

## STAFF REPORT

**DATE:** August 13, 2019

**TO:** City Council

**FROM:** Ashley Feeney, Assistant City Manager, Community Development and Sustainability Director  
Kerry Daane Loux, Sustainability Coordinator, Community Development and Sustainability

**SUBJECT:** Proposed Process for the City of Davis 2020 Climate Action and Adaptation Plan Update and Community Engagement

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### **Recommendation**

Staff recommends that City Council review and approve the proposed process for developing the 2020 Climate Action and Adaptation Plan (CAAP) Update Request for Proposals (RFP), the objectives for the 2020 CAAP and the community engagement approach.

### **Fiscal Impact**

The City of Davis's fiscal impact for Fiscal Year 2019-2020 is the approved \$500,000 budget item for the first year of implementing community outreach and engagement and developing the 2020 CAAP Update. We anticipate approximately an additional \$300,000 to \$400,000 budget allocation in FY 2020-21 for completion of the CAAP, the CEQA review and the Local GHG Offset Program.

### **City Council Goals**

The 2020 CAAP Update is consistent with the Council Goal to Pursue Environmental Sustainability.

### **Background and Analysis**

The approved 2019-21 City Budget includes funding to select a consultant and to assist city staff with a 2020 update to the Davis CAAP. The original CAAP was adopted in 2010, with a vision for carbon neutrality by 2050, following a two-year community engagement process. The March 2019 City Council Resolution Declaring a Climate Emergency and Proposing Mobilization Efforts to Restore a Safe Climate made commitments that include an update to the CAAP and acceleration of the existing Davis carbon neutrality goal to a 2040 target.

Staff proposes the following general concept for development of the CAAP RFP and community engagement during the CAAP Update process:

- Staff is currently developing the Request for Proposals (RFP) for consultant services to implement the CAAP update, with the goal of having the consultant on-board by the end of 2019.
- Staff recommends the Natural Resources Commission as the lead advisory body to review the RFP. Staff liaisons to all other advisory commissions will be notified of the CAAP RFP item on the NRC agenda, in order to allow each commission to choose to attend the NRC meeting and provide public comment on the RFP if interested.

- For selection of the CAAP consultant, the desired scope of services will be recommended to include robust community stakeholder and commission engagement during the course of the CAAP development and 2020-2021 completion. Staff and consultant will develop a full schedule to engage commissions in the process so all commissions, stakeholders and community members will be given ample opportunity to have significant involvement and input throughout the process.

## 2020 CAAP OBJECTIVES

The primary objectives for updating the 2010 CAAP (originally intended to have annually updated Action Plans, with a full CAAP Update every 5 years) are to:

1. Establish a visionary statement of Davis' commitment to climate action and the resolution to attain community carbon neutrality by 2040, in light of the State of California's established zero carbon target of 2045 (by 2018 Governor's Executive Order).
2. Realistically address progress metrics and effectiveness of mitigation, resiliency and adaptation actions identified in the 2010 CAAP—including successes and inadequacies—in order to evaluate the context for the City of Davis 2020 CAAP Update.
3. Comply with new California legislation to reduce greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions, address climate adaptation and incorporate environmental justice enacted since 2010. These include Senate Bills 379 (2015) and 1000 (2018), 2018 Executive Orders; California Air Resources Board (CARB) 2017 statewide scoping plan; and Office of Planning and Research (OPR) General Plan requirements. The CAAP will also continue to comply with 2006 AB 32 (CA Global Warming Solutions Act) and SB 375 (Sustainable Communities Act, updated 2018).
4. Position the City to incorporate CAAP information into the General Plan Update, including the Safety Element and sustainability issues throughout the General Plan.
5. Provide a robust and defensible plan on which to base future CEQA documents, eliminating need for project-by-project analysis and ad-hoc mitigation.
6. Provide an accurate, easy to update publicly accessible and engaging system for tracking progress implementing the CAAP.
7. Study and evaluate a possible Local GHG Offset Program to establish a mitigation fund for improving the existing built environment, transportation options or other goals.
8. Implement learnings and best practices from local, regional, state and national resources.
9. Engage a broad cross-section of the community and leverage resources of partners, major educational and civic institutions in the region to develop, promote and implement the 2020 CAAP. Build a shared commitment to emissions reduction and adaptation measures across city departments, the public and business community.
10. Pursue creative and innovative solutions that improve quality of life for residents and improve economic opportunity, while meeting obligations for climate action and adaptation.

The RFP will recommend the following structure for the 2020 CAAP Update:

1. GHG Emissions Inventory and Forecasts  
The GHG Inventory establishes baseline information. The 2019 Inventory, with 2016 baseline, will also be able to be compared to two previous inventories (2008, 2012). This task may be proposed as a separate contract through Yolo County for a regional inventory, updatable annually or bi-annually. Meetings with regional partners (Yolo

- County and Cities of Davis, West Sacramento, Winters and Woodland), are underway to complete the GHG Inventory ahead of and/or concurrent with Davis's full CAAP RFP. While this will be part of the CAAP Update, the RFP will recognize the use of the inventory being prepared in conjunction with regional partners as specified above.
2. Community Engagement  
Develop a comprehensive community engagement plan, integral to CAAP Update development. Provide adequate time for outreach and robust community input, including plan for Commission and stakeholder engagement.
  3. GHG Reduction Targets and Measures  
Align with State policies and current City of Davis target of carbon neutrality by 2040. Assess current measures in 2010 CAAP, implementation status and progress metrics. Identify and analyze potential measures and best practices available to meet these goals.
  4. Climate Change Vulnerability Assessment and Adaptation Strategies  
Using Cal-Adapt and other resources for climate adaptation measures, develop strategies to meet current State policy per SB 379 and other legislation.
  5. Implementation and Monitoring Procedures  
Develop clear and transparent procedures to track community's progress toward carbon neutrality goals and targets, incorporating annual reporting, benchmarks, data collection, budgeting and resource requirements.
  6. Draft CAAP, Public Review/Comment and Final 2020 CAAP  
Following completion of technical tasks above, the Draft CAAP will be completed with synthesis of findings and recommendations for robust public review and comment, followed by Final Draft for review and adoption by City Council. This draft and final CAAP will incorporate consistency with OPR's General Plan Guidelines update (2017) and address environmental justice, sustainability and other considerations to inform the upcoming Davis General Plan Update and comply with state requirements.
  7. CEQA Environmental Review and Updated GHG Thresholds of Significance  
Develop revised thresholds of significance applicable to residential, non-residential, infrastructure and other development projects and actions, aligned with the goal of carbon neutrality by 2040.
  8. Local GHG Offset Program  
Develop program goals, objectives and plan for a sustainable, viable and cost-effective local offset program, which may be used for implementing existing building energy/water efficiency and/or potential offset opportunities in other sectors such as transportation, solid waste, etc.

The RFP will also include the anticipated timeline (1.5 to 2 years), the submittal requirements, and evaluation criteria and scoring parameters. Consultants submitting proposals will have the opportunity to ask and receive answers to questions about the proposal. A key component of consultant selection will be the proposed community engagement process, and the team's background and experience in this area.

Staff will return to the City Council with a proposed contract for professional services after selection of a recommended consultant team.