

# Agenda Report

TO:

CITY COUNCIL

DATE: SEPTEMBER 18, 2006

THROUGH: ED-TECH COMMITTEE

FROM:

CITY MANAGER

SUBJECT:

APPROVAL OF DECLARATION OF SUPPORT FOR THE

UNITED STATES CONFERENCE OF MAYORS CLIMATE

PROTECTION AGREEMENT

#### **RECOMMENDATION:**

It is recommended that the City Council authorize the Mayor to sign the United States Conference of Mayors Climate Protection Agreement on behalf of the City Council.

#### BACKGROUND:

On July 26, 2006 the ED-Tech Committee requested staff to investigate the feasibility of endorsing the United States Conference of Mayors Climate Protection Agreement in addition to the United Nations Urban Environmental Accords.

The United States Conference of Mayors Climate Protection Agreement (CPA) seeks to reduce global greenhouse gas emission levels through the commitment of individual cities throughout the United States. To date over 290 mayors have endorsed the CPA including 53 California mayors. Many aspects of this nonbinding agreement are similar to the United Nations Urban Environmental Accords (UEA). Whether the City can comply with reducing greenhouse gas emissions to the target levels of either agreement is unknown at this time until a study on emissions produced by the City is completed and an action plan developed. However, the City can strive to reduce factors that contribute to global warming which is the intent of both agreements; therefore it is recommended that the City Council authorize the Mayor to sign the agreement.

The following compares the CPA strategies (italicized) for reducing greenhouse gas emissions to the UEA action items (bulleted).

- 1. Inventory global warming emissions in City operations and in the community, set reduction targets and create an action plan.
  - <u>Similar</u> to UEA Action 3: Reduce greenhouse gases (although Climate Agreement requires achievement 18 years sooner)
- 2. Adopt and enforce land-use policies that reduce sprawl, preserve open space, and create compact, walkable urban communities.
  - <u>Similar</u> to UEA Action 8: Promote density, mixed use, and coordinate with transportation and open space
- 3. Promote transportation options such as bicycle trails, commute trip reduction programs, incentives for car pooling and public transit.
  - Similar to UEA Action 15: Reduce single occupancy vehicle commute trips
- 4. Increase the use of clean, alternative energy by, for example, investing in "green tags," advocating for the development of renewable energy resources, recovering landfill methane for energy production, and supporting the use of waste to energy technology.
  - Similar to UEA Action 1: Reduction of peak electric load by increasing the purchase of power generated by renewable sources
- 5. Make energy efficiency a priority through building code improvements, retrofitting city facilities with energy efficient lighting and urging employees to conserve energy and save money.
  - Similar to UEA Action 2: Reduce peak electric load through energy efficiency and conservation
- 6. Purchase only Energy Star equipment and appliances for City use.
  - <u>Differs</u> from the UEA as it specifies a specific product requirement. However, complying would also fulfill UEA Action 2: Reduce peak electric load through energy efficiency and conservation. Further, this can easily be accomplished by incorporating a broader purchasing policy by the city (Buy Green). (See discussion for Action 5.)
- 7. Practice and promote sustainable building practices using the U.S. Green Building Council's LEED program or a similar system.
  - Similar to UEA Action 7: Green building rating system
- 8. Increase the average fuel efficiency of municipal fleet vehicles; reduce the number of vehicles; launch an employee education program including anti-idling messages; convert diesel vehicles to bio-diesel.
  - <u>Similar</u> to UEA Action 14: Emissions controls on single occupancy vehicles to reduce particulate and smog-forming emissions
  - <u>Differs</u> from the UEA as it also includes an education component and a specific requirement to convert diesel to bio-diesel
- 9. Evaluate opportunities to increase pump efficiency in water and wastewater systems; recover wastewater treatment methane for energy production.

- <u>Differs</u> from UEA as it is a specific requirement. However, complying would also fulfill UEA 19: Reduce consumption of water and UEA 1: Increase renewable energy
- 10. Increase recycling rates in City operations and in the community.
  - Similar to UEA Action 6: Implement recycling programs & reducing solid waste
- 11. Maintain healthy urban forests; promote tree planting to increase shading and to absorb CO2.
  - Similar to UEA Action 11: Tree canopy
- 12. Help educate the public, schools, other jurisdictions, professional associations, business and industry about reducing global warming pollution.
  - Differs from the UEA as it includes an education component

The CPA has a shorter timeframe (by 18 years) for reducing greenhouse gas emissions than the UEA. Both offer similar strategies for achieving this goal.

## Fiscal Impact

Under a separate agenda report, staff will recommend that an Assistant Planner position be added to the Planning and Development Department to assist with the implementation of the environmental agreements; convene meetings with the UEA Team of staff; and provide research and analysis of topics relevant to sustainability. This will be a General Fund position at an annual cost of \$94,800. For fiscal year 2007 staff will recommend nine months of salary for a fiscal impact of \$71,000.

Respectfully submitted,

City Manager

Prepared by:

Approved by:

Alice M. Sterling

Senior Project Manager

Richard J. Bruckner, Director

Planning & Development Department

### Rodriguez, Jane

From:

Kurtz, Cynthia

Sent:

Thursday, September 14, 2006 5:27 PM

To:

Rodriguez, Jane

Subject:

FW: September 18 Council Actions

----Original Message----

From: Carolyn Meredith [mailto:carolyn meredith00@yahoo.com]

Sent: Thursday, September 14, 2006  $5:2\overline{4}$  PM

To: Bogaard, Bill

Cc: Little, Paul; Haderlein, Steve; Tyler, Sid; Madison, Steve; Streator, Joyce; Gordo,

Victor; Holden, Chris; Kurtz, Cynthia Subject: September 18 Council Actions

Dear Mayor Bogaard and Council Members;

I am extremely pleased to know that the City of Pasadena is considering adoption of the United Nations Urban Environmental Accord actions toward sustainability; endorsement of the U. S. Mayor's Climate Protection Agreement and the formation of an environmental commission.

The City of Pasadena has gained a reputation over the last several years as a green and sustainable city.

The California Integrated Waste Management Board and the California Department of Conservation; Division of Recycling, have both lauded the City for its programs in waste reduction and education. Just last month the City was quoted in separate articles in the Los Angeles Times regarding the City's achievements in reaching the mandate of AB 939, the California Integrated Waste Management Act, and for its newly adopted green building practices ordinance. The Department of Water and Power's numerous energy and water conservation programs are also a key factor in establishing the City's environmental credibility. I

Mayor Bogaard, I believe your remarks in your 2005 state of the City address promoting green building design and construction requirements gave energy and purpose to city staff and the Green Ribbon committee to develop the green building practices ordinance. Your foresight and support has brought the City to a prominent position in many ways that enrich the City, including sustainability.

Again I urge the adoption of the United Nations Urban Environmental Accords; endorsement of the U. S.

Mayor's Climate Protection Agreement and formation of an environmental commission to keep the City of Pasadena in a leadership role to achieve a sustainable and healthier future for its citizens. I know that the City has dedicated, knowledgeable and inspired staff to support these actions.

With best regards,

Carolyn Meredith

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