



Kriss Worthington

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CITY COUNCIL CALENDAR

May 5, 2009

To: Honorable Mayor and Members of the City Council
From: Councilmember Kriss Worthington

Subject: PROPOSED AMENDMENTS TO CLIMATE ACTION PLAN

RECOMMENDATION:

Adopt the proposed amendments to the Climate Action Plan.

BACKGROUND:

These are the Climate Action Amendments that were handed out at the April 21, 2009 City Council meeting. In order to facilitate public review of these additions, I have attached the amendments as a council item.

The following suggested implementation strategies have generally been proposed during the development of the Climate Action Plan by myself, or the League of Women Voters, or the Sierra Club, or individual community members. I believe these ideas are of sufficient importance to merit including them in the document which undergoes environmental review. After the environmental review process the City Council will still have the option of including them or not including them in the final adopted Plan.

1. Corridor Specific program to fund Eco-Pass (Easy Pass) for employees of businesses in the Downtown, Telegraph, Oakland, and San Leandro (East Bay BRT) corridor
2. Corridor Specific program to fund Eco-Pass (Easy Pass) for employees of businesses in the San Pablo Avenue corridor.
3. Consideration of adoption of a Buy Local Ordinance, giving preference points to Local Businesses.
4. Consideration of adoption of a Local Hire Ordinance, giving preference for Local Hires.
5. Establish an exciting goal of creating a state of the art Zero Waste Facility, with a high percentage of materials recovery.
6. Make information available to the public on dramatic environmental impacts of Air Travel and alternatives.
7. Actively seek to speed up the Solarizing of City buildings.
8. Work with AC Transit to evaluate short-term strategies to reduce bus-bunching which discourages transit ridership.
9. Consider phasing out Free Parking for City Council members.

10. Make information available to the public to facilitate consideration of low carbon diets, eating less meat, vegan and vegetarian options.

Other suggestions:

11. Consideration of when it would be more effective to funnel ratepayer funds through the City or other organizations, rather than through the utility company. In the funding source section it repeatedly lists PG&E as the source of the funds. It would be more accurate to list the ratepayers as the source of the funds.
12. Add numbers in front of each of the implementation strategies to facilitate Plan discussion.
13. Reduce duplicates in Plan. There are roughly a dozen duplicates included in the implementation strategies.
14. Scientific knowledge of Global Warming issues has advanced significantly since the adoption of Measure G. The Goal of 80% reduction by 2050 is now considered inadequate. The City of Berkeley should actively seek to frontload effective implementation strategies and establish a new BOLDER GOAL based on current scientific understanding.

FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS:

Unknown.

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