



CITY COUNCIL AGENDA REPORT



DEPARTMENT: Public Works

MEETING DATE: September 16, 2008

PREPARED BY: David Fike, Director of Public Works

AGENDA LOCATION:

TITLE: 2007 Monrovia Environmental Accords Annual Report; Receive and File

OBJECTIVE: Provide the City Council with the City's Green Team annual evaluation for the 2007-08 fiscal year.

BACKGROUND: The City Council adopted the Monrovia Environmental Accords through Administrative Policy No. 9.02 on July 2, 2007. The Accords consist of twenty-one (21) action items. The action items focus on seven major topic areas sustainability: Energy, Waste Reduction, Urban Design, Urban Nature, Transportation, Environmental Health and Water.

The Monrovia Green Team, consisting of City Staff from each City Department is responsible to implement projects; programs and policies approved the City Council. Green Team support is provided through the Public Works Environmental Services Section. Education and Training has been a focal point for the Environmental Services Section Staff as they presented the Accords and Environmental Policy to each City Department.

Last January, City Council was provided a six-month update of the Green Team's activities. The Green Team shared the importance of developing an action strategy that would describe the criteria to accomplish each strategy item. In addition, City Departments proposed a combine 59 Green Oriented Projects for the 2007-08 fiscal year.

ANALYSIS: Action Strategies (See Attachment A) was one of the major hurdles the Green Team needed to accomplish this past fiscal year. The purpose of the Action Strategy is to provide accountability and show the progress of each action item. Using a quantitative formula, the Action Strategy becomes a measurement tool allowing for a numerical range value of 0 to 100. The Action Strategies are the result of four pieces of information:

- **Baseline Data** – Physical inventory information using the 2006-07 fiscal year as its baseline year. Many of the accord items require a percentage range to be accomplished before it's considered complete. The percentage is the difference between the baseline year vs. future fiscal year end.
- **Action Strategy** – The process of developing proposed projects, programs, strategies and policies that are needed to accomplish the Action Item.
- **Implementation** – Considers the actual implementation of developing proposed projects, obtain funding, actual implementation of programs, strategies and policies that will actually take place. Such items will be included in the matrix of proposed projects submitted each fiscal year.
- **Evaluation** – Year-end summation of measuring the overall accomplishment of the Action Strategy.

The bar graph provided in the evaluation section of each Action Item Strategy, illustrates the City's past year's effort and present status. Out of the twenty-one (21) Action Items, one is considered

complete. This should not discourage the City. Action Items are considered mid to long-range goals. The Green Team's initial effort this past year was dedicated towards obtaining important baseline data.

A year-end matrix sheet (Attachment B) describes each project, the department(s) responsible and their status at the end of the 2007-08 fiscal year. In addition, the 2008-09 fiscal year projects are identified on the attached matrix sheet (Attachment C) and describes what the City Council can expect this fiscal year.

There was significant progress in several Monrovia Accords key topic areas of sustainability. In the area of Energy, the San Gabriel Energy Wise Partnership recognized Monrovia as a Model City. San Gabriel Valley Council of Governments, Southern California Association of Governments and Southern California Edison sponsor the program. The Model City Program was completed in June and provided Monrovia with an Energy Action Plan that will prove helpful in Monrovia's implementation of their Action Strategies. The Energy Action Plan is currently being reviewed by the Southern California Edison and we hope to present the plan to the City Council next month.

In Urban Design, Community Development is drafting Monrovia's first Green Build Ordinance and a Green Build Rating System for new municipal buildings. In Urban Nature, Public Works obtained a tree-planting grant and coordinated with the Make a Difference Day Committee to plant 150 parkway trees on South Peck and El Norte.

Under Transportation, a new policy for Low-Emission Vehicle (LEV) Acquisition will be developed. The policy will pave the way for the City to purchase efficient high mileage vehicles for its fleet. The City has worked closely with the San Gabriel Valley Council of Governments and the Air Quality Management District to provide information and workshops to help educate and make proper decisions in future fleet purchases.

In Waste Reduction, the City has adopted a goal to meet 75% diversion by 2015. The City has already initiated recycling and food composting at City Facilities. Bottled water is no longer purchased and large re-usable coolers were purchased by Utilities for use at City Events and large meetings. The White Paper, offering a third party analysis on the City's Solid Waste Service Agreements was presented to City Council which included recommendations on how the City could structure service arrangements to increase waste diversion. Two study sessions were also presented by staff in FY 2007-08 providing detailed information on the City's service contracts. Working towards manufacturer responsibility, the City is now a member of the California Product Stewardship Council whose mission is "to increase the level of producer responsibility for product packaging disposal and reduce the financial burden and responsibility placed on the local government for hazardous waste disposal." Additionally, the City's door-to-door household hazardous waste collection contract with Curbside Inc, was revised to include e-waste pickups, now providing residents with convenient and free electronic waste, universal waste, and hazardous waste disposal/recycling.

Projects planned in 2008-09 include a re-usable shopping bag campaign including free re-usable shopping bags. As the City's composting bin program continues to gain popularity, backyard compost bins and vermicomposting (worm) bins will be sold for a discounted price along with a hosted Smart Gardening Workshop and two vermicomposting workshops. To meet its goal of 75% diversion, staff is researching Material Recovery Facilities (MRF), food waste composting for restaurants, expansion of residential composting programs and alternate green waste/diversion facilities. In addition staff is researching plastic bag reduction ordinances and consumer/producer responsibilities.

FISCAL IMPACT: None.

RECOMMENDATION: City Council receive and file Monrovia Environmental Accords annual update.

COUNCIL ACTION REQUIRED: If the City Council concurs the appropriate action would be a motion to receive and file the Monrovia Environmental Accords annual update.