

Progress Report Palo Alto Climate Protection Plan

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Outline

Task Force Review
Certified 2005 Emissions Inventory
Global Warming Survey Results
Progress Highlights
Climate Protection Plan Targets
Recommendation

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Task Force Mission, Goal & Recommendation

Mission: To recommend an achievable and measurable set of policies and actions to meet or beat the Governor's greenhouse gas emission-cutting goals

2000 levels by 2010

1990 levels by 2020, and

80 percent below 1990 levels by 2050

Goal: To achieve significant, measurable reductions of greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions in the Palo Alto/Stanford area through positive actions in all sectors of the population

Overall Recommendation:

Community businesses, institutions and residents take individual and collective action to reduce their environmental footprint.

Council direct staff to evaluate and recommend alternatives to achieve climate neutrality in City government operations and community-wide activities that contribute to global warming

Lobby regional, state, and federal agencies to address climate change impacts of human activities.

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Core Recommendations

OVERALL:

- Develop and implement a Climate Action Plan

BASELINE:

- Inventory emissions for City operations
- Encourage/challenge businesses to participate
- Develop emissions estimation tools

REDUCTION STRATEGIES:

- Energy
- Transportation
- Built Environment

EDUCATION:

- Instill a Moral Imperative
- Familiarize and Motivate
- Partnership

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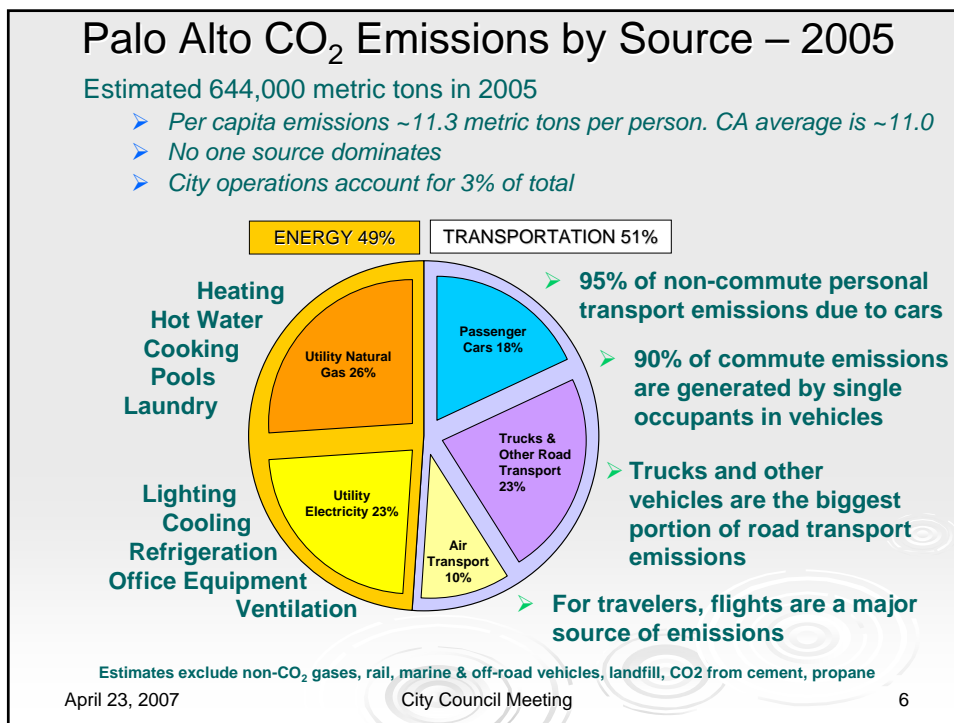
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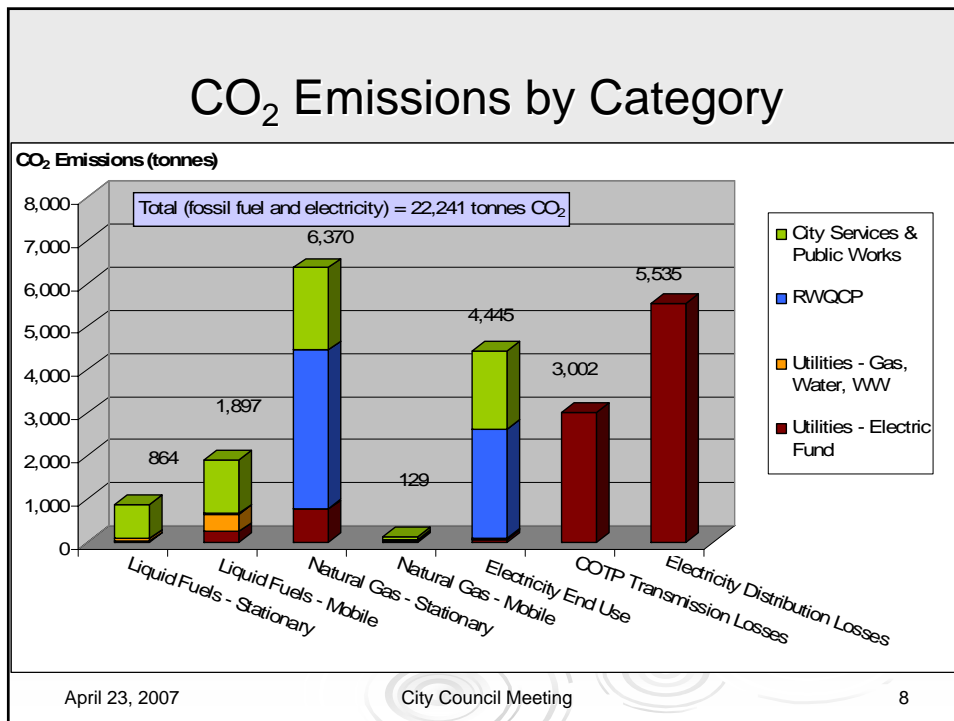
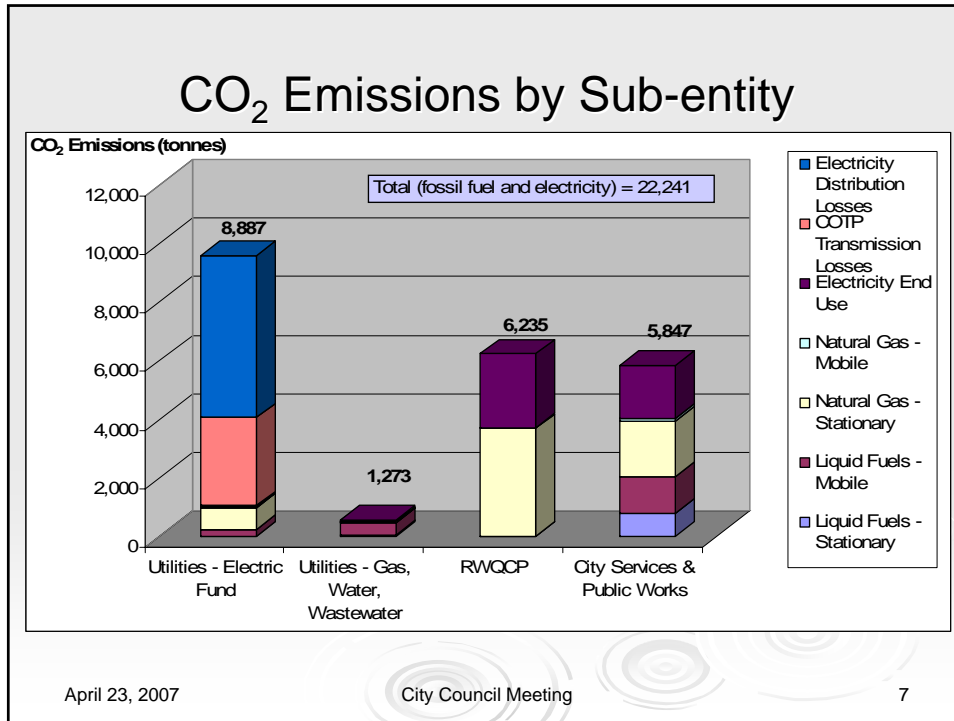
Reduction Strategies

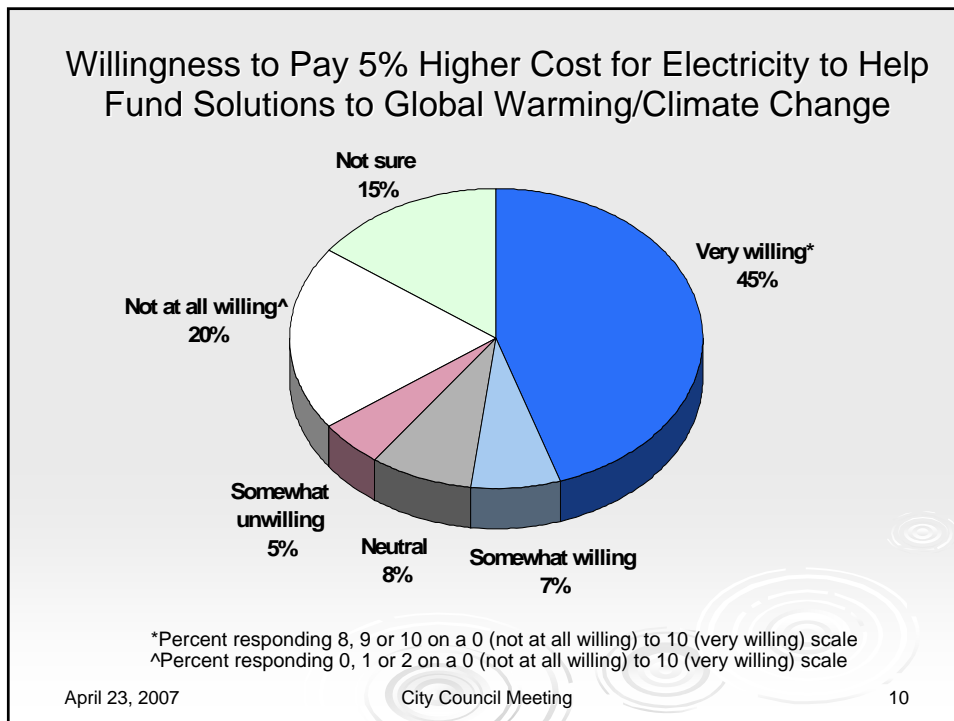
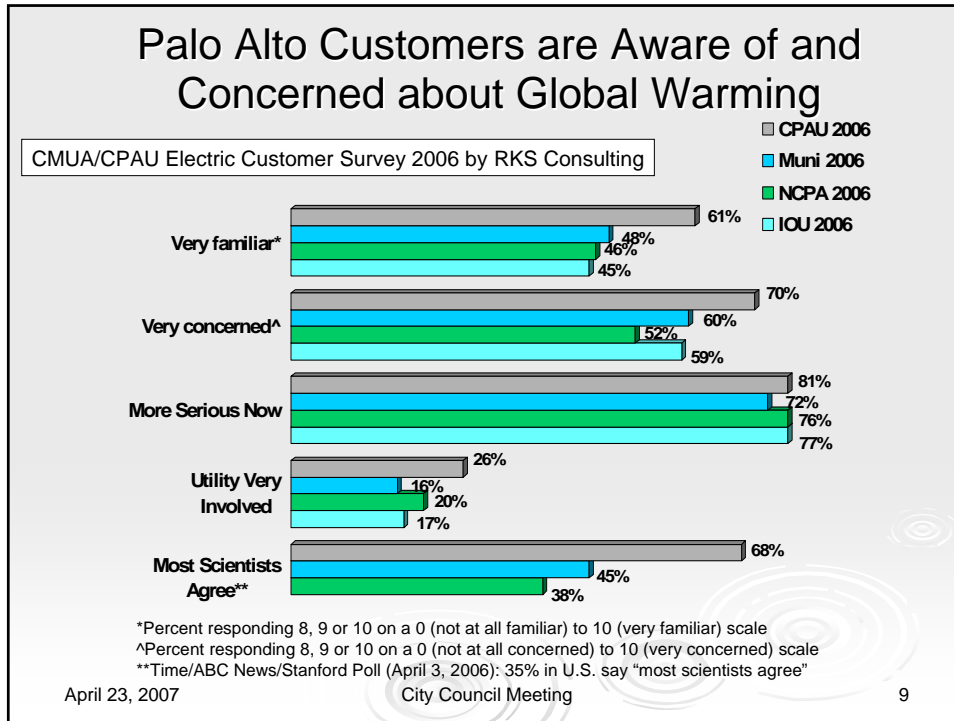
- *Lead by Example*
- *Incentives*
- *Codes & Rules*

ENERGY	TRANSPORTATION	BUILT ENVIRONMENT
Reduce greenhouse gas emissions from electricity and natural gas usage to achieve climate neutrality by 2020	Reduce emissions from City vehicle fleet and commuting activities. Work with regional transportation agencies to advance availability and ridership of public transportation and low-emissions transportation.	Evolve green building and transit-oriented development from exception to mainstream.
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Energy efficiency • Renewable energy • Urban forest • Projects or offsets • Emissions inventory • Research and development 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Fuel-efficient vehicles • Alternative fuels • Mass transit availability • Parking incentives • Biking and walking • Electronic alternatives to travel • School commuting • Lobbying – Region, State, National 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Green Buildings • Energy Efficiency • Solar Energy • Residential energy consumption ordinance (RECO) • Landscape • Pedestrian and Transit Planning

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Progress Highlights

COMMUNITY

- Step-it Up 2007 Climate Action Festival
- *Palo Alto Business Goes Green* – Chamber of Commerce
- Palo Alto School District Sustainability Committee & “Green Teams”
- Sustainable Silicon Valley
- Neighboring Communities

COUNCIL and CITY GOVERNMENT

- Policies and Commitments
 - Climate Protection a Council Top Priorities for 2007 CMR:163:07
 - ICLEI Cities for Climate Protection Campaign CMR:426:06
 - CMUA GHG Reduction Principles CMR:315:06
 - US Mayor’s Agreement on Climate Protection
 - Sustainability Policy CMR 175:01
 - Green Government Pledge CMR 284:99
 - Comprehensive Plan
 - Cool Cities
- Actions and Achievements
 - Certified Emissions Inventory
 - Green Power Community
 - Palo Alto Green #1 Again
 - Long-term Energy Plan
 - Transportation, Green Building and Waste Reduction



Climate Protection Plan: Targets

The GRTF recommended two specific targets. Staff proposes to develop Plan recommendations with these targets as the main guiding reference point.

1. Meet or beat the Governor’s greenhouse gas emission-cutting goals of
 - a. 2000 levels by 2010,
 - b. 1990 levels by 2020, and
 - c. 80 percent below 1990 levels by 2050.
2. Achieve climate neutrality in utilities operations by 2020, where “climate neutral” means as close as is feasible and practical to zero, similar to the goals of the Zero Waste Strategic Plan.

Recommendation

Staff requests that Council:

- 1. Direct staff to recommend revisions to the City Sustainability Policy to incorporate Climate Protection and return to Council in May or June 2007.**
- 2. Direct staff to complete development of a Climate Protection Plan and return to Council in November 2007.**

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