

STAFF REPORT

DATE: February 12, 2008

TO: City Council

FROM: Bill Emlen, City Manager
Mitch Sears, Open Space Planner and Sustainability Program Interim Coordinator

SUBJECT: Community Sustainability Project –Update: Appointments to the Climate Action Team and Science Advisory Team Ad Hoc Advisory Committees

Recommendations

1. Affirm appointments to the Climate Action Team (CAT) as shown in Table 1 this report.
2. Appoint five community members to serve on the CAT, with each Council member appointing one community member by February 15, 2008
3. Adopt a resolution modifying the membership of the CAT, adding a representative of the Bicycle Advisory Commission, bringing the total membership to twenty

Council Goals

The formation of the two advisory groups address the Council goal of conserving natural resources and protecting the environment. Specifically, the action is a key step in meeting the Council objective of addressing global warming and reducing the City's carbon footprint.

Fiscal Impact

No additional costs are associated with the actions recommended in this report. In the December 18, 2007 staff report forming the CAT and SAT, staff estimated the costs associated with the formation and function of these two advisory groups could run into the thousands of dollars over the life of the two groups. In addition, as part of its charge, the CAT will be organizing several community forums. The potential costs for these forums could also run into the thousands of dollars. Initial costs for the formation and function of these two groups will be paid for through the sustainability allocation that Council designated for fiscal year 2007/08. Additional costs for the groups will be addressed during the 08/09 budget process.

Analysis

In December the Council approved the formation of two ad hoc advisory groups to assist the City in developing a long range green house gas reduction plan. This report updates the Council on the current make-up of the CAT. As of the writing of this report, potential SAT members who have indicated an interest in the SAT have not officially joined the group. Staff continues to work to identify other experts to fill out the SAT. Staff will report back to Council when SAT members have officially joined.

Climate Action Team

The Council identified key groups and allowed each to self select their representatives to serve on the CAT. To date, the following groups have responded to the City’s invitation to joint the CAT:

Table 1

Name	Organization
Dean Newberry	Natural Resources Commission
Mark Braly	Planning Commission
Kemble Pope	Open Space and Habitat Commission
Sid England	UC Davis Sustainability Advisory Committee
James Morante	Pacific Gas and Electric
Stacie Frerichs	The Sierra Club, Yolo Chapter
James Cramer	Care for God’s Creation
Dirk Brazil/John Mott-Smith	Yolo County

The following groups have been contacted but have not selected a representative.

Name	Organization
TBD	The Davis Energy Group
TBD	The Davis Joint Unified School District
TBD	The Davis Chamber of Commerce
TBD (responded, representative not selected)	Associated Students of UC Davis
TBD	Davis High School Student Government
TBD	Local Environmental Organizaton (TBD)
TBD (Council appointment)	Citizen
TBD (Council appointment)	Citizen
TBD (Council appointment)	Citizen
TBD (Council appointment)	Citizen
TBD (Council appointment)	Citizen

Consistent with Council action in December, staff is recommending that the City Council appoint one citizen member each to the CAT by February 15th. In addition, staff is recommending that a representative of the Bicycle Advisory Commission be appointed as it is anticipated that alternative transportation will play a critical role in any GHG emissions reduction plan that is developed. If all groups are represented, the CAT will have twenty members.

Next Steps

If the selection of CAT members is completed by mid-February, staff anticipates the first meeting of the group would occur in early March. According to the preliminary timeline, this would allow for completion of the draft GHG emission reduction plan in Fall of this year. As a reminder, the City will continue to pursue emission reduction measures even as the plan is being drafted.

Attachment

- Resolution –Modifying the membership of the Climate Action Team

RESOLUTION NO. 08-XXX, SERIES 2008

**RESOLUTION MODIFYING THE MEMBERSHIP OF THE AD HOC DAVIS
CLIMATE ACTION TEAM**

WHEREAS, the Davis City Council formed the Climate Action Team (CAT) on December 18, 2007 by Resolution 07-203; and

WHEREAS, it is the desire of the City Council to modify the membership to include a representative of the Bicycle Advisory Commission in anticipation that alternative transportation will play a critical role in Green House Gas emissions reduction; and

WHEREAS, the composition and structure section of the Purpose and Scope of the CAT will be modified to include the addition of the Bicycle Advisory Commission and the total membership number.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Davis City Council does hereby modify the purpose, scope and membership structure for the CAT as shown in Attachment 1 of this resolution to include a representative of the Bicycle Advisory Commission bringing the total membership to twenty.

PASSED AND ADOPTED by the Davis City Council on this twelfth day of February, 2008 by the following votes:

AYES:

NOES:

ABSENT:

Sue Greenwald, Mayor

ATTEST:

Margaret Roberts, MMC
City Clerk

Attachment 1 – **Climate Action Team purpose and scope**

PURPOSE

The purpose of the Ad Hoc Climate Action Team (CAT) is to assist city staff in accelerating the development of a Greenhouse Gas Reduction Plan (Plan) for the City of Davis and the community as a whole to address the issues of greenhouse gas emissions. The CAT will develop and implement with the active involvement of designated city staff a process to facilitate community input and comment designed to increase overall awareness of the efforts as well as to generate innovative approaches and comprehensive strategies to address the City's goal of significantly reducing the GHG emissions of the City and the community as a whole.

TIMELINE

This is an Ad Hoc and time limited effort. The development of a comprehensive Greenhouse Gas Reduction Plan and community engagement process will be completed by October 31, 2008. The CAT will provide quarterly written status reports to the Natural Resources Commission and the City Council beginning no later than March 2008. The Climate Action Team shall be dissolved, unless extended by the City Council, upon completion of the initial charge as identified in this document.

OBJECTIVES

With a primary focus on community wide GHG emissions, the CAT will, as directed by the City Council, and under the general coordination of the City Sustainability Coordinator:

1. Work on defined objectives, within the defined time frame, to produce materials that will assist in the rapid development of a Greenhouse Gas Reduction for the City.
2. Plan, organize, and conduct public workshops to solicit community input and identify potential elements of an action plan for the city, including inviting appropriate speakers or others to make presentations at these forums.
3. Identify and interview persons with specific expertise important to the development of a city action plan.

4. Identify potential public education materials to promote the city's climate change program.
5. Identify potential partners and partnerships, which the city may wish to pursue in implementing a community-wide Greenhouse Gas Reduction Plan.
6. Research programs in other cities, develop detailed descriptions of these programs, and report to city staff, including recommendations.
7. Assist in the identification and evaluation of potential community wide GHG emission reduction targets and measures for inclusion in the Plan.
8. In the interest of streamlining adoption of early GHG emission reduction measures by the City, the CAT will not have a primary role in the identification or evaluation of these early action measures.

CLIMATE ACTION TEAM COMPOSITION AND STRUCTURE

To constitute a small group of individuals from the community with no elected officials and who have expertise on the subject of climate change, the CAT shall consist of not more than twenty (20) persons, as designated by the City Council, including representatives from:

- One member of the Natural Resources, Open Space and Habitat, Planning, and Bicycle Advisory Commissions;
- The Davis Energy Group;
- The University of California at Davis Sustainability Committee;
- Pacific Gas and Electric;
- The Davis Joint Unified School District;
- The Sierra Club, Yolano Chapter;
- The Chamber of Commerce;

- The Interfaith Group ‘Care for God’s Creation’;
- Yolo County;
- Associated Students of UC Davis;
- Davis High School Student Government;
- Two local environmental organizations;
- Five public at large members.