

December 1, 2010

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| <b>Project Name:</b>               | <b>Oakland Energy and Climate Action Plan</b>  |
| <b>Proposal:</b>                   | Preparation of a draft Energy and Climate Action Plan (ECAP) to reduce greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions by the Council approved target of 36% from 2005 levels by 2020.  |
| <b>Applicant:</b>                  | Public Works Agency – Environmental Services Division  |
| <b>Environmental Determination</b> | Environmental review under the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) is underway. Planning Commission can recommend approval of the draft ECAP without a CEQA determination because environmental review would be completed prior to adoption.   |
| <b>Status</b>                      | City Council directed staff to develop a draft ECAP using a 36% GHG reduction target from 2005 levels on July 7, 2009 (Resolution No. 82129 C.M.S.). The draft ECAP was released on April 22, 2010 for public comment. Public comment was taken through June 11, 2010. The revised draft ECAP is scheduled for consideration at the Public Works Committee on December 14, 2010. |
| <b>Action to be taken</b>          | Staff recommends that City Council direct City staff to perform appropriate CEQA review for the proposed draft ECAP and upon conclusion of that review return to the City Council for consideration of the CEQA review and final adoption of the ECAP.   |
| <b>For further information:</b>    | Contact Garrett Fitzgerald, Sustainability Coordinator at (510) 238-6179 or gfitzgerald@oaklandnet.com, or Scott Wentworth, Energy Engineer, at (510) 238-3984 or swentworth@oaklandnet.com.   |

**SUMMARY**

In July 2009, the City Council directed staff to develop a draft Oakland Energy and Climate Action Plan (ECAP) using a preliminary greenhouse gas (GHG) reduction target of 36% below 2005 GHG emissions by 2020.

A draft ECAP has been developed to identify and prioritize actions to reduce energy consumption and GHG emissions to meet this GHG reduction target. The ECAP will clarify policy direction and provide a roadmap for the City and the Oakland community that identifies implementation strategies and funding considerations.

The draft ECAP includes revisions based on: (1) City Council input received at a City Council Special Workshop on March 30, 2010; and (2) public comment received following the release of the first draft of the ECAP in April 2010.

It is recommended that the Planning Commission recommend to the City Council that staff be directed to perform an appropriate California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) review for the draft ECAP.

**FISCAL IMPACT**

Upon direction from the City Council, the Community & Economic Development Agency (CEDA) will perform a preliminary CEQA review, which may result in a finding that the ECAP is exempt from further

CEQA review. However, if this initial review determines that a more detailed CEQA review is required, funding will need to be identified to pay for the additional environmental analysis. Additionally, over the long term, implementation of the ECAP may result in potential reductions in revenues associated with decreased energy and fuel consumption (e.g., Utility Consumption Tax, Alameda County Transportation Improvement Authority [Measure B-ACTIA], State Gas Tax). Conversely, an influx of new revenues may result from the creation of new green business activities (e.g., business tax and sales tax revenue associated with energy retrofit work performed, green business attraction). The draft ECAP (page 13) includes a qualitative discussion of revenue impacts.

## **BACKGROUND**

In July 2009, the Oakland City Council directed staff to develop an ECAP using a preliminary GHG reduction target of 36% below 2005 GHG emissions by 2020.

A draft ECAP has been developed to identify and prioritize actions to reduce energy consumption and GHG emissions to meet the adopted City Council GHG reduction target. The draft ECAP provides a climate action roadmap for the City and the Oakland community that identifies implementation strategies and funding considerations.

ECAP development began in November 2008 with the City holding multiple community workshops to gather input on GHG reduction targets and actions for consideration. The Public Works Agency has led the development of the ECAP, working in collaboration with staff throughout the City organization, external subject matter experts, and community stakeholders.

Hundreds of Oakland residents, businesses and other organizations have provided input during the ECAP development process. This input, along with ideas generated through earlier efforts, such as the Oil Independent Oakland Task Force, has helped to shape the analysis and inform the development of the draft ECAP. Local organizations contributed valuable assistance by providing additional outreach and gathering input for the development of the ECAP.

The draft ECAP was released for public review and comment on April 22, 2010 (Earth Day). Public comments were accepted until June 11, 2010 through community workshops and the City's website. Staff has developed a revised draft ECAP in response to the public comments received.

The revised draft ECAP was previously distributed to the City Council and is available to the public through the City's website at [www.sustainableoakland.com](http://www.sustainableoakland.com). It is also available to view at no charge at the Office of the City Clerk, located on the first floor of City Hall at One Frank H. Ogawa Plaza, Oakland, CA, 94612.

## **KEY ISSUES AND IMPACTS**

The primary focus of the ECAP is to recommend GHG reduction actions through which the City government can position Oakland to meet the established GHG reduction target. The draft ECAP describes the role that recently adopted State policies are expected to play in reducing emissions, as well as the scale of community leadership and engagement needed. In addition to GHG reduction actions, the draft ECAP includes a plan for identifying and adapting to anticipated climate impacts on the City's infrastructure caused by potential changes in sea level, fresh water availability, and weather.

The draft ECAP proposes a set of actions through which the City could position Oakland to achieve the 2020 GHG reduction target. It recommends one subset of these actions for implementation within the next three years. Existing or anticipated resources are available to support implementation of this subset. Out of the remaining actions needed to achieve the 2020 target, the draft ECAP recommends an

additional subset to be prioritized during the same three-year period. These additional unfunded actions would require the identification of new resources.

The draft ECAP Appendix (also distributed previously to the City Council and available in the same locations as the draft ECAP) contains additional information about the development of the ECAP, Oakland's GHG emissions baseline, and how the actions included in the draft ECAP are projected to enable Oakland to meet the identified GHG reduction target.

### **PROGRAM DESCRIPTION**

A preliminary CEQA review of the draft ECAP is necessary, which may result in a finding that the ECAP is exempt from further CEQA review. Depending on the determination of this review, further study may be needed (and funding sources identified). It is in the City's interest to finalize the draft ECAP prior to initiating the preliminary CEQA review so that such review is based on complete information and City Council direction. Upon completion of the CEQA review process, the CEQA document (e.g., exemption, (mitigated) negative declaration, EIR, etc.) would be prepared and brought back to City Council with the final ECAP.

The following schedule is anticipated to conclude development of the ECAP:

- December 1, 2010      Planning Commission consideration of draft ECAP
- December 14, 2010    Public Works Committee consideration of draft ECAP
- January 2011          City Council Public Hearing and consideration of draft ECAP, followed by adoption of resolution directing appropriate CEQA review
- Winter/Spring 2011    CEQA review of draft ECAP
- TBD                      City Council consideration of CEQA document and Final ECAP; date depends on level of CEQA review needed.

### **GENERAL PLAN POLICIES**

Several of the City's General Plan Elements describe policies related to reducing GHG emissions that address land use and transportation, building energy use, and material consumption and waste. Examples of these policies are included in the Draft ECAP Appendix.

### **ENVIRONMENTAL DETERMINATION**

Environmental review under the CEQA is underway. The Planning Commission can recommend approval of the draft ECAP without a CEQA determination because environmental review would be completed prior to adoption.

### **SUSTAINABLE OPPORTUNITIES**

Economic: Many potential GHG reduction actions can save money through improved efficiency and decreased waste, as well as create other economic benefits through job creation and business attraction.

Environmental: Reducing GHG emissions can create significant environmental benefits by helping to reduce the impacts of climate change, as well as potentially conserving water and natural resources, reducing impacts associated with landfills, improving local air quality, reducing ecological impacts associated with pollution, and many others.

Social Equity: Reducing GHG emissions can result in social equity benefits, such as through the creation of green jobs, reduction in local air pollutants in specific areas, and targeting of programs to underserved communities.

**DISABILITY AND SENIOR CITIZEN ACCESS**

The action requested in this report will not have any direct impact on access for persons with disabilities or senior citizens. Implementation of the draft ECAP may create benefits through changes such as increased availability and frequency of transit service.

**RECOMMENDATIONS**

Staff requests that the Planning Commission recommend to City Council that staff be directed to perform appropriate CEQA review for the draft ECAP, and upon conclusion of that review return to the City Council for consideration of the CEQA review and final adoption of the ECAP.

Respectfully submitted,



Vitaly B. Troyan, P.E.  
Interim Director, Public Works Agency

Reviewed by:  
Brooke A. Levin, Assistant Director

Reviewed by:  
Mark Gomez, Acting Environmental Services  
Manager

Prepared by:  
Garrett Fitzgerald, Sustainability Coordinator  
Environmental Services Division