



CITY OF ALBANY CLIMATE ACTION COMMITTEE

July 1, 2021 – June 30, 2023 Work Plan
Recommended by the Climate Action Committee: 07-21-2021
Approved by the City Council: 09-07-2021

Background

Each advisory body shall prepare a work plan to be approved by the City Council to ensure tasks being undertaken support the overarching goals of the Council and the City.

This work plan encompasses two fiscal years (July 1 – June 30), starting with the fiscal year following a regular City Council election. The work plan reviews progress on the prior work plan, and identifies items for the next work plan period. The work plan includes items identified as priority projects within the City Council’s Strategic Plan.

The newly appointed advisory body shall draft a work plan during the first half of their first year. This will be presented to the Council for approval and implementation will begin in July. Tasks remaining on the previous work plan will be worked on between January – June.

The Climate Action Committee shall review the work plan mid cycle to identify accomplishments and ensure continued focus on completing tasks.

If a change is needed to the work plan outside of that schedule, the Climate Action Committee shall submit a “Request for Amendment to Advisory Body Work Plan” Form for review by the City Council.

Advisory bodies shall review their work plans at the end of the two year term (November/December even calendar year) and create a status report of their work, including what was completed; what should continue; and what should be dropped. An optional narrative can explain decisions made regard individual items. This summary document will assist the bodies newly appointed at the beginning of the odd calendar year understand their role and enable them to develop their own plan going forward.

Purpose of the Climate Action Committee

The Climate Action Committee shall serve as a technical advisory committee regarding matters related to climate action and to advise council on matters related to reducing greenhouse gasses; and adapting to climate change.

2019-2021 Work Plan Outcomes

- COMPLETED:
 - Supported development of a new Climate Action & Adaptation Plan and determined Committee role in plan implementation
 - Reviewed options for potential modifications to reach code building construction regulations identified in the Climate Action & Adaptation Plan
 - Continued to promote opt-ups to 100% renewable electricity option offered by EBCE
 - Implemented a utility user tax
 - Reviewed Climate Action & Adaptation Plan progress annually
- WORKED ON:
 - Promoted the Carbon-Free Albany Challenge
 - Made significant progress on policy measures to reduce natural gas and transportation emissions
 - Advised Council on near term actions to address climate change, such as:
 - electrification of new building construction (restricting natural gas)
 - reducing transportation emissions
- NOT WORKED ON:
 - Considered waste reduction efforts in line with the Climate Action & Adaptation Plan
 - Continued to interact with schools regarding energy efficiency and renewables (Committee Member Peterson a representative on School Board Environmental Action Committee)
 - Received updates on large development projects and major modifications to the Planning & Zoning Code

Fiscal Year 2021-2023 Work Plan Items

During 2020, the Climate Action Committee reviewed the Climate Action and Adaptation Plan (CAAP) and identified three priority areas (items I-III below) where the City should focus resources and efforts. These will have the most impact through the crafting of meaningful policies and requirements to reduce our community's collective emissions. Implicit in all initiatives is the need to ensure that the policies implemented are fair and equitable and provide consideration of vulnerable community members in Albany. All of these efforts should include outreach to regional organizations that have existing successful initiatives in order to leverage City effort and resources through partnering with existing programs and sources of information.

Regular Reports

- Review Climate Action & Adaptation Plan progress annually

Recurring Action Items

- Recommend that Council endorse state and federal actions that promote a rapid transition to sustainable energy sources and methods.

One-time Action Items

I. Building Electrification:

- A. Advise Council on allocating and spending Measure DD revenue in line with goals of the CAAP, including providing financial incentives for building electrification with a focus on multi-family and rental properties.
- B. Establish a policy for the elimination of natural gas in all new construction and major remodels.

II. Zero Emission Transportation:

- A. Advise Council on allocating and spending Measure DD revenue in line with goals of the CAAP, including providing financial incentives that facilitate the adoption of zero-emission transportation modes, as well as decrease the number of internal combustion engine vehicle trips traveled and are equitable with a focus on renters and low-income residents.
- B. Begin implementation of a Zero Emission Transportation Action Plan by:
 1. Increasing access to electric vehicle charging, which may include point-of-sale requirements.

III. Green Infrastructure, Adaptation, and Resilience

- A. Advise Council on developing an urban forestry program that uses Measure DD funds to promote tree installation in order to promote shading and air quality improvement.
- B. Develop a Community Climate Disaster Resilience Plan to address increased hot weather and air quality events.

IV. Collaboration with other Committees/Commissions/Boards and Agencies

- A. Engage AUSD in efforts to meet CAAP goals and seek opportunities to engage Albany schools in sustainable energy and climate change mitigation actions.

V. Community, Education, and Engagement

- A. Focus outreach proactively on the three high priority issues to ensure the Albany community understands the necessary actions.
- B. Promote community engagement with the Carbon-Free Albany Challenge with a goal to have 1000 households enrolled by the end of 2023.

Potential Future Work Plan Items

- Research feasibility and emissions reduction impact of implementing a parking management strategy (1.1.3)
- Pursue increase in utility user tax for natural gas (2.2.8)
- Initiate a fleet electrification study for all City vehicles
- Initiate a building electrification study for all City buildings