

# Environmental Quality Commission



## SPECIAL MEETING AGENDA

**Date:** 2/25/2021

**Time:** 5:00 p.m.

**Special Meeting Location:** Zoom.us/join – ID# 915 4675 0502

### NOVEL CORONAVIRUS, COVID-19, EMERGENCY ADVISORY NOTICE

On March 19, 2020, the Governor ordered a statewide stay-at-home order calling on all individuals living in the State of California to stay at home or at their place of residence to slow the spread of the COVID-19 virus. Additionally, the Governor has temporarily suspended certain requirements of the Brown Act. For the duration of the shelter in place order, the following public meeting protocols will apply.

Teleconference meeting: All members of the Environmental Quality Commission, city staff, applicants, and members of the public will be participating by teleconference. To promote social distancing while allowing essential governmental functions to continue, the Governor has temporarily waived portions of the open meetings act and rules pertaining to teleconference meetings. This meeting is conducted in compliance with the Governor Executive Order N-25-20 issued March 12, 2020, and supplemental Executive Order N-29-20 issued March 17, 2020.

- How to participate in the meeting
  - Access the special meeting real-time online at:  
[Zoom.us/join](https://zoom.us/join) – Special Meeting ID 915 4675 0502

Subject to Change: Given the current public health emergency and the rapidly evolving federal, state, county and local orders, the format of this meeting may be altered or the meeting may be canceled. You may check on the status of the meeting by visiting the City's website [www.menlopark.org](http://www.menlopark.org). The instructions for logging on to the Zoom webinar and/or the access code is subject to change. If you have difficulty accessing the Zoom webinar, please check the latest online edition of the posted agenda for updated information ([menlopark.org/agenda](http://menlopark.org/agenda)).

### Regular Session ([Zoom.us/join](https://zoom.us/join) – ID# 915 4675 0502)

#### A. Call To Order

#### B. Roll Call – Elkins, Gaillard, Kabat, London, Martin, Payne, Price

#### C. Regular Business

- C1. Approve October 21, 2020, November 18, 2020, December 16, 2020, and January 20, 2021 minutes ([Attachment](#))
- C2. Provide a recommendation to the City Council for the implementation of Climate Action Plan strategy No.3 (expand access to electric vehicle charging infrastructure) ([Attachment](#))

## **D. Reports and Announcements**

### **D1. Reports and Announcements from staff and commissioners**

## **E. Adjournment**

At every Regular Meeting of the Commission, in addition to the Public Comment period where the public shall have the right to address the Commission on any matters of public interest not listed on the agenda, members of the public have the right to directly address the Commission on any item listed on the agenda at a time designated by the Chair, either before or during the Commission's consideration of the item.

At every Special Meeting of the Commission, members of the public have the right to directly address the Commission on any item listed on the agenda at a time designated by the Chair, either before or during consideration of the item.

For appeal hearings, appellant and applicant shall each have 10 minutes for presentations.

If you challenge any of the items listed on this agenda in court, you may be limited to raising only those issues you or someone else raised at the public hearing described in this notice, or in written correspondence delivered to the City of Menlo Park at, or prior to, the public hearing.

Any writing that is distributed to a majority of the Commission by any person in connection with an agenda item is a public record (subject to any exemption under the Public Records Act) and is available by request by emailing the city clerk at [jaherren@menlopark.org](mailto:jaherren@menlopark.org). Persons with disabilities, who require auxiliary aids or services in attending or participating in Commission meetings, may call the City Clerk's Office at 650-330-6620.

Agendas are posted in accordance with Government Code §54954.2(a) or §54956. Members of the public can view electronic agendas and staff reports by accessing the City website at [menlopark.org/agenda](http://menlopark.org/agenda) and can receive email notification of agenda and staff report postings by subscribing to the "Notify Me" service at [menlopark.org/notifyme](http://menlopark.org/notifyme). Agendas and staff reports may also be obtained by contacting City Clerk at 650-330-6620. (Posted:02/18/2021)



## REGULAR MEETING MINUTES – DRAFT

**Date:** 10/21/2020

**Time:** 5:00 p.m.

**Regular Meeting Location:** Zoom.us/join – ID# 915 4675 0502

### A. Call to Order

Chair Price called the meeting to order at 5:08 p.m.

### B. Roll Call

**Present:** Elkins, Gaillard, Kabat, London(Vice Chair) (exited the meeting at 7:31 p.m.), Martin, Payne, Price (Chair)

**Absent:** None

**Staff:** Rebecca Lucky- Sustainability Manager, Judi Herren-City Clerk

### C. Public Comment

None.

### D. Regular Business

#### D1. Approve September 16, 2020 minutes

Chair Price introduced item.

**ACTION:** Motion and second (Martin/London) to approve September 16, 2020, passed 5-0-2 (Elkins and Payne abstained).

#### D2. Review commission/committee policies and procedures, roles and responsibilities.

City Clerk Judi Herren made the presentation.

- Peter Edmonds provided comment on the limitations of having a dialogue with the commission due to only being able to provide comment once during an agenda item in a public meeting.

Commissioner London left the meeting at 7:31pm.

The Commission took a break at 7:42 p.m.

The Commission reconvened at 8 p.m.

#### D3. Informational presentation from Revolv regarding services that help cities transition to a more sustainable vehicle fleet

Chair Price introduced item.

- D4. Informational presentation from YellowTin regarding services that use a cloud-based platform to educate and empower people to make informed decision regarding building electrification

Chair Price introduced the item.

YellowTin representative made a presentation (Attachment).

- D5. Informational presentation from Climate Solutions Net regarding services that use an online tool to help community members reduce greenhouse gas emissions

Chair Price introduced the item.

Climate Solutions Net representative made a presentation (Attachment).

- D5. Discuss Chair’s quarterly/annual report to City Council

Chair Price introduced the item.

**ACTION:** By acclamation, the Commission directed the use of the Chair’s content for the quarterly/annual report to City Council.

**E. Reports and Announcements**

- E1. Reports and announcements from staff and commissioners

**F. Adjournment**

Chair Price adjourned the meeting at 10:32 p.m.

Rebecca Lucky, Sustainability Manager



# YellowTin



**We Inspire Every Home To Electrify With Clean Energy.**

[info@yellowtin.com](mailto:info@yellowtin.com)



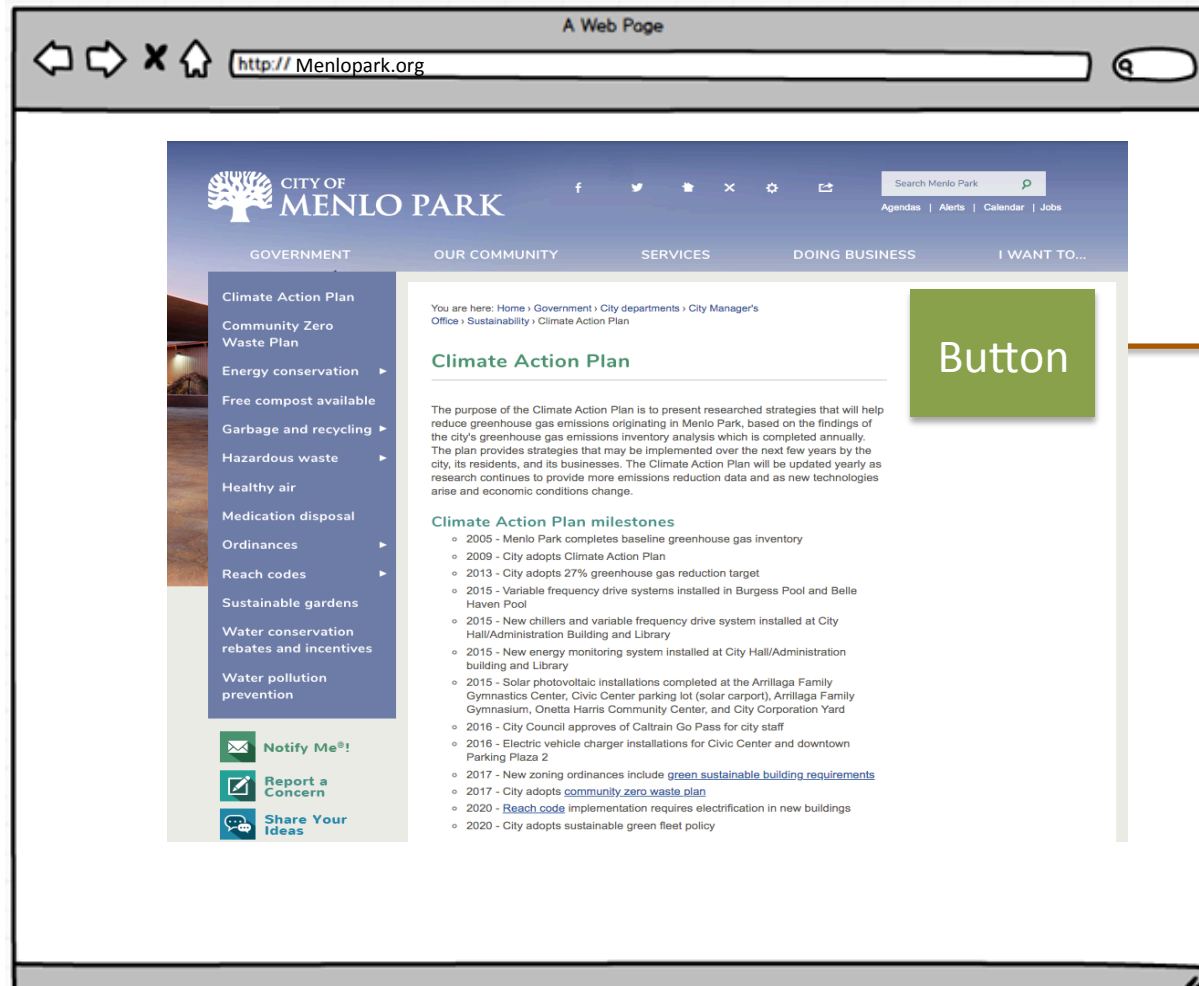
# Residential Electrification Engagement Platform

Benefits to your residents:

- **Explore** a range of clean energy options.
- **Get** personalized insights & recommendations.
- **Develop** their *Roadmap* to an electric future.
- **Act confidently**, making informed decisions.
- **Receive** notifications about on-going opportunities to save.



# Access To REEP



Clicking on **Button** opens new tab to Menlo Park-branded YellowTin onboarding process.



# My Info



1 MY INFO

2 ENERGY CHOICES

3 ENERGY INFO

Already have an account?  
[Login here.](#)

## Explore clean energy savings

Begin by providing information on your home, energy usage and future plans.



City of Menlo Park partnered with YellowTin to better serve your needs. By clicking "Continue", you agree to YellowTin's [Terms of Use](#) and [Privacy Policy](#).

**CONTINUE**



# Energy Choices

**CITY OF MENLO PARK**

1 MY INFO

**2 ENERGY CHOICES**


3 ENERGY INFO

### Energy choices

This information will help determine your total energy needs.


#### Solar & Battery

**Power My Home**  
Solar




Up to \$60,000 savings

**Forget Outages**  
Battery backup



#### Clean Transportation


**Electrify My Ride**  
Electric vehicle



Interested


#### Home Appliances

**Super Efficient**  
Water Heater




Up to \$60,000 savings

**Stay Comfortable**  
Heating & Cooling




Not Interested

**Enjoy Cooking**  
Cooktop



Already have

**Dry Efficiently**  
Clothes Dryer




Up to \$60,000 savings

**CONTINUE**



# Energy Info



1 MY INFO

2 ENERGY CHOICES

**3 ENERGY INFO**

## Energy Info

Your usage will help determine the right clean energy solutions.

### Share My Data


Authorize PG&E to share your energy data

### Manual Estimate

Provide a rough estimate of electricity costs

City of Menlo Park recommends sharing your energy data via the [PG&E Share My Data](#) platform.

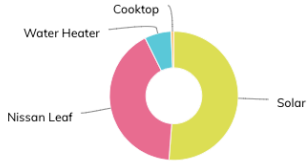
The detailed energy data we receive will allow us to more accurately calculate your savings and recommend optimal clean energy choices.

 Secure link to share your data only with [YellowTin](#).

[LOGIN TO PG&E ACCOUNT](#)

# Dashboard View

**Savings Overview:** [DOLLAR](#) [CARBON](#) Time frame: 1 year ▾







**\$2,455**  
1 year combined energy savings  
[How is this calculated?](#)





Save more with [our recommendations!](#)

Start saving now! Request Quote

**Your Selections**  
Here are your interested energy choices. Begin to explore and plan your clean future.

<p><b>Power My Home</b> ✕</p> <p>5.4kW Solar Monthly payment: \$118</p>  <p><b>\$1,721</b> 1 year energy savings</p>	<p><b>Electrify My Ride</b> ✕</p> <p>Nissan Leaf Net cost: \$22,614</p>  <p><b>\$1,391</b> 1 year energy savings</p>	<p><b>Super Efficient</b> ✕</p> <p>Water Heater Net cost: \$2,500</p>  <p><b>\$224</b> 1 year energy savings</p>	<p><b>Enjoy Cooking</b> ✕</p> <p>Cooktop Net cost: \$1,500</p>  <p><b>\$23</b> 1 year energy savings</p>
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**Recommendations for you**  
Consider adding to your selections to further build your savings portfolio.

<p><b>Forget Outages</b> +</p> <p>Battery Net cost: \$17,020</p>  <p><b>\$0</b> 1 year energy savings</p>	<p><b>Stay Comfortable</b> +</p> <p>Heating &amp; Cooling Net cost: \$16,000</p>  <p><b>\$678</b> 1 year energy savings</p>	<p><b>Dry Efficiently</b> +</p> <p>Clothes Dryer Net cost: \$1,100</p>  <p><b>\$79</b> 1 year energy savings</p>	<p><b>Quickly Save</b> +</p> <p>Low-Cost Efficiency Net cost: \$600</p>  <p><b>\$160</b> 1 year energy savings</p>
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# EV Details

## Electric Vehicle 1

Electric vehicles are fun to drive, with lots of pep. More importantly, they can save you a lot on your energy and maintenance costs. Even better, with no tailpipe emissions, an EV is a very effective way to cut your carbon emissions.



**\$22,614**  
MSRP after incentives

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\$32,914  
MSRP
\$10,300  
Incentives

20 YEAR 1 YEAR 1 MONTH

### DETAILS

Make & model [Help me choose](#)

Nissan Leaf

Financing

Cash

Annual miles

10000

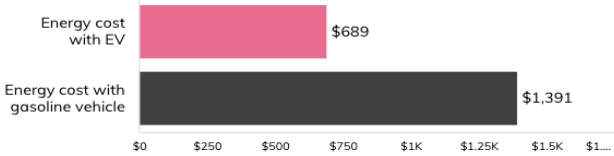
Home charging

100%

SAVE DETAILS

Your 1 year projected energy savings is **\$702**

Energy savings = Energy cost with gasoline vehicle - Energy cost with EV



Vehicle Type	Energy Cost
Energy cost with EV	\$689
Energy cost with gasoline vehicle	\$1,391

Adding solar to your selections will increase your energy savings. This is because your solar system will be sized to produce enough energy to charge your electric vehicle, thus zeroing out your energy cost with EV.

[Technical Details](#)

[Basic Information](#)

### ASSUMPTIONS

Gasoline price per gal	\$3.2
Gasoline vehicle MPG	23
Gasoline escalation rate*	4.4%
Electricity escalation rate*	4%
Sales Tax	9.75%

\* Annual rates applied only to 20 year analysis



**Thank You!**

**Vishwas Ganesan**



# Empowering Communities on Climate Solutions

## **COMMUNITY CLIMATE SOLUTIONS**

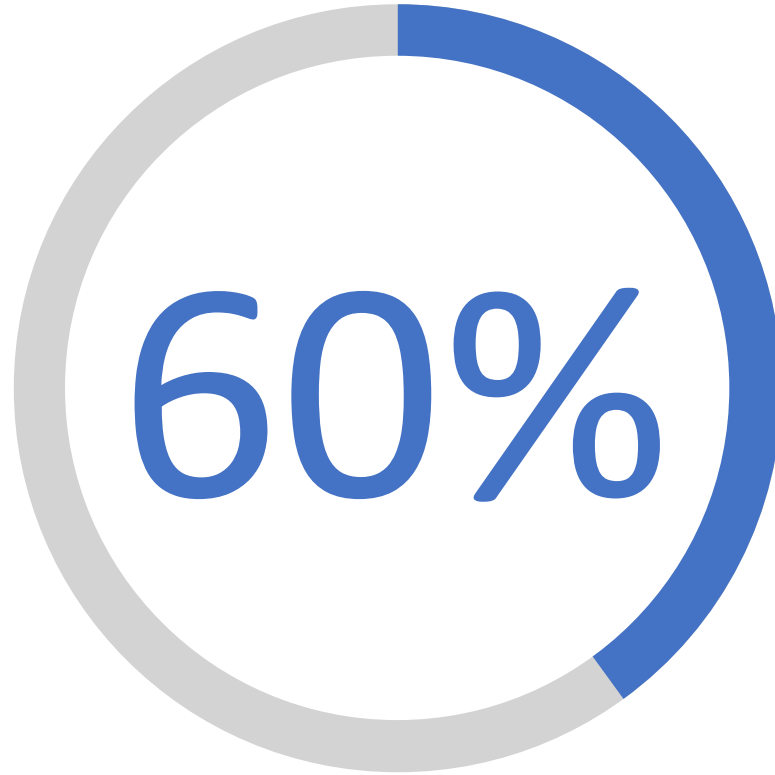
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Building a safe, healthy future

October 2020



# Menlo Park CAP Emissions



**4 Basic Household Activities**



# We Have Solutions



# Our Mission

## Empower Menlo Park Residents on Climate Solutions

How it works



Create your profile



Take sustainable actions



Work together

# City Platform





# New - Company, Org & University Programs

THE *Episcopal* CHURCH 

GET STARTED

Login

## SUSTAINING EARTH, OUR ISLAND HOME

A Call to

**ASU** Arizona State University

GET STARTED

Login



**1550**  
HOUSEHOLDS  
PARTICIPATING



## SUN DEVILS TAKING CLIMATE ACTION

To be a Sun Devil is to be sustainable.



**15**  
HOUSEHOLDS  
PARTICIPATING



**4**  
TONS CO2E  
REDUCED/YEAR



**8**  
ACTIONS COMPLETED



# Join the Cleaner Contra Costa Challenge to create a cleaner, healthier community and save money!

[JOIN THE CHALLENGE](#)

[WHY JOIN? →](#)



## 1,000

HOUSEHOLDS BY SEPTEMBER  
2020 PARTICIPATION GOAL



## 500

TONS OF CO<sub>2</sub> BY SEPTEMBER  
2020 REDUCTION GOAL

TOP COMMUNITY GROUP

**St. Timothy's, Danville**

TOP TEAM

**Rossmoor Climate Crusaders Team**



# Join the San José Climate Smart Challenge and live better today for tomorrow!

[JOIN THE CHALLENGE](#)

[WHY JOIN? →](#)



**500**

HOUSEHOLDS BY DECEMBER  
2020 PARTICIPATION GOAL



**250**

TONS OF CO<sub>2</sub> BY DECEMBER  
2020 REDUCTION GOAL

TOP COMMUNITY GROUP

**Environmental Services Department**

TOP TEAM

**Guinea Pigs**



Join the Menlo Green Challenge to lower your impact, save money and help create a clean energy future!

[JOIN THE CHALLENGE](#)

[WHY JOIN? →](#)



**800**

HOUSEHOLDS BY DECEMBER  
2019 PARTICIPATION GOAL



**500**

TONS OF CO<sub>2</sub> BY DECEMBER  
2019 REDUCTION GOAL

TOP COMMUNITY GROUP

**Trinity**

TOP TEAM

**The Clean Dream**

# Discover Your Impact & Track Progress



Your Household

Appliances

Heating/Cooling

Utility Info

Transportation





Food & Waste

## Let's talk about your kitchen & laundry

The appliances you use in the kitchen and for washing and drying clothes all impact your household footprint.

### What kind of stovetop do you have?

The stovetop is where the burners are (not the oven). Some stoves have different fuel for the stovetop and the oven, so we will ask about both. This one is pretty easy, if you see a flame, it is gas or propane. If not, it is likely electric.

 We have a gas stovetop	 We have an electric stovetop	 I'm not sure	 We don't have a stovetop
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### How often do you use your stovetop?



**Never**

We rarely use our stovetop

**Sometimes**

We use our stovetop at least once a week

**Often**

We use our stovetop 3-5 times/week

**Daily (low)**

We use our stovetop once a day

**Daily (high)**

We use our stovetop



# Discover Your Starting Impact

## My Impact

My Direct Impact Baseline - 20.2



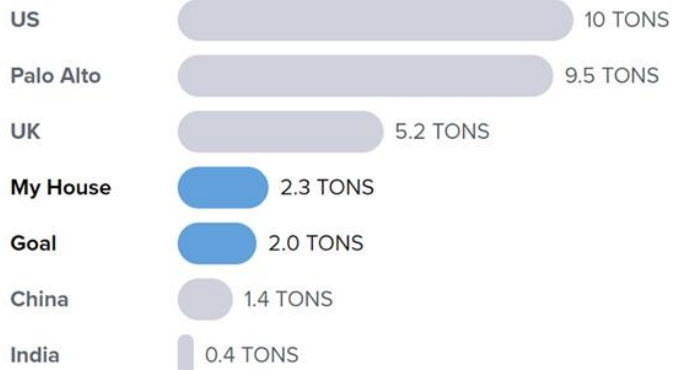
Metric Tons CO<sub>2e</sub>

### My Current Impact

 **9.2** TONS CO<sub>2</sub>E PER YEAR

 **2.3** TONS CO<sub>2</sub>E PER PERSON PER YEAR

### How Do I Compare



### What to do with old bulbs?

What have you done with them?



 Comment

 0  0

Write a comment...



Sonoma City Test 3

06/21/2019

 Switch to LEDs >

test post

test post

# Find Actions Right for Your Household



☰ Action Categories

🔗 Recommended Actions



Getting Started



Hanging Out at Home



The Big Actions



Energy Smart



Home Energy



Transportation



Food & Waste



Water



Community & Info



Youth Friendly

## The Big Actions 12

These actions will make a big impact.



Buy or Lease an Electric Vehicle



Install Electric Heat Pump Heater



Reduce Air Travel



Take the Train or Subway

# The Big Actions



## The Big Actions 12

These actions will make a big impact.



### Buy or Lease an Electric Vehicle

Ditch the gas pump for BIG savings

☆ Challenging   ★ 14,910   \$ 1,780



### Install Electric Heat Pump Heater

Go heat pump for a big impact!

☆ Challenging   ★ 5,790   \$ 120



### Reduce Air Travel

Consider exploring closer to home

★ Medium   ★ 3,200   \$ 800



### Take the Train or Subway

Relax, read a book—all on the way to work

★ Medium   ★ 3,160   \$ 80



### Install Electric Heat Pump Water Heater



### Install Solar Panels



### Eat Lower Down the Carbon Chain



### Take the Bus

# Find Actions Right for Your Household



☰ Action Categories

🔗 Recommended Actions

## Refine your results: What is most important to you?

Recommendations based on your Energy Profile

Priority

Add a filter

Renter Friendly

Impact  Savings / Year

Difficulty

Upfront Cost

Time Required (hours)



### Buy or Lease an Electric Vehicle

Ditch the gas pump for BIG savings

☆ Challenging ⚙️ 14,910 💰 \$ 1,780



### Telecommute

Skip the commute and work from the comfort of home

★ Medium ⚙️ 5,030 💰 \$ 1,490



### Buy or Lease a Hybrid Vehicle

Find out what it's like to only fill up once in a while

★ Medium ⚙️ 7,180 💰 \$ 990



### Reduce Air Travel

Consider exploring closer to home

★ Medium ⚙️ 3,200 💰 \$ 800



# Custom Estimates on Savings & Impact

## Install Electric Heat Pump Water Heater

What kind of water heater? Heat pump water heaters work just like an air conditioner, but in reverse. They are highly efficient electric water heaters and are the best option for both low cost and low impact on climate.

[VIEW DISCUSSION](#)

[+ CREATE POST](#)

Your Impact **3420 points** ?

[SHARE](#)

UPFRONT COST

\$1500 - \$3000

\$\$\$\$

TIME COMMITMENT

4.0 hours

⌚⌚⌚⌚

RESOURCE SAVINGS

179 Therms Natural Gas

🔥🔥🔥🔥

ANNUAL SAVINGS

\$40

💰💰💰💰



# Information and How-To Guides

## Introduction

✓ Learn more about Heat Pump Water Heaters

Completed: 03/25/2019

✓ Learn about cost and when to upgrade

Completed: 03/25/2019

✓ Choose your new water heater & install

Completed: 03/25/2019

✓ Choose the best settings and maintain your HPWH

Completed: 03/25/2019

**Congrats!** Switching to an electric HPWH is a great way to save energy and money while reducing your impact. Here are a few tips now that you have your new heater:

**Choose the best settings.** Your HPWH likely has a control panel that allows you to select from different modes. Here are a few:

- **Efficiency/Economy** – This mode only uses the heat pump to heat water and maximizes energy efficiency and savings.
- **Auto/Hybrid** – This is probably the default setting for your water heater. It provides energy-efficient water heating first, but will switch to the standard electric heat element if it's too cold to use the heat pump, or if you need to heat water faster (everyone wanted to shower at the same time). This is the best



# Custom Resources



## Resources

### REBATE/CREDIT

#### BayREN Home+

Cash rebates for home energy improvements

### REBATE/CREDIT

#### Heat Pump Water Heater Rebate

Rebate for installing a new electric heat pump water heater.

### PROGRAMS

#### Home Efficiency Genie

On-demand efficiency experts and professional in-home energy and water assessments subsidized by the City of Palo Alto Utilities.

### FINANCING

#### Finance Your Home Clean Energy Project through your Property Tax Bill

Find loan options for home energy & water upgrades through Property Assessed Clean Energy (PACE) Financing



# Tracking Household Progress



## My Progress



**31,420**

TOTAL POINTS



**21**

ACTIONS COMPLETED



**\$3,220**

SAVINGS/YR

**9.9**  
TONS

**9.9** TONS

**21,826** LBS

PER/YR.REDUCED

9.9 TONS



**CONGRATS! YOU'VE REACHED THE PLUGGED IN LEVEL!** ?

RANK

**4**

TEAM

**Cool Champs**

**2**

COMMUNITY GROUP

**The Scooter Club**

**2**

NEIGHBORHOOD

**Midtown**

## EV Ride and Drive event

Calling for volunteers for the EV Ride and Drive event! Bring your EV or electric scooter and join us Sunday, April 21st. We hope you can make it!

National Drive Electric Week



Comment

1 0



Jen & Joe's House


I'm in!

edit reply delete ...

09/19/2020

Write a comment...

# Team Page



**Cool Champs**  
The most awesome team!

Team Rank #4

Welcome Team Leader! Here are a few tips to get started:

[INVITE TEAM MEMBERS](#)

## Team progress

 <b>31,420</b> TOTAL POINTS	 <b>21</b> ACTIONS COMPLETED	 <b>\$3,220</b> DOLLARS SAVED
--	---	---

Create post



Jen & Joe's House

06/12/2019

Cool Champs >

### EV Ride and Drive event

Hi all, looking for volunteers for the upcoming EV Ride & Drive event! Please contact Joanne if you can make it.



Comment

0 1

Write a comment...

# Community Group Page



## The Scooter Club

Hi Scooter Club friends! We are excited to join the PA Go Carbon Free Challenge and take actions together to create a better future! Check out our page for updates and to help each other succeed.

### Our impact



**52,810**

TOTAL POINTS



**34**

ACTIONS COMPLETED



**\$5,070**

DOLLARS SAVED



**17**

TONS CO<sub>2</sub>E



**2,190**

KWH SAVED



**217**

THERMS



**960**

GALLONS



**56,723**

GALLONS

Create post



Jen & Joe's House

03/01/2020



The Scooter Club >

### EV Ride and Drive event

Calling for volunteers for the EV Ride and Drive event! Bring your EV or electric scooter and join us Sunday, April 21st. We hope you can make it!

National Drive Electric Week



Comment

1 0

# Creating Citywide Challenge

## Citywide Marketing/Engagement Campaign:

- **Branding**
- **Banners/Posters**
- **Lawn Signs for All Electric/Renewable households**
- **Monthly (Virtual) Events**
- **Block teams/Neighborhood Challenges**
- **Community Group Engagement**
- **Student programs**

# **COMMUNITY CLIMATE SOLUTIONS**

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Building a safe, healthy future

**Lisa Altieri**

**[laltieri@communityclimate.org](mailto:laltieri@communityclimate.org)**

**[communityclimate.org](https://communityclimate.org)**





## REGULAR MEETING MINUTES – DRAFT

**Date:** 11/18/2020

**Time:** 5:00 p.m.

**Regular Meeting Location:** Zoom.us/join – ID# 915 4675 0502

### A. Call to Order

Chair Price called the meeting to order at 5:02 p.m.

### B. Roll Call

**Present:** Elkins, Gaillard, Kabat, London (Vice Chair), Martin, Payne, Price (Chair)

**Absent:** None

**Staff:** Rebecca Lucky- Sustainability Manager

### C. Public Comment

- Peter Edmonds requested an update on the tree planting project as a result of the 1000 El Camino heritage tree removal permit conditions.

### D. Regular Business

- D1. Review the commission's 2019-2021 work plan and consider establishing or changing subcommittees

Chair Price introduced item.

Commissioner Gaillard made a presentation (Attachment).

**ACTION:** Motion and second (London/Kabat), to create an ad-hoc work plan subcommittee consisting of commissioners Elkins, Gaillard, and Kabat to develop a new two year work plan for the Environmental Quality Commission to consider, passed unanimously.

- D2. Informational Chair report from City Council meeting(s)

Chair Price made the report.

- D3. Consider commission meeting schedule for December and 2021

Chair Price introduced item.

### E. Reports and Announcements

- E1. Reports and Announcements from staff and commissioners



**F. Adjournment**

Chair Price adjourned the meeting at 6:30 p.m.

Minutes prepared by Rebecca Lucky, Sustainability Manager

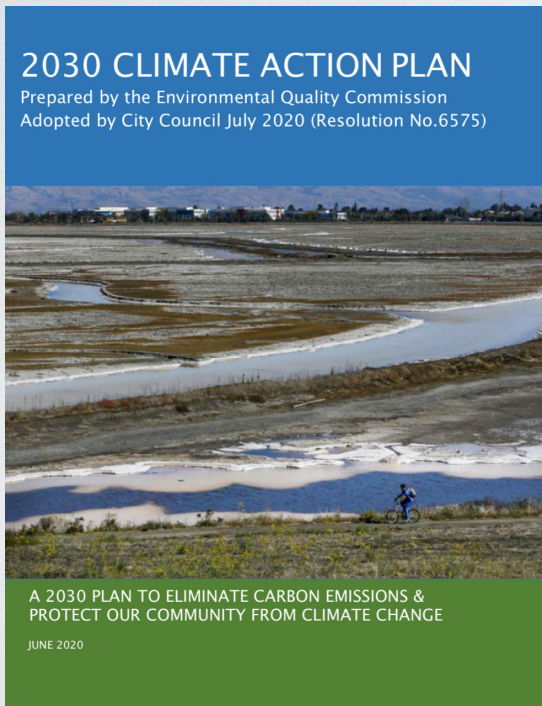


# CLIMATE ACTION MENLO PARK

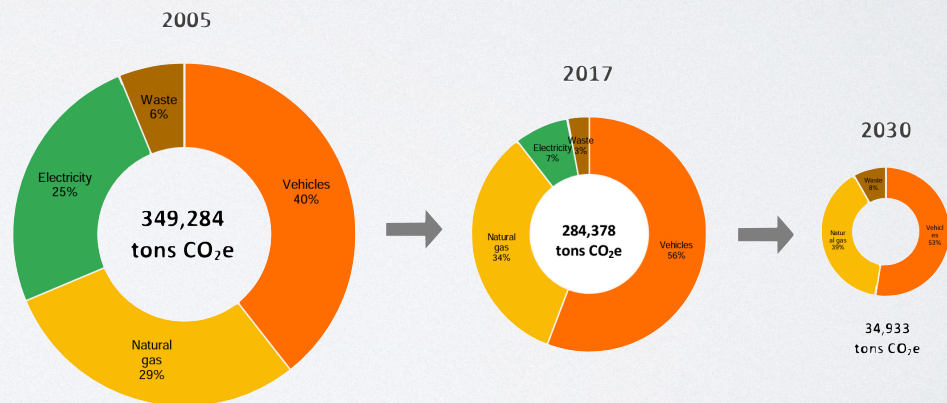
Environmental Quality Commission  
November 18, 2020



# CLIMATE ACTION PLAN



- Adopted by City Council in July 2020
- Sets a goal of 90% reduction in GHG by 2030 and elimination of the remaining 10% through direct carbon removal

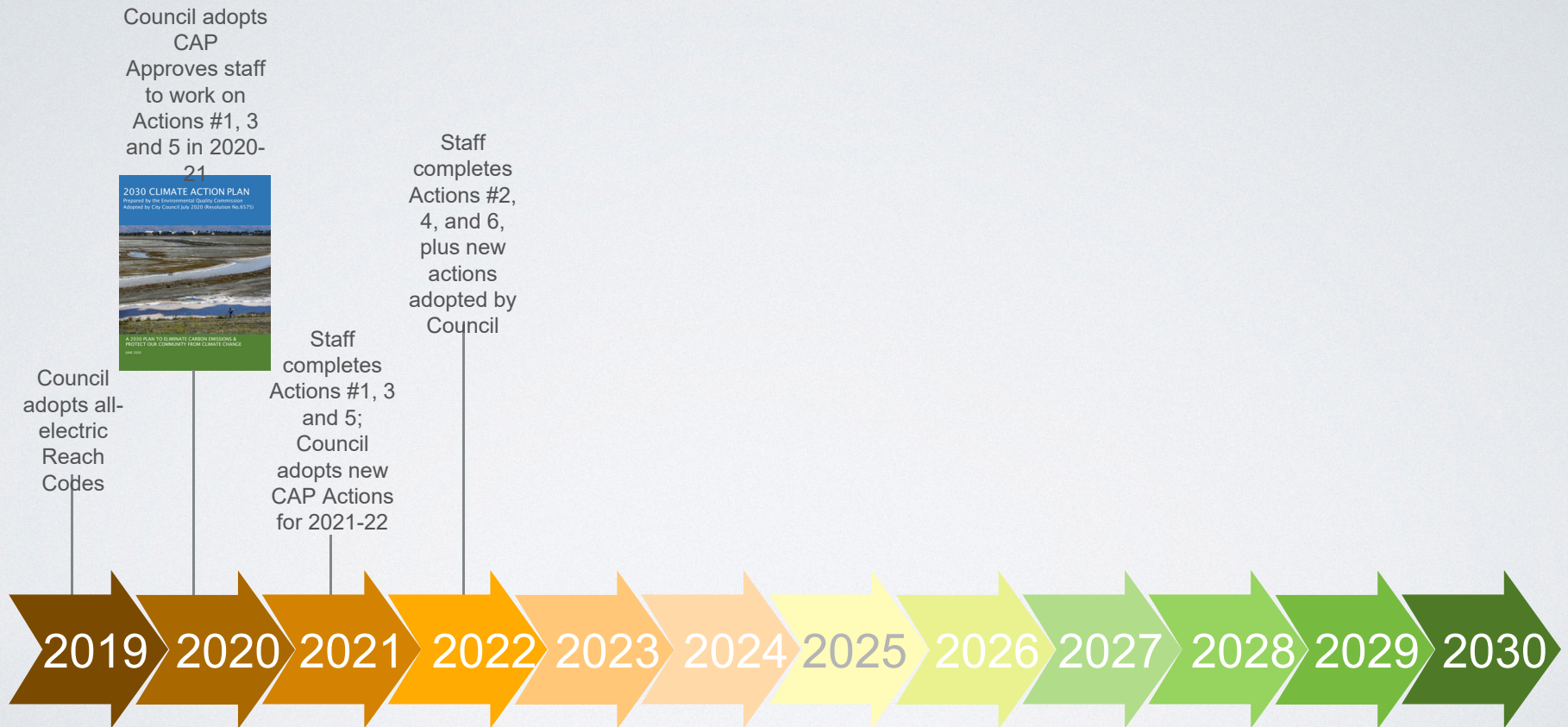


# TRIMMED DOWN CAP 2020-21

#	Action	2030 GHG Reduction (tons/yr)	Action Owner for 2020-21
1	Explore policy/program options to convert 95% of existing buildings to all-electric by 2030	1) 86,465 OR 2) 51,636	Staff
2	Set citywide goals for increasing EVs and decreasing gasoline sales	7,120	EQC and BGI
3	Expand access to EV charging	7,370	Staff
4	Reduce vehicle miles traveled (VMT) by 25% or an amount recommended by the Complete Streets Commission	31,743	CSC and EQC
5	Eliminate the use of fossil fuels from municipal operations	879	Staff
6	Develop a climate adaptation plan to protect the community from sea level rise and flooding	0	TBD
		<b>98,748</b>	



# CAP IMPLEMENTATION





# CAP GOALS



# PROPOSED CAP SUBCOMMITTEES

## 2020-21

#	Action	Buildings Subcommittee 2-3 people	Vehicles Subcommittee 3 people	Adaptation Subcommittee 2 people	Outreach Subcommittee 3 people
1	Explore policy/program options to convert 95% of existing buildings to all-electric by 2030	X			X
2	Set citywide goals for increasing EVs and decreasing gasoline sales		X		X
3	Expand access to EV charging		X		X
4	Reduce vehicle miles traveled (VMT) by 25% or an amount recommended by the Complete Streets Commission		X		X
5	Eliminate the use of fossil fuels from municipal operations	X	X		
6	Develop a climate adaptation plan to protect the community from sea level rise and flooding			X	X

# Environmental Quality Commission



## REGULAR MEETING MINUTES – DRAFT

**Date:** 12/16/2020

**Time:** 5:00 p.m.

**Regular Meeting Location:** Zoom.us/join – ID# 915 4675 0502

### A. Call to Order

Vice Chair London called the meeting to order at 5:10 p.m.

### B. Roll Call

**Present:** Elkins, Gaillard, Kabat, London (Vice Chair), Martin (exited the meeting at 6 p.m.)

**Absent:** Price (Chair)

**Staff:** Rebecca Lucky- Sustainability Manager

### C. Public Comment

None.

### D. Regular Business

- D1. Review and discuss the draft 2021-2022 commission work plan prepared by a subcommittee of the Environmental Quality Commission

Chair London introduced the item.

Commissioner Gaillard provided an overview of the subcommittee's work consisting of Commissioners Elkins, Gaillard, and Kabat (Attachment).

Commissioner Martin left the meeting at 6 p.m.

**ACTION:** Motion and second (Gaillard/London), to refer modifications of draft two-year work plan, create ad-hoc subcommittees to five work plan subcommittees charged with accomplishing tasks in the two-year work plan, passed 5-0-2 (Martin and Price absent) (Attachment).

### E. Reports and Announcements

- E1. Reports and Announcements from staff and commissioners

### F. Adjournment

Vice Chair London adjourned the meeting at 7:06 p.m.

Minutes prepared by Rebecca Lucky, Sustainability Manager

**Memo**

To: EQC  
From: Commissioner Josie Gaillard  
Re: EQC Subcommittee Descriptions

At our last meeting, the EQC requested detailed descriptions of the goals and purpose of each subcommittee that I proposed to address the Climate Action Plan (CAP). As a reminder, I recommended that we create the following subcommittees to organize our work:

- Building Decarbonization Subcommittee (2 people)
- Transportation Decarbonization Subcommittee (3 people)
- Climate Adaptation Subcommittee (2 people)
- Climate Outreach Subcommittee (3 people)

In reviewing the EQC's work plan with the Work Plan Subcommittee, I suggest adding one more subcommittee to the list:

- Trees and Sustainable Initiatives Subcommittee (2 people)

The proposed list of five EQC subcommittees places the appropriate emphasis, I believe, on tackling climate change without ignoring the other intended functions of the EQC.

Below are descriptions and suggested goals for each of the proposed subcommittees for your review and consideration.

**Building Decarbonization Subcommittee (Commissioners Gaillard and Kabat)**

This subcommittee of 2-3 people will assist staff in developing policies and plans to convert 95% of Menlo Park's existing buildings to all-electric by 2030. Work will include:

- Researching the technical and financial feasibility of converting the City's existing building stock to all-electric
- Researching financing options available to assist community members with conversions
- Researching policy and funding mechanisms to assist low-income households with conversions
- Reviewing legal frameworks for key policies
- Facilitating City collaboration with key regional agencies, such as Peninsula Clean Energy
- Collaborating with City staff and contractors in drafting key policies
- Preparing materials to help educate the public about building electrification
- Assisting City staff in completing electrification of municipal buildings
- Developing Council recommendations for 2021 CAP actions related to building decarbonization

This subcommittee supports CAP actions #1 & 5.

**Transportation Decarbonization Subcommittee (Commissioner London and Payne)**

This subcommittee of 3 people will assist staff in developing policies and plans to eliminate the use of fossil fuels in transportation in Menlo Park by 2030. Work will include:

- Researching the technical and financial feasibility of policies and programs to increase access to EV charging, especially during the day and for residents of multi-family housing
- Reviewing the offerings of service providers who may be able to assist the City and community members in building out its EV charging network
- Reviewing legal frameworks for proposed policies
- Serving as a liaison to the Complete Streets Commission in developing and achieving a City goal to reduce Vehicle Miles Traveled by 25% through 1) rezoning to support increased housing density near transit and 2) the build out of a network of connected bike/ped paths throughout town
- Tracking and promoting the City's goals of 1) making all new vehicles be electric by 2025 and 2) reducing gasoline sales each year by 10%
- Assisting City staff in converting the municipal vehicle fleet to all-electric by identifying new electric vehicle offerings for staff and Council consideration
- Developing Council recommendations for 2021 CAP actions related to transportation decarbonization

This subcommittee supports CAP actions #2, 3, 4 and 5

**Climate Adaptation Subcommittee (Commissioners Elkins and Price)**

This subcommittee of 2 people will research and inform City staff and Council on strategies for preparing the City for the effects of climate change. Work will include:

- Attending meetings of the San Mateo County Flood and Sea Level Rise Resiliency District Board and reporting back to EQC
- Working with staff and Council members to engage community members who will be most affected by sea level rise to educate them and take their input on how best to address the issue
- Tracking Menlo Park's plans for sea walls and/or levees to protect the community against sea level rise and keeping the EQC apprised of those plans
- Making recommendations to City Council on proposed development in the City's future flood zones
- Researching other potential effects of climate change on the City, including wildfire, drought and heat waves, and identifying plans to address those effects
- Developing a proposal for capturing 10% of the City's 2005 greenhouse gas emissions by 2030 through direct carbon removal

This subcommittee supports CAP action #6

**Climate Outreach Subcommittee (Commissioners Gaillard, Kabat, and London)**

This subcommittee of 3 people will devise strategies for educating members of the public about Menlo Park's climate action plan to reduce greenhouse gas emissions by 90% by 2030. Work will include:

- Identifying opportunities for Staff and the EQC to educate the public about climate change and Menlo Park's climate action plan
- Preparing educational materials and promoting them, either in conjunction with Staff or as private citizens



- Devising a plan, including proposed venues, for regularly presenting the public with information about ways to electrify buildings, decrease gasoline consumption, reduce vehicle miles traveled and prepare for climate-related emergencies
- Relaying to EQC any public feedback on the CAP and related policy proposals
- Supporting the City's formal outreach effort on climate policies, as directed by Staff

This subcommittee supports CAP action #1, 2, 3, 4 and 6

**Trees and Sustainable Initiatives Subcommittee (Commissioners Elkins and Payne)**

This subcommittee of 2 people will support Staff in addressing all sustainability matters not addressed by the Climate Action Plan. Work will include:

- Organizing the City's Arbor Day Tree Planting event
- Assessing the effectiveness of the City's new Heritage Tree Ordinance and making recommendations to EQC for any changes needed
- Supporting Staff in development of an inventory and catalogue of the urban tree canopy
- Receiving public concern related to non-climate sustainability concerns, including: habitat protection, healthy ecology, environmental health protection, healthy air, surface water runoff quality, water conservation and waste reduction
- Recommending appropriate responses or programs to address public concerns about non-climate sustainability matters

This subcommittee supports EQC goals for Urban Canopy Preservation and Green and Sustainable Initiatives not related to the Climate Action Plan

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## STAFF REPORT

### Environmental Quality Commission

Meeting Date: 2/25/2021

Staff Report Number: 21-002-EQC

**Regular Business:** Provide a recommendation to the City Council for the implementation of Climate Action Plan strategy No.3 (expand access to electric vehicle charging infrastructure)

### Recommendation

Staff recommends the Environmental Quality Commission advise the City Council to monitor and evaluate recently adopted state policy and regional incentive programs that supports Climate Action (CAP) strategy No. 3 (expand access to electric vehicle charging infrastructure) for calendar year 2021 to inform potential projects for future implementation.

### Policy Issues

In 2019, the City Council declared a climate emergency (Resolution No. 6535) committing to catalyze accelerated climate action implementation. In July 2020, the City adopted a new CAP with the bold goal to reach carbon neutrality (zero emissions) by 2030. The 2030 CAP includes the following strategies to reduce transportation sector emissions:

- No. 2: increase EV sales and decrease gasoline sales
- No. 3: expand access to EV charging infrastructure
- No. 4: reduce vehicle miles traveled (VMT)

### Background

Since the adoption of Menlo Park's first CAP (2009), gasoline vehicles continue to be the largest contributor (65 percent) of greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions in Menlo Park (Attachment A). As of 2017, the use of gasoline vehicles represents 158,687 tons of Menlo Park's total emissions, and if not addressed, are predicted to increase to 198,525 tons by 2030. A large part of the solution to reducing these emissions will involve transitioning residents and businesses toward using electric vehicles (EVs).

However, accessible, convenient and affordable charging is necessary to support the transition from gasoline vehicles to electric. A study of the gaps in Menlo Park's electric vehicle (EV) charging infrastructure was completed as part of the 2030 CAP under action No. 3 (expand access to EV charging) (Attachment B) where it was found that less than 2% of residents living in multifamily homes had access to EV charging stations within a quarter mile of their residence. Even less had access to at-home charging which is a major factor in choosing to use an electric vehicle.

Given the results of the gap analysis and the city's ambitious goal of carbon neutrality by 2030, staff recommended the development of four (4) policy options that would require a certain amount of EV charging spaces for existing multifamily properties, particularly for Level 1 charging (household plug outlet). The gap analysis and policy options are described in Attachment B.

Upon review of the study results, the Environmental Quality Commission (EQC) advised the City Council to focus on on-site charging for existing multifamily properties to not only to reach carbon neutrality by 2030, but more importantly, to address long term equity issues related to EV charging preference, access, and cost. The study results, budget needs for further policy development, and EQC recommendations were presented to City Council in October 2020. The City Council gave consensus on moving forward with developing requirements and return to City Council with a mid-year budget request to further fund the effort. In January, the City Council did not approve the mid-year budget request for this project due to recent state policy banning the sale of new gasoline-powered vehicles and regional incentive programs that promote plug-in EV charging infrastructure.

Staff will be providing a recommendation on CAP strategy No.3 implementation to the City Council in March/April. Staff recommends monitoring the state and regional incentive efforts for the remainder of 2021 to inform the next steps in implementing this CAP strategy. This could be presented in 2022 to the EQC and the City Council to confirm next steps for implementation. Staff will continue to amplify and provide outreach on state and regional incentives to the maximum extent possible with current capacity and existing communication mediums.

## Analysis

### Recent state policy related to EV charging infrastructure

In September 2020, Governor Gavin Newsome announced California will phase out gasoline-powered cars to reduce transportation emissions statewide. Executive Order N-79-2020 establishes zero emission vehicle (ZEV) (e.g., electric, hydrogen, etc.) sales goals in the state including:

- By 2035-100 percent of new passenger cars and trucks sold be zero-emission
- By 2045-100 percent of new medium- and heavy-duty vehicles sold be zero-emission where feasible
- Accelerate deployment of affordable fueling and charging options to serve all communities, particularly low-income and disadvantaged communities

This order only establishes goals for new ZEV sales and does not include provisions for used vehicles. Also, no specific funding mechanisms have been identified to accelerate deployment of affordable fueling and charging options for multifamily residents.

### Regional incentives program status

The following EV charging funding/incentive programs are currently open for application:

- Peninsula Clean Energy (PCE) EV ready program in partnership with state's CALeVIP program provides \$24 million in incentives for the installation of EV charging at public locations including multifamily properties. However, it is important to note that the majority of the funding is only applicable to public parking areas, making it challenging for multifamily properties with private assigned parking areas. This program represents two distinct funding pools: \$20M administered under CALeVIP adherent to state program requirements. \$4M administered at PCE's discretion to address critical market segments not included in the CALeVIP program (e.g., Level 1 charging, assigned parking in multifamily dwellings, etc.). Incentives for multifamily properties include:
  - For Level 1 (standard household outlet): up to \$2,000 per connector. Please note, PCE cost analysis anticipates this incentive will cover full project cost.
  - For Level 2: up to \$5,500 per connector or up to 75 percent total project costs, whichever is less.
  - Up to an additional \$4,000 for electrical panel upgrades.
  - Free technical assistance to maximize incentive use.



- **Current program status:**
  - Application for the CALeVIP fund program (\$20M) is currently oversubscribed; fund request applications exceed total funds available.
    - Please note, these funds went very quickly. CALeVIP application opened on December 16, 2020 at 8:45 a.m. and by 8:51 a.m. all funds were provisionally reserved. These early applications were also heavily dominated by EV charging vendors (e.g., ChargePoint, EVgo, etc.). Due to program restrictions it is unlikely multifamily properties were able to secure funding due to private assigned parking conditions on-site.
  - The technical assistance program is still open. In addition to continuing to accept new applications for eligible sites, PCE is directing applicants who were unable to reserve CALeVIP funds to alternative sources.
  - Status of the \$4M in funds administered at PCE's discretion to address critical market segments is currently unknown.
  - Application details such as project site type (e.g., commercial, workplace, or multifamily property) and project location (i.e., city) are currently unknown.
- Bay Area Air Quality Management District (BAAQMD) Charge! program provides \$6M in funds to offset the cost of purchasing and installing new chargers for light-duty EVs in public locations including multifamily properties. Incentives for multifamily properties include:
  - For Level 1 (standard household outlet): up to \$1,500 per connector.
  - For Level 2: up to \$7,000 per connector depending on power level (Level 2 chargers range in power from 12 to 80A).
- **Current program status:**
  - Charge! is a competitive solicitation. All project applications will be scored and ranked; projects located at multifamily properties are among those which will receive higher prioritization.
  - Project proposals have minimum usage requirements, though multifamily properties may qualify for reduced usage requirements.
  - Minimum qualifying grants for project proposals is \$1M except for government sponsored projects and projects exclusively located at multifamily properties, which must qualify for a minimum of \$10,000.
  - All program applicants must attend a pre-application workshop. Remaining pre-applications workshop is scheduled on March 2, 2021.
  - Program application is now open. All program applications are due on or before March 18, 2021.

Projected impacts of regional and state incentives on Menlo Park's 2030 carbon neutrality goal

Both PCE and BAAQMD are still compiling and evaluating incentive applications; the effects of increased EV charging infrastructure funding are still unknown. Given traditional incentive adoption curves where 10-15 percent of a population segment is expected to participate, it is unlikely that the state and regional incentives alone will support multifamily properties and the city in meeting its carbon neutrality goal by 2030 as 30% of Menlo Park residents live in multifamily complexes of four or more units (40% if including two or more unit complexes).

In addition, preliminary results of applicants for the state and regional incentives show higher participation for commercial properties rather than multifamily property owners. While more local public charging is expected and will be of great benefit, this will still be problematic for multifamily residents when considering the EV driver's need for charging convenience, equity, and reduced costs. In addition, multifamily residents are at risk for competing demands at public charging stations with long distance commuters, commercial,

and shared driving services using the public stations. Ultimately, it will be very difficult for multifamily residents to quickly transition from gasoline to electric transportation without at-home charging. Figure 1 below depicts the importance of providing at-home EV infrastructure based on current EV driver charging preferences/behavior.

Figure 1: Current EV Charging Behavior/Preferences



Source: Transportation Research Board and National Research Council. 2015. *Overcoming Barriers to Deployment of Plug-in Electric Vehicles*

**Recommended actions to implement Climate Action Plan strategy No. 3 (EV infrastructure) for 2021**

The EV charging incentives will be an important indicator to track on whether the city will be able to achieve carbon neutrality by 2030. As a result, staff is recommending the City Council continue to track and monitor incentive programs over the 2021 calendar year to determine its effectiveness in providing EV charging, particularly at existing multifamily properties. Staff will present an update on incentive program status in 2022. This update will include a review and report of any relevant federal, state, or city policies adopted during the study period. This review will inform the next steps implementation strategy for CAP strategy No. 3 (expand EV charging).

In the interim, PCE will be the lead agency for marketing, outreach, and administration of CALeVIP and PCE funding for EV charging infrastructure for multifamily properties. City staff will supplement marketing efforts to the extent possible with current capacity and using existing communication mediums without impacting other high priority projects (e.g. existing building electrification requirements).

**Impact on City Resources**

No additional funds are anticipated at this time.

**Environmental Review**

This action is not a project within the meaning of the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA)

Guidelines §§ 15378 and 15061(b)(3) as it is a minor change that will not result in any direct or indirect physical change in the environment.

**Public Notice**

Public notification was achieved by posting the agenda, with the agenda items being listed, at least 72 hours prior to the meeting.

**Attachments**

- A. Hyperlink – July 14, 2020, staff report: [menlopark.org/DocumentCenter/View/25680/F1-20200714-CC-CAP](https://menlopark.org/DocumentCenter/View/25680/F1-20200714-CC-CAP)
- B. Hyperlink – October 27, 2020, staff report: [menlopark.org/DocumentCenter/View/26523/G4-20201027-CC-EV-charging](https://menlopark.org/DocumentCenter/View/26523/G4-20201027-CC-EV-charging)

Report prepared by:  
Candise Almendral, Sustainability Contractor

Reviewed by:  
Rebecca Lucky, Sustainability Manager