



STAFF REPORT

TOWN COUNCIL MEETING OF OCTOBER 9, 2012

To: Town Council

From: Town Manager

Date: September 27, 2012

Subject: Approval of the Participation Agreement with Sierra Business Council for the preparation of a Strategic Energy Resources Report

RECOMMENDATION:

Approve the Participation Agreement with Sierra Business Council for the preparation of a Strategic Energy Resources Report

DISCUSSION/BACKGROUND:

The Town of Loomis has partnered with Sierra Business Council (SBC) and Pacific Gas and Electric Company through the Government and Community Partnership Program to create municipal operations and community-wide greenhouse gas emission inventories over the past two years. These inventories provided the town with a comprehensive analysis of greenhouse gas emissions within the town for a baseline year of 2005. On March 8th, 2011 and July 10th, 2012 the Town Council accepted the municipal operations and community-wide inventory reports prepared by SBC, respectively.

The third phase of the Government and Community Partnership Program builds off of the work that was completed in the first two phases and provides a strategy for the city to reduce operational costs town-wide, take a proactive step towards reducing greenhouse gas emissions, and create energy efficiencies. Town staff will work with SBC to develop a Strategic Energy Resources report which, when augmented with the GHGE inventory analysis, may be incorporated as a portion of a climate action plan. This work is again offered at no direct cost to the town, and is paid for by California utility customers and administered by Pacific Gas and Electric Company under the auspices of the California Public Utilities Commission.

By entering into the agreement, the Town is simply agreeing to participate in the Government and Community Partnership Program to develop a Strategic Energy Resources Report. This action does not commit the Town to any future adoption of a plan, nor does it adopt any policies or plan. It does,

however, provide that additional work in this area may continue, at no cost to the Town, so informed decisions may be made in the future concerning any possible actions by the Town Council in regards to reducing operational costs town-wide, taking a proactive step towards reducing greenhouse gas emissions, and creating better energy efficiencies.

Development of the Strategic Energy Resources Report is not a Climate Action Plan. The Strategic Energy Resources Report *may* be added to a Climate Action Plan in the future, if Loomis decides, *at a later date* to create a CAP, but the actual work proposed to be done now *is not a Climate Action Plan*.

Of more importance is that development of the information in the Strategic Energy Resources Report coupled with the previously completed Green House Gas Inventories puts the Town closer to compliance with the requirements of AB 32 which in turn will make it easier to comply with the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) which requires major projects to evaluate their impacts on Green House Gas emissions.

In addition, as the report is prepared, community workshops will be held to provide options for residents, businesses and the Town to save money through energy efficiency and renewable energy, and to get input from the public on priorities they would like to see the Town pursue regarding those options.

CEQA :

The proposed participation agreement is exempt from CEQA.

FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS:

There is no financial impact to the Town at this time.

Attachments: Draft Participation Agreement

Government and Community Partnership Program Local Government Participation Agreement

Government and Community Partnership Program PARTICIPATION AGREEMENT BETWEEN

_____ and Sierra Business Council
Name of Jurisdiction

Through support from Pacific Gas and Electric Company's (PG&E) Government and Community Partnership Program, Sierra Business Council (SBC) will be working directly with selected local governments in the Sierra Nevada region to assist them in developing a Strategic Energy Resources report. This report will identify energy efficiencies and cost savings opportunities for municipal and community operations. Through this effort, SBC will arrange technical tools, professional training and support for local governments to complete a Strategic Energy Resources report. The Government and Community Partnership is a program funded by California utility customers and administered by PG&E under the auspices of the California Public Utilities Commission.

_____ ("the jurisdiction") would like to be enrolled as a participant in the Government and Community Partnership Program to develop a Strategic Energy Resources report.

By agreeing to participate, the signed jurisdiction agrees to the following:

- Sign off on official participation agreement (this document)
- Provide other available data related to the project
- Commitment to assign a staff person as available to assist in connecting with key staff for the purposes of data collection, outline planning and policy principals, to organize and select working group for workshops, to review and provide input in the memorandums and draft documents, to participate in pre/post program surveys administered by SBC, and to facilitate scheduling of board/council presentation(s) when needed
- Release of 2010 municipal operations and community-wide aggregate energy use data for the jurisdiction upon email request from Sierra Business Council to PG&E

In return, SBC agrees to provide the following throughout the project period:

- Support for local government staff in preparation and drafting of the energy efficiency chapter
- A trained staff member to assist government staff to conduct the greenhouse gas emission forecast
- Dissemination of climate protection resource materials as approved by the jurisdiction

By signing below, the jurisdiction agrees to participate in this initiative through the life of the project, starting in August 2012.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, this Agreement is executed by:

Local Government Representative

SBC Program Director

Signature

Date

Signature

Date