



Midpeninsula Regional
Open Space District

R-18-28
Meeting 18-13
March 28, 2018

AGENDA ITEM 8

AGENDA ITEM

Climate Change Program Informational Report

ACTING GENERAL MANAGER'S RECOMMENDATION

Receive an informational presentation on the Climate Change Program. No Board action required.

SUMMARY

The Board of Directors (Board) will receive an informational presentation on the Midpeninsula Regional Open Space District's (District) Climate Change Program. The presentation will review the causes of climate change, its effects on District resources, and results of the District's first Greenhouse Gas (GHG) Inventory. In addition, staff will outline the proposed timeline, process, and opportunities for Board input to develop the District's Climate Change Policy and Climate Action Plan. The Climate Change Policy will include Board-adopted GHG emission reduction goals for the District. The Climate Action Plan will identify implementation actions the District would pursue in the future to meet the GHG emission reduction goals. The Acting General Manager anticipates bringing the Climate Change Policy and Climate Action Plan to the Board for adoption by October 2018.

DISCUSSION

The Board will receive an informational presentation on the District's Climate Change Program that includes background information and findings from a recently completed GHG Inventory study. This information will help prepare the Board for subsequent discussions on the District's Climate Change Policy and Climate Action Plan. The Climate Change Policy will identify Board-adopted GHG emission reduction goals for the District. The Climate Action Plan will identify the projects and policies that the District would undertake to meet the GHG emissions reduction goals.

The informational presentation on March 28, 2018 will include:

Climate Change Basics

Staff will present the causes of climate change and its effects on District natural resources to ensure a common understanding and vocabulary around climate change.

Proposed Project Timeline and Board Input/Review Process

The Board will provide policy direction and input throughout the development of the Climate Change Policy and Climate Action Plan. The proposed project timeline and Board review process is as follows:

- In **April** and **May**, the Climate Resiliency Fellow, Climate Project Team, and consultants will engage District staff to collect emissions reduction ideas and other input to inform the development of a draft Climate Action Plan, which will be presented to the full Board in June. Outreach will include Department meeting presentations and brainstorming workshops.
- The Board will set the District's GHG reduction goals at an upcoming Study Session on **June 13, 2018**. Staff and consultants will present three options for GHG reduction goals, along with potential projects and costs for each option. The three options that staff is currently evaluating are: 1) adoption of the State of California's GHG reduction goal, 2) a more aggressive goal than the State's, and 3) a less aggressive goal than the State's. The State of California's GHG reduction goal is to reduce emissions to 40% below the 1990 level by 2030, and to reduce emissions to 80% below the 1990 level by 2050. The Board-adopted GHG reduction goals for the District will be subsequently written into the Climate Change Policy for Board review and approval in September/October.
- The GHG reduction goals set by the Board in June will inform the projects and policies that should be considered for inclusion in a Climate Action Plan. A second Board study session in **August 2018** will review the draft Climate Action Plan, as well as the draft Climate Change Policy that formalizes the District's GHG reduction goals.
- Board feedback on the draft Climate Action Plan and draft Climate Change Policy will be incorporated into final drafts for Board consideration in **September or October 2018**. The GHG reduction actions outlined in the Board-approved Climate Action Plan would be included in future Capital Improvement and Action Plans for implementation.

Greenhouse Gas (GHG) Inventory Results

The District's first GHG Inventory was completed in March 2018. The GHG Inventory measures the carbon footprint of District operations. In calendar year 2016, District operations produced 2,398 metric tons of carbon dioxide equivalent (MTCO_{2e}). The GHG Inventory will be updated and monitored in future years to track the District's implementation progress in both reducing emissions and reaching Board-adopted GHG reduction goals.

FISCAL IMPACT

There is no fiscal impact associated with the recommended action as described in the report. Future Board consideration of GHG reduction goals and a Climate Action Plan to meet these goals will result in implementation costs, and staff will present these associated costs to the Board at subsequent Board meetings.

BOARD COMMITTEE REVIEW

A Board Committee did not previously review this item.

PUBLIC NOTICE

Public notice was provided as required by the Brown Act.

CEQA COMPLIANCE

This item is not a project subject to the California Environmental Quality Act.

NEXT STEPS

There will be two future Board Study Sessions for the Board to provide policy direction and input on the Climate Change Policy and Climate Action Plan, followed by a separate meeting for the Board to consider adoption of the plan and policy:

- June 13, 2018: Board sets the District's GHG reduction goals to be included in a draft Climate Change Policy
- August 2018: Board reviews the draft Climate Change Policy and draft Climate Action Plan
- September/October 2018: Board adopts the Climate Change Policy and Climate Action Plan

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