



CITY COUNCIL AGENDA REPORT



DEPARTMENT: Public Works

MEETING DATE: October 6, 2009

PREPARED BY: Ron Bow, Director

AGENDA LOCATION: AR-1

TITLE: Fiscal Year 2008-09 Monrovia Environmental Accords Annual Report

OBJECTIVE: To present the Fiscal Year 2008-09 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 Monrovia Green Team, consisting of City Staff from each Department, is responsible for implementing projects, programs and policies to help achieve the goals set in the Monrovia Environmental Accords (MEA). The City's progress on the MEA implementation reported annually on a fiscal year basis to City Council.

The Green Team has provided leadership amongst the cities within the San Gabriel Valley, as the Los Angeles County Board of Supervisors recognized the City of Monrovia with the County's first Green Leadership Award on April 21, 2009. Nominated by the San Gabriel Valley Council of Governments, the award was in recognition of the MEA and the progress the City has made since the MEA's inception, two year's ago.

ANALYSIS: The Green Team's 2008-09 annual report (filed in the City Clerk's Office) consists of three parts. The first is the past year's summation for each of the twenty-one Action Strategies within the MEA. A bar graph provides a visual progression of each Action Item. Out of the twenty-one (21) Action Items, two are considered completed. This is one more compared to last year's annual report.

The second and third parts are matrix updates of special projects listed within each City Department related to the MEA. The first matrix summarizes the 2008-09 fiscal year. Each project is prioritized 1 to 3, those ranked 1 are considered the highest in the Department's listing priority. The second matrix summarizes special projects proposed by various City Departments for the present 2009-10 fiscal year.

The City has progressed in several MEA topic areas of sustainability:

Energy: Staff focused its attention on federal stimulus grant funding being offered by the United States Department of Energy. The City's Energy Action Plan approved by Council last year provided a strategy on how use capital funds as they become be available. Energy Block Grant (EBG) Funds should become available late this Fall. The \$161,000.00 EBG funding designated to the City of Monrovia will be used for energy saving lighting improvements at City facilities and lighted street signage.

Waste Reduction: Public Works focused on negotiations to amend the City's residential contract with Athens Services. The proposed new contract would provide a fleet of new compressed natural gas vehicles and an additional green waste container to residents. The additional green waste container will help the City meet its MEA 75% diversion goal by 2015.

The Council approved an Environmental Purchasing Policy (EPP). The policy provides City Departments with direction to purchase products that are recyclable or made from recyclable materials whenever it is fiscally sound to do so.

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Urban Design: The City opened the new Library building, the City's first LEED facility, pending a Silver Certification. Library Park features Low Impact Development (LID) design features that focus on water retention, water conservation with the state of the art Calsense irrigation system and energy saving LID park lighting.

Community Development drafted Monrovia's first Green Build Ordinance and a Green Build Rating System for new municipal buildings and will present the ordinance to the City Council this fall.

Urban Nature: The Hillside Recreation and Wilderness Preserve Management Plan was completed and will be used as a resource in the development of an Environmental Impact Report.

Transportation: A Low-Emission Vehicle (LEV) Acquisition Administrative Policy was adopted by the City Council, making way for alternative fuel vehicle purchases in the upcoming fiscal year. Under this purchase policy, the Utilities Division purchased its first Global Electric Motorcar (GEM).

Water: Public Works completed its Waste Discharge Regulation, a state mandated report requiring a list of physical inventories, maintenance programs, engineering standards for all sewer lines, including staffing requirements and emergency procedures.

The annual report provides the Monrovia community a progress report on how well the City is accomplishing each action strategy. The goals are considered mid- to long- range and may take up to 5 to 20 years to accomplish.

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. Examples include:

- With assistance from the San Gabriel Valley Energy Partnership, the City has received over \$63,000.00 in savings from energy efficiency rebates and construction cost savings.
- The City will also be receiving \$161,000.00 in Federal Stimulus funds for energy efficiency projects.
- Two fuel-free electric GEM vehicles were purchased in lieu of traditional work trucks eliminating costs for over 500 gallons of fuel per year per vehicle.
- A partnership between the City's Water for Life program and Parks installed two Calsense irrigation controllers (Julian Fisher Park and Huntington Median) helping to conserve water resources and reduce irrigation costs by approximately \$1,800.00 annually.
- A \$350,000.00 grant from Los Angeles County Regional Park and Open Space District Grant is being used to purchase and install play equipment (made with recycled aluminum and steel) and rubberized play surface (made from recycled passenger tires) at Library Park.

OPTIONS: The report provides a thorough tracking and analysis mechanism to annually track the City progress towards MEA Action Items accomplishment. The following options may be considered:

- 1) Receive and file the FY 2008-09 MEA Annual Report as presented.
- 2) Receive and file the FY 2008-09 MEA Annual Report with modifications.
- 3) Do not receive and file the FY 2008-09 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, to receive and file the FY 2008-09 Monrovia Environmental Accords Annual Report as presented.

COUNCIL ACTION REQUIRED: If the City Council concurs, the appropriate action would be a motion to Receive and File the FY 2008-09 Monrovia Environmental Accords Annual Report.