



A Tradition of Stewardship
A Commitment to Service

Agenda Date: 8/19/2009

Agenda Placement: 10A

Napa County Planning Commission Board Agenda Letter

TO: Napa County Planning Commission
FROM: Hillary Gitelman - Director
Conservation, Development & Planning
REPORT BY: Hillary Gitelman, Director - 253-4805
SUBJECT: GHG Emission Reduction Strategies

RECOMMENDATION

GREEN HOUSE GAS EMISSION REDUCTION PLAN -- COMMENT LETTER TO NCTPA

Discussion and direction to staff regarding County comments on the list of Green House Gas (GHG) emission reduction strategies circulated by the Napa County Transportation and Planning Agency (NCTPA) for public and agency comments.

Staff Recommendation: Staff requests Commission input and concurrence regarding a detailed comment letter proposed for transmittal to NCTPA.

Staff Contact: Hillary Gitelman, Director of Conservation, Development & Planning 253-4805

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

Consultants working for NCTPA circulated a draft list of GHG emission reduction strategies for public and agency comments starting on July 1, 2009. County staff has reviewed the draft list, met with representatives of several County-wide stakeholder groups, and has prepared a draft comment letter for review by the Commission. With the Commission's input and concurrence, the comment letter to NCTPA would be transmitted immediately, containing detailed comments and direction regarding needed revisions and additions to the list of strategies, and suggesting next steps to complete a comprehensive Climate Action Plan by the end of the year.

FISCAL IMPACT

Is there a Fiscal Impact? No

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

Action Item CON CPSC-2 In the General Plan calls on the County to complete an inventory of GHG emissions from all major sources in the County by the end of 2008 and then to seek reductions such that emissions are equivalent to 1990 levels by 2020. This target (1990 levels by 2020) was derived from Assembly Bill (AB) 32 and has been interpreted by the California Air Resources Board (CARB) in their proposed scoping plan (2008), which suggests that local agencies should reduce both their operational and community-wide emissions 15% below existing levels by 2020.

As discussed at the Planning Commission meeting of January 21 and June 17, 2009, County staff has been participating in a multi-jurisdictional effort headed up by staff and consultants from NCTPA. The group has completed and refined an inventory of community-wide emissions by jurisdiction (see below and attached), and is now focused on developing a list of emission reduction strategies for inclusion in a County-wide Climate Action Plan. A copy of the draft list dated July 1, 2009 is attached.

Table 1: Existing (2005) GHG Emissions -- Unincorporated Napa County & County as a Whole (metric tons of CO2 equivalents)

	Unincorp County	% Unincorp Total	Total Napa County	% Napa County Total
Residential Buildings	48,224	9%	196,350	16%
Commercial & Industrial	95,317	17%	226,661	19%
On Road (Transportation)	349,764	63%	636,724	53%
Off-Road (lawn & garden)	753	0%	3,616	0%
Off-Road (indust/com equip)	15,870	3%	49,675	4%
Agriculture	31,817	6%	3,3046	3%
Solid Waste	9,241	2%	54,209	5%

County staff has met with representatives of Sustainable Napa County, the Napa County Farm Bureau, and the Napa Valley Vintners to discuss the July 1, 2009 draft list of emission reduction strategies, and has developed a detailed comment letter for review/discussion by the Commission. The letter is intended to provide the County's input on the draft list of strategies common to all jurisdictions and to provide specific actions by which the County would implement each strategy, including requirements that the County would impose on discretionary projects that come before the Commission. County staff would like the Commission's input and direction on these comments and suggestions, and expects to seek final Board of Supervisor's direction after a complete draft of the Climate Action Plan is circulated for review later in the Fall.

In addition to containing the emissions inventory and emission reduction strategy, the draft Climate Action Plan is expected to include a quantitative evaluation of the effectiveness of the emission reduction strategies. In addition, County staff has requested that the Climate Action Plan include summary of carbon sequestration and a "what

would it take" analysis explaining additional actions that would be needed (at the local, State, or national level) to meet the AB 32 target.

SUPPORTING DOCUMENTS

- A . GHG Emission Inventory
- B . GHG Emission Reduction Strategies - DRAFT
- C . Draft Comments to NCTPA
- D . Checklist of Voluntary GHG Reduction Measures

Napa County Planning Commission: Approve

Reviewed By: Melissa Gray