



Napa County

Legislation Details (With Text)

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Title: The Director of Planning, Building and Environmental Services requests that the Climate Action Committee provide direction to staff on priorities for fiscal year 2022/2023 (FY22/23).

Sponsors:

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TO: Climate Action Committee

FROM: David Morrison, Director of Planning, Building and Environmental Services

REPORT BY: Deborah Elliott, Environmental Resource Specialist

SUBJECT: Direction from CAC on Priorities for FY22/23

RECOMMENDATION

The Director of Planning, Building and Environmental Services requests that the Climate Action Committee provide direction to staff on priorities for fiscal year 2022/2023 (FY22/23).

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

At the February 2022 Climate Action Committee (CAC) meeting, staff presented the results of a survey that was sent to CAC members. The CAC discussed the top five prioritized items from that survey as well as others that were brought up by CAC members. Staff requests direction from the Climate Action Committee on potential actions to work on in FY22/23.

ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT

ENVIRONMENTAL DETERMINATION: The proposed action is not a project as defined by 14 California

Code of Regulations 15378 (State CEQA Guidelines) and therefore CEQA is not applicable.

BACKGROUND AND DISCUSSION

At the February 2022 Climate Action Committee (CAC) meeting, staff presented the results of a survey that was sent to CAC members. The CAC discussed the top five prioritized items from that survey as well as others that were brought up by CAC members. This item is a follow-up on that discussion, so that CAC members can report out on any discussions they have had over the past month and can provide direction to staff on how to move forward with potential actions for FY22/23. As a reminder, the top five prioritized items include the following.

1) EV Charging Station Blueprint

Work Plan: evaluate constraints and opportunities to accelerate EV adoption and increase EV charging stations strategically throughout the County.

Timeline: 6-9 months

Partners: NVTa, jurisdictions, regional agencies, local stakeholders

Potential Cost: \$25K-\$50K in either consultant costs or staff costs.

2) New Building Reach Code (all-electric for new residential construction)

Work Plan: Work with stakeholders, the CAC and jurisdictional staff to develop a uniform reach code that can be adopted by each jurisdiction.

Timeline: Ideally a reach code would be adopted in fall 2022 to align with adoption of the 2022 California Building Code on January 1, 2023.

Partners: local stakeholders, jurisdictional staff, BayREN staff

Potential Cost: Overall costs to the CAC would be low, but each jurisdiction would have staffing requirements to update and pass the updated code.

3) Develop a program to support conversion of agricultural equipment, off-road equipment, and freight from diesel to alternatives

Work Plan: Off-road diesel engines are widely used in agricultural goods production and supply operations: from planting to harvesting and processing. The work plan could include outreach, incentives and/or education around fuel switching and/or electric technologies.

Timeline: 1 year

Partners: Ag stakeholders, electric technology developers, alternative fuels developers, jurisdictional staff.

Potential Cost: \$50k-100K

4) Streamline solar permits through the adoption of SolarAPP+

Work Plan: SolarAPP+ is a standardized plan review software developed by the National Renewable Energy Laboratory (NREL) that can run compliance checks and process building permit approvals for eligible rooftop solar systems.

Timeline: 6 months

Partners: Jurisdictions

Potential Cost: Staff costs. Funding may be available from the California Energy Commission this summer to reimburse any associated staffing costs.

5) Develop a program to achieve 90% waste diversion by 2030

Work Plan: Collaborate with partners to develop policies, programs, and education campaigns to severely reduce the amount waste sent to landfills.

Timeline: 1-2 years. Solid waste staff is currently focused on SB1382.

Partners: Waste haulers, jurisdictional staff

Potential Cost: \$20k-\$30k

CAC members also provided suggestions in addition to the items listed above. These include the following.

- E-bikes and how to encourage their use (along with efforts to enhance bike lanes).
- Expand recycled water infrastructure in all jurisdictions
- Advance health forest initiatives (fuel reduction, thinning of non-native and flammable species) that support wildfire mitigation and environmental habitat protection
- Identify grant opportunities in general that will help reduce carbon emissions.
- Have a legislation watch that will inform members of pending or developing issues.
- Collaborate with other committees and agencies in the County that share efforts to reduce our carbon footprint.
- Find ways to coordinate and avoid duplication of effort and at the same time be supportive of those efforts.
- Consider Ad Hoc committees which include subject matter experts that are not members of the CAC to help guide our efforts and find new approaches.
- Evaluate existing power grid and make recommendations for future grid improvements
- Evaluate need for additional water retention infrastructure
- Financial Options/Strategies: 1. Grants, which may be for program development and or incentives. 2. Cash incentives from State and Federal agencies to support climate action crisis.

- Review and discuss the current electric grid and its capacity to take on future electricity demands.

Staff requests that the CAC discuss the potential actions for FY22/23 and provide direction to staff.

SUPPORTING DOCUMENTS

Click or tap here to enter text.

CEO Recommendation: Approve