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Councilmember District 4
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Councilmember District 6

CONSENT CALENDAR
June 25, 2019

To: Honorable Mayor and Members of the City Council

From: Councilmember Harrison, Vice Mayor Wengraf, Councilmember Robinson and Mayor Arreguin

Subject: An Action Plan for Greening the City of Berkeley Fleet of Vehicles

RECOMMENDATION

Request the City Manager and Department of Public Works collaborate to create an Action Plan (“plan”), by June 2020, to aggressively accelerate the implementation of the electrification of the City’s municipal fleet and phase out fossil fuel use in municipal vehicles by 2030 with consideration of an earlier transition for light-duty passenger vehicles. The Plan should include an evaluation of the City’s current fleet and an analysis of opportunities for transitioning to a fleet of fossil fuel free vehicles, as soon as the technology can safely meet operational needs. An update on our progress should be reported to City Council as an information item every six months.

In the interim, the City Manager is asked to explain criteria used to purchase fossil fuel vehicles in all future staff items related to vehicle purchases with Council.

FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

Consultant fees, if deemed desirable by the City Manager, and staff time.

BACKGROUND

The City Council declared a climate emergency on June 12, 2018. In light of this emergency and the City of Berkeley’s ongoing commitment to and investment in electric charging technology and facilities, we request that the City develop an action plan to significantly reduce the city’s contribution to carbon pollution and to evaluate when electric vehicles can safely and operationally replace the vehicles in the current municipal fleet.¹

Berkeley has demonstrated its commitment to reducing its vehicle emissions; The Energy Commission’s Recommendations for a Fossil Free Berkeley were articulated in the Fossil Free Berkeley Report (1/23/2019):

¹ In 2017, San Francisco passed an ordinance mandating that all new light-duty additions to the passenger vehicle fleet, subject to certain exemptions and waivers, be zero-emission. In addition, the ordinance specifies December 31, 2022 as a deadline for transitioning San Francisco’s entire light-duty fleet.

- *Requiring all future city government procurements of vehicles to minimize emissions, and establishing a goal and plan for transitioning the city's vehicle fleet to all electric vehicles.*
- *Establishing a goal and plan for transitioning to 100% renewable energy for municipal operations and a community wide goal of 100% reductions by 2030.*
- *Assessing the city's transportation vehicle needs and develop an aggressive timeline for transitioning to all electric. This assessment would include consideration of 1) Switching to lower carbon transport options such as electric cars or bicycles where possible and 2) the timing of technology development and commercialization for car batteries*

Additionally, on September 25, 2018, the City Council approved a contract with Cadmus Group LLC to develop a Berkeley Electric Vehicle Roadmap, a comprehensive action-based EV roadmap to speed the transition from fossil fuels to EV's in the community. The recommendation we are proposing here would focus specifically on the COB fleet of vehicles, complementing the work of Cadmus.

The City is investing in charging stations across Berkeley such as the Center Street Garage and the North Berkeley Senior Center. At the May 14, 2019 City Council meeting, the Director of Public Works confirmed that the City has set aside \$600,000 for new electric vehicle charging stations. In addition, East Bay Community Energy is working with City staff to expand charging infrastructure. Thus, we are poised to significantly expand our electric fleet.

The transportation sector accounts for over 60 percent² of Berkeley's core greenhouse gas emissions, which are the main driver of climate change. Transitioning our city fleet of vehicles from fossil fuels to clean electricity is an important and vital component of achieving our climate goals that will significantly reduce greenhouse gas emissions and improve air quality, and represent further commitment to the City's decarbonization obligations. A zero emissions municipal fleet will also help to inspire residents and businesses to transition to zero emissions vehicles.

The following actions are proposed to accelerate Berkeley's transition to a clean and green municipal fleet:

The City Manager in collaboration with the Department of Public Works shall create an Action Plan ("plan") to aggressively accelerate the electrification of the City's municipal fleet and phase out fossil fuel use in municipal vehicles by 2030.

The plan should consider:

- Criteria, safety and operational needs.
- Current available technologies.

² Office of Energy & Sustainable Development (OESD) 2016 Community Inventory. Dec 6, 2018 Climate Action Plan Update

- Current fleet right sizing/retirement opportunities.
- A strategy for infrastructure deployment to support the electrification of the municipal fleet. This strategy should take into consideration a long-term funding approach for EV charging infrastructure, including potential partnerships with publicly accessible charging networks and state and regional funding sources.
- Consideration of the possibilities of leasing gas-powered when electric vehicles are not feasible in order to avoid obsolescence.
- A strategy to rapidly electrify the city’s fleet and to provide for the use of fossil fuel-free liquid fuels when electric vehicles are not a viable option.
- Plug-in vehicles should be purchased for the municipal fleet when a cost effective, market-ready vehicle is available which matches the planned operations for that vehicle.
- Recognizing the unique needs of emergency management and first response vehicles, the plan should include a strategy to provide emergency management services with electric and fossil fuel-free vehicles wherever possible.
- An assessment of the challenges or opportunities presented by different vehicle fuel types on emergency management and response and allow for exemptions where alternative vehicles are not readily available.

The Action Plan should be completed no later than June, 2020 and presented to City Council in time for the FY 2021 budget process.

ENVIRONMENTAL SUSTAINABILITY

Supports the goals of the COB Climate Action Plan, and Fossil Free Berkeley Report

“Driving an electric car in the Bay Area reduces about 70% of the greenhouse gases produced by a conventional car.” *Berkeley Office of Energy & Sustainable Development (OESD)*

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