Environmental Quality Commission



REGULAR MEETING AGENDA

Date: 2/15/2023 Time: 6:00 p.m.

Location: Zoom.us/join – ID# 867 5607 5319 and

City Hall Downtown Conference Room, 1st Floor

701 Laurel St., Menlo Park, CA 94025

NOVEL CORONAVIRUS, COVID-19, EMERGENCY ADVISORY NOTICE

Consistent with Cal. Gov. Code §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
 - In-person at the Downtown Conference Room
 - Access the meeting real-time online at: Zoom.us/join –Meeting ID 867 5607 5319
 - Access the meeting real-time via telephone at: (669) 900-6833
 Meeting ID 867 5607 5319

Meeting ID 867 5607 5319

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 website at menlopark.gov. 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.gov/agendas).

Regular Session

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

Under "Public Comment," the public may address the Environmental Quality Commission on any subject not listed on the agenda. Each speaker may address the Environmental Quality Commission once under public comment for a limit of three minutes. You are not required to provide your name or City of residence, but it is helpful. The Environmental Quality Commission cannot act on items not listed on the agenda and, therefore, Environmental Quality Commission cannot respond to non-agenda issues brought up under public comment other than to provide general information.

Environmental Quality Commission Regular Meeting Agenda February 15, 2023 Page 2

D. Regular Business

- D1. Approve the January 18, 2023 Environmental Quality Commission regular meeting minutes (Attachment)
- D2. Review and discuss proposed changes to garage and side and rear yard rules to facilitate electrification for existing single-family homes
- D3. Review and discuss a collaboration model proposed by the outreach and engagement subcommittee (Attachment)
- D4. Review and assign commissioners to current subcommittees (Attachment)

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 before, 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.gov. 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 Cal. Gov. Code §54954.2(a) or §54956. Members of the public can view electronic agendas and staff reports by accessing the city website at menlopark.gov/agendas and can receive notification of agenda postings by subscribing at menlopark.gov/subscribe. Agendas and staff reports may also be obtained by contacting the City Clerk at 650-330-6620. (Posted: 2/9/2023)

Environmental Quality Commission



REGULAR MEETING MINUTES – DRAFT

Date: 1/18/2023 Time: 6:00 p.m.

Location: Teleconference and

City Hall – Downtown Conference Room 701 Laurel St., Menlo Park, CA 94025

A. Call To Order

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

B. Roll Call

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

Absent: None

Staff: Sustainability Manager Rebecca Lucky, Management Analyst II Ori Paz

C. Public Comment

David Axlerod spoke on concerns related to gas-powered lawn equipment.

D. Regular Business

D1. Approve the November 16, 2022 Environmental Quality Commission regular meeting minutes (Attachment)

ACTION: Motion and second (Hedley/ Elkins), to approve the November 16, 2022 Environmental Quality Commission regular meeting minutes, passed 7-0.

D2. Receive an informational presentation on the City fleet electric vehicle charging plan

Chair Kabat introduced the item.

Management Analyst Paz made the presentation (Attachment).

D3. Review and discuss the Environmental Quality Commission quarterly report to City Council

Chair Kabat introduced the item.

Chair Kabat made the presentation (Attachment).

ACTION: Motion and second (Elkins/ McKenna), to approve the presentation of the Environmental Quality Commission quarterly report to the City Council with revisions suggested by the Commission, passed 7-0.

E. Reports and Announcements

E1. Reports and Announcements from staff and commissioners

Environmental Quality Commission Regular Meeting Minutes – DRAFT January 18, 2023 Page 2 of 2

Sustainability Manager Lucky provided updates regarding:

- Upcoming Environmental Justice Element meetings at the Belle Haven Library
- Discussion with City Council subcommittee on Phase II reach codes
- Promotional materials for the upcoming Community Collaboration sessions on electrification
- Building permit fee waivers
- California Department of Forestry and Fire Protection (CALFIRE) urban forest grant application
- Outreach for the Zero Emission Landscape Equipment discount program
- A resident request for public electric vehicle (EV) charging

Management Analyst II Paz provided an update on climate action plan (CAP) No. 5 efforts to eliminate fossil fuel from city operations, highlighting fleet EV charging, water heater electrification for City facilities, the CAP No. 5 roadmap status, and Zoning Ordinance updates to facilitate electrification.

Commissioner Evans provided an update on subcommittee discussions on building electrification with the Planning Commission, and shovel ready electrification retrofit projects for Life Moves for Haven House and MidPen Housing that are seeking funding through a crowdfunding campaign in partnership with MenloSpark.

Commissioner McKenna provided updates on the Code Red for Humanity webinar and a heat pump water heater replacement project.

Commissioner Schmidt spoke on efforts of the outreach subcommittee to explore a collaborative model and provided examples from Code Red webinar, the Climate Resilient Communities (CRC) air purifiers and safer bay programs.

Vice-Chair Hedley spoke on crowdfunding for Haven House home electrification.

Chair Kabat provided an update on the Code Red webinar and the BlocPower model.

F. Adjournment

Chair Kabat adjourned the meeting at 8:04 p.m.

Ori Paz, Management Analyst II



FLEET EV CHARGING PLAN

January 18, 2023 Environmental Quality Commission





AGENDA



- Why EVs?
- Fleet emissions
- EV chargers studied
- Immediate EV charging plan
- FY23-30 EV charging forecast
- Incentives
- Next steps





















Reduce vehicle emissions Improve air quality
Improve health

Reach CAP goals to fight climate change

\$0.06/mi fuel \$130/MTCO2e Reduce maint. costs by ~50%

FLEET EMISSIONS & EV SAVINGS

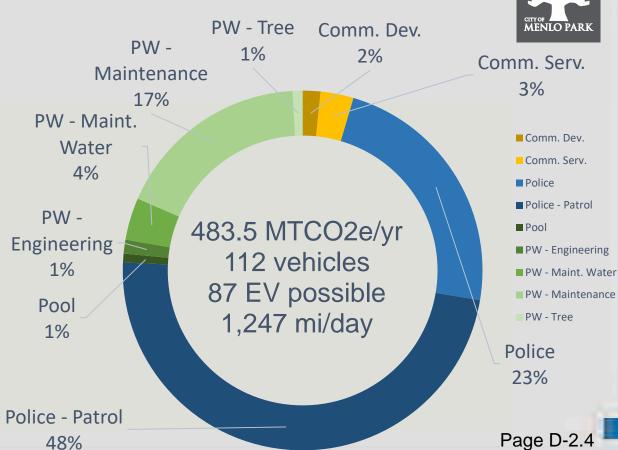




Carbon cost \$62,860/yr

EV fuel savings -\$19,476/yr

Total savings \$82,336/yr





CHARGER TYPES STUDIED

L2 (7kW)	L2 (12kW)	DCFC (25kW)	DCFC (22.5kW)	Expandable CPXP+ (40kW)	Battery-integrated charger (BIC) (7-200kW)
57.2 mi/day	99.7 mi/day	216.8 mi/day	195.1 mi/day	346.8 mi/day	1734.1 mi/day
\$3,850	\$5,000	\$15,746	\$25,000	\$85,645	\$172,000



totals

RECOMMENDED IMMEDIATE EVC **PLAN**



Page D-2.6

Site	LvI 2 (7kW)	DCFC (22.5kW split)	Battery Integrated Charger (7-200kW split)	Cost (\$)	Miles/ Day
PD Lower lot		6		\$318,478	650
PD upper lot			2	\$479,215	1,301
Council chambers lot	2			\$124,990	114
Corp yard	2		2	\$441,878	1,415
New port	1	6	Λ	\$1,350,920	4,384 mi

6

CIVIC CAMPUS & CORP YARD IMMEDIATE BUILDOUT



New L2 (7kW)

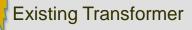
Existing L2 (7kW)



New DCFC



New battery integrated charger (7-200kW)





MENLO PARK

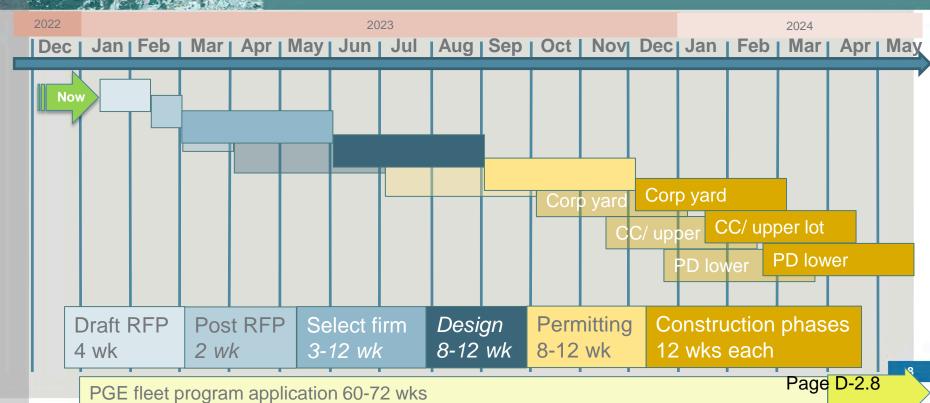
Project site







IMMEDIATE PHASE TIMELINE



CIVIC CAMPUS & CORP YARD 2030 BUILDOUT



New L2 (7kW)

Existing L2

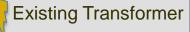


New DCFC (22.5kW)

Future port count



New battery-integrated charger (7-200W)



Project site











There are funding programs for EV charging infrastructure:

- PGE Fleet program funding for front-of-the meter equip. (e.g. transformer, wiring, etc.) + \$7K/vehicle
- PCE EV Ready Program funding for publically accessible chargers (employee charging counts)
- PCE EV Fleet technical assistance (e.g. prelim planning, engineering) & chargers
- Charge! competitive funding for publically accessible chargers (exceptions available upon request)





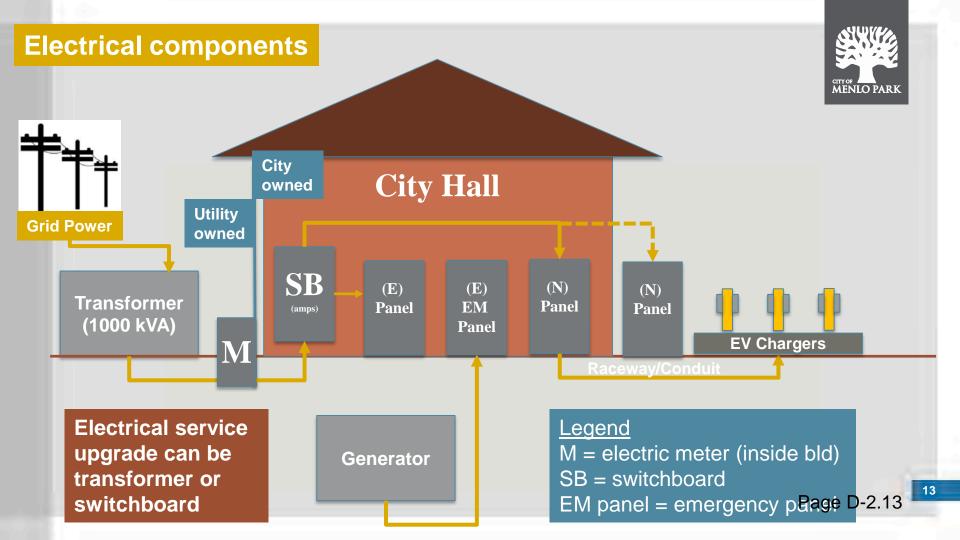


- CC info item for immediate phase (January 2023)
- Post RFP for immediate phase design/build (February, 2023)
- Leverage programs for long term EV charging needs
- Update five-year CIP with charging costs



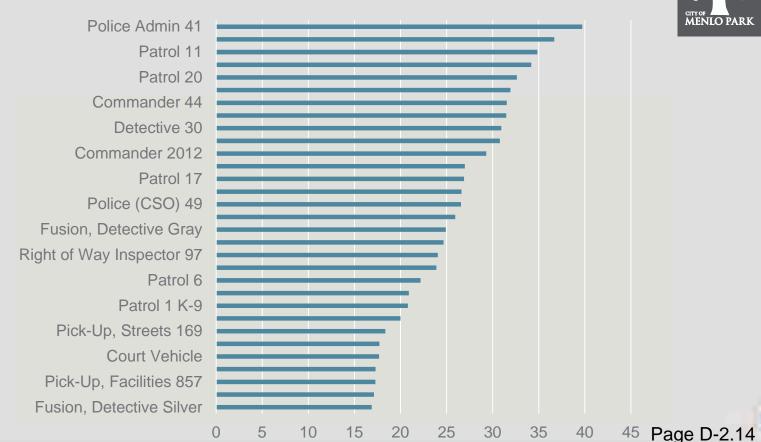
THANK YOU





AVERAGE DAILY MILES (2021 TOP 30)





ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY COMMISSION

Quarterly Update January 2023

EQC Chair Tom Kabat

AGENDA

- Review of EQC Activities
- ► Community Concerns
- ► Climate Science Update
- Surrounding Incentives Improved
- City Opportunities
- Seeking Guidance from Council

Environmental Quality Commission

Advise City Council on matters involving environmental protection, improvement, and sustainability.

Commissioners:

- Leah Elkins
- Angela Evans
- Nancy Larocca Hedley
- Tom Kabat
- Jeffery Lin
- John McKenna
- Jeff Schmidt

Review of EQC Activities

- ► Climate Action Plan
 - First year FY 2020-2021 activities are still ongoing, but more are needed.
 - August 2021 City Council recommended public outreach ahead of additional actions on existing buildings. (CAP 1)
 - ► EQC members (as individuals) have been doing outreach (electrification workshops, Earthday events, etc., community members are also doing outreach)

Review of EQC Member Activities

- ► Climate Outreach Sub Committee held two Community Collaboration Sessions in 2022 (Climate Preservation, Environmental Justice) and one in 2023 (Electrify Your Home) with plans for more.
- ► This Sub Committee is actively collaborating with local nonprofits to bring climate education to the community.
- ► Focus outreach on education rather than policy proposals: climate science, techniques of electrification, or education on available incentives.

Review of EQC Member Activities (Continued)

Commissioner Evans is assisting the city's low-income housing electrification projects.

- In late 2021, Council asked staff/EQC to develop tools to make existing building electrification easier and more affordable.
- In collaboration with EQC, city staff, Council, and nonprofit partners, city launched program with building retrofit concierge service (project management, financing, maintenance). Includes:
- Large focus on low-income community, with commitment to raise \$30m for capital/installation costs. Already secured \$4.5m from state.
- Partnership with local nonprofit, JobTrain, to develop building electrification workforce predominantly from Belle Haven. First cohort: 20 trainees expected mid-2023.
- Active partnership development with existing contractors to begin work right away, on market rate and on low-income homes.
- Community Advisory Board with broad representation from city (including several from Belle Haven) to advise on key issues like rental protections. Completed two sessions.
- Two large "shovel-ready" pilot projects with LifeMoves (HavenHouse) and Mid Pen (Willow Court/Willow Terrace). Awaiting funding for capital costs.

Review of EQC Member Activities (Continued)

- Trees Sub Committee working with local nonprofit, Canopy, and city staff to identify grant opportunities to support our urban forest, including funding for a canopy analysis and for tree planting in the Belle Haven neighborhood.
- ► Planning for Mayor's Tree Planting and Arbor Day celebrations.

Review of EQC Member Activities (Continued)

- EQC developed its 2023-2024 work-plan and formed sub committees covering the topics of:
 - Exploring Collaboration Opportunities (Elkins, Evans, Schmidt)
 - Building Decarbonization (Evans, Kabat, McKenna)
 - Transportation Decarbonization (Schmidt)
 - Climate Outreach (Hedley, Kabat, Schmidt)
 - Climate Adaptation (Elkins)
 - Trees and Sustainable Initiatives (Elkins, Hedley, Schmidt)
 - Work Plan (Hedley, Lin)
- ► EQC would like to update its Roles & Responsibilities to reflect increased focus on climate change, resilience, and adaptation.

Review of EQC Activities (Continued)

The Environmental Quality Commission is charged primarily with advising the City Council on matters involving environmental protection, improvement and sustainability.

Commission priorities

- Preserving heritage trees
- Using best practices to maintain city trees
- Preserving and expanding the urban canopy
- Making determinations on appeals of heritage tree removal permits
- Administering annual Environmental Quality Awards program
- Organizing annual Arbor Day Event; typically a tree planting event
- Advising on programs and policies related to protection of natural areas, recycling and waste reduction, environmentally sustainable practices, air and water pollution prevention, climate protection, and water and energy conservation

Current EQC Responsibilities

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

Commission priorities

- Climate Action Plan Advise and recommend on the implementation of the climate action plan.
- Climate Resilience and Adaptation Ensure that our most vulnerable communities have a voice in policies and programs to protect their communities from environmental impacts.
- Urban Canopy Leverage best practices to advise/recommend on the preservation of heritage trees, city trees and expansion of the urban canopy; and make determinations on appeals of heritage tree removal permits.
- Green and Sustainable Initiatives Support sustainability initiatives, as needs arise, which may include but not be limited to organizing the annual Arbor Day event, habitat protection, healthy ecology, environmental health protection, healthy air, surface water runoff quality, water conservation and waste reduction.

Proposed EQC Responsibilities

Community Concerns

Climate change

- High level of urgency
- Concerns regarding climate equity, climate action equity and affordability
- Accelerated progress on CAP is needed to meet science-based goals
- Increased urgency in climate adaptation and resilience for underserved areas
- Need for electrification permit application streamlining

Inclusion of volunteers outside of commissioners to address climate action in Menlo Park

- Desire of residents to volunteer for assisting the city with climate preservation.
- There is a Friends of the Library volunteer group, is it a model for friends of climate preservation?
- Residents organized the "We Love Earth Festival" on 4/16/22 Exploring doing so again.
- Showing more motivational information to residents (e.g. how many homes could be heated with Burgess pool's gas)

Heritage trees and urban tree canopy are valued, expansion is desired More public charging for EVs is desired

Public Comments Voiced to EQC



Climate Science Update

- ► Temp Rise has been 1.1 degrees C so far. Each 0.5 degree we add has 4X more costly damage
- ► IPCC Scientists, and International Energy Agency agree: Current fossil fueled machinery's normal device life emissions fill the 2 degree C limit.
- There is no more climate space (below 2 degrees) for new or reinstalled fossil fueled equipment.
- Every new fossil device is over the limit on day one.
- Delay means loss. Now we are in the action time.

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Implications for Cities

- ► To hold to 2 degrees rise... society must immediately pivot to electric alternatives at time of:
 - A) new construction, and when adding cooling
 - B) at time of additions and remodels
 - C) at time of device burnout & replacement
- We would need to replace devices before burnout to stay under 2 degrees.
- ► CAPs are lacking policies that keep up with the evolving climate science

Menlo Park: Mixed Bag

Menlo Park's CAP closed the Ambition Gap

• (The 90% reduction by 2030 goal is science based, in proportion with holding to 1.5 degree rise)

Menlo Park still has Policy & Achievement Gaps

- Policy Gap: Our codes still permit failure.
- Achievement Gap: We are still installing gas stuff, gaps in the policy actions and community achievements that are needed to stay on track to meet the science-based targets.

Surrounding Incentives Improved

- ► The Federal Inflation Reduction Act (IRA) recognizes the importance of building and vehicle electrification with large new incentives for now through 2032.
 - ▶ 30% Tax Credits for: heat pumps, heat pump water heaters, heat pump dryers and induction cooking.
 - ► Up front Medium and Low Income incentives starting 2024 for families earning less than \$207k
- ▶ PCE has also started >\$3,000 incentives for heat pumps needed for hot water and space heating (\$7500/home) and Zero interest loans up to \$10,000
- ▶ 3 cities adopted various existing buildings codes

City Opportunities

- ► Given the support provided by PCE + Federal + State + BayREN incentives making electrification more cost effective than continued stranding of new gas assets:
 - ► The city has a chance to demonstrate science-based policy by starting the timeline to no longer permitting the installation of gas fired equipment.
 - The city could also explore setting a science-based end of flow date for pipeline gas.

Important City Actions for 2023

Adopt Electrification Reach Codes to pursue CAP Action 1

 (Electrification of 90% of buildings by 2030) Including existing Improve New Construction Reach Codes to remove costly exemptions to avoid expensive retrofit situations

Reach Codes are needed for remodels, additions etc.

Reach Codes are needed to prevent

- costly installation of fossil fired replacement equipment
- one-way air conditioners where electric alternatives are affordable.

In lieu fees may assist applicants with difficult situations

Seeking Guidance

Seeking Guidance From Council

- > We ask City Council to direct staff to change the roles and responsibilities of the EQC to better reflect activities over the last several years and going forward over the next 7 years to achieve CAP goals.
- ➤ We seek approval from the City Council on the EQC work plan for 2023.
- Any additional City Council guidance?

THANK YOU

Collaboration Subcommittee - Recommendation

Goal: Subcommittee team has a recommendation on how we can bring a more diverse set of perspectives to the EQC

Agree on a liaison model

- Modeled on the City Council's liaison approach with different groups (including Betsy with the EQC)
- Each EQC member attends 1-2 group meetings for a list of identified nonprofits, county groups, schools, and other cities
- Report on any key programs, projects, issues, or insights we hear as part of attending those meetings

Refine and finalize initial list of organizations

- <u>Issues-based</u>: Acterra, Menlo Spark, PCE, 350 Menlo
- <u>Community-based</u>: Belle Haven Empowered, CRC
- <u>Public Sector</u>: County Office of Sustainability, SAFER Bay, School District

Benefits

Stronger alignment of the EQC with groups doing similar work

- Gather information that can be relayed to the full EQC and City Council
- Gain deeper awareness and understanding of community issues, barriers, questions, and concerns
- Provide stronger advice and recommendations to the City Council and City Staff
- Promote collaboration by informing groups of projects that other groups are working on

EQC discussions reflect community priorities and activities

- Work with Tom and Nancy to add specific topics to the EQC agendas as needed
- Align EQC workplan more closely with community and other programs collective impact

	Environmental	Environmental Quality Commission Subcommittees			
Building Description	Transportation Desarbonization	Climate Adaptation	Climata Outr		

Current members: Evans, Kabat, and

McKenna

Current members: Schmidt

Building Decarbonization	Transportation Decarbonization	Climate Adaptation	Climate Outreach	Trees & Sustainable Initiatives
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 and nonprofits, 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 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 Facilitating City collaboration with key regional nonprofits and agencies	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 • Facilitating City collaboration with key regional nonprofits and agencies	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 with a focus on student/teacher/school outreach • 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 • Facilitating City collaboration with key regional nonprofits and agencies	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 • Facilitating City collaboration with key regional nonprofits and agencies
This subcommittee supports CAP actions #1 & 5	This subcommittee supports CAP actions #2, 3, 4 and 5	This subcommittee supports CAP action #6	This subcommittee supports CAP action #1, 2, 3, 4 and 6	This subcommittee supports EQC goals for Urban Canopy Preservation and Green and Sustainable Initiatives not

Exploring Collaborative Opportunities subcommittee consisting of Commissioners Elkins, Evans and Schmidt, with the charge of updating the Commissions roles and responsibilities, exploring collaboration with community partners, and presenting a draft 2023 work plan to the full Commission at a later meeting this year.

Current members: Elkins

related to the Climate Action Plan

Schmidt

Current members: Kabat, Hedley

and Schmidt

Current members: Elkins Hedley and