



SUSTAINABILITY COMMITTEE

August 1, 2019

9:00 A.M.

651 Pine Street, Room 101, Martinez

Supervisor John Gioia, Chair
Supervisor Federal D. Glover, Vice Chair

Agenda Items:

Items may be taken out of order based on the business of the day and preference of the Committee

Present: John Gioia, Chair
Federal D. Glover, Vice Chair

Staff Present: Frank DiMassa, Energy Manager
David Gould, Purchasing Manager
Carrie Ricci, Deputy Director, Public Works
Joe Yee, Deputy Director, Public Works
Dom Pruett, Field Representative, Supervisor Andersen
Carlos Velasquez, Fleet Manager
Jody London, Sustainability Coordinator
Justin Sullivan, Planner
Chris Wikler, Field Representative, Supervisor Mitchoff

Attendees: Marti Roach Contra Costa Climate Action Network
Shoshana Wechler, Sustainability Commission
Jan Warren, Interfaith Council, and CC CAN
Patty Harrington, Sustainable Rossmoor
Eddie Quiocho, City of Walnut Creek

1. Introductions
2. Public comment on any item under the jurisdiction of the Committee and not on this agenda (speakers may be limited to three minutes).

None.

3. APPROVE Meeting Minutes from last meeting.

Approved.

Chair John Gioia, Vice Chair Federal D. Glover

AYE: Chair John Gioia, Vice Chair Federal D. Glover

4. RECEIVE presentation regarding sustainability in Alameda County.

Carolyn Bloede, Sustainability Manager for Alameda County, described how Alameda County has built an organizational culture that embraces environmental sustainability. Bloede's presentation, included with the agenda, outlines the path Alameda County has taken since 2003 to deliver services using less energy and resources. Bloede noted that leadership from the Board of Supervisors and County Administrator propelled the work. In 2006, with direction from the Board, the CAO established cross-departmental teams to bring broad thinking. The group met quarterly to report on progress in meeting an initial goal to reduce greenhouse gas emissions from County operations by 15%. The group integrated sustainability into the County's vision and used creative strategies to engage County employees and make the work fun.

Bloede reported that Alameda County is in the process of developing a climate vulnerability assessment. Alameda County has in the past few years begun assessing the supply side impacts of its purchases, identifying opportunities to use the County's purchasing power to encourage vendors and service providers to reduce their greenhouse gas emissions. The value of Alameda County's procurement is about \$300 million annually, including the jail. The County also supports a regional purchasing effort that includes the cities in Alameda County through StopWaste, the Alameda County Waste Management Authority. Alameda County offers the opportunity for other jurisdictions to "piggyback" on its contracts, provides peer-to-peer consultation, and has led regional procurements for items such as electric vehicles and charging stations.

5. RECEIVE Update on Options for Bringing More Electric Vehicles into the County Fleet, and PROVIDE DIRECTION as appropriate.

The Committee discussed the proposed amendments to existing Administrative Bulletins that pertain to the County fleet. There are now options for more vehicle types to be all-electric, and electric vehicles have larger driving ranges. The Committee clarified that there are close to 20 electric vehicles (EVs) in the fleet currently and over 200 hybrid vehicles.

Joe Yee, Deputy Director, Public Works, reported that the main bottleneck to deploying more EVs in the County fleet is charging stations. The County's efforts to take advantage of programs through PG&E and Electrify America have not been fruitful to date. Yee noted that as the County installs solar panels on a number of facilities, it is running conduit for EV chargers. Public Works has a list of 10 locations at County facilities that could accommodate 100 chargers, for an expected cost of about \$975,000. Carlos Velasquez, Fleet Manager, noted that EVs have lower life cycle costs than vehicles with internal combustion engines. When medium-duty EVs have a range of 200 miles, vehicle acceptance will likely be greater.

In public comment, Howdy Goudey suggested the EVs should be the default vehicle for the County, and suggested that the County might not need to install

Level 2 chargers across the board if chargers are being used during the workday by employees. This could lower budget requirements.

Jody London, County Sustainability Coordinator, noted that the initial results from the employee commute survey being conducted for the Climate Action Plan update show that many employees would purchase electric vehicles for personal use if they had access to charging at work. Yee noted that it will be important for the County to provide access to EV chargers to members of the public.

The Committee directed staff to develop a detailed plan, including costs, for EV charger deployment. The plan should address the unincorporated areas of the County, as well. The Committee directed staff to update the Administrative Bulletins to reflect the discussion about commercially or publicly available charging stations and different types of chargers for different charging needs, and incorporating EVs at a more rapid pace. The Committee directed staff to provide the results of the employee commute survey.

6. RECEIVE Presentation on County Purchasing Program, and PROVIDE DIRECTION as appropriate.

David Gould, County Purchasing Manager, reviewed the history and implementation of the County's Environmentally Preferable Purchasing Policy, which was adopted in 2008. Areas of particular success include integrated pest management, solar energy, lighting, custodial supplies, and buildings that meet the LEED standards. Gould noted that in Contra Costa County, many decisions are left to individual departments, with guidance and collaboration from the Purchasing group. This is different than the cross-departmental teams that Alameda County has established, which Carolyn Bloede described earlier in the meeting. The Committee discussed options for increasing environmentally preferable purchases, including updating the County's policy, fostering more collaboration between departments, and senior leadership requiring departments to purchase responsibly. Ms. Bloede noted that Alameda County's policy is structured around principles rather than prescriptive approaches, which provides flexibility as technology changes.

The Committee requested that staff report back with recommendations for increasing collaboration between departments and modifying the Environmentally Preferable Purchasing Policy. The Committee requested that staff make needs clear in the report.

7. RECEIVE report from Sustainability Commission Chair.

Howdy Goudey, Sustainability Commission Chair, reported that on June 24, the Sustainability Commission received a report from the Contra Costa Transportation Authority on the Transportation Expenditure Plan. The Sustainability Commission sent a letter to the Board of Supervisors regarding recommended priorities for the County to support in the Expenditure Plan. The Commission also on June 24 received a presentation from PlaceWorks, the consultants on the General Plan and Climate Action Plan updates. The Commission is working in small groups to

develop recommendations to the Commission for the Climate Action Plan goals and strategies.

8. RECEIVE REPORT from County Sustainability Coordinator.

Jody London, Sustainability Coordinator, reviewed the report published with the agenda. Committee members suggested that the energy efficiency toolkits being made available for County residents to check out through the County Library system be provided to each Supervisor's district office. In public comment, Howdy Goudey suggested staff develop a flyer publicizing the energy efficiency toolkits.

9. The next meeting is currently scheduled for Monday, September 23, 2019.

10. Adjourn

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Public comment may be submitted via electronic mail on agenda items at least one full work day prior to the published meeting time.

For Additional Information Contact:

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