



[Commission Name]

INFORMATION CALENDAR

July 25, 2017

To: Honorable Mayor and Members of the City Council
From: Energy Commission
Submitted by: Ryan Bell, Chairperson, Energy Commission
Subject: Berkeley Energy Commission Workplan for 2017-2018

INTRODUCTION

The members of the Energy Commission developed the Berkeley Energy Commission's Workplan for 2017-2018 in consultation with City staff to ensure alignment of existing efforts to implement the Climate Action Plan through the promotion of clean energy and gives priority to existing referrals to the Commission from the City Council.

CURRENT SITUATION AND ITS EFFECTS

In 2016, the City Council directed all commissions to submit work plans to the City Council at the beginning of each fiscal year.

BACKGROUND

The Berkeley Energy Commission is charged with advising the City Council on matters related to energy conservation and alternative energy development in the City of Berkeley. To fulfill this mission, the energy commission proposes taking action in the following strategic areas over the next year:

- Promoting energy efficiency
- Promoting the use of clean, renewable, energy
- Transitioning from natural gas to electricity
- Reducing transportation energy use
- Advancing municipal building upgrades and renewable energy installation

At its meeting of May 24, 2017, the Energy Commission voted 8-0-0-1 (Ayes: Bell, Bernhardt, Jiang, Johnston, Leger, Luce, Stromberg, and Weems. Noes: None. Abstain: None. Absent: Jiang) to send the attached workplan to the City Council, outlining the specific activities and deliverables the Energy Commission will work on over the next year.

ENVIRONMENTAL SUSTAINABILITY

The Energy Commission's Work Plan helps advance energy efficiency, clean energy, and the City's greenhouse gas reduction goals.

POSSIBLE FUTURE ACTION

The Commission may make additions or changes to the workplan as opportunities arise and referrals are made from City Council.

FISCAL IMPACTS OF POSSIBLE FUTURE ACTION

There is no immediate financial impact of adopting the Energy Commission's work plan beyond some minimal staff time for City employees to prepare updates and presentations for the Commission on City programs. In the long run, the activities outlined in this plan could save the City money decreased energy costs.

CONTACT PERSON

Billi Romain, Commission Secretary, Department of Planning and Development, (510) 981-7432

Attachments:

1: Berkeley Energy Commission's 2017-18 Work Plan

Berkeley Energy Commission's 2017-18 Work Plan

MISSION

The Berkeley Energy Commission advises the City Council on climate protection, energy conservation and alternative energy development in Berkeley.

STRATEGIC ISSUE AREAS

To carry out its mission, the Energy Commission will work in the following areas over the next year:

- Promoting energy efficiency
- Promoting the use of clean, renewable, energy
- Transitioning from natural gas to electricity
- Reducing transportation energy use
- Advancing municipal building upgrades and renewable energy installation

ACTIVITIES

Within each of these strategic issue areas the Commission will focus on the following specific activities over the next year.

Strategic Issue Area: Promoting energy efficiency in the built environment

1. Review the progress of implementing the Building Energy Saving Ordinance (BESO) and assessing its effectiveness through:
 - a) Providing beta user testing for on-line compliance system
 - b) Tracking integration with energy efficiency programs and conversions from energy assessments to upgrades
 - c) Reviewing preliminary data for evaluation and make recommendations for program improvement in preparation of evaluation for Council in 2018
 - d) Identifying potential incentive programs to encourage upgrades
 - *Deliverables:* Comments submitted to staff and Council on the current program and recommendations made on improving the program and expanding implementation.
 - *Timing:* Ongoing through June 2018
2. Research financial incentives for promoting energy efficiency and clean fuels
 - *Deliverables:* Make recommendations regarding changes to the utility users tax. Provide input into the Air District's new climate protection grants. Research and report on other options for innovative incentives.
 - *Timing:* February 2017 through spring 2018
3. Review the Berkeley Deep Green Building Initiative and Zero Net Emissions policy
 - *Deliverables:* Make recommendations for developing Berkeley's Deep Green program and its ties to other local state and local initiatives, such as BESO, the Climate Action Plan, electrification, etc.
 - *On-going*

4. Research energy efficiency resources available to disadvantaged communities
 - *Deliverables:* Report on the services currently provided in Berkeley and identify gaps and opportunities for new programs and services.
 - *Timing:* Fall 2017

Strategic Issue Area: Promoting the use of clean, renewable, energy

5. Track the development of East Bay Clean Energy – including the business model, program launch, electricity rates and possible integration with Berkeley policies and programs, such as the Climate Action Plan, Berkeley Solar Plan, BESO, and others.
 - *Deliverables:* Provide comments to Council and Berkeley’s representative to the JPA, on incentive programs, limits on RECs and shifting to electrification. Make recommendations regarding the City’s participation.
 - *Timing:* Ongoing through program launch (estimated spring 2018)
6. Provide guidance on implementing the Berkeley Solar Plan
 - *Deliverables:* Develop recommendations regarding implementation of the Berkeley Solar Plan in context of East Bay Clean Energy’s renewable energy standards. Provide recommendations to Council on adopting a mandatory rooftop solar ordinance. Report on progress toward 50% Solar Plan.
 - *Timing:* Summer and fall 2017

Strategic Issue Area: Transitioning from natural gas to electricity

7. Develop a proposal for phasing out natural gas usage in residential buildings
 - *Deliverables:* Report to Council in conjunction with the Community Environmental Advisory Coalition (CEAC)
 - *October 2017*
8. Promote the removal of barriers to replacing gas space and water heaters with electric heat pumps
 - *Deliverables:* Comments on permit guide for electric heat pumps. Host outreach and education workshops on electric heat pump water heaters
 - *Timing:* Summer 2017
9. Present the USDN methane emission tracking study from Oakland/San Francisco
 - *Deliverables:* Evaluate whether the results on the report warrants polity action by the City of Berkeley
 - *Fall 2017*

Strategic Issue Area: Reducing transportation energy use

10. Evaluate electric vehicle infrastructure programs and alternative fuel technologies
 - *Deliverables:* Comments on annual report to Council including charging station inventory. Convene a discussion with the Northern California Center for Alternative Transportation Fuels regarding technologies available. Convene discussion regarding battery end of life considerations. Track City wide efforts regarding infrastructure improvements to reduce vehicle use and provide comments and recommendations regarding bike and pedestrian improvements.
 - *Timing:* Spring -Summer 2017

Strategic Issue Area: Advancing municipal building upgrades and renewable energy installation

11. Develop recommendations for Measure T1 Infrastructure Bond

- *Deliverables:* Tracking the development of proposals for use of the T1 Infrastructure Bond and make recommendations to the Parks and Waterfront Commission on energy efficiency, energy security and greenhouse gas reduction.
- *Timing:* Spring 2017

12. Provide input and guidance into the Berkeley Energy Assurance Transformation (BEAT Micro-grid) Project

- *Deliverables:* Input and guidance provided on the project, including comments to staff on draft deliverable report for the CEC.
- *Timing:* May – October 2017

13. Consult on, and make recommendation to, the Municipal Energy Efficiency and Renewable Plan

- *Deliverables:* Assist city planners to maximize energy efficiency of municipal buildings subject to upgrades, including use of renewable energy where practical.
- *Timing:* November 2017

IMPACTS

1 – 3 years: Accelerated reductions in greenhouse gas emissions, so that Berkeley achieves its 2020 Climate Action Plan goal of reducing greenhouse gas emissions 33% below 2000 levels while avoiding unintended side effects.

4 – 6 years: Accelerated reductions in greenhouse gas emissions so that Berkeley is on track to achieve its 2050 Climate Action Plan goal of reducing greenhouse gas emissions 80% below 2000 levels while avoiding unintended side effects.

RESOURCES NEEDED

The Energy Commission does not anticipate any additional resources needed beyond the staff time required to provide updates on the activities in this workplan that overlap with their regular duties.