



CITY COUNCIL AGENDA REPORT



DEPARTMENT: Public Works

MEETING DATE: November 16, 2010

PREPARED BY: Ron Bow, Director

AGENDA LOCATION: AR-1

TITLE: Fiscal Year 2009-10 Monrovia Environmental Accords Annual Report

OBJECTIVE: To present the Fiscal Year 2009-10 Monrovia Environmental Accords Annual Report.

BACKGROUND: On July 2, 2007, the City Council adopted the Monrovia Environmental Accords, Administrative Policy No. 9.02. The Accords consist of twenty-one (21) action items focusing on seven sustainability areas: Energy, Waste Reduction, Urban Design, Urban Nature, Transportation, Environmental Health and Water. The goals are considered mid- to long-range and may take up to 5 to 20 years to accomplish.

The Monrovia Green Team, consisting of Staff from each department, is responsible for implementing projects, programs and policies to help achieve the goals set in the Monrovia Environmental Accords (MEA). Two documents were created by the Green Team to help develop implementation plans and provide accountability and are included in each Annual Report;

- An Action Strategy was developed for each of the Accords goals providing baseline information, strategy, implementation steps and an evaluation method. The report provides a thorough tracking and analysis mechanism to annually track the City progress towards MEA Action Items accomplishment.
- In addition, a Project Matrix is developed for each Fiscal Year and lists planned projects that will help towards accomplishment of the Accords goals. The project matrix contains two parts; updates related to projects planned for the reporting year and proposed projects next fiscal year.

ANALYSIS: A copy of the full Monrovia Environmental Accords FY 2009-10 Annual Report is filed with the City Clerk and contains Action Strategy updates (Attachment A) along with FY 2009-10 Project Updates (Attachment B) and New and Ongoing Projects proposed for FY 2010-11 (Attachment C). Throughout the MEA planning and implementation, Staff concentrates on finding fiscally responsible options to meet the MEA goals. Staff has applied for grant money and/or rebates, evaluated proposed efficiency measure and has partnered with other departments and agencies to work towards the MEA goals. Highlights from this year's report along with examples of efforts Staff has taken to ensure fiscal responsibility are provided below for each of the MEA resources areas.

FY 2009-10 Highlights

Energy: The City received \$161,100 of Energy Efficiency and Conservation Block Grant (EECBG) funding for energy saving lighting improvements at City facilities and lighted street signage. The two EECBG project activities combined are estimated to save a total of 77,567 kWhs of electricity annually and reduce carbon emissions (CO₂) by 98,080 pounds annually when completed. Additionally, the City received \$3,135.66 in energy rebates and incentives for tinting of windows at City Hall and the Police Department, installation of LED lights at Library Park and the Police Station HVAC and Cool Roof renovation.

AR-1

Waste Reduction: The City amended its residential contract with Athens Services in September 2009. The contract amendments provided a fleet of new compressed natural gas vehicles, automated green waste service, new containers, and waste reductions and recycling education to residents. As a result of the new contract, single family recycling increased by 22% and green waste tonnages increased by 20.74% (75.14 tons). During FY 2009-10, City Council also approved an Extended Producer Responsibility (EPR) Resolution and membership in the California Product Stewardship Council. Finance implemented an electronic payroll stub system; realizing a cost savings of \$2,350/year by eliminating paper, envelopes and Staff costs to generate payroll stubs and transport them to city employees.

Urban Design: Community Development reviewed State Green Building Codes and prepared proposed revisions for Monrovia's Building Ordinance (to be presented for City Council consideration in FY 2010-11). The Station Square/Transit Village Master Plan was approved, but the project was delayed until completion of the environmental review process for the Metro Gold Line Maintenance and Operation Yard. Green jobs continue to be obtained through Federal Stimulus Plan grants with LA Works and Workforce Investment Board. 20 youth interns completed their summer internship through the City's YES Program.

Urban Nature: The Hillside Recreation and Wilderness Preserve Management Plan was rescinded, however a draft environmental impact report (EIR) is being prepared and review of the Draft Initial Study will begin this Fall. City Council adopted the Emerald Necklace Accord and staff began developing stormwater pollution prevention project ideas with Amigos de los Rios. The bear-resistant trash barrel program was expanded to include an unlock service as part of the Residential Refuse Franchise Agreement.

Transportation: Public Works purchased two fuel-free electric GEM vehicles in lieu of traditional work trucks eliminating costs for over 500 gallons of fuel per year per vehicle. Community Services purchased a low emission vehicle for Canyon Park, as well as a 10 speed mountain bike for patrols along the Lower Clamshell Trail. Bike patrols are estimated to save approximately 503 pounds of CO2 per year and save \$331 in fuel and maintenance costs. An online training program was implemented, allowing City employees to participate in training via webinar and reduce air pollution and traffic.

Water: Public Works continues to promote water conservation and has developed the Water 4 Life program which will be presented to City Council in FY 2010-11. Community Services completed the first phase of a drought tolerant demonstration garden with the installation of a drip-water irrigation system at Canyon Park. All water and sewer monitoring and treatment programs are ongoing.

California Green Communities Challenge

In 2010, the City of Monrovia, along with 9 other Southern California cities, was asked to participate in the California Green Communities Challenge. The California Green Communities is an environmental recognition program that fosters innovative ways for participating cities to reduce carbon emissions and energy consumption while building vibrant, sustainable communities. Addressing 10 key environmental challenges, participating cities have been asked to create and implement programs that help realize substantial long-term cost savings and improve community life. To achieve the Platinum, Silver or Gold Level designations, cities must develop and execute an action plan consisting of three new programs in each of the 10 Institute of Local Government (ILG) best practice areas. At least one of the programs in each of the best practice areas must contain a community outreach and impact element. The Green Team has submitted a draft Action Plan (Attachment D) and has incorporated the 30 projects into the Accords new project list for FY 2010-11 (Attachment C).

Outreach and Community Involvement

One of the Green Team's main goals this past year was to plan and host a Community Sustainability Fair to showcase local businesses and resources available to the community. Although the fair itself was conducted in FY 2010-11, much of the Green Team's efforts in the latter half of FY 2009-10 were devoted to planning the Fair.

Green Department of the Year

A new program started during FY 2009-10 was the Green Department of the Year Award. The recognition program was created by the Green Team to help encourage departments to create innovative practices and programs in support of the Accords. This year's award was focused on the implementation of the City's Green Purchasing Policy. The selection was very competitive as each of the departments has taken significant steps towards policy implementation; however, the 2009 Green Department of the Year was awarded to the Community Services Department.

FY 2010-11 Goals

The City of Monrovia continues to implement projects and programs in order to progress towards completion of the Action Items set forth in the Accords. The Green Team will be focusing on community outreach and engagement as a goal for this next year. To better define goals and objects and suggestions for implementing public education and outreach efforts, the Green Team will develop a strategic plan which will be included as a new section of the City's Strategic Plan.

OPTIONS: The following options are provided for consideration:

1. Receive and file the FY 2009-10 MEA Annual Report as presented.
2. Receive and file the FY 2009-10 MEA Annual Report with modifications.
3. Do not receive and file the FY 2009-10 MEA Annual Report and direct staff with alternate reporting guidelines.

ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT: The MEA establishes twenty-one (21) action items focusing on seven sustainability areas: Energy, Waste Reduction, Urban Design, Urban Nature, Transportation, Environmental Health and Water. The MEA Annual Report tracks the City's progress towards accomplishment of the 21 action items.

FISCAL IMPACT: No fiscal impact.

RECOMMENDATION: Staff recommends Option 1, receiving and filing the FY 2009-10 Monrovia Environmental Accords Annual Report.

COUNCIL ACTION REQUIRED: If the City Council concurs, the appropriate action would be a motion to receive and file the Fiscal Year 2009-10 Monrovia Environmental Accords Annual Report.