Union City Climate Protection Taskforce News Update May 2010

The **Union City Climate Protection Taskforce** provides a community-based communication forum, recognized by its members as an official community mechanism for the exchange of information on the Climate Action Plan process.

Task Force Mission Statement

"To develop and recommend to the City Council a Climate Action Plan that prioritizes practices and programs that will further our community's sustainability efforts and assist in reaching Union City's Greenhouse Gas Emissions Reduction Goal of 30 percent below 2005 levels by 2020."

Scheduled Taskforce Meetings for 2010

Land Use & Transportation
Thursday, February 11
7:00-9:00 PM

Buildings & Energy
Thursday, March 11
7:00-9:00 PM

Water, Waste, & Green Infrastructure
Thursday, April 8
7:00-9:00 PM

Measures Review
Thursday, May 13
7:00-9:00 PM

Website

Taskforce meeting materials are posted to the Union City website at http://www.ci.union-city.ca.us/going_green.html

CAP Taskforce Meeting

Topic: Measure Review

Thursday, May 13, 7:00-9:00 pm

Agenda Attached

Ruggieri Center, Dining Room
33997 Alvarado-Niles Road
Union City, CA

Agenda Topics

Review of GHG Reduction Measures and Analysis

In this meeting, an overview of the measures discussed to date will be provided, to be followed with a more in-depth discussion of the most challenging and ambitious measures (listed below). In order to understand the impacts of these measures, an analysis of the greenhouse gas (GHG) reduction potential and preliminary costs and savings will be presented. The discussion will revolve around understanding the trade-offs of different options in the design and implementation of these measures.

The following measures will be presented for discussion:

Land Use & Transportation
- Transportation Demand Management (rideshare and public transit)
- Parking Pricing
- Vehicle-Miles-Traveled (VMT) fee program
- Transit-Oriented Development
- Neighborhood Commercial Districts

Buildings & Energy
- Residential Energy Conservation Ordinance (RECO)
- Solar Power Districts
- New Construction Energy Performance Standards
- Energy Reduction in Wastewater Management

Water & Waste
- Water Conservation Programs through Alameda County Water District
- Waste Diversion Ordinance and Collaboration with StopWaste.org
- Construction & Demolition Debris Reduction

Recap – Discussion highlights from the last meeting

At the last meeting, potential water, waste, and green infrastructure strategies and measures were discussed. Specific strategies discussed addressed the following: water conservation policy, public outreach and education, and innovation; waste reduction & diversion policy, programs and infrastructure, and environmentally responsible purchasing; and carbon sequestration, community gardens, and municipal leadership in green infrastructure. For more information, see meeting presentation posted on the Going Green website.

34009 ALVARADO-NILES ROAD
UNION CITY, CALIFORNIA 94587

AGENDA

FOR THE CITY OF UNION CITY
CLIMATE PROTECTION TASK FORCE
THURSDAY, MAY 13, 2010 AT 7:00 p.m.
RUGGIERI SENIOR CENTER
DINING ROOM (MAP ATTACHED*)
33997 ALVARADO-NILES ROAD

I. CALL TO ORDER:

A. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

B. ROLL CALL
Mayor Mark Green; Commissioner Ray Gonzales, Jr.; Pat Gacoscos; Paul Bisbiglia; Paddy Iyer; Jenny Cutter; Melvin Matsumoto; Nicholas Shutes; Shannon Valle; Commissioner Eva Kamakea; Christine McCoy
Alternate(s): Councilmember Manny Fernandez; Commissioner Roy Panlilio; Kevin Armonio
Staff: Joan Malloy, ECD Director; Carmela Campbell, Planning Manager; Roberto Munoz, Recycling Coordinator; Avalon Schultz, Associate Planner; Richard Sealana, Public Works Superintendent; Steve Adams, Transit Planner, Rich Currie, USD General Manager; David Livingston, USD Plant Manager; Dana Hernandez, Union City Chamber of Commerce Staff

II. APPROVAL OF MINUTES: Minutes of April 8, 2010 *****

III. ORAL COMMUNICATIONS:

IV. WRITTEN COMMUNICATIONS:

V. BUSINESS MATTERS:

A. OVERVIEW OF TASK FORCE FEEDBACK

B. LAND USE AND TRANSPORTATION / BUILDINGS & ENERGY / WATER CONSERVATION AND WASTE REDUCTION & DIVERSION
- Review of selected measures + presentation of GHG reduction and preliminary costs/savings
- Discussion of implementation options

Any writings or documents provided to a majority of the Task Force regarding any item on this agenda will be made available for public inspection at the City Clerk's Counter at City Hall located at 34009 Alvarado-Niles Road, Union City, California, during normal business hours.

C. PROGRESS TOWARDS MEETING THE GHG REDUCTION TARGET

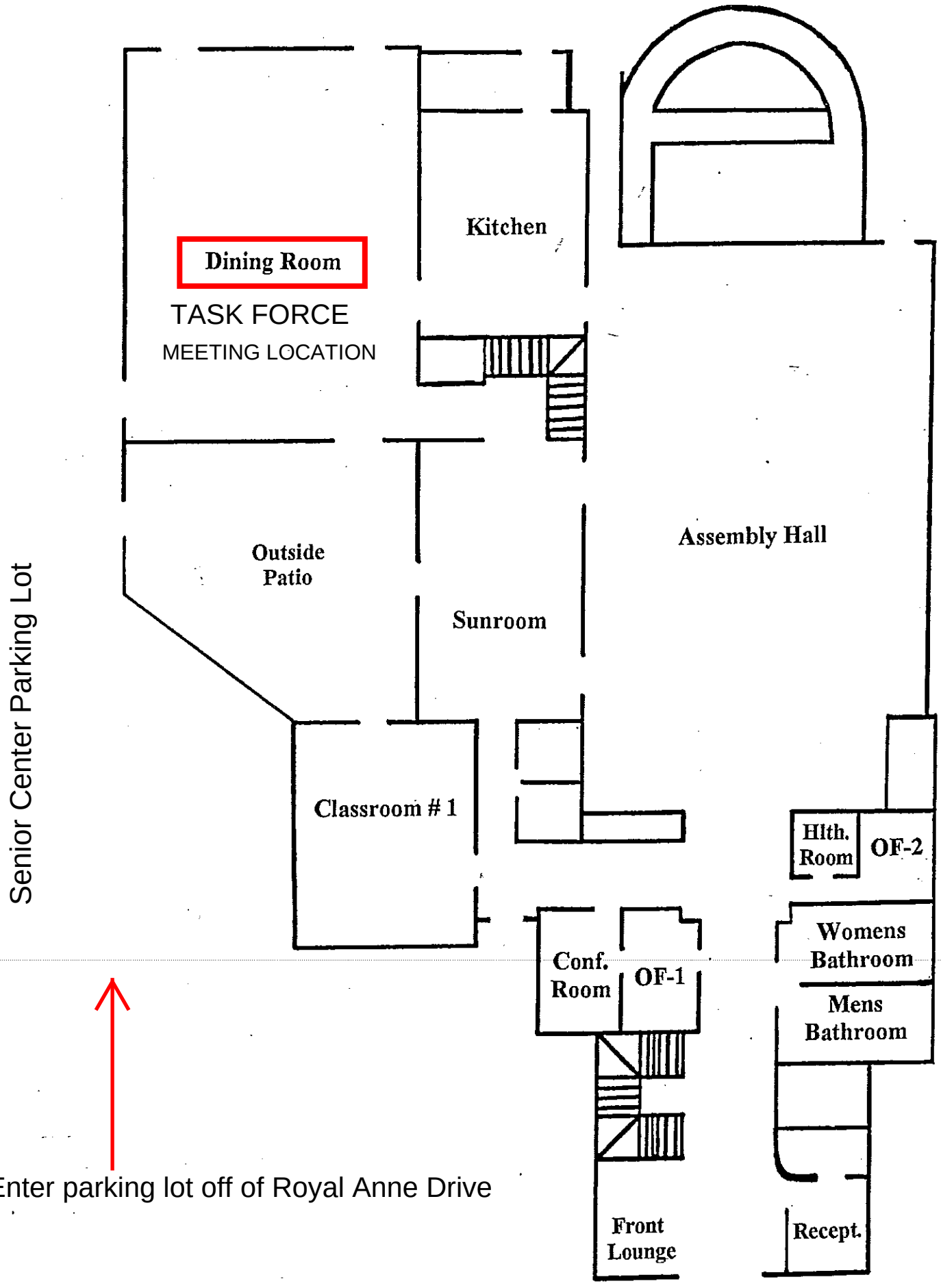
D. PUBLIC COMMENT

E. UPDATE ON MAY 26, 2010 COMMUNITY MEETING

VI. GOOD OF THE ORDER:

VII. ADJOURNMENT:

***Attachment(s) included with this packet**


Kitchen
Dining Room
TASK FORCE
MEETING LOCATION
Outside
Patio
Sunroom
Assembly Hall
Classroom # 1
Hlth.
Room
OF-2
Womens
Bathroom
Conf.
Room
OF-1
Mens
Bathroom
Front
Lounge
Recept.
Senior Center Parking Lot
Enter parking lot off of Royal Anne Drive

34009 ALVARADO-NILES ROAD
UNION CITY, CALIFORNIA 94587

MINUTES

FOR THE CITY OF UNION CITY
CLIMATE PROTECTION TASK FORCE
THURSDAY, APRIL 8, 2010 AT 7:00 p.m.
RUGGIERI SENIOR CENTER
DINING ROOM (MAP ATTACHED*)
33997 ALVARADO-NILES ROAD

I. CALL TO ORDER: 7:20 PM

A. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

B. ROLL CALL
Commissioner Ray Gonzales, Jr.; Pat Gacoscos; Paul Bisbiglia; Jenny Cutter; Melvin Matsumoto; Nicholas Shutes; Commissioner Eva Kamakea;
Staff: Joan Malloy, ECD Director; Carmela Campbell, Planning Manager; Avalon Schultz, Associate Planner; Rich Currie, USD General Manager

II. APPROVAL OF MINUTES: Minutes of February 11, 2010 and Minutes of March 11, 2010 approved.

III. ORAL COMMUNICATIONS:

IV. WRITTEN COMMUNICATIONS:

V. BUSINESS MATTERS:

A. OVERVIEW OF THE WASTE, WATER AND GREEN INFRASTRUCTURE ACTION AREAS AND REVIEW OF CURRENT POLICIES

B. PRESENTATION OF PRELIMINARY GHG REDUCTION STRATEGIES FOR THE WASTE, WATER AND GREEN INFRASTRUCTURE SECTORS AND DISCUSSION ON DEVELOPMENT AND PRIORITIZATION OF STRATEGIES AND MEASURE

Regarding Items A and B above, AECOM staff provided an overview of the Waste, Water and Green Infrastructure sector including a discussion of related GHG emissions for the City.

AECOM staff also prepared a handout that contained a list of sample measures for discussion and prioritization by the Task Force. Attached to the minutes is a revised version of the handout that includes a summary of the comments received. The powerpoint presentation from the meeting can be found on the City's Climate Protection Task Force meeting page which can be accessed on-line at http://www.ci.union-city.ca.us/green_city/Agendas%20Task%20Force.html

C. PUBLIC COMMENT

D. OVERVIEW OF UPCOMING MEETINGS

VI. **GOOD OF THE ORDER:** Mr. Darwin Mathison, an alternate Task Force member, resigned from the Task Force. Michelle Galaria, an employee of New Haven Unified School District and a regular meeting attendee, was appointed to the Climate Protection Task Force in his place.

VII. ADJOURNMENT: 9:00 pm

Taskforce Meeting
Water, Waste, & Green Infrastructure Action Areas
Preliminary Strategies for Discussion

Water

- Substantial amounts of energy are consumed to pump, treat, transport, heat, and cool water for consumption and wastewater.
- Water conveyance accounts for ***9 percent*** of the greenhouse gas (GHG) inventory in 2005 (~34,000 MT CO_2e) and is projected to grow to approximately 36,000 MT CO_2e by 2020 (***9 percent*** of the GHG inventory).
- Water conservation reduces energy consumption, lowers GHG emissions, and protects valuable water resources. It will become increasingly important as water supplies are expected to further decline throughout the State.
- We need to reduce water use within existing and future buildings and landscapes, and can draw from a range of outreach, incentives, and regulations options to aim at a minimum 20 percent reduction in per capita water consumption by 2020[1].

Waste

- The type of goods we consume and how we dispose of them strongly influences the amount of waste-related GHG emissions released into the atmosphere. Waste disposal creates emissions when organic waste (e.g., food scraps, yard clippings) is buried in landfills and anaerobic digestion creates methane, a potent greenhouse gas. Consequently, the CAP strategies will primarily focus on waste reduction and diversion, and will place less emphasis on reducing waste toxicity and environmentally responsible product purchasing.
- Waste accounts for ***6 percent*** of the GHG inventory in 2005 (~25,000 MT CO_2e), and is projected to grow to approximately ***8 percent*** of the GHG inventory by 2020 (~32,000 MT CO_2e).
- To reduce the community's waste-related GHG emissions, the City could expand its waste management programs and policies, and establish a target of diverting a certain percentage of all waste from landfills by 2020.

Green Infrastructure

- Green infrastructure consists of open spaces and natural areas (e.g., greenways, wetlands, parks, forest preserves, and native plant vegetation) that provide 'ecosystem services', such as naturally managing stormwater, reducing flooding risk, improving water quality and providing opportunities to sequester carbon dioxide through storing it in trees, plants, and soils.
- In Union City, some green infrastructure elements already exist, such as street trees (sometimes called the 'urban forest'), parks, natural habitat areas, community garden, farms, vineyards, and natural stormwater-absorbing landscapes.
- Expanding the network of street trees, restoring wetland or wooded areas, and creating new community gardens, or even urban farms could help the City reduce GHG emissions and improve the quality of life for its residents.

TASKFORCE ACTION REQUESTED

- ✓ Provide input and add ideas: Which strategies would work best in Union City? What is missing?
- ✓ Please rate the suggested measures and comment.

[1] AB 49 aims to reduce California´s urban per capita water use by 20 percent by December 31, 2020. The bill requires urban water suppliers to develop water use targets in line with these reduction efforts; at the same time, it gives flexibility to these suppliers by allowing them to determine the best way to meet their targets. To promote greater efficiency with existing water supplies, the bill gives credit for the use of recycled water and rewards water suppliers´ past water reduction efforts.

This preliminary list has been put together for discussion with the Task Force following an analysis of existing policies and programs in Union City, and discussions with City staff. It is not comprehensive; new strategies will likely be developed with input from the City and Task Force.

Rating (*Task Force Members, please complete before meeting, if possible*)

Rating
High = 5
Low = 1

In this box, please rate your initial take on the appropriateness of a given strategy. We are not asking you to rate individual measures that would help implement that strategy (unless you wish to)

5 = very applicable, *highly appropriate* for Union City, low cost

1 = low applicability, *not appropriate* for Union City, not feasible, high cost (prohibitive)

Example: A Residential Water Conservation Ordinance may be a highly desirable policy due to its water consumption reduction benefits, but its costs may be a deterrent, making it a 3-4 rating.

Preliminary Estimation of GHG Reduction Potential

The Water and Waste sectors have a combined GHG inventory of ~59,000 MT CO_2e in 2005 (Metric Tons of Carbon Dioxide Equivalent), which is **~16 percent** of the total inventory

***High (H)*: greater than 10,000 MT CO_2e**

***Medium (M)*: between 2,500 and 10,000 MT CO_2e**

***Low (L)*: less than 2,500 MT CO_2e**

Preliminary Estimation of Cost to Resident or Building Owner

Low (L): less than $250

Medium (M): between $250 and $1,000

High (H): greater than $1,000

Water Conservation - Ideas for Potential Measures

GHG Reduction Potential: Medium/Low

Cost Estimation: Medium

	Please Rate 5 = HIGH 1 = LOW
Water Conservation - Policy	
1. **Review and update/adopt water efficiency ordinances (for landscapes, greywater use, appliances) where applicable.** Some potential ideas are: • Amend **Water Efficient Landscape Ordinance** to require new landscape projects (> 5,000 square feet) to reduce water consumption by 50% beyond the initial requirements for plant installation and establishment (The existing Water Efficient Landscape Ordinance provides guidance for water efficient landscape design, but does not stipulate a water efficiency improvement. The Green Building/Landscaping Ordinance stipulates that civic and commercial landscapes must adhere to the Bay Friendly Landscaping Guidelines). • Adopt a **Recycled Water for Irrigation Ordinance**, which would require reuse of recycled water (treated wastewater) for outdoor irrigation where it is feasible and meets all public health, safety, and environmental standards. Recycled water can also include the collection of both rainwater and greywater locally for use for irrigation. • Develop a **Recycled Water for Indoor Systems Program** to encourage use of indoor systems (i.e., toilets) that use greywater or rainwater in residential and commercial buildings. Rainwater can be collected or harvested from rooftops, concrete patios, driveways and other impervious surfaces. Greywater refers to the reuse of water drained from baths, showers, washing machines, and sinks (household wastewater excluding toilet wastes) for irrigation and other water conservation applications. Properly collected and treated rainwater and greywater is suitable to for indoor (and outdoor irrigation) use for flushing WCs and in washing machines. The program may include education on approved systems that follow current building code, technical assistance on installation and maintenance, or support for demonstration projects. • Adopt a **Residential Water Conservation Ordinance** which would require that plumbing fixtures and fixture-fittings achieve a 20 percent improvement in water efficiency above the California Building Code for residential remodels/renovations or at point-of sale. (The Green Building/Landscaping Ordinance stipulates that new residential and commercial buildings must adhere to Build-it-Green's GreenPoint Rated Residential Checklist and the Alameda County Small Commercial Green Building Checklist, respectively).	4.25 (6 rated sheets were returned)
2. **Work with Alameda County Water District to consider "Conservation Pricing" or full-cost pricing of water.** Prices can be used to modify customer behavior to use less water at the tap, stop/prevent leakage and waste, and send less wastewater for treatment. Some types of conservation pricing are: repeal of volume discounts; increasing block rates; seasonal rates; and excess use charges.	3.75

	Please Rate
Water Conservation - Public Outreach and Programs	
3. **Work with Alameda County Water District to expand outreach programs and incentivize water conservation throughout Union City.** One potential program would be to offer water efficiency training of irrigation designers and installers.	4.2
4. **Work with Alameda County Water District to provide audit and water conservation incentives.** Some potential implementation paths could be: • Provide **Water Efficiency Audit Programs for commercial buildings.** • Develop **additional commercial rebate programs**: For instance, rebates for a certain percentage of the installed cost (up to 30-50%) of equipment that improves water efficiency such as retrofitting cooling towers, and replacing water-cooled with air-cooled equipment.	4.3
Water Conservation - Consumer Education	
5. **Work with the Alameda County Water District to redesign the water bill format** to encourage water conservation in residential and commercial users.	4.4
6. **Become a partner in EPA's Water Sense program:** WaterSense is a partnership sponsored by the EPA to promote water-efficient products and practices. Membership benefits include strengthening water-efficiency outreach efforts, reducing market research costs, and obtaining access to customizable free tools and resources to promote water efficiency and conservation.	4.6
7. **Adopt resolution for the Ahwahnee Water Principles for Resource-Efficient Land Use:** The City can utilize these land use principles as an effective blueprint for reducing costs and sustaining the reliability and quality of future water resources. There are nine community principles and five implementation principles that "many cities and counties are already using to improve the vitality and prosperity of their communities." (The Union City General Plan contains a related policy.) • Participating Cities and Counties: Windsor; Marin County; Marin Municipal Water District; Menlo Park; Morgan Hill; Palo Alto; Petaluma; Port Hueneme; Richmond; Rohnert Park; Rolling Hills Estates; San Luis Obispo; Santa Paula; Santa Rosa; City of Sunnyvale; City of Ukiah; Ventura; Ventura County.	4
Water Conservation - Innovation	
8. **Identify potential demonstration projects for low-impact development (LID) practices.** LID practices consist of natural stormwater management systems such as stormwater wetlands, rain gardens, permeable pavements, and vegetated roofs. They maintain the existing hydrology of a site to manage storm water and improve groundwater recharge and quality. To facilitate adoption of practices, develop water-sensitive urban design guidelines for new construction and retrofit of existing urban environment.	3.75
Water Conservation - Municipal	
9. **Implement water conservation programs in City-operated facilities** (efficiency and wastewater reuse).	4

#

Comments and Suggestions on Water Conservation

- Recycled water – high infrastructure cost ($20MM) – ACWD/USD Study
- Household reuse of water for irrigation – great potential in low-density neighborhoods with large lawns and household water consumption
    - Concern about size limitation on lawns for irrigation- why 5,000 sf for the Water Efficient Landscape Ordinance? – perhaps not need for minimum size
    - Large Area (5,000 sf) appears to make this limited utility
- Toilets w/recycled water in Union City are not permitted through building code/law
- Further explain the rainwater capture for reuse measure.
- Be cautious on Greywater systems until better standards are developed.
- Recycled Water Usage should focus on large landscaped areas and large industrial users to minimize cost.
    - Water Efficient Landscape Ordinance – easy to create an ordinance/policy; may be more difficult to enforce and implement.
    - Recycled Water for Irrigation Ordinance – good concept, but not very easy to carry out
    - Recycled Water for Indoor Systems – I really like this idea; it's already included in building code guidelines (?)
    - Residential Water Conservation Ordinance – depends on how much more expensive for residents than current requirements
- 2. Conservation pricing – ACWD working on it already
    - To reward low water users
    - Wouldn't trying to get this passed through the County be more difficult & time consuming than focusing on local measures instead?
- 3. Outreach/Training for Landscape Designers & Installers – only if there are enough designers /installers working in the area to make this worthwhile.
- 4. Audit and Water Conservation Incentives
    - City of Hollister has an audit fixture replacement policy in place – possible precedent
    - Where would the funding come from? Again, may be difficult to get set up through the County. Really like the idea of a commercial rebate.
- 5. Water Bill format – Like this because it seems like a simple fix to the way people read the bill; could really help change their use habits.
- 6. EPA Water sense program – Depends on cost of membership
- 7. How much have the principles helped other cities and are any of their situations comparable to Union City?
- 8. LID – Like the idea of People being able to see how water conservation systems work up close but sounds relatively expensive & Time consuming.
- 9. Water conservation in City-operated facilities – the city should set a good example for the rest of the community. If cost savings is another benefit, than it's a plus.
- Conserving Water is important for more than just GHG reductions
- **Task Force:**
    - **Support for:** Water bill formatting, conservation pricing, WaterSense program, Ahwahnee Principles, Low-Impact Development
    - **Opposition/Doubt:** Low-Impact Development (capital intensive), concern about seasonal rates, demonstration plots and gardens (w/ sample plans)

NEW

- Union Sanitary District – wastewater energy
    - Utility energy usage – could be offset through renewables, etc.?
    - USD should participate in a measure for reduction of fossil fuel based energy usage, using solar and anaerobic digester gas to generate renewable energy. [WORK WITH USD TO CREATE MEASURE]

Comments and Suggestions on Water Conservation

- ACWD (Stephanie Nevins, April 8, 2010)
  The proposal includes the use of recycled water for irrigation, including graywater (page 3, #1, bullet #2, #7), and Low Impact Development practices which include the use of porous pavement (page 4, #8, also #7). While ACWD is supportive of these strategies for their water conservation potential and other environmental benefits, ACWD is concerned about the use of these strategies within certain parts of our service area. As you know, there is a large groundwater basin underneath ACWD's service area that accounts for a large portion of the District's drinking water supply. ACWD is currently conducting a literature review and assessment to determine if there is any need for a special policy (for all or parts of the District's service area) regarding the use of these strategies in our service area to minimize impacts on our groundwater supply. This review is including identification of any potential constituents of concern (e.g., pathogens, pharmaceutically active compounds, personal care product compounds, and other "emerging contaminants"), and their potential to migrate through soil and groundwater. The review is expected to be completed with preliminary recommendations (and an FAQ) later this spring and a more revised policy later in the year. Work on a basin salt and nutrient management plan, pursuant to the state's recycled water policy, should get started in 2011.
- ACWD is supportive of city ordinances that aim to improve water use efficiency both indoors and outdoors, for both new construction and renovations, as indicated in Item #1 on page 3.
- Currently ACWD's customers pay for the amount of water they use under a uniform rate structure, we do not provide volume discounts. ACWD is currently evaluating alternative rate structures that would fall under the "conservation pricing" category for implementation in a 2-3 year window (Item #2).
- We are gearing up to implement a new customer billing system (1-2 years), and at that time we will also be revisiting our water bill format (item #5).
- Bay-Friendly Gardening and StopWaste.org have approached ACWD to partner on an effort to offer water efficiency training to landscape professionals within our service area (item #6) This is a good opportunity to also partner with Union City and other service area cities (item #3).
- ACWD currently offers water use efficiency audits to commercial businesses, industrial and institutional customers in our service area (including city facilities), along with incentives such as high-efficiency toilet rebates, high-efficiency clothes washer rebates, pre-rinse spay nozzle retrofits, cooling tower retrofits, etc. (Item #4 & #9) We currently partner with the Green Business program on this effort. This is another good opportunity to partner with Union City to increase the outreach in this area.

Waste Reduction and Diversion – Ideas for Potential Measures

GHG Reduction Potential: Low

Cost Estimation: Medium/Low

Waste Reduction and Diversion - Policy

	Please Rate 5 = HIGH 1 = LOW
10. Work with Stopwaste.org and other organizations to create a Comprehensive Waste Diversion and Reduction Plan and provide public education regarding strategies and implementation. Some elements of this plan could be: • Establish **90% waste reduction interim target for 2020.** (Resolution 3367-07 establishes a goal of 75% reduction of waste going to landfills by 2010). • Develop and adopt **mandatory commercial recycling ordinance.** • Enhance implementation of existing **residential curbside recycling program** through education and outreach. • Develop a **food and green waste collection ordinance** that requires all residential and commercial food scraps and food soiled paper to be placed in carts. (In 2009, Union City implemented a voluntary residential and commercial food waste program). • **Participate in EPA's WasteWise Communities** - This program offers technical assistance to promote cost savings and efficiency with waste prevention, recycling, and purchasing recycled content products. • Support regional efforts to **develop a compost facility in Alameda County**. • **Incorporate Waste Reduction Measures into Future Solid Waste and Recycling Franchise Agreements.** Potential approaches could be a Pay-as-You-Throw (PYT) Waste Disposal Program (tiered disposal fees). Communities with PYT programs create a direct economic incentive for residents and businesses to recycle more and to generate less waste. Almost half of all California communities have PYT programs.	4.4
11. Strengthen Construction and Demolition Ordinance (C&D) to require 75% of construction and demolition debris to be recycled or reused (The current C&D ordinance requires that 50% of waste is diverted from the landfill. The Green Building Ordinance also requires 50% waste diversion for residential buildings and 65% for commercial buildings.) An accompanying measure could be: • **Expand outreach,** including promoting participation in waste diversion programs by building owners/managers and contractors.	3.9
12. Develop ordinances to ban use/sales of unrecyclable plastics and disposable bags/containers. Potential approaches could be: • Develop and adopt a city-wide "single-use" bag ordinance that requires a consumer fee for single use carry-out shopping bags. • Develop an ordinance to ban polystyrene take-out food containers	3.6

	Please Rate
Waste Reduction and Diversion - Programs & Infrastructure	
13. **Continue to partner with StopWaste.org to improve technical assistance and financial support.** Some potential measures could be: • **Conduct audits of major waste generators and recommend strategies to reduce waste and increase recycling.** Also, provide training and other assistance, and collaborate with associations, producers, processors, service providers, unions and others to increase waste diversion. • Provide **support to major waste generators and other organizations to identify financial aid and funding resources** to increase waste diversion.	4.3
14. **Identify key sites/events for "Recycle on The Go" Infrastructure and implement recycling program:** Introduce recycling programs in places where large numbers of people gather, such as parks, sporting venues, transportation hubs such as bus and train stations, special events, and shopping centers.	4.1
Environmentally Responsible Purchasing	
15. Continue to work with StopWaste.org, Alameda County cities, and other organizations including the California Product Stewardship Council to **urge adoption of legislation that requires extended producer responsibility** to improve the recyclability of products and packaging.	3.8
Municipal Purchasing Policy	
16. **Increase recycling and source reduction in municipal facilities.** One potential approach could be: • **Expand implementation of the City's existing Environmental Purchasing Policy for City agency purchases,** which addresses the areas of recycled content, recyclability, energy and water efficiency, and toxicity.	3.5

#

Comments and Suggestions on Waste Reduction & Diversion

- There is general concern about the enforcement of ordinances such as the Construction and Demolition Waste ordinance – without clear penalties or authorities, enforcement may be an issue
- The alteration in the franchise agreement with Allied Waste would create more incentives to reduce waste generation (2015)
- Task Force generally more in favor of incentives than mandates, though all measures need support through education
- 10. Stopwaste is a great resource for programs, education & funding. Excellent policy; enforcing it/ implementation will be the hard part.
    - Don't spend too much energy on supporting compost facility in Alameda County
- 11. Concerns about the C+D ordinance
    - Time-intensive?
    - StopWaste.org is already promoting a model ordinance
    - Concern about recycled material and the need to encourage the use of more recycled materials in building construction
    - Harder part is implementation & education
    - Can easily draft ordinance based of what other cities already have in place
    - What is the GHG impact?
    - Potentially low priority due to low GHG reductions
- 12.Feasibility of plastic ban
    - There is already a precedent in Union City, as select stores already doing it, as well as other Alameda County cities.
    - Policy would most likely need to phased
    - Seems like an unnecessary flashpoint(?) to do too quickly
    - Could get backlash from business community and can be costly/time consuming/difficult to enforce and implement. May be better to focus on "low-hanging fruit", however easier, as already pioneered by other Bay Area Cities; wouldn't be difficult to model after other cities.
- 13. StopWaste assistance & support – free resources and cost savings incentive helps businesses with waste diversion. There are plenty more companies to target. StopWaste has large amount of money to fund programs. Also costly to get permanent collection receptacles.
- 14. Implementation of Recycle-as-you-go infrastructure: concern about cultural attitude towards recycling
    - Problem is that in public areas it is hard to monitor and avoid getting trash contamination
    - May need to be complemented by an educational program, especially with children
    - Man Compost bins/Recycling stations at events
    - Concerns about cost
- 15. Municipal Purchasing Policy – not high priority due to the scale of implementation (low impact) and potentially high costs.
    - Great policy to support, but don't think this will help Union City reach their goals in the short term
- 16. Municipal Facilities source reduction and recycling – Like for the city to set good example, but this won't aid in significantly reducing emissions, would also probably be costly.
- Some ideas here do not seem especially $- or labor-intensive.

NEW

- Should Union City utilize a Volunteer Program to implement the CAP?
    - Monitor recycling at events
    - Competition high school
    - Community service
- Recycling
    - Desire to keep recycling business local. Are we mandating keeping things in CA?
    - Promote Salvaging at Urban Ore.
- Is 90% diversion realistic/achievable?

Green Infrastructure - Ideas for Potential Measures

.

GHG Reduction Potential: Low

Cost Estimation: Medium/High

	Please Rate 5 = HIGH 1 = LOW
Carbon Sequestration	
17. **Expand the urban forest** (e.g., street trees and trees on private lots) in order to sequester carbon and reduce building energy consumption.	3.6
18. **Expand or restore natural habitat areas** (oak woodlands, wetlands, water edges, grasslands and other natural areas) in the City where possible.	3.1
19. **Include carbon sequestration as an objective** within City-led natural area restoration projects.	3.3
Community Gardens and Urban Agriculture	
20. **Continue and expand the existing local community garden program** to increase local food security and provide local recreation amenities.	3.8
Municipal Leadership in Innovation	
21. **Promote ecological restoration and preservation** in municipal projects that involve a landscape component.	3.5
22. **Identify educational demonstration projects for Bay Friendly Landscaping Projects.** By implementing Bay Friendly Landscaping Principles in the landscapes of city parks and facilities, the City can educate and influence resource conservation and stewardship in homes and commercial landscaping by demonstrating cost-efficient and environmentally-friendly solutions that conserve natural resources and energy.	4.1

Comments and Suggestions on Green Infrastructure

- Green infrastructure rated low due to cost/(GHG reduction)benefit ratio
- 17. Expand Urban Forest
    - Love the idea, but sounds super costly

  There are already avenues that have great street trees
    - Alvarado-Niles – great trees but issue with leaves
    - Fewer trees on Decoto
    - Concern about the role that PG&E plays in trimming trees for power lines
    - General support for street trees
- 18. Expand or restore natural habitat areas – little opportunity in (Union City) natural areas, unless [applied] in parks
- 20. Community gardens – great for kids, education, etc.
    - Mandate gardens for middle school?
    - Big fan of teaching people how to grow their own food, especially for kids in schools; depends on cost
    - City can set good example, is positive
- 22. Landscaping Projects - Look great! Give people great ideas to implement at residential landscaping.
    - Demonstration projects and programs will be very important, for instance the Bay-Friendly Landscaping program
    - Mid Pen Housing – Intermodal – LEED Gold w/ garden
        - Waiting List – priority to native, garden
    - Really like the idea of hands-on demonstrations to get people up close and personal with changes they can make. I know visuals help me!
- High cost and low potential for GHG reductions is not usually a winning combination, however one or two of the programs might be helpful for PR reasons (#17 & #22).

NEW

- Green infrastructure measures should stipulate the use of native plants
- Interest in having power lines put underground which would open the way for more green infrastructure in the community.
- 20. Community gardens – great for kids, education, etc.
    - Mandate gardens for middle school?