



DATE: September 13, 2021

AGENDA ITEM # 4

TO: Environmental Commission
FROM: Emiko Ancheta, Staff Liaison
SUBJECT: Climate Action and Adaptation Plan Update Status Report

RECOMMENDATION:

Receive update on Climate Action and Adaptation Plan (CAAP) progress

BACKGROUND

In 2013 the City of Los Altos adopted the Climate Action Plan in accordance with the State Assembly Bill 32 which required public agencies in California to implement measures to reduce greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions to year 1990 levels by 2020. Cities needed to adopt a plan to address carbon emissions and establish an implementation plan for programs and facilities. A Climate Action Plan (CAP) is the policy document that provides the framework to achieve those goals. Since the adoption of the 2013 CAP, two annual report updates were done in 2015 and 2016. The City Council continues to make the environment a priority and directed staff to update the CAP. In December 2020, the City entered into contract with EcoShift Consulting to prepare a Climate Action and Adaptation Plan (CAAP) for the City of Los Altos.

In January 2021, staff began working with the consultant and the Environmental Commission Subcommittee to develop the Los Altos CAAP. The following summarizes the scope of services.

Task I: Project Management: Consultant Project Team will develop a project management plan in conjunction with City staff. The consultant will use best practices in project management methodologies to ensure the project remains on-task and on schedule. **Task Deliverables** include Kick-Off meeting with City staff, ongoing Bi-Weekly conference call meetings with City staff, attendance at meetings and public hearings for the Environmental Commission and City Council, presentation materials and summaries for meetings and public hearings and Ad hoc communication.

Task II: Data Inventory, GHG Forecast and Vulnerability Assessment: Consultant Project Team will use ICLEI protocols for this project and ClearPath portal to conduct the inventories and forecasting. **Task Deliverables** include update of baseline GHG inventory workbooks, summary GHG Report detailing results of inventory and documenting any methodological changes, forecast municipal and community GHG emissions, update GHG emissions reduction targets, vulnerability Assessment assessing the threats of climate risks.

Task III: Review and Assess Relevant City Plans, Policies, Programs and Codes: Consultant Project Team will conduct a review of current City measures, followed by a systematic process to compile the City's current, relevant goals, strategies, actions, tactics, and recommendations. **Task Deliverables** include collection of all relevant existing GHG reduction efforts, quantify efforts using



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agreed-upon emission factors, develop matrix detailing the City's current emissions reduction efforts, and explaining the relevance of existing policies to each other and to future CAAP measures, and policy framework matrix.

Task IV: Develop and Evaluate GHG Reduction and Climate Adaptation Measures: Consultant Project Team's roadmap process will identify critical pathways to achieving the City's climate goals, help identify issues and barriers to each pathway, and recommend mitigation strategies to overcome barriers. **Task Deliverables** include list of proposed CAAP measures, summary of transportation scenarios and list of VMT and GHG reduction policies for possible inclusion in the CAAP, adaptation strategies, list of measures and actions to attain City goals, threat matrix detailing types and degree of threats from the effects of climate change and reporting template for reporting on adaptation measures.

Task V: Prepare Draft Climate Action and Adaptation Plan: Consultant Project Team will deliver a comprehensive and robust CAAP that will be designed to be complementary to existing policies for reducing waste and energy use, reducing single occupancy- vehicle trips, and encourage healthy lifestyles. **Task Deliverables** include draft CAAP that includes Executive Summary summarizing report's purpose, methodology, findings, and recommendations, and materials for ongoing outreach and education.

Task VI: Finalize Climate Action and Adaptation Plan: Consultant Project Team will compile all feedback from the draft CAAP review and integrate comments into the final CAAP document. **Task Deliverables** include finalized CAAP, meeting with City to discuss how input and comments were integrated into final CAAP, attendance at 3 public meetings (1 EC meeting and 2 CC meetings).

Task VII: CEQA Compliance: Consultant will prepare an Administrative Draft IS/MND with the following components:

- Project Description
- CEQA Environmental Checklist Form
- Mandatory Findings of Significance
- Contacts and Bibliography
- Mitigated Negative Declaration or Negative Declaration
- Notice of Determination

DISCUSSION

The Environmental Commission CAAP sub-committee members, Bruno Delagneau, Raashina Humayun and Don Weiden attend CAAP meetings and provide support and input with staff and the consultant to develop the CAAP. Receive update on CAAP development progress and status.

Attachments:

- A. CAAP Meetings Summary
- B. CAAP Final Focus Group Presentation
- C. CAAP Survey #2 Results

Climate Action & Adaptation Plan Meetings Summary

CAAP Kick-Off (January 14, 2021):

- Introduction of lead City staff, Environmental Commission subcommittee and consultant team
- Input for the CAAP development included:
 - Two focus areas should be existing buildings and reducing water use (the City is considering an energy audit of existing buildings).
 - Tie aspirational goals to concrete actions with specific reasons for the recommendations provided.
 - HR has some alternative commute benefits in place, including alternative work schedules and a public transit pre-tax benefit.
 - Important to present the value proposition of the plan to residents and businesses (explain the costs & benefits) to gain buy-in.
 - Two important focus areas will be tracking & measurement of actions and defining the City's GHG reduction target(s).
 - Community outreach will be important to engage the community and obtain input.
 - Action items and measures should be simple and conveyable to create a consistent repeatable message.
 - Important to identify the key drivers and goals of the plan (regulatory, leadership, etc.), as well as identifying where and how to best invest resources to achieve the plan's goals.
 - An updatable GHG model would be preferable, as well as an investigation of land use-related mitigation measures, and an investigation of future and retroactive actions (ex.: building codes to influence energy intensity).
 - A focus should be on creating a bold plan that incorporates technological advances, as well as raising the visibility of the plan in the eyes of the public and decision-makers.
 - The Reach Codes will have a big impact on future energy use in the City.
 - Per-capita residential PV and EV charging adoption are high within the City - there is interest in going off-grid among some residents.
 - The collection of data and using it in an effective reporting format will be important in demonstrating the plan's ongoing success, as well as communicating local and regional benefits.
- A brief presentation was given by the consultant team on the phases of the plan and the role Fehr & Peers' TrendLab+ tool.

CAAP Bi-weekly Meeting (January 29, 2021):

- Definition of an innovative plan was discussed: A valuable starting point will be for the City and consultant team to exchange lists of plans they find interesting/important to this project and discuss (see attachment D). This could result in a menu of innovative plans, policies, etc. for consideration for this project.
 - National and international plans and measures should be considered, not just limited to local efforts.
- Potential areas of interest for innovations include:
 - Learning and building on the Open Streets events over the summer.

- Community microgrids (potentially utilizing new Community Center).
- Utilizing carbon sinks and carbon capture to become Carbon Negative.
- Guidelines for private owners as well as enforceable policies for City-owned land and buildings should be looked at when considering innovative measures.
- Important to identify when to bring different stakeholder groups into the planning process. Bringing in different stakeholders at the right time will result in a more inclusive plan and help with the plan's adoption and implementation (ex.: downtown businesses will be impacted by changes to parking policies).
- The team discussed options for the timeframe for the Vulnerability Assessment (Mid Century vs End of Century). This should be determined by types of City infrastructure relevant to climate change. The original input from the City was that a Mid Century timeframe would be most appropriate.
- Alignment between the CAAP and the City's Emergency Preparedness Plan was discussed. Alignment between the CAAP and other City plans (current and future) in general will be an important consideration.
- The consultant team gave a brief intro to ClearPath. This will be the central GHG reduction planning tool, and also offers monitoring & reporting modules for ongoing use.
- An initial list of climate threats was reviewed (Flooding from creeks, Extreme Heat, Urban Heat Island effect, Wildfires, Air Pollution, and Drought). The consultant team will send this list to the City along with a framework for capturing stakeholder feedback on each threat. This is an important step in the Vulnerability Assessment.

CAAP Bi-weekly Meeting (February 12, 2021):

- Options for stakeholder engagement were discussed. Stakeholders identified are listed below.
 - The City has a Youth Commission that could be a good group to engage with.
 - The High School has a Green Team that engages regularly with the City Council.
 - Businesses will be important stakeholders (Anthony Carnesecca, Economic Development Coordinator).
 - Engage with groups that may be resistant to the measures in the final plan are important to engage with. Their concerns should be listened to and addressed.
 - Important Brown Act requirements to be strictly adhered to when considering meeting with commissions and committees as we plan outreach & engagement activities.
 - Engage the City Council in the process to implement their feedback on goals, and development throughout.

Stakeholder Groups:

- Los Altos Property Owners Downtown
- Los Altos Village Association
- Los Altos Chamber of Commerce
- Los Altos History Museum
- GreenTown Los Altos
- LAYCAT (Los Altos Youth Climate Action Team)
- Los Altos High School (Green Team Student Club)
- LAUSD Outdoor Educator
- Orchard Commons Committee

- Grass Roots Ecology
 - Block Action Teams (BATs)
 - Los Altos Community Foundation
 - Los Altos Rotary Club
 - Environmental Commission
 - Parks & Recreation Commission
 - Youth Commission
 - Complete Streets Commission
 - City Council
- An overview of the Vulnerability Assessment survey was given.
 - An overview of the example CAPs and case study was given.
 - There was a discussion of the Nature Communication article, and the reply by ICLEI. ICLEI's methods are still relevant for this project, but the issues the article raises should be considered in the CAAP (making sure all emissions are captured, including considerations of consumption patterns, flights by municipal and community members, and the way VMT is calculated).

CAAP Bi-weekly Meeting (February 26, 2021):

- Outreach & Engagement options were briefly discussed. Several stakeholder groups were identified that could be good channels for sharing information and gathering feedback.
- The results of the Vulnerability Assessment Survey were shared. Climate hazards associated with temperature change were of highest concern, and flooding related to precipitation changes were also a concern.

Table 1: Average Scores and Ranking for Primary Climate Hazards

Primary Climate Hazards	Score
Temperature Increase	2.3
Precipitation Changes	1.7
Sea Level Rise	1.3

Table 2: Average Scores and Ranking for Secondary Climate Hazards

Secondary Climate Hazards	Score
Drought	2.7
Extreme Heat/Heat Waves	2.3
Wildfire	2.3
Air Pollution	2.3
Flooding (Riverine, Areal)	2.3
Urban Heat Island	1.8
Flooding (Coastal)	1.4
Landslide	1.2

- FEMA has flood maps for Los Altos - these will be included in document requests. The Stormwater Master Plan will also be included.
- An overview of asset & population categories for the Vulnerability Assessment was given. A survey will be distributed to gather feedback on the importance of each category.
- A table of local and regional GHG emission reduction targets was shared (see below). As the City considers different target options, it will be valuable to know what targets other municipalities have set. The updated GHG inventory, costs & benefits of different targets, type of target (% based vs absolute), and feedback from different stakeholder groups will also be important.

Climate Targets Table

Municipality/Source	Year	1st Target	2nd Target
IPCC	2018	45% below 2010 levels by 2030	Net Zero around 2050
EO-S-3-05/AB 32	2005/2006	1990 levels (or 15% below 2005 levels) by 2020	80% below 1990 levels by 2050
SB 32	2016	40% below 1990 levels by 2030	
Carlsbad CAP	2015	15% below 2005 levels by 2020	49% below 2005 levels by 2035
Mountain View CPR	2015	80% reduction by 2050	
Encinitas CAP	2018	13% below 2012 levels by 2020	41% below 2012 levels by 2030
Sunnyvale CAP	2019	56% reduction by 2030	80% reduction by 2050
Santa Monica CAAP	2019	80% below 1990 levels by 2030	Carbon Neutral by 2050
City of Alameda CARP	2019	50% below 2005 levels by 2030	Net Zero Emissions as soon as possible
Albany CAAP	2019	70% below 2004 levels by 2035	Carbon Neutral by 2045
San Francisco CAP	2019	Net Zero emissions by 2050	
San Rafael CCAP	2019	40% below 1990 levels by 2030	80% below 1990 levels by 2050
Menlo Park CAP	2020	Zero Carbon by 2030 (90% reduction, 10% removal)	
San Jose GHG Reduction Strategy	2020	40% below 1990 levels by 2030	
Oakland Equitable CAP	2020	56% below 2005 levels by 2030	

San Mateo CAP	2020	Reduce emissions to 4.3 MTCO ₂ e per-capita by 2030	Reduce emissions to 1.2 MTCO ₂ e per-capita by 2050
San Anselmo 2030 CAP	2019	45% below 2010 levels by 2030	80% below 1990 levels by 2050
Santa Clara CAP	updating now		

CAAP Bi-weekly Meeting (March 12, 2021):

- Introduction of the City’s PIO (Public Information Officer) team-Trevor and Sonia - they will be assisting with community outreach and engagement efforts.
- Manny in Municipal Services will provide refrigerant data (buildings and fleet).
- The results of the internal Community Sectors Survey was reviewed - open-ended questions should be pared down for future surveys to improve the user experience.
- The group provided additional comment on the survey results, including sources of air quality effects, specific City resources, and at-risk populations related to climate change.
- A separate meeting will be set up to discuss next steps for outreach & engagement.
- Landfill reduction measures, specifically vinyl banners used for City events, looking for ways to address in the plan.
- Future land use decisions will be important (balancing City character, different types of businesses, etc.) related to climate mitigation and adaptation.
- The City implements green infrastructure (rain gardens, bioswales, etc.) guidelines and details to be provided to consultant.

CAAP Bi-weekly Progress Report (March 26, 2021):

- Vulnerability Assessment: Cal-Adapt provides a view of how climate change might affect California, and its development is a key recommendation of the 2009 California Climate Adaptation Strategy. Using the Cal-Adapt tool, future conditions around precipitation, heat days, and fire hazards can be modeled using a suite of approved climate models.

Using Cal-Adapt, the findings indicate that the location of Los Altos relatively near the Pacific Ocean and on the eastern edge of the Santa Cruz mountains has defined the area’s climate and will somewhat temper future climate hazards compared to other areas in California.

- Temperature & Drought
 - Average temperatures and the number of extreme heat days are projected to increase throughout the century, according to Cal-Adapt. The number of extreme heat days are projected to be almost 300% more in a high emissions scenario than in a medium scenario.
 - Whether droughts get worse depends on the definition of drought. One definition is a prolonged period with below-average or no precipitation. The length of dry

spells is not expected to change nor is average annual precipitation. However, higher temperatures combined with less consistent rain will impact both water supply and outdoor water demand.

- Precipitation
 - Los Altos has experienced numerous severe winter storms that have caused flooding and multiple climate models predict at least one severe storm a year under high emissions scenarios by the end of the century. Interestingly, while severe storms will happen more frequently, they won't be much more intense. Similarly, the average annual precipitation is not expected to change
- Wildfires & Air Pollution
 - Despite increased temperatures, wildfires are not projected to be a significantly worse threat in the future. The average area burned by wildfires is projected to decrease. Regionally, Los Altos and the surrounding area is not high risk, though the relative risk for natural areas is projected to increase slightly. Long term summer air quality will be defined by counteracting forces from increased temperatures and increased vehicle electrification.
- **Outreach & Engagement:** The Outreach & Engagement subcommittee met on March 25th to discuss initial goals, strategies, and timeline for conducting community-facing engagement for the CAAP. Engaging diverse stakeholder groups will be important for soliciting feedback on community makeup, attitudes on climate change, and community priorities, as well as gathering input on proposed mitigation and adaptation measures. Although there are no prescriptive rules, stakeholder engagement is recommended for the climate change mitigation and adaptation work involved in the plan, and will ultimately help streamline its implementation.

Action items coming out of that meeting include:

1. The City has a number of tools at its disposal, including existing communication channels, community partners, and internal staff capacity.
 2. EcoShift will provide support in the form of resources, tools, guidance, and advice as needed.
 3. The City will consider a series of focus groups with City stakeholders (program directors, etc.) to gather their feedback on critical issues, as well as reformatting the bi-weekly meetings to more of a working meeting. City directors currently attending bi-weekly meetings could attend these workshops instead, with occasional touch points with the entire group.
 4. EcoShift will work with staff to develop a schedule of engagements (see attachment C).
- **Data Collection:** Most data has been received and is in the process of being uploaded into ClearPath. The tables below contain the current status of data collection for the Community and Municipal inventories. Since the last update, streetlight, traffic signal, and additional energy data have been received. EcoShift will continue to provide updates as the data is processed.

Community Data

DATA	RECEIVED?
Energy data (electricity & natural gas)	Yes
Municipal Solid Waste	Yes
Water usage	Yes
Wastewater	RWQCP is carbon neutral
Off-Road (construction and lawn & garden equipment, calculated using housing and population data)	No, awaiting housing data from County
Transportation	Developing methodology with Fehr & Peers

Municipal Data

DATA	RECEIVED?
Building Energy use (electricity & natural gas)	Yes
Lighting (street lights & traffic signals)	Yes
Water usage	Yes
Fleet vehicle fuel use (gas & diesel)	Yes
Employee commute	Yes
Municipal Solid Waste	Yes
High Global Warming Potential gas leakage (refrigerants and AC systems)	No
Wastewater	RWQCP is carbon neutral

Other Notes:

- The Parks & Rec Dept. is interested in having a representative attend future bi-weekly team meetings and outreach events. The representative will begin attending meetings starting at the next bi-weekly meeting on April 9th.

CAAP Bi-weekly Progress Report (April 9, 2021):

- An update on data collection status was presented; there are a few outstanding requests but they make up a small percentage of overall emissions.
- The team was shown preliminary results from the 2018 inventory, as well as comparison to the 2005 inventory and CAP goals. There were a number of follow-up questions from the team around waste, energy, and transportation results; the consultant will follow up with detailed methodologies for all emissions sectors.
- An overview of forecasting methods was presented; ClearPath has baseline methods using factors like population growth, economic growth, fuel use forecasts, and State and federal

actions. Improved methodologies based on local or regional data and methods will also be explored, which is consistent with ClearPath's recommendations.

- The team was updated on outreach & engagement efforts; Kristin gave an update on scheduled meetings and the purpose of each meeting. Identifying the Stakeholder groups to attend the focus groups will be determined next.
- There is a community workshop planned that the general public will be invited to in June.
- The team was updated on the project timeline; EcoShift is planning working on several tasks in parallel (forecasts, list of potential measures, vulnerability assessment) to meet project deadlines.
- Next steps include: completion of data collection, completion of emissions forecast, and then setting of targets and development of initial list of measures.
- First Focus Group is scheduled for April 23, 2021.

CAAP Bi-weekly Progress Report (April 23, 2021) Focus Group #1 :

Focus Group on Los Altos Climate Vulnerability

Natural Resources

The Redwoods Grove is an important natural asset that is both under threat from wildfire and being addressed by Parks staff. Creek flooding is an issue that causes stream bank erosion and is addressed by Parks when it happens within park sites. CZU, Paradise and other fires located far outside of Los Altos have impacted air quality here. Drought is becoming an issue that the emergency management field is considering, even though it is different from other types of emergencies.

POLL: What Natural assets located in Los Altos are most important to the quality of life here?

1. Parks and Streams
2. Walking paths
3. Tree-lined streets in Downtown
4. Rural nature
5. Boulevard Trees
6. View Scape
7. Adobe watershed

Built Resources

The Poll Everywhere survey results expanded the existing group of built resources to include parking facilities and art and cultural resources.

POLL: Are there any specific facilities or assets that are important to Los Altos and should be considered on their own?

1. Retail as well as restaurants
2. Pump station-wastewater and storm

3. Covered parking with solar charging
4. Routes of egress
5. Local water storage facilities
6. Bus Barn Theater
7. History House and Theater
8. Historic Buildings?

Economy

Outdoor space is important to quality of life and an economic asset for downtown restaurants that are negatively impacted by poor air quality and heat.

“Poor air quality keeps people in their home”

“Protecting housing protects our key revenue source – property tax”

POLL: Are there current programs and resources within the city that could support the economy during a climate crisis?

1. Protecting housing, protects our key revenue source--Property Tax
2. Impacts on supply chain
3. Poor air quality keeps people in their homes

Vulnerable Populations

There are many day laborers who are not from Los Altos who perform landscaping and construction and would be vulnerable to extreme heat. There are many seniors in Los Altos who are “house rich, cash poor” and who may be potentially impacted by increasing energy costs as temperatures warm. Assisted care facilities have back-up generators. Senior centers do not – so the city’s cooling centers are the Santa Clara County libraries. People are more familiar with N-95 masks thanks to the pandemic, so poor air quality may not limit people’s mobility as much in the future. There have not been any local emergency declarations that have not also been County-wide declarations. There have not been substantial updates to the EOP or the LHMP.

Natural Environment

Assets

Asset	Percent of Respondents answering as Most Important
Managed landscapes (yards, parks, street trees)	80%
Air & air quality	70%
Natural habitat (soil, plants, wildlife)	40%
Creeks, rivers and other waterbodies	40%

Temperature, Extreme Heat & Drought

1. Heat stress on plants with the potential for slow native species die-out and replacement by non-native species.
2. Managed landscapes will require greater care and watering.

Precipitation & Flooding

1. Increased stream bank erosion and flooding and erosion of managed landscapes.
2. Downed trees may be more common as trees rooted in soils saturated from storm previous events contend with heavy winds.

Wildfires & Air Pollution

1. Increase in particulate matter will worsen air quality.

QUESTIONS

Are these the types of impacts you expected to see? If so, have you already begun planning for them.

What has the impact been to the “natural environment” in previous winter storms? What do you think the impact would be if there are multiple severe storms every year?

How prepared do you think Los Altos is handle these hazards?

Built Environment

Asset	Percent Selecting as Most Important
Housing	80%
Schools	60%
Transportation (roads, sidewalks, buses, trains, parking spots & bike racks)	40%
Utilities (power, drinking water, stormwater & sewer, natural gas, phone, internet)	40%

Temperature, Extreme Heat & Drought

1. Cooling needs of all building types may tax the energy grid.
2. PG&E public safety power shut will require alternative and off-grid energy sources to cool homes, commercial, and government buildings and disrupt pumps in the water supply and wastewater systems.
3. Risk of asphalt softening is limited to extended temperatures above 100°F. Safety power shut offs and brown outs caused by heats can cause outages of traffic signals and street lights.
4. Impact the availability of the water supply in Santa Clara Valley Water District

Precipitation & Flooding

1. Stream bank erosion and flooding may cause scour under the numerous bridges and creek crossings. Buried pipes may be exposed and or damaged.
2. Storm sewers may get backed up and cause localized flooding.
3. Wear and tear on roads and within pipes may require repair and replacement more frequently than planned for.

Wildfires & Air Pollution

1. Fires can quickly cause a complete loss of a property.
2. Managing air pollution simply requires changing filters on buildings and vehicle fleets more frequently.

Economy

Temperature, Extreme Heat & Drought

1. Spend more on air conditioning (and California-wide on food) to maintain the same quality of life.
2. Decreasing comfort negatively impacts worker productivity.
3. Temperature related mortality is also a projected loss.

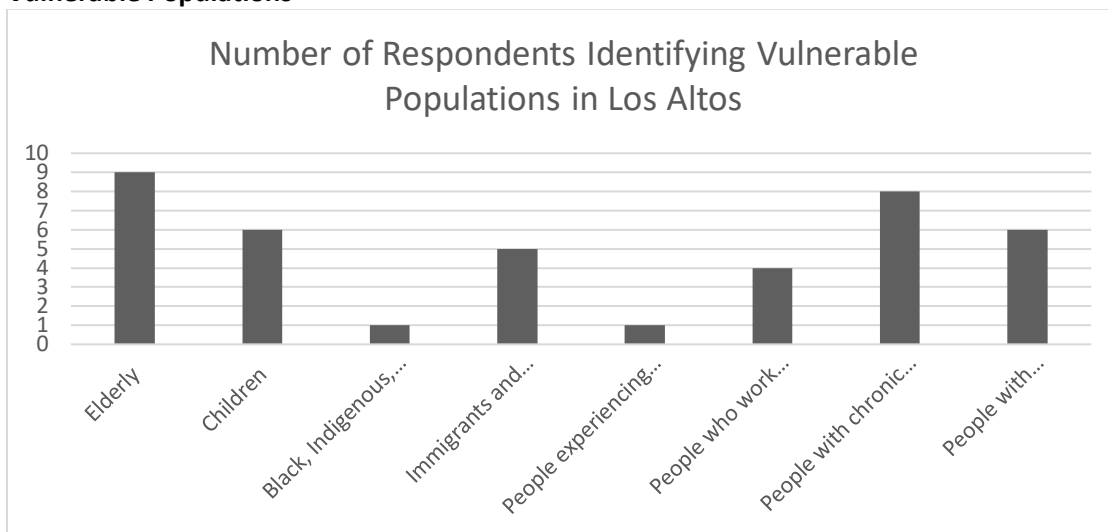
Precipitation & Flooding

1. create temporary or extended loss of operations for businesses, particularly for businesses with non-durable goods.
2. Perceptions of flood risk and flood safety can influence the housing market.

Wildfires & Air Pollution

1. Property damage and temporary disruption of utilities and infrastructure can create temporary or extended loss of operations.

Vulnerable Populations



Temperature, Extreme Heat & Drought

1. Parks, yards, and other outdoor areas will become undesirable during heat waves, and parking lots and streets may become dangerous to certain populations during extreme heat.
2. incidences of heat stroke, hospitalization, and heat-related mortality will increase first and foremost within these groups.

Precipitation & Flooding

1. Vulnerable populations often have fewer resources and/or limited mobility. Preparations for flooding, evacuations, and clean ups are all made more difficult by these circumstances.

Wildfires & Air Pollution

1. Air pollution will directly impact people with respiratory conditions and people who work outside. Wildfires far outside of Los Altos can create unhealthy levels of 2.5PM, especially since existing air quality is not moderate. Air pollution can limit the mobility and quality of life of sensitive groups.

CAAP Bi-weekly Progress Report (May 24, 2021) Focus Group #2:

Focus Group on Los Altos Potential Strategies

As the City begins to consider strategies for furthering its climate commitment, we prioritize each strategy with the following in mind:

- Greenhouse Gas Reduction potential
- Cost-Effectiveness
- Community Benefits (clean air, livable community, resiliency, etc.)
- Effects on the Economy
- Alignment with State and Local Policies
- Equity and Climate Justice

Transportation

Increase Walk or Wheels school program.

Poll Feedback

- Need safe bike parking and storage at schools and commercial facilities.
- Why not center such a program around Spare the Air alerts.
- Green Town runs the Schools WoW program. Carpooling was encouraged too.
- Find out what Manzanita Works is doing about regional transportation.
- Regarding Mode Shifting or car free commuting for students.

Explore scooter sharing pilot program.

Poll Feedback

- I like scooter idea but have seen the scooters discarded in other cities. Possible blight.
- Better to have battery powered golf cart like shuttle as an alternative to short drives within Downtown.
- No. It does not fit our demographic.
- We should close downtown streets to traffic and deploy battery powered (solar recharged) golf cart like shuttles to move people from parking lots to retailers who might have ambulatory challenges.

- I guess there would be an issue with the golf cart and the post office.
- The key is public engagement and gathering feedback from all stakeholders, business owners and residents and addressing those concerns.
- It was recommended that the City consider having a golf cart shuttle system created downtown.

Traffic reduction measures for heat alert & air pollution alert days

The afternoon rush hour traffic can make the extreme heat days worse in heavy traffic areas which also increases pollution. Temporary traffic reduction measures can help lower temporary peaks in heat and poor air quality. Maybe the City considers a new program to encourage commuters to use public transit on days with extreme heat alerts and bad air quality. Maybe the City should mandate a work from home day when temperatures spike.

Poll Feedback

- For mode shifting, continue to encourage biking and walking.
- Good idea
- Difficult in practice

Promote and pilot autonomous shuttle program for cross-town transit.

The City could consider a partnership with regional shuttle companies to pilot a cross-town shuttle to eliminate the back and forth across town.

Poll Feedback

- Tie into CalTrans
- Need trans for Senior citizens.
- City is embarking on an updated Safe Routes to School program
- An idea to implement an electric bus that can shuttle people around the inner city core

Explore EV and handicap only parking spaces downtown.

This could be a long-term goal for the city and would encourage residents to purchase electric vehicles and it would give them priority parking. Case study: Menlo Park is currently exploring options to transition their downtown to 100% EV-only public parking.

Poll Feedback

- EV and handicap only parking is a good idea.
- Strong yes. Keeps outdoor diners healthy.
- Do we have any data on the use of existing EV charging stations downtown?
- Paris is going to be 100% EV only in city limits starting in 2025.

- I think we are at about 15% EV adoption in LA/LAH. So, having EV-only parking in preferred locations downtown could be part of the hybrid approach.

- Yes Los Altos is talking about this, please see Downtown Vision Plan

Set goal of all new city vehicle purchases being EVs by 2025.

Consider developing new “purchasing standards” to begin transition city vehicles away from gas powered vehicles. There could be exceptions for emergency pursuit vehicles until technology becomes available.

Poll Feedback

- All new purchases should be EV. Why wait until 2025?

- I support all 3 items in this category. As Secretary of the Silicon Valley Electric Auto Association, I am happy to connect any of today’s participants with experts re: all aspects of EV and EV Charging. Many of you have seen the Charging Stations at LAHS and all K-8 schools in Los Altos - which I facilitated with our local Los Altos business: PowerFlex Systems.

- You could add that all SORE be electric.

Explore moratorium on new gas stations.

This would be a bold strategy for the city to take. But it makes sense long term as the overall auto industry moves to more renewables. Case study: Petaluma, CA currently has a moratorium on new gas stations.

Poll Feedback

- We haven’t had a new gas station for as long as I have been around

Offer retail discounts for bicyclists who bike downtown.

This could be a potential program that is run by the Los Altos Village Association. Case study: This program currently exists in Monterey and is promoted throughout the downtown area.

Poll Feedback- None

Decrease speed limits in town.

A reduction in the speed limit would reduce emissions.

Poll Feedback-None

Designate downtown car-free zones. Make certain block areas more walkable.

In order to create a more walkable Downtown, the City might consider designating key areas as car-free. These areas might incorporate some of the resilient features that are being considered as part of this planning process (refillable drinking foundations, cooling centers, farmer’s markets, etc.)

Poll Feedback

- There is a concern about allowing people with disabilities/medical conditions to park in front of their destination.

Energy

Consider renewable natural gas programs.

The Association of Bay Area Governments (ABAG) is looking into offering a renewable natural gas product that could be used to replace the City's current natural gas use. One example would be the renewable gas produced by biogas produce through Anaerobic Digestion (organics to energy) produced locally. Natural gas emissions make up a majority of the 41% energy emissions annually.

Poll Feedback

- It is not clean.

Implement or increase Utility Users Tax on natural gas.

If the City wishes to further reduce natural gas use, it could consider increasing the Tax on natural gas sales above the current 3.5%.

Poll Feedback-None

Consider "End of Flow" date for natural gas.

Announce a date after which natural gas hookups will no longer be available within City limits for new construction.

Poll Feedback

- Two people voted in favor to End of Flow to date
- City should be a role model and assess existing energy uses and recommend improvements to reduce the use of gas, electricity, water and increase in solar.
- All electric goal for remodels; need to phase out natural gas infrastructure.

Explore battery storage for City facilities, especially cooling centers.

Cooling Centers are places that could be accessible to all demographics within a city. On days with high temperature, these centers could be a place where people find shelter away from the heat. These centers would need to be equipped with a guaranteed source of energy; one that a battery would provide to ensure that the air conditioning would continue to work even if the power went out. The library has been identified as one potential location.

Poll Feedback

- Yes on battery storage
- Resilience of emergency centers including city government buildings with a system of solar panels and batteries.

- Battery Storage. LAHS Has had battery storage since 2015 - First year in operation saved the District \$83,000. Batteries from Green Charge Networks (now Engie) at no cost to the District due to a BAAQMD grant they received.
- We are looking at a new police operations center that is likely to be built.
- New Police Facility: Current Police Building gets tons of sun...Perhaps solar to battery storage and building and vehicle use. Battery backup would ensure Police EVs will always be able to be charged in event of a power outage (usually in summer?).
- Unfortunately, the current requirements are extremely high, so solar can supplement, but will not provide all power requirements for the new facility.
- There is an issue with the antenna array on the top of the new opps center, unless it is moved to an adjacent tower, it limits the ability to deploy solar panels on the roof of the contemplated structure.

Explore passive house code requirements.

Passive house means that new construction would be built with natural elements, wood insulation, natural fiber carpet, green roofs and operates with a high level of efficiency. Passive houses emit little emissions and create a healthier environment for residents.

Poll Feedback-None

Establish carbon fee goals on new construction.

The City could establish a limit to how much carbon can be emitted per square foot and if a business exceeds that limit, there would be a fee. Case study: NYC has a program like this in place.

Poll Feedback

- Consider deconstruction versus demolition in building codes.
- Carbon fee is a possibility on new construction.
- Increase requirements for solar panels and batteries for new construction.
- Change building codes for remodels.
- Incentives for replacing old equipment like water heaters and furnaces.
- If we were to increase the buildable square footage thresholds if you built your home or office building as LEED Gold or higher, builders would default build with LEED certified practices. Because they can sell the buildings for more money.

Silicon Valley Clean Energy Rebates, Incentives, and financing options

A primary focus of the City's planning effort will be to review and align Silicon Valley Clean Energy programs and determine how those programs could help implement and fund some of the strategies being considered.

Poll Feedback

- Partnerships needed for new equipment like heat pumps.

PG&E education on energy efficiency rebates

A primary focus of the City's planning effort will be to review and align PG&E programs and determine how those programs could help implement and fund some of the strategies being considered.

Poll Feedback-None

Green Community

Guidelines for improved stormwater management, thermal comfort in new construction

Encourage or require new construction to include awnings, balconies, or other features to be able to share public areas during summer, and to be comfortable without air conditioning in the event of blackouts. Existing stormwater management requirements can be increased to reduce runoff during storms.

Poll Feedback

- Require permeable driveways.

Facilitate a resilient downtown.

Many of these strategies target the downtown in terms of incentivizing biking, walking etc. However, we need to also consider the adaptation elements to this. Elements such as making sure there are enough water foundations, public restrooms, and shaded areas. When heat waves occur, the City also might consider extending the hours of operation for the library and make sure there are enough park spaces where people could get out of the heat by lying on the grass or under a tree.

Poll Feedback

- Increase trees; limit the built environment like parking lots; asphalt should be porous and lighter color.
- City should provide demonstrations and education regarding low water, bee and butterfly attracting landscapes. Sheet mulch, reduce lawns. Offer incentives.
- The percentage of Los Altos dedicated to parking is some outrageous number like 355.

Expand drinking fountains in downtown and at bus stops.

In line with making the City more resilient to heat rise while encouraging more biking and walking, it is important to review locations and accessibility of public water fountain locations.

Poll Feedback

- Make the fountains for refillable water bottles.
- Drinking fountains may be an issue with the Covid stigma.

Intensification of development within the Downtown Core Areas in keeping with the existing character of the area.

As the City plans for population growth, a focus might be to make the City more walkable by mixing commercial and residential spaces to reduce commute traffic congestion and the emissions associated.

Poll Feedback

- It seems to be almost impossible to get higher density approved in Los Altos.

Discourage projects which are exclusively office use.

Excluding buildings specifically designed for office space would enable a more walkable city. This could be done by changing policy or zoning maps.

Poll Feedback- None

Create a protected bike and pedestrian thoroughfare across town.

In looking at the City's Bicycle Transportation Plan, a lot of planning has been done to connect isolated parts of the biking network. The City should continue building strategies to expand upon that.

Poll Feedback

- An increase in protected bike lanes would increase bike use.
- Better dedicated bike lanes across town and smaller streets for cars.
- Bike racks needed downtown.

Integrate Carbon Farming practices into the urban landscape.

Carbon farming is the process of applying food waste and yard waste that is composted at the City's local landfill back into the soil to improve its ability to retain more carbon. Compost application is a basic concept and is currently be applied to local agriculture and grazing fields, however, the City might compost how to apply this compost to urban areas and manicured landscape.

Poll Feedback-None

Increase urban tree canopy.

The City prides itself on having lots of trees which not only provides a beautification element but also a shading element. The City might consider the age of the tree inventory and identify places to target for additional trees, particularly native Valley Oak.

Poll Feedback

- Preserves need to be included.
- Drought resistant trees need to be planted.
- Problem with increasing urban tree canopy is that we are already dealing with tree health challenges driven by climate. Water scarcity makes adding trees challenging. The City does as a matter

of policy replace trees in parks when they die off for lack of water, with varieties that are more drought tolerant where possible.

- Green Town Los Altos has a plant 500 trees project headed by Gary Hedden. Canopy of Palo Alto. canopy.org - had a great webinar featuring the former arborist for Stanford - and also the Apple campus, re: planting for the future - noting increased temperature and increased humidity - re: appropriate trees for our area. Their motto: the right tree for the location.

Expand creek setbacks to promote habitat and reduce flood risk.

The Conservation Lands Network rates Stevens, Permanente, and Adobe Creeks as mid-level priorities, with Stevens Creek having critical habitat for steelhead. Creating riparian setbacks protects and can restore the special habitat right along the banks of creeks.

Poll Feedback-None

Explore community gardens.

Community gardens are a great way to create connectivity between residents and city spaces. Not only can community gardens reduce the need for transportation emissions, they can also play a role in talking about food insecurity on a regional level.

Poll Feedback

- Local food supply increase like community gardens and all year farmer's market.

Municipal Operations

Convert 100% of City's light-duty fleet to electric vehicles.

-As part of this planning process, the City will outline a path for transitioning a certain number of vehicles each year.

Capture Low Carbon Fuel Standards

-The City should ensure that they are tapping into the state's Carbon Fuel Standards rebate program. The City is eligible for a credit for EV purchased.

Accelerate installation of EV charging stations at City facilities.

-Review key locations that would serve city facilities electric vehicle charging needs.

Replace municipal appliances (furnaces, hot water heaters) with electric alternatives.

-Transitioning to electric heat pumps as part of a commitment to electrification.

Increase required Construction and Demolition (C&D) diversion rate to 80%

-As buildings are demolished or remodeled, material needs to be separated by material type (wood, metal, cement, etc.) The City has a current C&D diversion rate of 70%.

Facilitate the development of new units of affordable housing.

-Affordable housing is a priority for the City.

Increase housing opportunities for Los Altos' senior population.

-The senior population is a key community segment in the City. How can the City continue to increase opportunities around accessibility and affordability?

Increase accessibility to existing city facilities and services.

-How accessible are the facilities and services provided by the City?

Resource Conservation

Enforce policy to divert up to 75% of all waste materials from the landfill (SB 1383)

As of 2022, the state will require all commercial businesses and residential communities to divert up to 75% of all waste materials from the landfill. As part of this effort, the City could focus on food recovery programs which connects left over food from restaurants and grocery stores with local food banks.

Poll Feedback

- Purchasing habits need to be changed in general, taking into consideration shipping and packaging.
- Climate change aspects need to be considered in all city plans/decisions.

Require water-saving landscaping in all new construction.

Water saving landscaping refers to native plants, but it could also include permitting the installation of water catchment systems.

Poll Feedback

- Expand rain garden requirements, Improvement Standard for curbed streets.

Integrate climate change adaptation across all City plans.

The City has many long-term planning documents. Adaptation should be added as a component within each plan. Adaptation refers to how the City will adapt or change to withstand the effects of climate change. These changes need to be written into building and safety codes, land use plans, and ordinances. Particularly the emergency preparedness plan and the general plan.

Poll Feedback- None

Promote use of native landscaping to conserve water.

This would be an approach to educating the residential community in swapping out landscaping with native plants.

Poll Feedback-None

Expand community repair resources.

Allocating City maintenance staff hours from facilities and fleet services for general education in repair. Create community tool repair workspaces; provide online resources to repair worn out or broken tools, clothes, etc.

Poll Feedback

- New idea: Consider a tool library: <https://www.berkeleypubliclibrary.org/locations/tool-lending-library>.

Pilot a Sustainability Speakers series

The City could consider partnering with Green Town or others to implement a Sustainability Speaker Series. The purpose of this series is to engage the community around some of the sustainability elements within this planning process.

Poll Feedback-None

Support reusable food ware purchasing.

The City could continue promoting the plastic bag ordinance and the “Skip the Straw” Campaign.

Poll Feedback- None

Promote consumer awareness of sustainable food choices.

Consumer awareness programs might include the campaigns around the Seafood Watch Card, food produced within 100 miles of Los Altos, etc.

Poll Feedback-None

Promote Reuse, Repair, Recovery, and Refurbishment economy

Develop online resources to support this; create outreach campaign to encourage community to reuse, repair, recover, refurbish rather than throw out worn products.

Poll Feedback-None

CAAP Bi-weekly Progress Report (June 28, 2021) CAAP Community Workshop:

Available to view on the City of Los Altos website at: losaltosca.gov/caap

CAAP Bi-weekly Progress Report (July 2, 2021)

Group discussed take-aways from the Community Workshop:

- There are some misconceptions in the community around things like tankless water heaters. Education and outreach will be important in these areas.
- There seems to be broad support for electric vehicles and PV solar.
- There may be challenges to the cross-town electric shuttle idea for seniors, including walking to the shuttle and waiting for the shuttle, etc.
- Ridership may also be an issue for the shuttle. It may be worthwhile to think about who the majority of riders may be, and what their destinations may be.
- There was a comment during the workshop that commercial solar may be a good opportunity. There may be barriers to this, and it would be easier to mandate solar for new construction. Either way, education on solar options should be included in the CAAP.

- A pilot microgrid project located at a City property would be a good option, but funding is a barrier. The City has applied previously for SVCE funding and was denied. Monitoring funding opportunities for microgrids and other energy resiliency projects should be a priority.
- Dedication of a demonstration native plant garden was mentioned during the workshop. The City already has a native plant garden, and maintaining it is a challenge (currently volunteer-only). However, this idea may be worth looking into more if funding can be identified or if volunteer networks can be better leveraged.
- The EC mentioned some other potential nature-based solutions including banning new lawns or other drought-resistant landscaping requirements. This may be combined with other solutions like greywater ordinances, etc.
- Similarly, tree planting should be a focus of the plan, but barriers including water conservation and the party responsible for maintaining the trees will need to be addressed.
- Attracting visitors to the City's Downtown area was discussed. Loyola Corners, Rancho Shopping Center, El Camino, and the Village Court should also be considered for street treatment measures designed to attract bike and pedestrian traffic.
- More than attracting visitors though, the plan should focus on making the City more livable for residents (i.e. making it more convenient for residents to shop downtown so they don't have to drive out of town).

CAAP Bi-weekly Progress Report (July 8, 2021)

- TrendLab+ study session- TrendLab is a scenario tool, to gather order of magnitude and direction of change to inform policy recommendations. With new and emerging trends in technology and demographics affecting VMT, the future is uncertain. Fehr & Peers developed a customized survey for participants to vote on trend predictions in TrendLab+ that was completed in advance of the study session. Fehr & Peers presented a survey that included a couple key topics that are more likely to be affected by Los Altos policy. The survey results were added into TrendLab as a starting point of the conversation, and then we discussed and made some adjustments to several predictions during the study session. The results of the study session will be available in the coming weeks.

CAAP Bi-weekly Progress Report (July 16, 2021)

- The group discussed the follow-up from the TrendLab+ study session.
- The Measure Prioritization Matrix was reviewed. This will serve as a tool to determine the measures most relevant to Los Altos.
- The Action Prioritization Matrix was reviewed. EcoShift will organize the matrix by sector and update the action descriptions and the City and the EC subcommittee will review the scoring of relevant factors (ex.: feasibility).
- The Sustainability Tracker used to qualitatively develop actions was reviewed. This tool helps align actions with existing plans and documents, and will contain the Action Prioritization Matrix and an implementation matrix.
- Science Based Targets provided by ICLEI were reviewed. The targets are expressed as percent reductions from 2018 levels by 2030:
 - Per Capita: 63.3%
 - Absolute: 61.4%

- EcoShift will be quantifying emission reductions for different actions identified through the qualitative evaluation process. This will help identify a pathway to the City's targets, as well as estimated costs, timeline, responsible department, etc.

CAAP Bi-weekly Progress Report (Aug 2, 2021)

- The group worked with consultant on the draft PPT for Focus Group #4. EcoShift will work on quantifying GHG reduction actions for inclusion, and the City will review.
- Changes to the Action Prioritization Matrix were reviewed. EcoShift will order the sectors by priority for the City to review.
- The Los Altos Sustainability Tracker was reviewed. This workbook provides a framework for evaluation and selection of actions, as well as plan implementation.
- The prioritization matrix for adaptation actions was reviewed. This matrix mimics the matrix for mitigation for most categories.
- GHG quantification methods were discussed. The method preferred by EcoShift is using existing calculators in ClearPath if available. If a ClearPath calculator doesn't exist, CAPCOA Quantifying Greenhouse Gas Mitigation Measures will be used. If neither exists, methodologies used by neighboring cities for similar actions will be evaluated on a case-by-case basis.

CAAP Final Focus Group (Aug 27, 2021)

- See Attachment B for Final Focus Group presentation slides



CITY OF LOS ALTOS **CLIMATE ACTION & ADAPTATION PLAN**

KEY RECOMMENDED ACTIONS

Community Stakeholders



- Los Altos Property Owners Downtown
- Los Altos Village Association
- Los Altos Chamber of Commerce
- GreenTown Los Altos
- LAYCAT (Los Altos Youth Climate Action Team)
- Los Altos High School (Green Team)
- Los Altos History Museum
- LAUSD Outdoor Educator
- Orchard Commons Committee
- BATS Block Action Team
- Grass Roots Ecology
- Los Altos Rotary Club
- Parks & Recreation Commission Liaison
- Youth Commission Liaison
- Complete Streets Commission Liaison
- Senior Commission Liaison

CAAP Vision & Mission Statements

Vision:

“To place Los Altos on an accelerated, sustainable path to carbon neutrality by embracing effective and evolving climate policies.”

Mission:

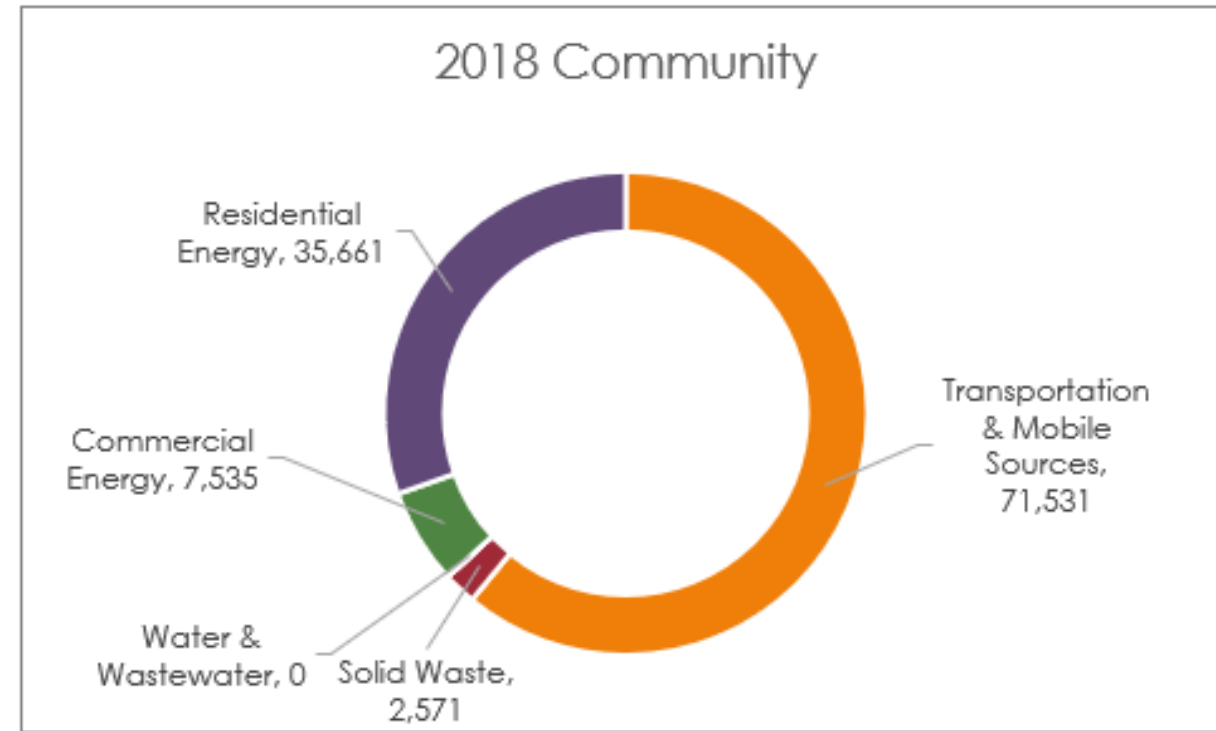
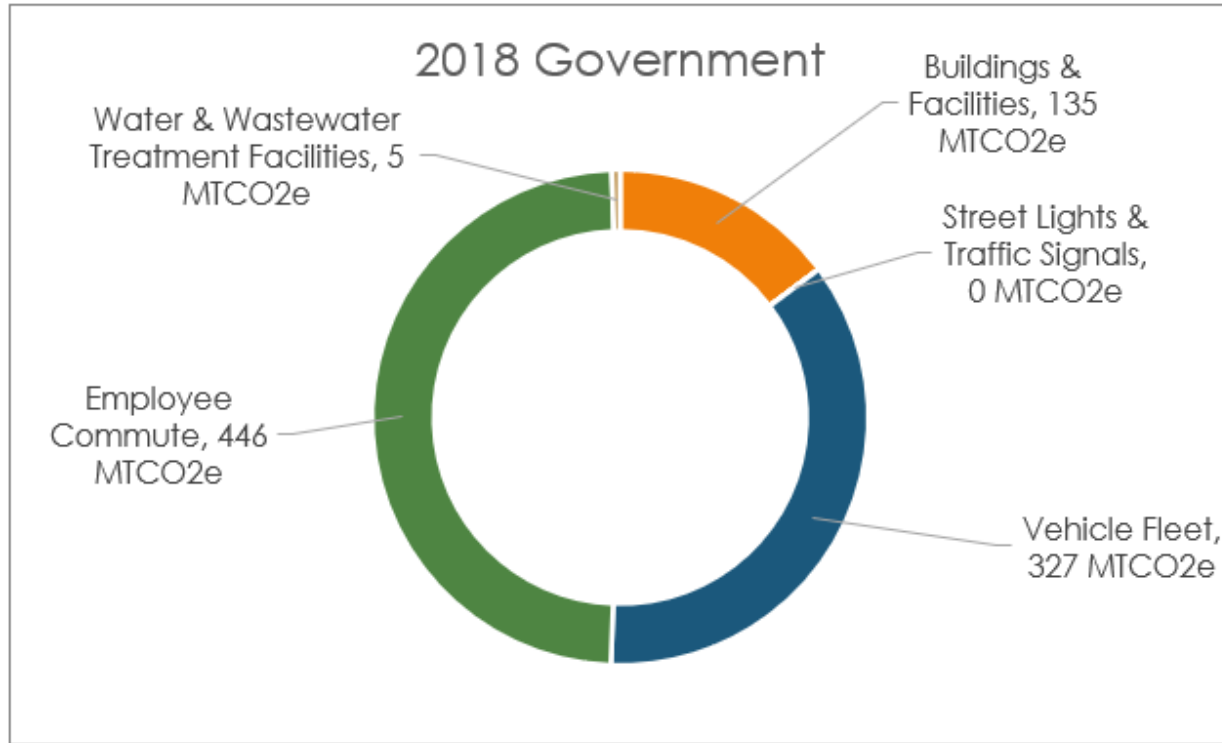
“The mission of our Climate Action and Adaptation Plan is to preserve the unique character of Los Altos and enhance its natural environment, while improving the quality of life and health of its people by supporting transformative change in the areas of climate action, resilience and equity.”

Progress to date

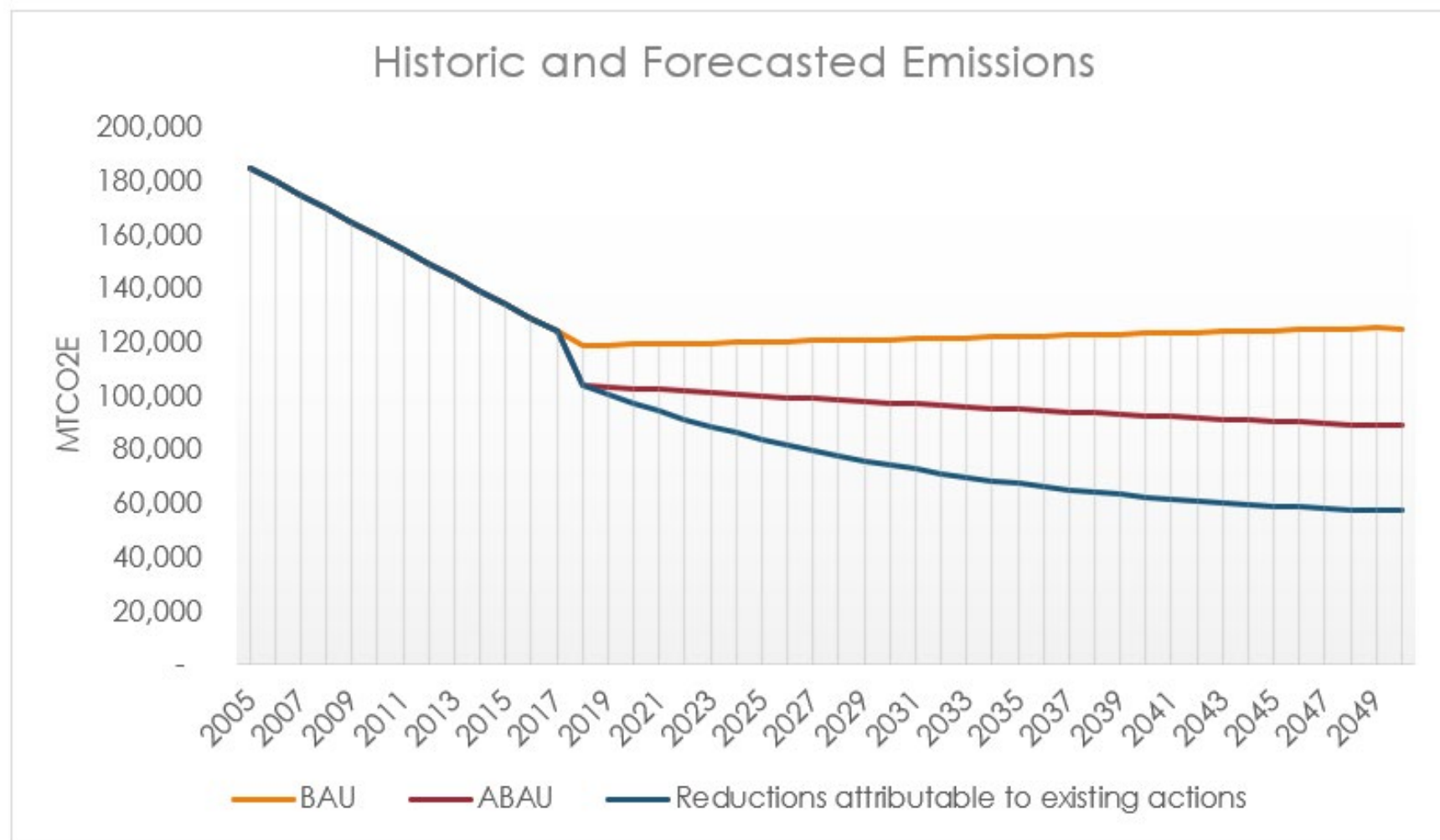
Emissions Comparison table

Government sector	2005 emissions	2018 emissions	% change	Emissions reduction (MTCO ₂ e)
Buildings & Facilities	428	135	-68%	293
Street Lights & Traffic Signals	130	<1	100%	130
Vehicle Fleet	420	327	-22%	93
Employee Commute	697	446	-36%	251
Solid Waste Facilities	197	172	-13%	25
Water & Wastewater Treatment Facilities	3	5	67%	(2)
Process & Fugitive Emissions	20	50	150%	(30)
Government total	1,895	1,135	-40%	760
Community sector	2005 emissions	2018 emissions	% change	Emissions reduction (MTCO ₂ e)
Transportation & Mobile Sources	96,610	71,531	-26%	25,079
Solid Waste	3,950	2,571	-35%	1,379
Water & Wastewater	2,250	667	-70%	1,583
Commercial Energy	20,070	7,535	-62%	12,535
Residential Energy	59,950	35,661	-41%	24,289
Community total	182,830	117,965	-35%	64,865
Total	184,725	119,100	-36%	65,625
2020 target		155,410	-15%	43,660

Sector breakdown



Forecast with Impacts of Existing Actions










Urgent action needed

“

“Strong and sustained reductions in emissions of carbon dioxide (CO₂) and other greenhouse gases, could quickly make air quality better, and in 20 to 30 years global temperatures could stabilize”










Prioritization of Each Action

	Promotes GHG Reduction
	Cost-Effectiveness
	Community Benefits (clean air and water, livable community, resiliency, etc.)
	Effects on the Economy
	Alignment with State and Local Policies
	Equity and Climate Justice
	Promotes Adaptation & Resilience

Transportation

**Total
Reduction
7 - 8,000
MTCO₂e**













Goal: Provide safe and convenient alternatives to driving and electrify transportation

Strategy	Action	Co-Benefits	2030 GHG Reduction
1.1 Reduce Single-Occupant Vehicle Travel	1.1 A. Promote telecommuting and Work From Home infrastructure	 	High
	1.1 B. Support Shared Mobility options (shuttles, transit, bikes)	 	High
	1.1 C. Promote Transit-Oriented Development		Medium
	1.1 D. Develop a community-wide Parking Management Strategy		Low
	1.1 E. Explore car-free zones and facilitate a walkable Downtown		Low
	1.1 F. Implement traffic reduction measures for heat/air pollution days		Supportive
1.2 Electrify Transportation	1.2 A. Work to expand EV charging community-wide	 	High
	1.2 B. Develop DC Fast Charging options along major commute corridors	 	High

Energy

**Total
Reduction
5 - 6,000
MTCO₂e**



Goal: Maximize energy efficiency, electrification, and renewable resources

Strategy	Action	Co-Benefits	2030 GHG Reduction
2.2 Facilitate Building Decarbonization	2.2 A. Include net zero building requirements for new construction and electrification requirements for remodels in Reach Code updates	 	High
	2.2 B. Perform energy-efficient lighting retrofits/home energy audits, and provide incentives for fuel-switching	 	Medium
	2.2 C. Adopt a 3.5% gas utility tax with proceeds going to green incentives	 	Low
	2.2 D. Phase out small off-road engines such as landscaping equipment, etc	 	Low
	2.2 E. Set new requirements for electric or passive heating of pools and hot tubs		Low
2.3 Increase Solar + Storage	2.3 A. Increase Education and Awareness of Solar and Storage Incentives	 	Medium/Low
	2.3 B. Reinforce Solar Requirements and add storage requirements for new construction in future Reach Code updates	 	Medium/Low

Resource Conservation




Goal: Eliminate unnecessary resource consumption

Strategy	Action	Co-Benefit	2030 GHG Reduction
3.1 Encourage Waste Reduction Efforts	3.1 A. Continue to Increase Landfill Diversion Rate 3.1 B. Implement water conservation ordinance for peak temperature days 3.1 C. Promote Reuse, Repair, Recovery, and Refurbishment economy 3.1 D. Work to Eliminate Single-Use Plastics		Low Supportive Supportive Supportive
3.2 Conserve Water	3.2 A. Expand Greywater and Purple Water (rainwater) Systems Community-wide 3.2 B. Pass ordinance or increase education and awareness of natural landscaping options for residential, municipal, and commercial properties		Supportive Supportive

Green Community

Goal: Value and support community projects that conserve natural resources and contribute to increased quality of life in Los Altos









**Total
Reduction
Low
MTCO₂e**

Strategy	Action	Co-Benefits	2030 GHG Reduction
4.1 Develop Nature-Based Solutions	4.1 A. Increase Urban Tree Canopy Goals (tree-planting campaigns, focus on transit/bike/pedestrian environment)		Low
	4.1 B. Develop a shading requirement for new parking lots		Low
	4.1 C. Explore community gardens		Supportive
	4.1 D. Establish voluntary green business program		Supportive

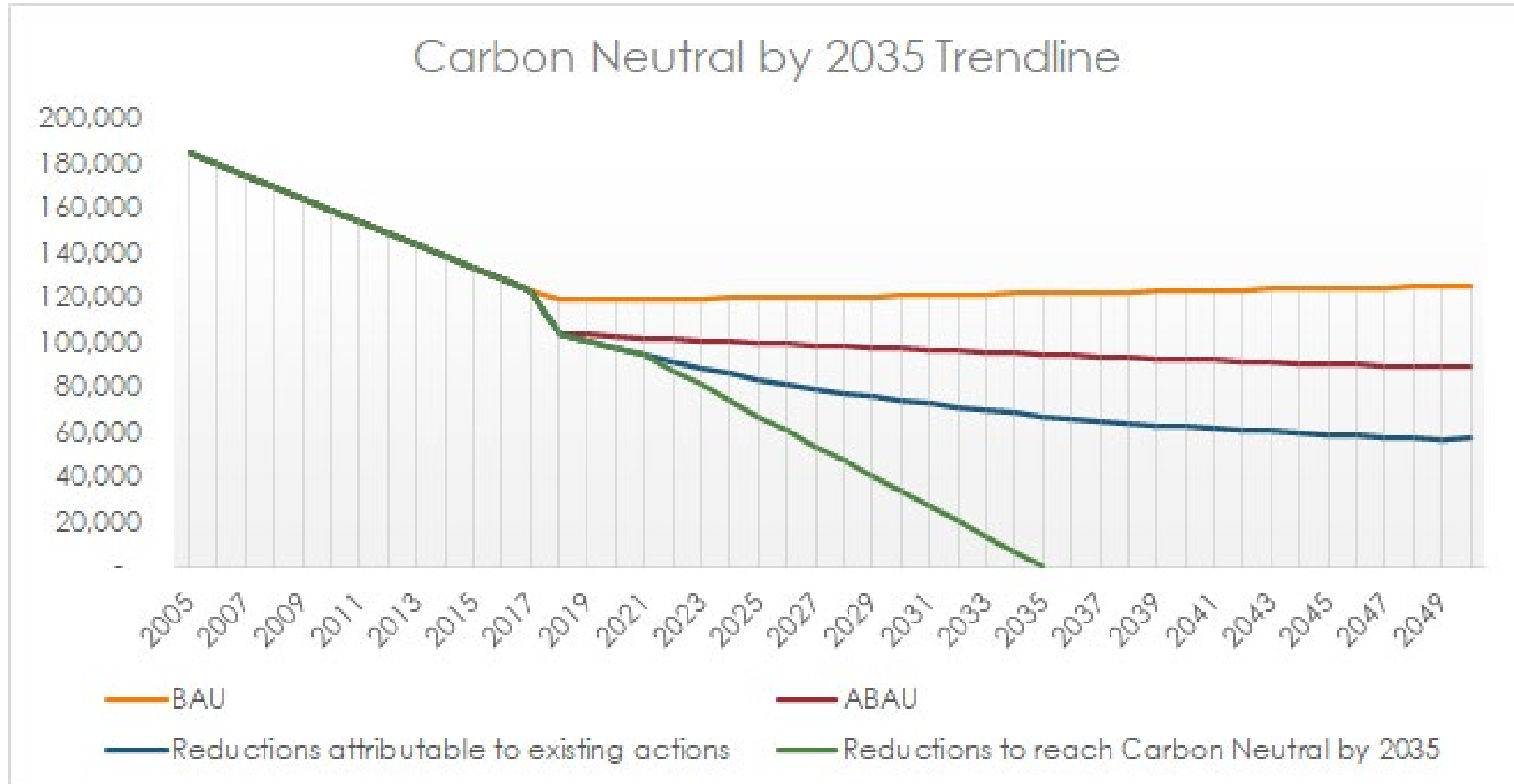
Municipal Operations

Goal: Demonstrate civic leadership by reducing emissions from City facilities and operations

**Total
Reduction
460
MTCO₂e**

Strategy	Action	Co-Benefits	2030 GHG Reduction
5.1 Increase Building Efficiency and Electrification	5.1 A. Conduct Energy Audits of City-Owned Buildings & Facilities	 	Low
	5.1 B. Replace Appliances with Electric Alternatives		Supportive
5.2 Electrify the City's Vehicle Fleet	5.2 A. Replace Fleet Vehicles with Electric Alternatives	 	Low
	5.2 B. Add EV Charging at Appropriate City Facilities		Low
5.3 Explore Municipal Microgrids	5.3 A. Study the Feasibility of Microgrids at City-Owned Buildings & Facilities	  	Low

GHG forecast with new & existing actions


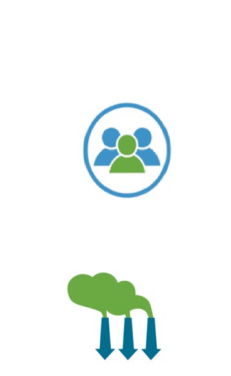




Adaptation




Adaptation

Goal: Understand and Reduce the Risk of Climate Hazards in the Physical Environment

Strategy	Action	Co-Benefits
<p>6.1 Reduce Flood Risk</p>	<p>6.1 A. Conduct Updated Flood Risk Study with Capital and Policy Recommendations</p> <p>6.1 B. Develop Comprehensive Riparian Ecosystem Restoration Plan</p> <p>6.1 C. Limit New Construction in the Floodplain</p> <p>6.1 D. Expand Green Infrastructure Program</p>	
<p>6.2 Reduce Heat Risk</p>	<p>6.2 A. Develop Urban Forestry/Canopy Plan</p> <p>6.2 B. Enact reflectivity standards for asphalt and ground level surfaces; enact reflectivity/green roof standards for roofs</p> <p>6.3 C. Promote alternative cooling strategies like shade trees, awnings, heat pumps</p>	



Adaptation

Goal: Make Climate Adaptation Integral to City Government and Make Common Knowledge

Strategy	Action	Co-Benefits
7.1 Incorporate Climate Adaptation into City Policy, Budget, Planning, Internal Standards	7.1 A. Account for Climate Change in all New City Projects 7.1 B. Incorporate Climate Preparedness into City Programs, Operations, and Maintenance Protocols 7.1 C. Integrate CAAP goals into Budget Process	
7.2 Improve Climate Literacy & Risk Understanding	7.2 A. Enact Requirement for Flood Hazard Risk Disclosure in Property Sales/During Real Estate Process 7.2 B. Update Community Emergency Response Training (CERT) to include growing climate change hazards 7.2 C. Launch a Community Climate Action Grant	
7.3 Identify and Protect Vulnerable Communities	7.3 A. Plan outreach for and educate vulnerable populations (eg. isolated seniors, outdoor workers, long-term care residents) and the people and institutions that care for them 7.3 B. Ensure alerts are understandable and accessible to all communities	








Adaptation

Goal: Achieve Greater Reliability, Resilience, and Efficiency of Lifeline Infrastructure

Strategy	Action	Co-Benefits
8.1 Improve Water Resilience	<p>8.1 A. Update Building Code to Incentivize Rainwater Harvesting and Grey Water Recycling. Install Systems at Municipal Facilities.</p> <p>8.1 B. Encourage Rainwater Harvesting and Grey Water Recycling through Education, Incentives, and Direct Install</p> <p>8.1 C. Determine Feasibility of Using Recycled Water from Regional Water Quality Control Plant</p> <p>8.1 D. Promote Water Conservation, particularly in Schools</p>	
8.2 Improve Energy and Building Resilience	<p>8.2 A. Develop Resilient Building Design Standards for New Construction and Substantial Renovations that Prioritize Passive Heating/Cooling and Carbon-Neutral Energy Sources</p> <p>8.2 B. Provide Incentives for New Development that Achieves Higher-than-Standard Resilience</p>	

Adaptation

Goal: Be Prepared for Emergencies in a Changing Climate

Strategy	Action	Co-Benefits
<p>9.1 Establish Resilience Hubs</p>	<p>9.1 A. Determine Emergency Preparedness of all Facilities Serving Vulnerable Populations and Feasibility for Making Climate Resilient for Existing Population and Public</p> <p>9.1 B. Identify, Fund, and Prepare existing and new public facilities to serve as resilience hubs</p>	 
<p>9.2 Ensure Safety During Extreme Heat</p>	<p>9.2 A. Develop citywide heat management plan</p> <p>9.2 B. Establish an early warning system for heat health</p> <p>9.2 C. Develop Temperature/Heat Safety Protocols for Outdoor Workers. Educate and Enforce.</p> <p>9.2 D. Adjust/extend park and public facility hours during heat waves</p> <p>9.2 E. Expand public drinking fountains/refillable water stations</p>	  
<p>9.3 Ensure Safety During Unhealthy Air Events</p>	<p>9.3 A. Establish an early warning system for air quality</p> <p>9.3 B. Purchase and Distribute N-95 Masks to Vulnerable Populations to Filter Air Pollution</p>	 



Kristin Cushman
kristin@ecoshift.com

TO: Environmental Commission

FROM: Trevor Marsden, Management Analyst

SUBJECT: Climate Action and Adaptation Plan Survey Results #2

RECOMMENDATION:

There are no recommendations. This report is informational.

BACKGROUND

The Climate Action and Adaptation Plan (CAAP) had several community engagement events. There were two surveys, three focus groups, and a public workshop. These events are designed to gather the community's input and allow for a CAAP that encompasses the community's ideas and expectations. This report is about the results of the second CAAP survey.

Participants were required to login with their email and address. They were not able to take the survey twice with the same login information. Participants are also anonymous unless they select "Show my name" which then shows their name next to their response. This was specified in the introduction of the survey.

DISCUSSION

This survey is not a professionally done, statistical survey. It is just one piece in the larger community engagement process. It was designed by staff and the Environmental Commission Subcommittee to obtain data about how residents felt about climate change, potential climate impacts, and actions to mitigate it. This data helps to inform staff and the Environmental Commission Subcommittee but does not give a definitive answer for how the City of Los Altos feels about climate issues.

This survey had approximately 414 visitors with 208 responses. It ran from July 1 to August 22, 2021. City staff promoted it through the Los Altos Town Crier, social media, email lists, and emails given to the team through the first survey. The Environmental Commission Subcommittee also promoted the survey through outreach at the Los Altos Farmer's Market and community notices at businesses throughout the City. Of the 208 registered responses, 186 were registered in the City of Los Altos. The results in this document are just these resident responses. The two respondents that selected "No" to the resident question are residents of Los Altos Hills and are most likely on the near border of Los Altos.

The majority of respondents own their home (92.5%) and have lived in Los Altos for more than 30 years (35.5%), between 16 – 25 years (28.5%), or 26-30 years (12.9%). The most common age group was 65+ (44.1%), then 55-64 (23.7%), and 45-54 (11.8%).

Questions 9, 10

Residents were allowed to select up to three choices for Questions 9 and 10. Due to this, there are multiple choices over 50%. The top 5 answers for questions 9 and 10 are below:

Do you believe climate change has already or will have a direct, negative impact on:

- The natural environment in your city (72%)
- Your or your family's health and wellbeing (71.5%)
- Your or your family's personal safety (32.3%)
- The infrastructure in your city (31.2%)
- I do not believe climate change has or will have a direct, negative impact (14.5%)

Which of the following statements describes you:

- I take personal actions to reduce the impact of climate change (79%)
- There is a lack of agreement among academic, political, business, and government entities on the appropriate actions (40.3%)
- The conflicting news and internet information on appropriate actions is problematic (29.6%)
- New and improved infrastructure will address the impacts of climate change (24.7%)
- Other (22%). The other responses have been attached below the responses.

Question 11

Residents were given 6 different areas and told to rank them as a priority from 1 – 6 (1 being the lowest). Residents were told to select one option per priority level, but some residents selected multiple options for the same priority level (i.e. greenhouse gas and community benefits were both 3's). The top three priorities were:

- Greenhouse Gas Reduction
- Community Benefits
- Cost-Effectiveness

Questions 12, 16, 17, 18

These questions are to gauge interest in potential actions to reduce climate change. These actions were developed by our Environmental Commission, consultants, and Focus Groups. Residents were allowed to select up to 5 different options for these questions.

Questions 13, 14, 15

These questions were focused on electric vehicles and electric vehicle infrastructure.. This information is to understand how widespread they are, how popular they are, the barriers to ownership, and the potential need for infrastructure.

CONCERNS

There were less concerns over question validity on this survey than the first CAAP survey. We still had concerns over the inability to take the survey from certain browsers, but this is a problem that we have identified and are working to resolve with our vendor.

This is not a professional survey; thus it should not be used to make a decisive answer without considering other information. This is merely a snapshot of potential interest in actions to combat climate change. The Environmental Commission Subcommittee, staff and consultants should make a decision based on all of the engagement tools. .



CAAP Survey #2

September 7, 2021, 10:38 AM

Contents

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ii.	Survey questions	15
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Topic Registration Type: Registration required

CAAP Survey #2

What are your thoughts on these climate actions?

Summary Of Registered Responses

Topic Registration Type: Registration required

As of September 7, 2021, 10:38 AM, this forum had:		Topic Start
Attendees:	414	July 2, 2021, 8:59 AM
Registered Responses:	208	
Hours of Public Comment:	11.0	

QUESTION 1

Do you live in Los Altos?

		%	Count
Yes		91.8%	191
No		8.2%	17

QUESTION 2

If no, where do you live?

Answered	20
Skipped	188

altos ave hills los santa way

QUESTION 3

Do you rent or own?









CAAP Survey #2

What are your thoughts on these climate actions?

		%	Count
Rent		5.3%	11
Own		92.3%	192
Other		2.4%	5

QUESTION 4

How long have you lived in Los Altos?

		%	Count
<1 year		2.4%	5
1-4 years		4.8%	10
5-9 years		6.3%	13
10-15 years		9.6%	20
16-25 years		26.4%	55
26-30 years		12.0%	25
>30 years		33.7%	70
N/A		4.8%	10



QUESTION 5

What gender do you identify as?

		%	Count
Female		50.5%	105
Male		43.8%	91








CAAP Survey #2

What are your thoughts on these climate actions?

		%	Count
Non-binary		1.0%	2
I prefer not to answer		4.8%	10

QUESTION 6

What is your age?

		%	Count
Under 18		1.9%	4
18-34 years		6.3%	13
35-44 years		6.3%	13
45-54 years		13.0%	27
55-64 years		23.1%	48
65+ years		42.3%	88
I prefer not to answer		7.2%	15

QUESTION 7

Do you work or own a business in Los Altos

		%	Count
Yes		13.0%	27
No		79.3%	165
Both		2.9%	6
Other		4.8%	10

CAAP Survey #2

What are your thoughts on these climate actions?

QUESTION 8









If you own a business in Los Altos, what kind of business?

Answered	22
Skipped	186

consulting design residential

QUESTION 9

Do you believe climate change has already or will have a direct, negative impact on: (Choose up to three)

		%	Count
Your job security or livelihood		3.8%	8
Your or your family's health and wellbeing		71.6%	149
Your or your family's personal safety		34.6%	72
Your financial situation		13.9%	29
The natural environment in your city		74.5%	155
The infrastructure in your city		31.7%	66
I do not believe climate change has or will have a direct, negative impact.		13.0%	27
Other		9.6%	20

QUESTION 10

Which of the following statements describes you? (Choose up to three)

		%	Count
I take personal actions to reduce the impact of climate change		80.3%	167
I do not see a need to address climate change		4.8%	10

CAAP Survey #2

What are your thoughts on these climate actions?

		%	Count
There is a lack of agreement among academic, political, business, and governmental entities on the appropriate actions		38.5%	80
I do not have all the information to take appropriate actions		3.8%	8
New and improved infrastructure will address the impacts of climate change		27.4%	57
The conflicting news and internet information on appropriate actions is problematic		28.8%	60
Personal and government financial resources are not available to make changes to reduce the impacts caused by climate change		14.4%	30
I have other priorities/concerns and am not able to focus attention on climate change		2.9%	6
I feel my actions will have little impact		13.9%	29
Other		21.2%	44

QUESTION 11

Please rank the following criteria in order of priority 1-6 (1 being the lowest, 6 being the highest). Please select only one option per priority level.

Greenhouse Gas (GHG) reduction potential







		%	Count
1		14.4%	30
2		8.7%	18
3		7.2%	15
4		5.8%	12
5		5.8%	12

CAAP Survey #2







What are your thoughts on these climate actions?

		%	Count
6		58.2%	121

Cost-Effectiveness

		%	Count
1		14.9%	31
2		13.9%	29
3		16.8%	35
4		15.9%	33
5		17.8%	37
6		20.7%	43

Community Benefits

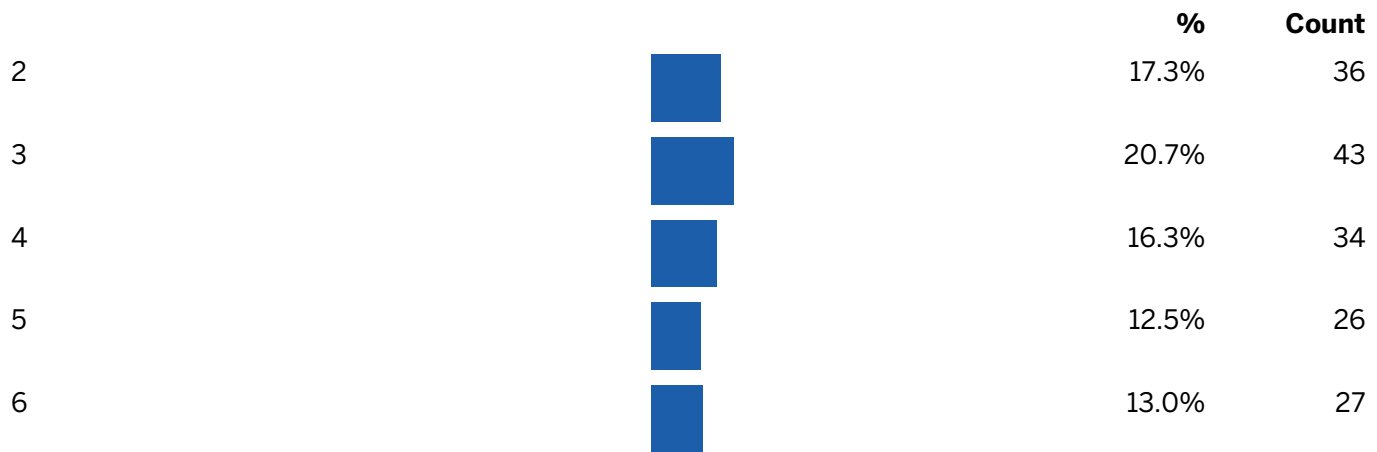
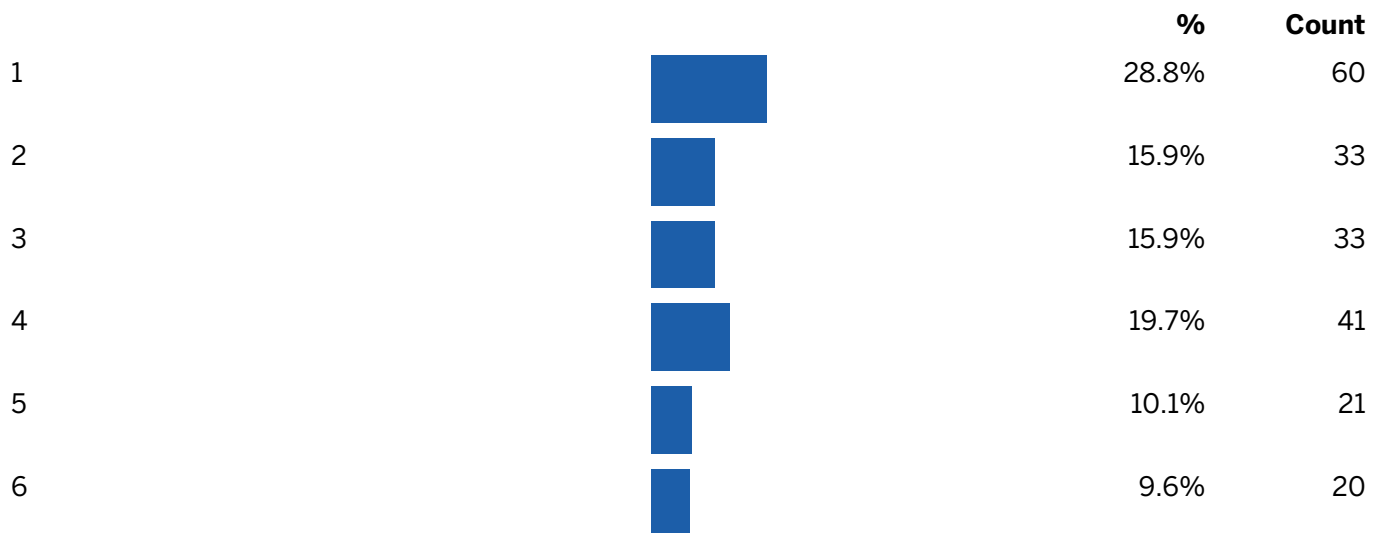
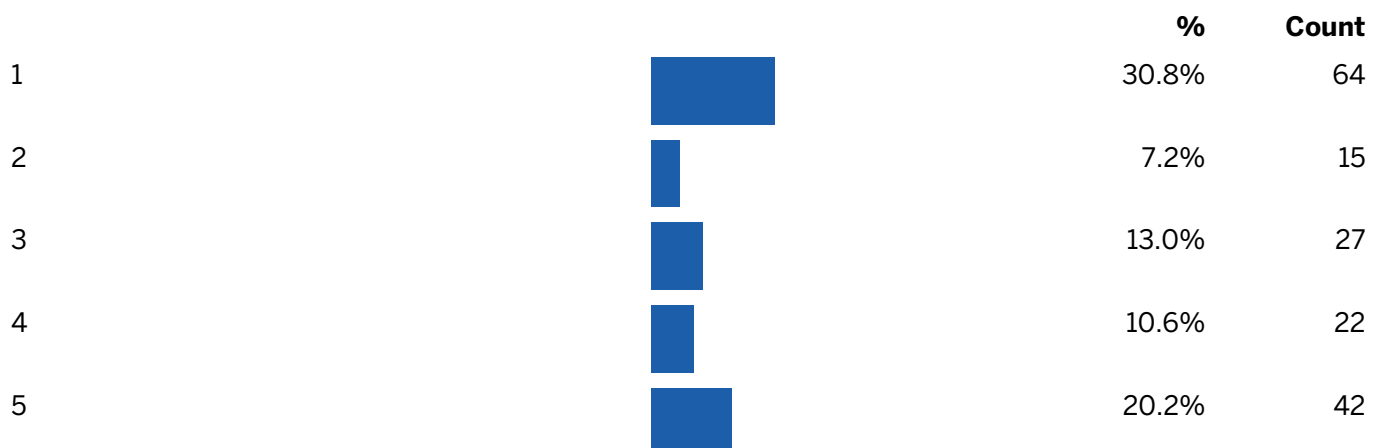
		%	Count
1		10.1%	21
2		10.6%	22
3		16.3%	34
4		20.7%	43
5		22.6%	47
6		19.7%	41

Effects on the Economy

		%	Count
1		20.2%	42

CAAP Survey #2

What are your thoughts on these climate actions?

**Alignment with State and Local Policies****Equity and Climate Justice**













CAAP Survey #2

What are your thoughts on these climate actions?

		%	Count
6		18.3%	38

QUESTION 12

**Transportation
(Please select up to 5 potential actions)**

		%	Count
Increase public electric vehicle charging infrastructure in the City		52.7%	109
Scooter or Bike sharing		13.0%	27
Electric shuttles for cross-town transit		35.7%	74
Traffic reduction and calming measures, especially during heat and air pollution alert days		26.6%	55
Partner with regional transportation efforts to expand zero emissions public transit to and within the City		50.7%	105
Enhance bicycle and pedestrian infrastructure		55.1%	114
Transition to Electric Vehicle and handicap only parking spaces downtown		12.1%	25
Reduce speed limits in the City		10.6%	22
Designate downtown car-free zones		38.2%	79
Develop protected bike corridors throughout the City, even if it means reducing traffic speeds and street parking		44.9%	93
I do not support any of these actions		12.1%	25
Other		19.8%	41

CAAP Survey #2

What are your thoughts on these climate actions?

QUESTION 13

Do you own an Electric Vehicle (EV) or Plug-In Hybrid Electric Vehicle (PHEV)?

		%	Count
Yes		40.1%	83
No		37.2%	77
Plan to purchase an EV or PHEV in the next 1-5 years		22.7%	47

QUESTION 14

If you own an EV or PHEV, do you feel there is sufficient public charging locations in Los Altos?

		%	Count
Yes		35.8%	39
No		64.2%	70

QUESTION 15

If you don't own an EV, what obstacles prevent you from owning one? (Select all that apply)













		%	Count
Cost		36.8%	49
Choice of EVs on the market		18.8%	25
Not confident about their range		38.3%	51
Length of time to re-charge		28.6%	38
Personal choice		12.0%	16
Other		43.6%	58

CAAP Survey #2

What are your thoughts on these climate actions?

QUESTION 16

Energy**(Please select up to 5 potential actions you would support)**










		%	Count
Net zero building energy requirements and incentives		44.9%	93
New construction requirement to install greywater systems		52.2%	108
"End of Flow" deadline for ending natural gas service within the City		15.9%	33
Increase the City's Utility Users Tax on natural gas use (proceeds to be used for rebates/incentive programs)		16.4%	34
Increase photovoltaic requirements and include battery storage/back-up systems in new construction		41.5%	86
Require electric or passive heating for pools and hot tubs		24.6%	51
Require additions and remodel construction to be all electric		27.5%	57
Require that gas appliances be replaced with electric appliances or equipment		11.1%	23
Phase out of gas/diesel operated lawn and garden equipment		46.9%	97
Augment energy rebates, incentives, and financing options offered by Silicon Valley Clean Energy and PG&E		44.0%	91
I do not support any of these actions		17.4%	36
Other		18.8%	39

QUESTION 17

Green Community (Please select up to 5 potential actions you would support)





CAAP Survey #2

What are your thoughts on these climate actions?

		%	Count
Facilitate a resilient downtown (incorporate adaptation elements such as drinking fountains, public restrooms, and enhanced shaded areas)		51.7%	107
Cooling Centers opened to the public on days with high temperature		20.3%	42
Promote waste reduction and recycling through education		54.6%	113
Integrate Carbon Farming practices into the urban landscape		34.3%	71
Increase urban tree canopy		67.1%	139
Expand creek setbacks to promote habitat and reduce flood risk		28.5%	59
Facilitate drought tolerant Native Community Gardens		42.5%	88
Support tree planting initiatives in residential areas		57.0%	118
Ban use of inorganic pesticides and herbicides throughout the City		44.9%	93
I do not support any of these actions		3.9%	8
Other		14.0%	29





QUESTION 18

Resource Conservation (Please select up to 5 potential actions you would support)

		%	Count
Require water-saving landscaping in all new construction		61.4%	127
Ban single-use plastic food ware		55.6%	115
Promote a reuse, repair, recovery, and refurbishment economy		54.6%	113
Promote sustainable purchases through education and outreach efforts		28.0%	58

CAAP Survey #2

What are your thoughts on these climate actions?

		%	Count
Develop year-round Farmers Markets		36.7%	76
Increase construction and demolition debris diversion to at least 80% (currently 70%) by requiring increased deconstruction processes		35.3%	73
Integrate climate change adaptation into all City plans		58.5%	121
Promote consumer awareness of sustainable food choices		23.2%	48
I do not support any of these actions		10.6%	22
Other		13.0%	27

QUESTION 19

Do you want to stay informed on the development of the CAAP?

		%	Count
Yes		85.6%	178
No		14.4%	30

QUESTION 20

If yes, how do you prefer to receive updates and information?

		%	Count
City Manager's Weekly Updates		50.6%	89
City of Los Altos CAAP webpage		26.7%	47
Environmental Commission Meetings		9.1%	16
Email		50.6%	89

CAAP Survey #2

What are your thoughts on these climate actions?

		%	Count
Social Media Updates		8.0%	14

QUESTION 21

Please enter your email if you would like to be contact about the development of the CAAP

Answered	102
Skipped	106

aol bugeater **com** comcast earthlink gmail hotmail **net** org pacbell s sbcglobal yahoo

CAAP Survey #2

What are your thoughts on these climate actions?

Survey Questions

QUESTION 1

Do you live in Los Altos?

- Yes
- No

QUESTION 2

If no, where do you live?

QUESTION 3

Do you rent or own?

- Rent
- Own
- Other

QUESTION 4

How long have you lived in Los Altos?

- <1 year
- 1-4 years
- 5-9 years
- 10-15 years
- 16-25 years
- 26-30 years
- >30 years
- N/A

QUESTION 5

What gender do you identify as?

- Female
- Male
- Non-binary
- I prefer not to answer

QUESTION 6

What is your age?

- Under 18

- 18-34 years
- 35-44 years
- 45-54 years
- 55-64 years
- 65+ years
- I prefer not to answer

QUESTION 7

Do you work or own a business in Los Altos

- Yes
- No
- Both
- Other

QUESTION 8

If you own a business in Los Altos, what kind of business?

QUESTION 9

Do you believe climate change has already or will have a direct, negative impact on: (Choose up to three)

- Your job security or livelihood
- Your or your family's health and wellbeing
- Your or your family's personal safety
- Your financial situation
- The natural environment in your city
- The infrastructure in your city
- I do not believe climate change has or will have a direct, negative impact.
- Other

QUESTION 10

Which of the following statements describes you? (Choose up to three)

- I take personal actions to reduce the impact of climate change
- I do not see a need to address climate change
- There is a lack of agreement among academic, political, business, and governmental entities on the appropriate actions
- I do not have all the information to take appropriate actions

CAAP Survey #2

What are your thoughts on these climate actions?

- New and improved infrastructure will address the impacts of climate change
- The conflicting news and internet information on appropriate actions is problematic
- Personal and government financial resources are not available to make changes to reduce the impacts caused by climate change
- I have other priorities/concerns and am not able to focus attention on climate change
- I feel my actions will have little impact
- Other

QUESTION 11

Please rank the following criteria in order of priority 1-6 (1 being the lowest, 6 being the highest). Please select only one option per priority level.

Row choices

- Greenhouse Gas (GHG) reduction potential
- Cost-Effectiveness
- Community Benefits
- Effects on the Economy
- Alignment with State and Local Policies
- Equity and Climate Justice

Column choices

- 1
- 2
- 3
- 4
- 5
- 6

QUESTION 12

Transportation

(Please select up to 5 potential actions)

- Increase public electric vehicle charging infrastructure in the City
- Scooter or Bike sharing
- Electric shuttles for cross-town transit
- Traffic reduction and calming measures, especially during heat and air pollution alert days
- Partner with regional transportation efforts to expand zero emissions public transit to and within the City
- Enhance bicycle and pedestrian infrastructure
- Transition to Electric Vehicle and handicap only parking spaces downtown

- Reduce speed limits in the City
- Designate downtown car-free zones
- Develop protected bike corridors throughout the City, even if it means reducing traffic speeds and street parking
- I do not support any of these actions
- Other

QUESTION 13

Do you own an Electric Vehicle (EV) or Plug-In Hybrid Electric Vehicle (PHEV)?

- Yes
- No
- Plan to purchase an EV or PHEV in the next 1-5 years

QUESTION 14

If you own an EV or PHEV, do you feel there is sufficient public charging locations in Los Altos?

- Yes
- No

QUESTION 15

If you don't own an EV, what obstacles prevent you from owning one? (Select all that apply)

- Cost
- Choice of EVs on the market
- Not confident about their range
- Length of time to re-charge
- Personal choice
- Other

QUESTION 16

Energy

(Please select up to 5 potential actions you would support)

- Net zero building energy requirements and incentives
- New construction requirement to install greywater systems
- "End of Flow" deadline for ending natural gas service within the City
- Increase the City's Utility Users Tax on natural gas use (proceeds to be used for rebates/incentive programs)
- Increase photovoltaic requirements and include battery storage/back-up systems in new construction

CAAP Survey #2

What are your thoughts on these climate actions?

- Require electric or passive heating for pools and hot tubs
- Require additions and remodel construction to be all electric
- Require that gas appliances be replaced with electric appliances or equipment
- Phase out of gas/diesel operated lawn and garden equipment
- Augment energy rebates, incentives, and financing options offered by Silicon Valley Clean Energy and PG&E
- I do not support any of these actions
- Other

QUESTION 17

Green Community (Please select up to 5 potential actions you would support)

- Facilitate a resilient downtown (incorporate adaptation elements such as drinking fountains, public restrooms, and enhanced shaded areas)
- Cooling Centers opened to the public on days with high temperature
- Promote waste reduction and recycling through education
- Integrate Carbon Farming practices into the urban landscape
- Increase urban tree canopy
- Expand creek setbacks to promote habitat and reduce flood risk
- Facilitate drought tolerant Native Community Gardens
- Support tree planting initiatives in residential areas
- Ban use of inorganic pesticides and herbicides throughout the City
- I do not support any of these actions
- Other

QUESTION 18

Resource Conservation (Please select up to 5 potential actions you would support)

- Require water-saving landscaping in all new construction
- Ban single-use plastic food ware
- Promote a reuse, repair, recovery, and refurbishment economy
- Promote sustainable purchases through education and outreach efforts
- Develop year-round Farmers Markets
- Increase construction and demolition debris diversion to at least 80% (currently 70%) by requiring increased deconstruction processes
- Integrate climate change adaptation into all City plans
- Promote consumer awareness of sustainable food choices
- I do not support any of these actions
- Other

QUESTION 19

Do you want to stay informed on the development of the CAAP?

- Yes
- No

QUESTION 20

If yes, how do you prefer to receive updates and information?

- City Manager's Weekly Updates
- City of Los Altos CAAP webpage
- Environmental Commission Meetings
- Email
- Social Media Updates

QUESTION 21

Please enter your email if you would like to be contact about the development of the CAAP

Other - Changing weather historically should not be political.

Other - Other opportunities can create more good for society at equal or less cost and faster

I take personal actions to reduce the impact of climate change

Other - I do not think the city or county should focus on, or address, climate change.

I do not see a need to address climate change

New and improved infrastructure will address the impacts of climate change

Other - Empirical evidence of a humans as a significant driver of global warming/climate change has not been established. Even if it had been proven, Los Altos is an infinitesimal CO2 contributor on a global basis. Climate change should not be a priority issue.

I take personal actions to reduce the impact of climate change

There is a lack of agreement among academic, political, business, and governmental entities on the appropriate actions

Other - Governments must take drastic action. We will not take enough action to properly address climate change, as wealthy people have disproportionate impacts and are not willing to make changes.

I take personal actions to reduce the impact of climate change

The conflicting news and internet information on appropriate actions is problematic

Other - I'm very worried that News Outlet and Politics do not do not consider Climate Change as the most important threat that Humanity as ever faced (to be clear: much bigger that Covid).

I do not see a need to address climate change

There is a lack of agreement among academic, political, business, and governmental entities on the appropriate actions

Other - The science is not settled and scientists disagree that climate changes exists. You should read "Unsettled."

I take personal actions to reduce the impact of climate change

There is a lack of agreement among academic, political, business, and governmental entities on the appropriate actions

Other - There are many measures we can take in Los Altos to help.

I take personal actions to reduce the impact of climate change

Other - And I encourage neighbors and friends to take action to reduce the impact of climate change

I take personal actions to reduce the impact of climate change

Other - Governments are underspending and missing the urgent need to DRAMATICALLY reduce GHG emissions

I do not see a need to address climate change

I feel my actions will have little impact

Other - Despite news reports, there is no conclusive scientific evidence that we have any effect on climate; Any actions that we may take will be ineffective in any event; it is pure virtue signalling

I do not see a need to address climate change

I feel my actions will have little impact

Other - We need China, India and the developing world to cut deeply. Our US actions will have little % effect. New nuclear power plants, forest wildfire prevention are what we need in CA. We run out of electricity already, so keep natural gas flowing.

There is a lack of agreement among academic, political, business, and governmental entities on the appropriate actions

I feel my actions will have little impact

Other - Climate change is mostly natural and our action will have no impact. Carbon Dioxide is a plant fertilizer & will have many positive effects. Banning Natural Gas will have dangerous unintended consequences regarding our safety due to rolling blackouts.

I take personal actions to reduce the impact of climate change

Other - I want gov't. at all levels to get on the stick and pass some serious regulations with teeth to deal with this problem.

I take personal actions to reduce the impact of climate change
New and improved infrastructure will address the impacts of climate change
Other - I fight for our city to reduce emissions to limit climate change

I take personal actions to reduce the impact of climate change
I do not have all the information to take appropriate actions
I have other priorities/concerns and am not able to focus attention on climate change

I take personal actions to reduce the impact of climate change
I feel my actions will have little impact
Other - Government actions and implementations are key to making progress. We cannot just set goals; we have to have real plans to achieve them.

I take personal actions to reduce the impact of climate change
There is a lack of agreement among academic, political, business, and governmental entities on the appropriate actions
Other - I believe in personal responsibility in taking care of and conserving the land and environment; overbearing government enacted climate change policies are ineffective, expensive and unrealistic

I take personal actions to reduce the impact of climate change
There is a lack of agreement among academic, political, business, and governmental entities on the appropriate actions
Other - The threats of climate change have not come true. Lacks credibility.

I take personal actions to reduce the impact of climate change
Other - IMO, we have to take the lack of affordable and middle income housing more seriously in Los Altos; there are ways to develop good options while keeping the Los Altos community character at the same time - to mitigate some environmental costs of commuting

I take personal actions to reduce the impact of climate change
Personal and government financial resources are not available to make changes to reduce the impacts caused by climate change
Other - I have tried to secure backup power due to fires and outages and have not felt supported by the City planning department.

I take personal actions to reduce the impact of climate change
New and improved infrastructure will address the impacts of climate change
I have other priorities/concerns and am not able to focus attention on climate change

Other - The allowed responses to this question are appallingly narrow and quite clearly designed to elicit opposition to significant climate change action. This is quite clearly a partisan question in what should be a strictly non-partisan inquiry by the City.

I take personal actions to reduce the impact of climate change
Other - I found out that gas-powered gardening equipment produces more greenhouse gas, ozone, and toxins than cars in Los Altos. (<https://www.kqed.org/news/11310630/more-pollution-than-cars-gas-powered-gardening-equipment-poses-the-next-air-quality-threat>)

I take personal actions to reduce the impact of climate change
Other - Believe that individuals must also take responsibility for greenhouse pollution

Other - Glad the US is back with the Paris Accord

I take personal actions to reduce the impact of climate change
There is a lack of agreement among academic, political, business, and governmental entities on the appropriate actions
Other - It's up to the governments of the world to mandate energy conservation measures. The acts of individuals won't be enough to counteract the business and government interests that foster global warming

I take personal actions to reduce the impact of climate change
New and improved infrastructure will address the impacts of climate change
Other - I thoroughly believe in Climate change and its negative consequences. Systemic and specific actions are needed now and city government must take the lead! Small home clusters and multi-family housing will help mitigate climate degradation.

I take personal actions to reduce the impact of climate change
New and improved infrastructure will address the impacts of climate change
Other - Denser housing, increased walk/bikeability are aspects of infrastructure that will help

I take personal actions to reduce the impact of climate change
New and improved infrastructure will address the impacts of climate change
Other - I believe strongly that government at all levels needs to take more actions

I take personal actions to reduce the impact of climate change
New and improved infrastructure will address the impacts of climate change
Other - Climate change and its negative consequences are real. City government must take the lead now to implement systemic and specific actions now to address the issue.

I take personal actions to reduce the impact of climate change
Other - The information regarding climate change is clear, especially in light of the recent report from the IPCC, and this is the most important, most urgent problem for humanity to address

I take personal actions to reduce the impact of climate change
New and improved infrastructure will address the impacts of climate change
Other - I think climate chaos is already well underway and will increasingly threaten our societal health and well-being

I take personal actions to reduce the impact of climate change
There is a lack of agreement among academic, political, business, and governmental entities on the appropriate actions
Other - The private sector will address the problem far better than the government can, providing the government does not interfere..

I take personal actions to reduce the impact of climate change
Other - Government policies to increase population, housing, infill etc. are exacerbating the water shortages caused by climate change.

I take personal actions to reduce the impact of climate change

New and improved infrastructure will address the impacts of climate change

Other - Good government practice requires cost as an integral part of decision-making. Cost to the environment (climate change) should factor strongly.

I take personal actions to reduce the impact of climate change

Other - I believe that we need strong federal and state government policies to support climate change mitigation because individual actions alone will not be sufficient and we cannot rely upon market mechanisms to address the issues.

I do not see a need to address climate change

Other - The earth warms & cools in cycles- Man has little effect either way. Man-made global warming is a fraud. The earth was warming & cooling long before the industrial revolution and man's affect.

I take personal actions to reduce the impact of climate change

I feel my actions will have little impact

Other - I'm not sure if adding trees counts as infrastructure, and if reducing concrete/hardscape counts, but both matter to me in pulling down the temperature of our neighborhoods and city.

Other - One volcano eruption erases anything that can be done by humans to mitigate "Climate Change", it's hubristic to think we can change things

I take personal actions to reduce the impact of climate change

New and improved infrastructure will address the impacts of climate change

Other - I believe climate change is the largest problem facing the world.

I feel my actions will have little impact

Other - Increasing CO2 emissions from China and India will far outweigh any CO2 reductions made in the US. The City of Los Altos is wasting its taxpayers' money in a vain hope to mitigate climate change.

I take personal actions to reduce the impact of climate change

New and improved infrastructure will address the impacts of climate change

Other - Major investments in R&D will drive the needed breakthrough technology (like our transition from whale oil to fossil fuel) .Today's inefficient technology (i.e. solar panels; gas to electric conversions) is barely making a difference in climate temp.