:
2020 Climate Action Plan – Annual Progress Report

RECOMMENDATION:
Receive an update on the implementation of the 2020 Climate Action Plan.

BACKGROUND:
In April 2015, City Council adopted the City's first Climate Action Plan (CAP). This plan served as the City's comprehensive strategy to reduce greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions, and staff has provided annual updates to the Sustainability Commission and City Council on CAP implementation. Since 2019, staff engaged the Sustainability and Infrastructure Commission and the public in the development of an updated 2020 CAP that establishes new greenhouse gas emission targets for 2030 and 2050 and identifies creative and innovative new strategies to meet these targets. The City Council adopted the 2020 CAP at the April 6, 2020 City Council meeting. This report summarizes the progress made on the implementation of the 2020 CAP. This information was also presented to the Sustainability and Infrastructure Commission at its May 12, 2021 meeting.

The impacts of the COVID-19 lockdown caused a record drop in carbon emissions, but despite the sharp drop in the early part of 2020, data shows that global emissions picked up in the second half of the year. Emissions from transportation accounted for the largest decline with a drop in car trips and aviation. Compared to 2019, the United States' emissions decreased by 12% and the European Union's emissions by 11%. However, China's emissions dropped only 1.7% compared to 2019, likely reflective of the more limited duration of their lockdown and their ability to recover more quickly. As global economies continue to recover, carbon emissions will also rebound and the City's CAP efforts continue to be a priority to support sustainable and long-term emission reductions in our community.

2020 Climate Action Plan Implementation

The 2020 CAP contains implementation measures in the following categories: building electrification, renewable energy, energy efficiency, municipal energy efficiency, clean transportation fuels, sustainable transportation, solid waste, water and wastewater, and off-road equipment. Attachment 1 to this report provides both qualitative and quantitative data to show how progress has been made on each of the CAP measures, and Attachment 2 summarizes available metrics for each CAP measure.

Some key highlights of implementation on the 2020 CAP are as follows:

- *Building Electrification Reach Codes:* The City Council adopted a reach code requiring residential buildings and office buildings be constructed all-electric. The reach code also requires that new residential buildings with 100% affordable units be all-electric or exceed the State Energy Code. This reach code is effective January 1, 2021

through December 31, 2022 (the end of the triennial code cycle) and replaces the City's previously adopted building electrification reach codes that allowed two pathways for compliance.

- *Disposable Food Service Ware Ordinance:* The City Council adopted the Disposable Food Service Ware Ordinance that will require food facilities and restaurants to use compostable products instead of plastic disposables. This ordinance goes into effect October 1, 2022. Staff also launched the "Quit the Cutlery" campaign in which restaurants pledge to only distribute cutlery, straws, condiment packets, etc. by request of the customer. This voluntary effort helps reduce waste as many customers are picking up food or getting delivery to eat at home.
- *Sustainable Solutions Turnkey (SST):* In 2018, the City entered into a contract with PG&E for the Sustainable Solutions Turnkey program to for energy efficiency upgrades at City facilities. The \$3.2 million project includes upgrades at most facilities including City Hall, libraries, fire stations, and recreation facilities. All on-site work is now complete. The City has begun to pay back one of the two on-bill financing loan packages and just finalized the second on-bill financing loan package.
- *Electric Vehicle Infrastructure:* Staff leveraged Peninsula Clean Energy's electric vehicle ready technical assistance and applied to the California Electric Vehicle Infrastructure Project (CALeVIP) to install electric vehicle chargers at the Main Street Garage and the Second and El Camino Garage. The City was awarded funding for the Main Street Garage and is currently negotiating a contract with an installer. Funding for the Second and El Camino Garage is pending for a future funding cycle, and staff hope to install chargers at this site next year.

As part of the 2020 CAP update, the City completed a 2018 GHG emission inventory. This inventory showed that the City has reduced emissions 18% below 2005 levels and exceeded the 2020 GHG target of 15% below 2005 levels. This progress report includes qualitative and quantitative data points to show the City's progress on the various measures in the CAP. A formal GHG inventory analysis is a data intensive effort and is completed roughly every five years.

BUDGET IMPACT:

There is no budgetary impact from this informational report.

ENVIRONMENTAL DETERMINATION:

This informational report is not a project subject to CEQA, because it can be seen with certainty that it will not cause a physical change in the environment. (Public Resources Code Section 21065.)

NOTICE PROVIDED

All meeting noticing requirements were met.

ATTACHMENTS

Att 1 - CAP Progress Report - 2021

Att 2 - CAP Matrix - 2021

STAFF CONTACT

Andrea Chow, Sustainability Analyst

achow@cityofsanmateo.org

(650) 522-7007