

MAIN MOTION: The above motion carried by the following vote:

AYES: COMMISSIONERS: Acosta, Cole, Dodge, Dorantes-Pulido,
Kammer, Rojas, Veitch-Olson

NOES: COMMISSIONERS: None

ABSENT: COMMISSIONERS: None

B. RECOMMENDATION TO CITY COUNCIL ON THE CLIMATE ACTION AND ADAPTATION PLAN (CAAP) AND AMENDMENT OF THE ENVIRONMENTAL RESOURCES MANAGEMENT CHAPTER OF THE GENERAL PLAN TO INCLUDE THE CAAP

1) Staff Report

The staff report was given by Environmental Projects Manager Alex Yasbek and Principal Planner Justin Meek.

2) Planning Commission Clarifying & Technical Questions

In response to Commissioner Dodge, Environmental Projects Manager Yasbek and Principal Planner Meek, clarified that the Climate Action and Adaptation Plan (CAAP) replaces the existing Climate Action Plan.

Principal Planner Meek also clarified that language for the proposed text amendment in the 2005 General Plan, was derived from policy language included in the 2030 General Plan, which was rescinded in the past.

In answering Commissioner Dodge regarding greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions from the transportation sector and housing, Manager Yasbek went over the various ways they are working to meet the City's goal to reduce GHG emissions by 2030, including a transition to all-electric buildings.

Commissioner Kammer expressed support for the goals, measures and supporting efforts listed in the CAAP. She suggested a number of strategies she would like to see included as part of the CAAP, including bicycle/pedestrian improvements in the middle of the City in order to reach trails at the periphery of the City.

In response to Vice-Chair Dorantes-Pulido's comments regarding organic food waste, Manager Yasbek shared that the City is working to create programs aimed to meet the State mandates. Additionally, he shared that the Public Works outreach team is actively looking for ways to disseminate the information and keep the community engaged on these issues. Principal Planner Meek added that City staff has met with youth groups and high school students as part of outreach efforts on environmental issues to help further educate on ways to reduce GHG emissions.

Commissioner Rojas asked if the City has received any Federal or State support; and if the City currently requires that all new constructions and remodels incorporate all-electric components.

In answering Commissioner Rojas, Manager Yasbek stated that they are looking into State programs to help fund some of the costs associated with transitioning to energy efficient. He added that the City currently does not require new construction or remodels to incorporate an energy efficient component, but hopes to emulate what other cities are doing and introduce an ordinance to the City Council.

3) Public Hearing

Chair Veitch-Olson opened the public hearing.

Watsonville resident Judy Gittlesohn asked staff if the passenger rail service would reduce emissions, and if by adopting the Climate Action and Adaptation Plan, funds could be acquired from the State.

In addressing Ms. Gittlesohn's questions, Principal Planner Meek mentioned that although the City passed two resolutions in support of the passenger rail service, it is under ownership of the Santa Cruz County Regional Transportation Commission (RTC) and not the City.

Hearing no further comment, Chair Veitch-Olson closed the public hearing.

4) Appropriate Motion(s)

MAIN MOTION: It was moved by Commissioner Dodge, seconded by Vice-Chair Dorantes-Pulido, to approve the following resolution:

RESOLUTION NO. 14-21 (PC):

RESOLUTION OF THE PLANNING COMMISSION OF THE CITY OF WATSONVILLE, CALIFORNIA, RECOMMENDING TO THE CITY COUNCIL TO ADOPT THE INITIAL STUDY/NEGATIVE DECLARATION FOR THE CITY OF WATSONVILLE CLIMATE ACTION AND ADAPTATION PLAN – SEPTEMBER 2021, IN ACCORDANCE WITH THE CALIFORNIA ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY ACT (CEQA) AND CEQA GUIDELINES

RESOLUTION NO. 15-21 (PC):

RESOLUTION OF THE PLANNING COMMISSION OF THE CITY OF WATSONVILLE, CALIFORNIA, RECOMMENDING TO THE CITY COUNCIL TO ADOPT THE DRAFT CITY OF WATSONVILLE CLIMATE ACTION AND ADAPTATION PLAN- SEPTEMBER 2021

RESOLUTION NO. 16-21 (PC):

RESOLUTION OF THE PLANNING COMMISSION OF THE CITY OF WATSONVILLE, CALIFORNIA, RECOMMENDING TO THE CITY COUNCIL TO ADOPT THE TWENTY-SEVENTH (27TH) AMENDMENT TO THE

**WATSONVILLE 2005 GENERAL PLAN AMENDING CHAPTER 9
(ENVIRONMENTAL RESOURCE MANAGEMENT) TO INCLUDE THE
CLIMATE ACTION AND ADAPTATION PLAN**

5) Deliberation

In answering Commissioner Kammer's inquiry regarding the public comment period for the Initial Study/Negative Declaration, Principal Planner Meek stated that the commenting period was available for 45 days, commencing in September, and commenting for the CEQA document is still available through October 18, 2021.

6) Chair Calls for a Vote on Motion(s)

AYES: COMMISSIONERS: Acosta, Cole, Dodge, Dorantes-Pulido,
Kammer, Rojas, Veitch-Olson

NOES: COMMISSIONERS: None

ABSENT: COMMISSIONERS: None

5. REPORT OF THE SECRETARY

Community Development Director Suzi Merriam gave the report.

6. ADJOURNMENT

Chair Veitch-Olson adjourned the meeting at 7:42 PM. The next remote/teleconference Planning Commission meeting is scheduled for Tuesday, November 2, 2021, at 6:00 PM.

Suzi Merriam, Secretary
Planning Commission

Jenni Veitch-Olson, Chair
Planning Commission