

OUR ENVIRONMENTAL LEGACY

Preserve and protect Petaluma’s environment for future generations and become a municipal leader in sustainability by protecting our river and open space, reducing and drawing down greenhouse gas emissions, and encouraging sustainable development.

OBJECTIVE 1 - PRESERVE AND PROTECT PETALUMA’S ENVIRONMENT WITH SMART AND EFFICIENT USE OF RESOURCES.		LEAD	ASSIST	STATUS
Workplan Items:				
42	Find ways for City operations to reduce greenhouse gas emissions, conserve water, decrease waste, and minimize use of fossil fuels and investigate and pursue options for carbon sequestration.	CMO/PW&U		ONGOING: This will be a long term goal, with significant guidance expected from the efforts of the Climate Action Commission; however actions are being taken to replace older vehicles and equipment with new vehicles and equipment that meets latest CARB requirements as well as looking for opportunities to go beyond requirements, including purchasing of electric vehicles, electric bikes for staff use, installing electric vehicle chargers, installing solar panels at four city facilities, completing the biomass to biofuel project; investigating more sustainable methods for reuse of biosolids produced as a byproduct of wastewater treatment; continuing projects to increase the capacity and distribution of recycled water; completing innovative full depth asphalt recycling method in major road reconstruction projects such as Sonoma Mountain Parkway and Maria Drive, converting over 100 streetlights in downtown area to LED; Purchased electric pool car for transit and installed vehicle charger; converted all light bulbs at the Petaluma Transit Facility to LED.
43	Consider adopting energy codes that exceed current requirements.	BLDG/PLANNING	CAO	IN PROGRESS: City Council adopted triennial code updates and including increase to CalGreen Tier 2. All electric requirements in process and to return to City Council in first quarter 2020.
44	Consider and move forward to adopt City’s participation in Sonoma Clean Power’s EverGreen program.	PW&U	FINANCE	IN PROGRESS: City Council discussed bringing this item back at the end of 2020 due to cost
45	Consider requiring new development to participate in Sonoma Clean Power’s EverGreen program.	PLANNING	CAO	COMPLETED: city does not have the authority to require private consumers to opt into the specific utility option. Consistent with intent to have more of Petaluma users opt into Evergreen, a condition has been developed to encourage applicants to do so as part of discretionary approvals.
46	Establish and promote a citywide sustainability program leading with exemplary environmental practices.	CMO/PW&U		IN PROGRESS: This will be a long term goal, with significant guidance expected from the efforts of the Climate Action Commission; however actions are being taken to replace older vehicles and equipment with new vehicles and equipment that meets latest CARB requirements as well as looking for opportunities to go beyond requirements, including purchasing of electric vehicles, electric bikes for staff use, installing electric vehicle chargers, installing solar panels at four city facilities, completing the biomass to biofuel project; continuing projects to increase the capacity and distribution of recycled water; completing innovative full depth asphalt recycling in major road reconstruction projects such as Sonoma Mountain Parkway and Maria Drive.
47	Adopt a Zero Waste ordinance.	CMO	CAO	IN PROGRESS: Zero Waste Resolution adopted by Council on 7/15/2019. Other waste reduction ordinances in development.
48	Adopt an ordinance creating and empowering a City Climate Commission.	CMO/CAO		COMPLETED: Climate Action Commission established by Ordinance 2689, adopted 8/5/2019. First meeting of Commission was 11/14/2019
49	Install solar panels on city-owned properties where appropriate and work with Sonoma Clean Power on a solar program for potential revenue generation.	PW&U		IN PROGRESS: Council given on January 6, 2020, is moving forward with an agreement with Forefront power to install solar panels that can generate 629kW of electricity at four city facilities which include the Police department, airport, Community Center, and City Pool. Feasibility of other facilities will be examined.
50	Engage the Regional Climate Protection Agency, City Council, staff, and community members in the development of a city-wide Climate Action Plan.	CMO		IN PROGRESS: Climate Emergency Plan under discussion by Climate Action Commission.
51	Complete Biomass to Biofuel project at the City’s Ellis Creek Water Recycling Facility.	PW&U		NEARLY COMPLETE: This project is nearly complete, began start-up of the CNG fueling facility.
52	Develop a framework to move the City and transit vehicle fleet from fossil-fuel based to hybrid, renewable compressed natural gas, and/or electric vehicles and continue pursuing grant funding opportunities for electric vehicles.	PW&U		IN PROGRESS: PW&U has drafted guidance for purchasing practices for vehicles supporting this item. Planning to purchase 3 electric vehicles as pool cars in early 2020. Completed Transit fleet and facility electrification study in January 2020 in conjunction with other Sonoma County Transit agencies and Sonoma Clean Power. Successfully applied for Cap & Trade funding to assist with purchasing of electric transit buses.
53	Continue to expand recycled water services to support local agriculture and groundwater and surface water resources.	PW&U		IN PROGRESS: This is a long term goal , but significant steps have occurred in the last 12 months. including In September 2019, the City was awarded a \$3.6M grant to expand the capacity of its recycled water plant. This funding will augment wastewater funding to increase the capacity of tertiary recycled water equipment from 5.2 MGD to 7.6 MGD.
54	Consider requiring electric vehicle charging stations and solar energy in new or substantially-upgraded housing and commercial structures.	PLANNING/BLDG		IN PROGRESS: Triennial code updates increased EV requirements for both residential and commercial. Considering increased local requirements as part of all-electric reach code that is in progress and will return to the Council in first quarter 2020.

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55	Make the City’s water distribution system more resilient, by repairing and replacing leaking water pipes, and implementing the water/sewer masterplan.	PW&U		ONGOING: Staff is working with the Water Agency on the Regional Resiliency Study currently underway. Also involved with eh LHMP. Staff is also updating the West Yost Vulnerability Study and having the cyber security updated for SCADA. Staff is updating the 2004 Functional Emergency Response Plan based on our experiences with the PG&E shut-offs. Staff is scheduling and repairing leaks in the most efficient ways possible
56	Update Implementing Zoning Ordinance (IZO) to ensure ability to provide full environmental review for all discretionary project.	PLANNING	CAO	IN PROGRESS: Planning and CAO have initiated discussion of best approach to address this issue and ensure all discretionary review projects are subject to CEQA review as local requirement. Anticipate returning with code updates second quarter 2020.
57	Improve integration of transit in planning and land-use related processes and decision-making.	PW&U	PLANNING	COMPLETED: Transit Manager is part of internal routing for all new development applications for initial comments and feedback. Additionally, Transit Manager participates in weekly Development Review meetings when applicable projects are discussed. Recent projects have been conditioned to incorporate Transit needs, such as new bus shelters, pull out lanes, etc. (Safeway Fuel Center, Corona Station Residential, etc.)
58	Increase organic diversion from landfills and explore composting site opportunities.	CMO		IN PROGRESS: Investigating more sustainable methods for reuse of biosolids produced as a byproduct of wastewater treatment. A mid-year budget request was submitted to support this activity. Amendments to the Franchise Agreement with Recology will be required to implement State-required action in response to AB 1383. Staff is examining other concurrent updates to the Franchise Agreement that will increase organics diversion.
59	Install consistent three stream receptacles at all City facilities.	PW&U		IN PROGRESS: Staff is currently developing costs and plan to implement.
60	Adopt a citywide single-use plastic and polystyrene ban.	EDOG/PW&U	CAO	COMPLETED: Council adopted a polystyrene ban on 11/18/2019. IN PROGRESS: A citywide single-ue plastic ban ordinance is expected by April 2020.
61	Ban the use and sale of Glyphosate.	PW&U	CAO	NOT INITIATED
62	Examine Urban Growth Boundary expiration date beyond 2025 via ballot measure and develop a white paper	PLANNING	CAO	NOT INITIATED: envisioned to be part of General Plan preparation in 2020.
63	Reimagine maintenance practices for managing City parks and open spaces.	PW&U		IN PROGRESS: Staff is in the process of updating the Integrated Pest Management Plan for City facilities. (As background, City staff has not used glyphosate for weed control in parks or public areas since 2017 and directed LAD contractors not to use it at that time, and then incorporated this requirement into the update to LAD contract May 2019 and banned the use on all City property. Staff is seeking out maintenance practices which limit the use of chemicals, decrease water consumption, and improve carbon sequestration. An updated IPMP will likely include more organic and manual weed abatement strategies which the City is preparing for through its hiring of an additional park maintenance worker included in this year’s budget as well as a seasonal work program. Also worth noting is the habitat restoration project STRAW (Students and Teachers Restoring A Watershed) underway at Shollenberger Park in partnership with the Point Blue Conservation Science group. This is a grant funded project that could serve as a model for other areas along the river that would help ‘reimagine’ parks maintenance by introducing more native flora.
64	Create tool / dashboard that tracks City progress on reducing greenhouse gas emissions and carbon sequestration.	PW&U/CMO		IN PROGRESS: In coordination and conjunction with the efforts to develop a citywide Climate Action Plan (CAP), staff is developing a systematic reporting process to aid in informing decision-makers and the public through an online Greenhouse Gas (GHG) “dashboard,” which will provide an annual report of measurements, monitoring, and management of key CAP activities. Once implemented, the CAP dashboard will serve as a performance monitoring tool and can assist staff and policymakers in making objective decisions regarding CAP implementation.
65	Research and pursue grey water use and rain/storm water catchment options for new development.	BLDG	PLANNING	COMPLETED: Requirement for greywater valve installation as part of all new single family homes included in recent triennial building code update.
OBJECTIVE 2 - PROMOTE SUSTAINABLE BUILDING PRACTICES AND ACTIVE CONSERVATION EFFORTS TO PETALUMA RES		LEAD	ASSIST	STATUS
Workplan Items:				
66	Educate our community and provide sustainability tools for City staff, developers, employers, property owners and all residents.	CMO/EDOG/PW&U		IN PROGRESS: Provided community outreach at over a dozen community events throughout the year to increase knowledge and usage of Transit throughout the community. A key goal of the newly-formed Climate Commission is to engage the community on sustainability and climate action.
67	Work with Recology to increase the diversion of waste away from the landfill.	CMO		IN PROGRESS: Recology providing quarterly reports showing progress from a 43.0% diversion rate to 47.3% in 2019.
68	Implement sustainable building practices that go above and beyond basic code requirements.	BLDG/PLANNING		IN PROGRESS: Increase to CalGreen Tier 2 as part of recent code update. Actively working on all-electric code for Council consideration in first quarter 2020.
69	Investigate ways to allow homeowners to use the public right of way for EV Charging.	PW&U/PLANNING	CAO	IN PROGRESS: Identified pilot program in Berkeley. Ongoing discussion with Public Works Department.

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70	Continue focus on water conservation and urban recycled water expansion.	PW&U		ONGOING: Working with SRJC to complete retrofit to convert irrigation from potable water to recycled water; continue connecting LAD's along Sonoma Mountain recycled water main extension;; design is nearly complete to to install recycled water main along Maria Drive as part of the roadway reconstruction.
71	Revisit flood plain management practices to address climate change and sea level rise.	PW&U		IN PROGRESS: This item will take a few years to complete; current actions include increased involvement by City Engineer/Floodplain administrator with the Bay Area Flood Protection Agencies (BAFPAA), an organization that is addressing this issue Bay Area wide; engaging with Sonoma Water on updating the City's and watershed floodplain model to incorporate latest predictions on rainfall events and sea level rise.