

Attachment 2

Summary of Participant Feedback for Davis Low Carbon Diet Program

Positive Comments		Count
1	Both fun and interesting (good exercise), glad Davis is doing it	16
2	Easy to implement, well thought-out, gave us incentive to act (ie carpooling)	15
3	Learned additional actions to those we already knew/made us more aware	14
4	Already doing a lot of things listed in this book/increased my commitment	10
5	Helpful to share ideas with others in community/Meetings constructive	10
6	Good to get kids involved/family forum - important for long-term sustainability	7
7	Helped us pinpoint where we were spending the most energy	4
8	No problems. No inconvenience	4
9	Workbook helpful in constructing plan	4
10	Staff support great - emails helped remind participants to stay on track	3
11	The quantitative challenge/point system works well to set and attain goals	3
12	Already doing things not listed in book	2
13	Hope that our contribution can be useful in establishing the program	1
14	Important to take the one-time, simple steps which pay long-term benefits	1
15	Having the City of Davis as a sponsor added a legitimacy and accountability to it that was	1
16	Available resources listed helpful (CoolCalifornia and PG&E)	1
17	Concise - allows even busy folks to easily gain benefit	1
18	Survey interesting	1
Critical Program Comments		
1	Insufficient collaboration/reinforcement amongst Ecoteams	11
2	Meetings were not held at convenient times/need to consider working spouses	4
3	Wasn't very much change we could implement that we aren't already doing because of t	3
4	Too short to implement small changes, but long enough to think and commit to them	3
5	Not realistic to change out appliances, etc without better state incentives	3
6	As a renter, difficult to justify many of the actions that required investments	3
7	Some things were omitted in the survey (ie reducing junk mail, switching soaps)	2
8	City needs policy changes/serious involvement in addition to outreach	2
9	Blog should have been started at beginning to increase communication	2
11	It cost me a lot of money	1
12	Survey doesn't provide space for actions already being taken	1
13	Difficult to make changes with small kids in home	1
14	Frustrating that workbook and calculator were not connected	1
15	Needs to be a better handle on the realistic impacts of these changes	1
Addendum of Actions (not listed in book)		
1	Composting/worm bin	9
2	CSA, local/grass-fed beef purchase/locavores	7
3	Good practices of keeping drapes closed/windows shut/blinds closed	7
4	Decreasing consumption/reusing clothing/appliances/holiday practices	6
5	Growing own vegetables	6

6	Whole house fan, ceiling fan	6
7	Watering practices - reduce lawn size, drip irrigation, reduce water run-off	4
8	PV installation	4
9	biodiesel	2
10	Planting shade trees to reduce energy/sun shades	2
11	Green cleaning supplies	2
12	Energy conservation for pools/spas	2
13	chickens for food scraps and eggs	1
14	credit for taking containers to restaurants in replace of "doggie-bags"	1
15	Vacationing closer to home (which would reduce transport emissions)	1
16	Sustainable gardening practices - lawn mulching, non-petrol based fertilizers	1
17	Reducing family size (having one kid at 35 instead of large family at 25)	1

Program Suggestions

1	Provide more opportunities for participants to interact in casual setting	3
2	Have more meetings and accountability	3
	* Use natural groupings of people that can meet and discuss - such as churches, schoc	1
	* Invite local experts to talk about certain issues in greater detail (e.g. installing/financ	1
	* Keep discussion going (post program?) via facilitator	1
3	Make it easier for whole family to get involved	3
4	City needs to offer lower service rates for smaller cans! (Berkeley does)	2
5	Provide information on incentives for installing solar, appliances	2
	* List local vendors who can assist homeowners with some of these actions	1
5	Contact civic groups ie Rotary and churches for next round	1
	* Give incentive to participate, speak about conservation	1
	* Instill idea that American Value system shouldn't be about larger family, larger car	1
6	Survey: On screen 6, I do not remember the individual scores, just the total of 28	1
7	Focus more on renters/students - they make up large proportion of Davis residents	1
8	Reduce prerogative to fudge numbers to get to the 5,000 lb mark...	1
9	Make sure results can be verified (if City is claiming that program reduces GHG)	1
10	The program starts with an absolute for current usage then applies a delta for current sa	1

Support Wanted

1	Easy access to people who do energy auditing	2
	* Education/additional tools to use in evaluating energy use (ie vampire leaks)	1
2	Tips for composting (in addition to what is already offered)	2
3	Tips for going vegetarian	1
4	Information about green power options offered by PG&E	1
5	Sources for reliable carbon-offsets	1

Critical Workbook Comments

1	The word "bicycle" doesn't appear in the book	3
2	When you work from home, you can't separate it out	2
3	Workbook has built-in assumptions and omissions that would be relevant	2
5	Doesn't account for actions already taken	2
6	Doesn't mention wastewater impact of garbage disposals	1

Carbon Calculator

Positive Carbon Calculator Comments

1	Worked well, with some limitations (useful as a general tool)	16
2	Easy to use	6
3	Good to compare averages (global, local)	5
4	No problems	3
5	Made us aware of all of what emits GHG	2
6	Short and not too tedious and has graphs so there is not a lot of text	2
7	Great that it included embodied carbon from goods and services	1
8	Fun to use	1
9	Excellent	1
10	Resources available from the Berkeley Cool California web site helpful	1

Critical Carbon Calculator Comments

1	Too many assumptions/Options too limited to make it reflect our household	8
2	Okay	5
3	We buy expensive organic, locally grown food and this is not reflected in calculator	5
4	"Goods & Services" defaults and determining factors were a bit confusing	4
5	Somewhat confusing	3
6	Save/load capability is broken	2
7	Couldn't get print-out of results	2
8	Frustrating because relation between dollars and energy is not linear (PG&E has a tiered	1
9	Water & sewer question should have asked which line items on bill to enter	1
10	Should say explicitly that it is necessary to enter 2x miles if 2 family members	1
11	Frustrating that we had to enter numbers even if we wanted the default settings	1
12	My house is two stories - some questions applied to only one story	1
13	Too detailed to be convenient, not detailed enough to be accurate/useful	1
14	Income: should ask for spending family income and not gross (some families spend a lot	1

Suggestions for Calculator Website

1	Would like to see it also show monetary savings associated with carbon savings	1
2	Would like education on reading my power meter	1
3	Explain where the assumptions come from	1

Program Success Stories

1	Reduce personal long distance travel	1
2	Replaced HVAC system with 95% FUE	1
3	Purchased a hybrid car and now paying 1/2 the amount in gas as before	1
4	New roof and windows	1
5	Will walk/bike to grocery store	1
6	Make car trips more efficient and drive hybrid on weekends	1
7	Installed the fenders, rack, and baskets on a bicycle	1