Environmental Quality Commission



REGULAR MEETING AGENDA

Date: 9/21/2022 Time: 6:00 p.m.

Location: Zoom.us/join – ID# 865 1520 6309

NOVEL CORONAVIRUS, COVID-19, EMERGENCY ADVISORY NOTICE

Consistent with Government Code section 54953(e), and in light of the declared state of emergency, and maximize public safety while still maintaining transparency and public access, members of the public can listen to the meeting and participate using the following methods.

- How to participate in the meeting
 - Access the meeting real-time online at: Zoom.us/join –Meeting ID 865 1520 6309
 - Access the meeting real-time via telephone at: (669) 900-6833

Meeting ID 865 1520 6309

Press *9 to raise hand to speak

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. 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/agendas).

Regular Session (Zoom.us/join – ID# 865 1520 6309)

- A. Call To Order
- B. Roll Call Elkins, Evans, Chair Kabat, Vice Chair Hedley, Lin, London, Schmidt
- C. Public Comment

The public may address the Environmental Quality Commission (EQC) on any subject not listed on the agenda. Each speaker can make public comment for a limit of three minutes once. The EQC cannot act on items not listed on the agenda other than to provide general information.

- D. Regular Business
- D1. Approve the August 31, 2022 Environmental Quality Commission special meeting minutes (Attachment)
- D2. Review and discuss Environmental Quality Commission annual work plan (Attachment)

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E. Reports and Announcements

E1. Reports and announcements from staff and Commissioners

F. 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. 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 and can receive email notification of agenda and staff report postings by subscribing to the "Notify Me" service at menlopark.org/notifyme. Agendas and staff reports may also be obtained by contacting City Clerk at 650-330-6620. (Posted: 09/15/2022)

Environmental Quality Commission



SPECIAL MEETING MINUTES - DRAFT

Date: 8/31/2022 Time: 6:00 p.m. Location: Zoom

A. Call To Order

Chair Kabat called the meeting to order at 6:06 p.m.

B. Roll Call

Present: Elkins, Evans, Hedley (Vice Chair), Kabat (Chair), Lin, Schmidt

Absent: London

Staff: Sustainability Manager Rebecca Lucky, Management Analyst II Joanna Chen,

Assistant Public Works Director Brian Henry, Police Chief Dave Norris, Administrative

Sergeant Scott Mackdanz, Public Works Supervisor Donald Weber

C. Regular Business

C1. Approve the July 20, 2022 Environmental Quality Commission meeting minutes (Attachment)

ACTION: Motion and second (Elkins/ Evans), to approve the July 20, 2022 Environmental Quality Commission meeting minutes, passed 6-0 (London absent).

C2. Consider recommendation to the City Council on the upcoming city vehicle and equipment purchases (Staff Report #22-003-EQC)

Chair Kabat and Sustainability Manager Rebecca Lucky introduced the item. Management Analyst II Johanna Chen made the presentation (Attachment).

• Ole Agesen expressed concern in purchasing gasoline-powered police motorcycles as a suitable electric replacement could be available before the end of its life.

The Commission discussed and received clarification on other brands of electric alternatives for proposed public works purchases, delaying some of combustion fired equipment purchases, future air quality board requirements, addressing charging infrastructure needs, reaching out to the City of Pasadena, renewable diesel, and comparing gas to electric cost.

ACTION: Motion and second (Elkins/ Hedley), to recommend approval of the police department purchases and for staff to look into further alternatives for public works combustion fired equipment to present to City Council, such as other cities that are deploying electric public works equipment alternatives successfully, checking with agencies that are providing electric incentives to inform about available technologies (California CORE and Air Resources Board), and timing purchases in relation to air quality requirements and end of life of combustion fired equipment, passed 6-0 (London absent).

C3. Informational presentation from the EQC outreach subcommittee for citizen community outreach on the Climate Action Plan

Environmental Quality Commission Regular Meeting Minutes – DRAFT August 31, 2022 Page 2 of 2

Vice Chair Hedley introduced the item and provided an overview of the presentation.

The Commission discussed the value of community education regarding climate action plan initiatives.

ACTION: None.

E. Reports and Announcements

E1. Reports and Announcements from staff and commissioners

Sustainability Manager Lucky provided updates regarding existing building electrification permit fee waiver/credit program approved by the City Council on August 23, 2022. Waste bill inserts will include information about incentives available for heat pump water heaters, solar and battery storage, and electric vehicles. Working with citizen volunteers seeking to educate the community on the climate action plan. Management Analyst Ori Paz continues to make significant progress to decarbonize city operations, particularly for EV charging for city fleet and employees.

F. Adjournment

Chair Kabat adjourned the meeting at 8:12 p.m.

Rebecca Lucky, Sustainability Manager



FY22-23 VEHICLE AND EQUIPMENT PURCHASE PROPOSAL

Consider a recommendation to the City Council





TEAM MEMBERS

Available for Q&A

- Joanna Chen, Management Analyst II
- Brian Henry, Assistant Public Works Director
- Rebeca Lucky, Sustainability Manager
- David Norris, Chief of Police
- Don Weber, Fleet Supervisor

Special shout out

- William Dixon, Police Commander
- Nikki Nagaya, Public Works Director
- Scott Mackdanz, Admin Sergeant
- TJ Moffett, Police Commander
- Ori Paz, Management Analyst II



BACKGROUND ON VEHICLE/EQUIPMENT PURCHASES



- Based on mileage, age, downtime for repairs, and mandated emission regulations
- Adhere to the City's Climate Action Plan No. 5 goal to eliminate fossil fuels from city operations by 2030
 - The city's vehicle fleet is the second largest contributor to greenhouse gas emissions in city operations.
- Also adhere to the Sustainable Fleet Policy to reduce greenhouse gas emissions by increasing the number of zero-emission fleet vehicles



UPDATE FROM LAST POLICE VEHICLE PURCHASE



- Embarked on strategic electric vehicle transition in the police department (PD)
 - 3 Tesla Ys to pilot in the patrol fleet
 - 1 Ford Mustang Mach-E in the admin fleet
 - 1 Chevrolet Bolt for code enforcement
- Major milestone for small-sized police department
 - Menlo Park's PD electric vehicle ratio is greater when compared to other cities'
 PD in the region











- Several factors to consider and test:
 - Patrol vehicles are driven differently than average commuter vehicles
 - Patrol vehicles are used 24 hours, seven days a week to respond to calls for service
 - For example, a full battery charge (just like a full gas tank) would be required before an officer starts and ends their shift as anything can happen on the job
 - Battery drain
 - Additional weight from outfitting and equipment
 - Charging time
- Three Tesla Ys should be service ready by November





PROPOSED VEHICLE PURCHASE FOR POLICE



Number of vehicle type	Current vehicle fuel type	Proposed vehicle fuel type	Reason for exemption
3 detective sedans (leased)	Hybrid	Electric	-
1 pool sedan	Gasoline	Electric	-
1 community service truck	Gasoline	Electric	-
2 traffic enforcement motorcycles	Electric	Lower emission gasoline	Electric option not viable for traffic patrol operations





ELECTRIC POLICE MOTORCYCLES

- Electric Zero Motorcycles
 - 2 motorcycles (2014 and 2016 models)
 - One of the first manufacturers to make all electric motorcycles and configure them into police operations



Limitations

- Replacement batteries no longer available in 2014 Zero model
- Malfunctioning electric circuits in the middle of duty while driving the 2016 Zero model, which is a safety concern
- Cannot repair onsite due to proprietary property
- Does not meet traffic patrol operation needs for hands-free communication and road speed due to safety concerns



GAS POLICE MOTORCYCLES AND ALTERNATIVES



- Lower emission gasoline motorcycle replacements (BMW)
 - Have better fuel economy than previous gas motorcycles models
 - Would substantially reduce vehicle emissions as compared to the Harley motorcycles they would replace
 - Adequate space to install all essential police equipment to operate safely

Alternative transportation

- Total of 15 bicycles, which includes 2 electric bicycles
- Benefits of the e-bikes:
 - Cover more ground more quickly during pursuits
 - More community engagement; and
 - Conserve energy when engaging with suspects





PROPOSED VEHICLE/EQUIPMENT PURCHASE FOR PUBLIC WORKS



Number of vehicle type	Current vehicle fuel type	Proposed vehicle fuel type	Reason for exemption
3 light-duty trucks	Gasoline	Electric	-
1 vibratory roller equipment	Renewable diesel	Renewable diesel	Electric option not yet available
1 farm tractor equipment	Renewable diesel	Renewable diesel	Electric option not yet available
1 reel/lawn mower equipment	Renewable diesel	Renewable diesel	Electric option not yet available
1 stump grinder equipment	Renewable diesel	Renewable diesel	Electric option not yet available
1 brush chipper equipment	Renewable diesel	Renewable diesel	Electric option not yet available Page D-1.11



PUBLIC WORKS VEHICLE AND EQUIPMENT PROPOSAL





Vibratory roller



Stump grinder



Brush chipper



Farm tractor



Reel mower







RECOMMENDATION

Staff recommends the Environmental Quality Commission consider a recommendation to the City Council on the upcoming city vehicle and equipment purchases:

- Three electric sedans for the police detective unit;
- One electric sedan for the police pool;
- One electric truck for the police community services unit;
- Two lower emission gasoline traffic enforcement motorcycles;
- Three electric light-duty public works trucks; and
- Five renewable diesel-powered pieces of equipment



September 12, 2022

Environmental Quality Commission work plan update memo

Commissioners,

Each year advisory bodies to the City Council are required to develop an annual work plan which will be the foundation for the work performed by the advisory body in support of the City Council annual work plan. We will be kicking off this process for the Environmental Quality Commission at our September 2022 meeting for City Council review and approval in early 2023.

Since the 2021-2022 work plan (attached) still feels relevant, we would like to approach this process by reviewing the current work plan and recommending edits or enhancements. As you consider suggestions, please think about the work plan as a document which outlines the scope of possible activities that the EQC can engage in, not a list of promises that we must complete.

We would love to have each Commissioner find at least one initiative within the work plan that they'd like to contribute toward. Once the work plan is finalized, we can review sub committee assignments and make additions or changes so that the top priorities in the work plan are addressed, and so that each Commissioner has a way to share their passion and expertise with the community.

As part of this process, we would also like to recommend an update of the description of the Environmental Quality Commission to the City Council to align it with the mission statement and priorities in the work plan. Our current roles and responsibilities, and commission priorities are listed on the EQC Commission and committee webpage.

Next Steps:

- Now review current EQC roles/responsibilities/priorities, and current EQC work plan
- 9/21/22 kick off the work plan process, identify actions to take between EQC meetings to update the work plan and align roles/responsibilities/priorities to it
- 10/19/22 discuss edits to the work plan and roles/responsibilities/priorities, vote to finalize both and send to the City Council for approval

We look forward to kicking off the process on September 21st.

Sincerely,

Tom Kabat, Chair Nancy Larocca Hedley, Vice Chair

ATTACHMENT: 2021-2022 EQC Work Plan

Hyperlink: EQC Commission and committee webpage -

https://beta.menlopark.org/Government/Commissions-and-committees/Environmental-Quality-

Commission



Commission work plan guidelines

Step 1	Review purpose of Commission as defined by Menlo Park City Council Policy 3-13-01.						
Step 2	Develop a mission statement that reflects that purpose.						
Step 3	Discuss and outline any priorities established by City Council.						
Step 4	Brainstorm goals, projects, or priorities of the Commission and determine the following:						
	 A. Identify priorities, goals, projects, ideas, etc. B. Determine benefit, if project or item is completed C. Is it mandated by State of local law or by City Council direction? D. Would the task or item require a policy change at City Council level? E. Resources needed for completion? (Support staff, creation of subcommittees, etc.) F. Completion time? (1-year, 2-year, or longer term?) G. Measurement criteria? (How will you know you are on track? Is it effective? Etc.) 						
Step 5	Prioritize projects from urgent to low priority.						
Step 6	 Prepare final work plan for submission to City Council for review and approval in the following order: Work plan cover sheet, listing of members, priority list, work plan worksheet – Steps 1 through 8. 						
Step 7	Use your "approved" work plan throughout the term of the plan as a guide to focus in on the work at hand.						
Step 8	Report out on work plan priorities to the City Council, which should include:						
	 A. List of "approved" priorities or goals B. Status of each item, including any additional resources required in order to complete C. If an item that was on the list is not finished, then indicate why it didn't occur and list out any additional time and/or resources that will be needed in order to complete 						



Environmental Quality Commission

Mission Statement

The Environmental Quality Commission (EQC) is committed to helping the City of Menlo Park to be a leading sustainable city that is well positioned to manage present and future environmental impacts, including the grave threat of climate change. The Environmental Quality Commission is charged primarily with advising the City Council on matters involving environmental protection, environmental improvement, sustainability and climate change.

Environmental Quality Commission Work Plan for 2021-2022



Environmental Quality Commission 2021-2022

Commission members listing

Commissioner (Chair) Ryann Price

Commissioner (Vice Chair) Janelle

London Commissioner Leah Elkins

Commissioner Josie Gaillard

Commissioner Tom Kabat

Commissioner Deborah Martin

Commissioner James Payne



Environmental Commission Priority List

The Environmental Quality Commission has identified the following priorities during 2021-2022:

1.	 Climate Action Plan (CAP) – Continue to recommend/advise on implementation of the City's adopted 2030 Climate Action Plan initiatives to achieve or surpass the City's greenhouse gas (GHG) reduction target, which includes: Adoption of an existing building electrification policy (Action #1) Promotion of City goals for increasing EVs and decreasing gasoline sales (Action #2) Implementation of a program or policy to expand access to EV charging for multi-family and commercial properties (Action #3) Reduction of vehicle miles traveled (VMT) by 25% or an amount recommended by the Complete Streets Commission (Action #4) Elimination of fossil fuels from municipal operations, including fleet vehicles, gardening equipment, furnaces, water heaters, pool heaters, etc. (Action #5) Development of a climate adaptation plan to protect the community from sea level rise and flooding (Action #6) 					
2.	Urban Canopy Preservation – Continue to recommend/advise development of a comprehensive urban canopy strategy for Menlo Park, which includes monitoring the effectiveness of the City's Heritage Tree Ordinance, hearing heritage tree appeals and consider establishing an urban canopy inventory.					
3.	Green and Sustainable Initiatives – Support sustainability initiatives, as needs arise, which may include but not be limited to habitat protection, healthy ecology, environmental health protection, healthy air, surface water runoff quality, water conservation and waste reduction.					
4.	Gas Powered Leaf Blower Ordinance- Recommend/advise City Council on a gas-powered leaf blower ordinance.					



Environmental Quality Commission Work Plan

Step 1

Otop i	
Review purpose of Commission as	The Environmental Quality Commission is charged with advising the City Council on the following matters:
defined by Menlo Park City Council	 Mitigating climate change by reducing community-wide greenhouse gas emissions to zero as rapidly as possible and inspiring other cities to follow,
Policy 3-13-01	 Preparing the community for the effects of climate change, especially the threat of sea level rise, flooding and drought,
	 Preserving heritage trees, maintaining the urban canopy, making determinations on appeals of heritage tree removal permits and organizing an annual Arbor Day tree planting event,
	 Advising on programs and policies related to all other areas of environmental sustainability, including protection of natural areas, recycling and solid waste reduction, environmentally sustainable practices, air and water pollution prevention, and water and energy conservation.

Step 2

r	Develop or review a mission statement that reflects that purpose	The Environmental Quality Commission (EQC) is committed to helping the City of Menlo Park to be a leading sustainable city that is well positioned to manage present and future environmental impacts, including the grave threat of climate change. The Environmental Quality Commission is charged primarily with advising the City Council on matters involving environmental protection, environmental improvement, sustainability and climate change.
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Step 3

	Discuss any priorities already established by City Council	Make gains on our Climate Action Plan	
L			

Step 4 *The goals and priorities identified below are not listed in order of magnitude.

*Brainstorm goals, projects or priorities of the Commission	Benefit, if completed	Mandated by State/local law or by City Council direction?	Required policy change at City Council level?	Resources needed for completion? Staff or creation of subcommittees?	Estimated completion time	Measurement criteria How will we know how we are doing?
Climate Action Plan (CAP) – Continue to recommend/advise on implementation of the City's adopted 2030 Climate Action Plan initiatives to achieve or surpass the City's greenhouse gas (GHG) reduction target, which includes: • Action #1: Review and recommend/advise on a policy to phase out the use of fossil fuels of existing buildings • Action #2: Advise on whether to work with BGI for promoting citywide goals of increasing EVs and decreasing gasoline sales • Action #3: Review and recommend/advise on policies and programs to increase access to EV charging for multi family and commercial properties • Action #4: Recommend that Council request CAP action #4 be included on Complete Streets	Other cities inspired to join us in adopting bold climate action, as happened with City's all-electric Reach Code Reduced GHG emissions Reduced air pollution Reduced traffic congestion Improved public health Increased community engagement for emissions reductions Reduced risk of stranding fossil fuel assets Increased equity and environmental justice Increased preparedness for sea level rise and other climate threats Demonstrated environmental leadership Improved transparency on city goals and activities to meet GHG targets	Yes M	Yes No	 Subcommittees Possible partnerships with organizations, businesses, other commissions Staff time Consultants/contractors 	2 years	 City reports progress on CAP metrics such as gasoline sales, EV registrations, natural gas sales, water heater replacements, etc. City adopts policy for phasing out the use of fossil fuels in existing buildings City launches program to assist multi-family and commercial building owners to install EV charging Complete Streets proposes a VMT reduction goal City makes progress on developing a climate adaptation plan Other cities copy Menlo Park's climate policies and programs

Commission Work Plan				
(reduce vehicle miles				
traveled (VMT) by 25% or				
an amount recommended				
by the Complete Streets				
Commission)				
Action #5: Continue to				
advise/recommend ways				
to electrify municipal				
buildings, fleet and				
landscaping equipment				
 Action #6: Continue to 				
advise/recommend a				
climate adaptation plan to				
protect the community				
from sea level rise and				
flooding				
nooding				
Recommend 2021-22				
Climate Action for Council				
Adoption				
Advise/recommend				
Council support for State				
adoption of impactful				
impactful CALGreen and				
energy reach codes for				
the 2022 building code				
update				
Continue to provide				
recommendations/advice				
that improves				
communication with the				
community about the				
Climate Action Plan				
Recommend City strategy for aboring our policies				
for sharing our policies				
and analysis with other				
cities to inspire and help				
others adopt bold climate				
action				

Urban canopy preservation - Continue to recommend/ advise development of a comprehensive urban canopy strategy for Menlo Park, which includes monitoring the effectiveness of the new Heritage Tree Ordinance, hearing heritage tree appeals, and consider establishing an urban canopy inventory. • Receive update on implementation and operation of the Heritage Tree Ordinance and recommend adjustments as needed • Research ways other cities measure health of urban forest and make a recommendation to Council	Improved public awareness and satisfaction with Heritage Tree policies Efficient functioning of the Heritage Tree policies	Yes 🗹	Yes No Y	Subcommittee Staff time budgeted	Ongoing	Reduction in the number of healthy trees removed Increase in the diversity and quality of trees within the entire urban canopy Improved coordination with the planning process Deliver recommendation on conducting inventory and catalogue of urban tree canopy
Green and sustainable initiatives – Support sustainability initiatives, as needs arise, which may include but not be limited to habitat protection, healthy ecology, environmental health protection, healthy air, surface water runoff quality, water conservation and waste reduction. • Develop recommendation for pesticide posting ordinance • Support initiatives improving air and water quality	 Reduced cases of asthma Clean air Clean water Reduced environmental impacts on health Reduced exposure to pollutants More efficient water usage Critical habitat preserved Less waste generated 	Yes 🗹 No 🗍	Yes 🗹 No 🗌	Create Subcommittee, if needed	Ongoing	Council and community view Commission as responsive to environmental concerns

 Support initiatives protecting environmental health Support initiatives that reduce waste Support initiatives that conserve water Support initiatives that improve the quality of water runoff in the City 						
Gas Powered Leaf Blower Ordinance- Recommend/advise City Council on a gas-powered leaf blower ordinance.	 Clean air Reduced exposure to pollutants Improved public health 	Yes ☑ No □	Yes 🗹 No 🗌	Subcommittee	1 year	Recommendation provided to City Council

Step 5

Step 5	**Prioritize tasks by their significance							
List identified goals, priorities and/or tasks for the Commission	1 Urgent	2 1-year	3 2-year	4 Long term				
Climate Action Plan (CAP) – Continue to recommend/advise on implementation of the City's adopted 2030 Climate Action Plan initiatives to achieve or surpass the City's greenhouse gas (GHG) reduction target.	 Action #1: Review and recommend/advise on policies to phase out the use of fossil fuels of existing buildings Action #2: Advise on whether to work with BGI to promote citywide goals of increasing EVs and decreasing gasoline sales Action #4: Recommend that Council request CAP action #4 be included on Complete Streets Commission Work Plan (reduce vehicle miles traveled (VMT) by 25% or an amount recommended by the Complete Streets Commission) Recommend 2021-22 Climate Action for Council Adoption 	 Action #3: Review and recommend/advise on policies and/or programs to increase access to EV charging for multi family and commercial properties Action #5: Continue to provide recommendations/advice to electrify municipal buildings, fleet and landscaping equipment Advise/recommend Council support for State adoption of impactful impactful impactful CALGreen and energy reach codes for the 2022 building code update 	Action #6: Continue to provide recommendations/advice in developing a climate adaptation plan to protect the community from sea level rise and flooding Continue to provide recommendations/advise on new climate actions to be adopted by Council in 2021	Continue to provide recommendations/advice that improves communication with the community about the Climate Action Plan Recommend City strategy for sharing our policies and analysis with other cities to inspire and help others adopt bold climate action				
	Track citizen concerns on large	 Receive update on operation and 	Provide advice on developing an urban					

Urban canopy preservation — Continue to recommend/ advise development of a comprehensive urban canopy strategy for Menlo Park, which includes monitoring the effectiveness of the new Heritage Tree Ordinance, hearing heritage tree appeals, and consider establishing an urban canopy inventory.	scale tree removal projects and provide advice on future policy improvements as it relates to tree removals	implementation of the Heritage Tree Ordinance and recommend adjustments as needed	forest master plan to City Council	
Green and sustainable initiatives – Support sustainability initiatives, as needs arise, which may include but not be limited to habitat protection, healthy ecology, environmental health protection, healthy air, surface water runoff quality, water conservation and waste reduction.				 Develop recommendation for pesticide posting ordinance Support initiatives improving air and water quality Support initiatives protecting environmental health Support initiatives that reduce waste Support initiatives that conserve water Support initiatives that improve the quality of water runoff in the City
Gas Powered Leaf Blower Ordinance- Recommend/advise City Council on a gas-powered leaf blower ordinance.		 Form a subcommittee Prepare recommendation to City Council and receive further direction 		

- **Step 6** Prepare final work plan for submission to the City Council for review, possible direction and approval and attach the Worksheets used to determine priorities, resources and time lines.
- **Step 7** Once approved; use this plan as a tool to help guide you in your work as an advisory body.
- **Step 8** Report out on status of items completed. Provide any information needed regarding additional resources needed or And to indicate items that will need additional time in order to complete.