



Agenda

Sustainability Task Force

A Committee of the Chico City Council

Meeting of Thursday, September 11, 2014 – 5:30 p.m.

Municipal Center - 421 Main Street, Conference Room No. 1 in the Council Chambers

1. **CALL TO ORDER AND ROLL CALL**

2. **APPROVE JULY 31, 2014 MEETING MINUTES**

Draft 07/31/14 minutes attached.

3. **DEVELOP A TASK FORCE RECOMMENDATION FOR COUNCIL CONSIDERATION**

Ad hoc sub-committee recommendations attached.

4. **ENERGY UPGRADE CALIFORNIA PROGRAM INFORMATION**

Program information attached.

5. **BUSINESS FROM THE FLOOR**

Members of the public may address the Task Force at this time on any matter not already listed on the agenda, with comments being limited to three minutes. The Task Force cannot take any action at this meeting on requests made under this section of the agenda.

6. **REPORTS & COMMUNICATIONS**

These items are provided for the Task Force's information. Although the Task Force may discuss the items, no action can be taken at this meeting. Should the Task Force determine that action is required, the item or items may be included for action on a subsequent posted agenda.

7. **ADJOURNMENT**

Next meeting will be Thursday, November 13, 2014.

ATTACHMENTS: Draft 07/31/14 STF Meeting Minutes
Ad Hoc Sub-Committee Recommendations
Energy Upgrade California Program Information

Agenda available from the City's website at www.ci.chico.ca.us under "**Meetings/Agendas**"

Prepared: 08/28/14
Posted: 08/29/14
Prior to: 5:30 p.m.

Community Development Department
421 Main Street, 2nd Floor, Chico, CA 95928
(530) 879-6800



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Sustainability Task Force Members:

Cheri Chastain
Lucas Ross Merz

Dave Donnan
Mike Rubio, Vice Chair

Ryne Johnson
Mark Stemen, Chair

William Loker

**CITY OF CHICO SUSTAINABILITY TASK FORCE
MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF
July 31, 2014**

Municipal Center
421 Main Street
Council Chambers, Conference Rm. 1

STF Members Present: Mark Stemen, Chair
 Mike Rubio, Vice Chair
 Dave Donnan
 Ryne Johnson
 Lucas Ross Merz

STF Members Absent: Cheri Chastain
 William Loker

Staff Members Present: Brendan Vieg, Principal Planner
 Linda Herman, General Services Administrative Manager
 Chuck Lungren, Webpage Developer/Consultant

1. CALL TO ORDER

Chair Stemen called the meeting to order at 6:34 pm. STF members and staff were present as noted.

2. APPROVE MARCH 13, 2014 MEETING MINUTES

The Minutes were unanimously approved (5-0) as submitted.

3. REVIEW DRAFT CITY OF CHICO SUSTAINABILITY WEBSITE

Staff and consultant provided an overview of the draft Sustainability website.

STF members and staff discussed how best for the STF to provide comments, how to maximize site exposure, and how the administration of the Facebook component of the site will work.

Planner Vieg stated that he would send the STF an email with directions for accessing and providing comments on the website.

4. DEVELOPING A RECOMMENDATION FOR CITY COUNCIL'S CONSIDERATION

Planner Vieg recommended that prior to the next STF meeting that the STF meet at the sub-committee level, prioritize efforts and programs that will best implement the CAP and help the City achieve its GHG emission goals, and develop those priorities into a Council recommendation.

The STF and staff discussed how best to prioritize and provide recommendations and what role the Planning Commission would have in the recommendation process.

Planner Vieg stated that he would send an email to the STF providing a deadline for submitting sub-committee recommendations so that he could consolidate the recommendations and provide them to the entire STF prior to its next meeting.

5. DISCUSSION: THE GOVERNOR'S ENVIRONMENTAL GOALS AND POLICY REPORT - CALIFORNIA'S CLIMATE FUTURE

Chair Stemen shared with the STF a presentation he attended that was sponsored by state staffer's on the Governor's environmental goals. There is an accompanying report that was provided to the STF as part of agenda.

6. BUSINESS FROM THE FLOOR

There was no business from the floor.

7. REPORTS & COMMUNICATIONS

STF member Merz highlighted the availability of the new Chico Bicycle Map, and grant funding received by the City to develop the Comanche Creek greenway bridge and trailway.

8. ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business from the STF, the meeting adjourned at 6:28pm to the **meeting of Thursday, September 11, 2014.**

Date Approved

Mark Wolfe, AICP, Community Development Director

Development of STF Recommendation to City Council
Ad Hoc Sub-Committee Recommendations for STF Consideration

Energy Sub-Committee

The energy sub-committee met and have the following recommendations:

We want to move on two Phase One recommendations that we don't see happening, and two Phase Two recommendations that we want to see enacted.

Phase One

2.2 Installation of Reflective or Cool Roofs

6.3 Low Maintenance Landscape

Phase Two

2.1 Additional Building Standards for Energy Efficiency (Green Building Code voluntary measures)

4.1 Building Fee Incentives for Alternative Energy Installations (Only 50% full cost recovery on solar permits)

** - We also want to invite local solar providers to discuss barriers and disincentives, and Cal Water to discuss water conservation measures.

Solid Waste Sub-Committee

The Solid Waste sub-committee of the STF met on August 4, 2014 and discussed the following:

1. The current Solid Waste, Recycling and Other Service Franchise Options document prepared by the City's consultant, R3, fails include any mention of the City's Climate Action/GHG reduction goals. The Solid Waste sub-committee requests that the City Council consider the following amendments:

a. The document should acknowledge the City's extensive efforts and priorities toward GHG reduction and diversion of waste from landfills;

b. The document should provide incentives for proposals which address the City's goals/priorities with regard to GHG reduction diversion of waste from landfills. With regard to diversion, the document should place clear priority on options which achieve the City's PII GHG reduction goal of anaerobic digestion.

c. The City should retain the option of flow control to be used, if necessary, to direct the City waste to facilities which achieve clear environmental, GHG reduction, sustainability objectives over landfilling the City's waste.

d. City staff should be directed to actively engage with developers of serious projects -- projects that are beyond the conceptual phase -- to explore and materially evaluate opportunities that provide the City with clear potential for environmental and economic benefits.

e. The City should materially evaluate any such opportunities that presently exist prior to coming to an agreement with the waste haulers, and, in the event that the City does not find an opportunity that meets its full environmental requirements at this time, the City should keep its flow control options open to direct the City's solid waste to such a facility once such option becomes available.

Transportation Sub-Committee

No recommendations provided.

Brendan,

I've attached the following:

1. A program brochure, albeit outdated. I haven't yet received the new brochure (maximum rebate amount has increased from \$4500 to \$6500).
2. What To Expect information sheet
3. Door hanger (updated with \$6500 amount shown)

Feel free to relay whatever is most appropriate to the STF. In general:

4. My service area includes Bakersfield, Chico and Placer County, three of PGE's most challenging communities to reach (we have a 4-person team). These three areas are located within PGE's hottest climate zones. Our outreach activities began last November 2013. Consumer interest in Bakersfield has been high (partially due to past outreach and better recognition of Energy Upgrade California) and Placer County interest is gaining. In comparison, Chico's interest is low. Compared to the other two communities, Chico has the highest percentage of rentals, lowest median household income, and highest unemployment.
5. Public information tables have been coordinated at retailers (i.e. Meek's Lumber, Restore, Orchard Supply), the Butte County Library, Thursday Night Market, Snow Goose Festival, Endangered Species Fair, Spring Home and Garden Show, and other community events.
6. Neighborhood canvassing has reached over 720 homes thus far, mostly older neighborhoods built before the 1970s, with higher percentage of owner-occupied units. I typically canvass prior to Thursday Night Market tabling events.
7. Affinity group presentations thus far: Chico Association of Realtors, NVPOA, Northwood Commons HOA, Chico Kiwanis, Chico Lions, Butte County Chico Vets, CSUC Sustainability classes, and several others.
8. Large employers reached thus far: Cal Water, Lundberg Family Farms.
9. Upcoming events/presentations: Sierra Nevada Brewery, Thursday Night Market, Hispanic Chamber of Commerce, Durham Harvest Festival, Fall Home and Garden Show.
10. Local EUC Contractors, the most active include:
 - a. David Green Construction
 - b. Steve Ferreira Construction
 - c. Climate Masters
 - d. Trilogy (based in Paradise)
 - e. Community Action Agency (for basic home upgrade program)
11. Project financing tools
 - a. Consumers own cash/bank loans

- b. Thru EUC contractors
 - c. California Home Finance Authority (<http://www.chfloan.org/>) - The CHF has assisted over 1200 customers to finance EUC home upgrades. Some key points:
 - i. Up to \$50k in loan financing
 - ii. 100% financing is available
 - iii. No income limits apply
 - iv. No equity required
 - v. Not sure of interest rate
12. Typical investment – from speaking with local EUC contractors, consumers have spent between \$15K and \$25K to upgrade their homes
13. Typical rebate – not sure. But Bay Area data suggests around \$2500. Still searching.
14. Websites:
- a. www.energyupgradeca.org
 - b. www.pge.com/euca

The most challenging aspect has been to introduce the brand. Consumers simply haven't heard about Energy Upgrade California. Too bad I'm already booked on 9/11 but I hope you can help share the message. Please encourage STF members to visit my information table at Thursday Night Market after the meeting. If you have questions let me know, thanks.

Eric

(530) 892-1795

Why should you upgrade?

Lower bills

Upgrading your home to be more energy efficient can mean lower bills every month.

Comfort

When your home is more energy efficient, it can be more comfortable—cozy and warm in the winter and cool in the summer.

Participating contractors

Contractors in this program are specially trained to identify improvements in your home that can help you save energy and money. What's more, quality is ensured thanks to program-monitoring and permit compliance requirements.

The environment

Making your home more energy efficient helps the environment—an important step everyone should take.

Up to \$4,500 in
energy-upgrade
incentives.

Don't miss the
window.



Energy Upgrade California™ Home Upgrade provides assistance and incentives for home-improvement projects that can reduce energy use and make homes more comfortable. This statewide program is managed locally by utilities and regional energy networks and directed by the California Public Utilities Commission in collaboration with the California Energy Commission. Funding comes from utility customers under the auspices of the California Public Utilities Commission. Incentives are offered on a first-come, first-served basis and are effective until funding is expended or the program is discontinued. Programs may be modified or terminated without prior notice.

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Home Upgrade



What is Energy Upgrade California™ Home Upgrade?

Home Upgrade helps you make home improvements that can save energy and make your home more comfortable. Home Upgrade incentives reward you for addressing your home-energy efficiency needs as a system instead of piece by piece.

What is the whole-house approach?

Instead of making a few home improvements here and there to make your home more energy efficient, think about your home as a complete system. Heating, air conditioning, and water-heating all work together to help you live comfortably while lowering your utility bills. And Home Upgrade gives you the professional resources you need to take a whole-house approach.

How to get started

Contact a participating contractor or rater for a home energy assessment. For more information, visit pge.com/euca or call 1-866-970-7348.

What types of upgrades qualify for incentives?

Two options are available for participation: Home Upgrade and Advanced Home Upgrade. Each offers different incentives. Choose the one that works better for your goals and budget.

Home Upgrade Package

Working with a knowledgeable participating contractor, you can take advantage of Home Upgrade incentives by installing three or more upgrades from a flexible menu of options that will earn points toward available incentives. Your incentives depend on the total points you earn—up to \$2,500 for 250 points. You must install at least one base upgrade and can receive bonus points for installing additional upgrades.

Typical Base Upgrades	Points
Duct Sealing	25
Whole Building Air Sealing*	25
Whole Building Air Sealing**	45
Attic Insulation & Air Sealing	55
Duct Replacement	65
Typical Flex Upgrades	Points
Gas Storage Water Heater	35
Electric Storage Water Heater	40
Duct Insulation	40
Wall Insulation	50
Furnace	60
Air Conditioner	65
Floor Insulation	70
Gas On-Demand Water Heater	90
Base Upgrade Bonuses	Points
Installing 2nd Base Upgrade	15
Installing 3rd Base Upgrade	20

*≥15% leakage reduction from vintage table defaults

**≥30% leakage reduction from vintage table defaults

Home Upgrade Incentive	Points Needed
\$1,000	100
\$1,500	150
\$2,000	200
\$2,500	250

Advanced Home Upgrade

An Advanced Home Upgrade is customized for your home and needs. The more energy you save, the bigger your incentives. Starting with an energy assessment of your home, your participating contractor or whole-house home energy rater will work with you to identify ways to save the most energy and draw up an action plan. Then energy modeling software will be used to calculate your incentives based on your projected energy savings. You can earn up to \$4,500 for a corresponding 45 percent calculated reduction in your energy usage.

Typical upgrades include:

- Installing new systems (heating, cooling and water heaters)
- Replacing ductwork
- Replacing single-pane windows with more energy-efficient windows

Advanced Home Upgrade Incentive	Calculated Energy Savings Threshold
\$1,000	10%
\$1,500	15%
\$2,000	20%
\$2,500	25%
\$3,000	30%
\$3,500	35%
\$4,000	40%
\$4,500	45%

Bringing Safety and Quality Home

The Testing and Verification Process for Energy Upgrade California™ Home Upgrade

Thank you for choosing to participate in the Pacific Gas and Electric Company (PG&E) Home Upgrade program. To ensure your safety and calculate your incentives, specialists will periodically need to conduct tests to verify your energy efficiency upgrades for proper installation and performance. This guide outlines these tests and verifications. Keep it handy so you know what to expect throughout the process.



Home Upgrade



Performing the work

You will need to take certain steps before the actual work begins. For example, you are responsible for working with your contractor to obtain any necessary city and/or county planning or building permits.

Before and after work is completed, a certified Building Performance Institute (BPI) professional will perform a “combustion appliance safety test.” This test includes checking for carbon monoxide and natural or propane gas leaks from appliances such as stoves, furnaces, and hot water heaters. If a carbon monoxide, natural or propane gas, or ventilation issue is detected, the contractor or rater will notify you and either correct the issue or contact a PG&E gas service representative or propane service provider to address the matter immediately. A carbon-monoxide monitor will be installed for continuous safety monitoring after the work is completed.

Be sure your contractor completes all work agreed upon in your contract. It’s important that the upgrades have been done to your satisfaction.

Calculating your incentive

Your contractor or rater will use a computer software tool to calculate the expected incentives resulting from your upgrades. After the work is completed and final combustion appliance safety test is performed, your contractor will then prepare the incentive application and submit it to PG&E for processing.

Upon receipt of the completed incentive application, PG&E will review it and confirm that all the necessary information has been provided. If you receive either gas- or electric-only service from another utility, you are eligible for a pro-rated incentive depending on which energy services you receive from PG&E. Once your application has been approved by PG&E, you should expect to receive an incentive check in about six to eight weeks.

Verifying the work

PG&E or Build It Green may contact you to ask about your level of satisfaction with your contractor or rater and to request feedback to improve the program. Build It Green is a nonprofit, residential green-building organization working with PG&E to implement the program in PG&E’s service territory.

A Build It Green representative or a PG&E employee may also schedule an in-person visit to ensure that your energy efficiency upgrades were installed correctly. This inspection will last between two to four hours and include:

- Accessing your attic, basement, crawlspace or garage to validate that all improvements were installed
- Performing diagnostic tests to measure air leakage
- Confirming combustion-appliance safety test results for natural or propane gas appliances

These site visits help PG&E confirm that contractors are making energy improvements that meet the program’s quality standards. Your cooperation is greatly appreciated.

For more information

It’s a win-win-win! You’re upgrading your home, helping reduce California’s energy demand and saving money in the process. If you have questions about any of the steps outlined above or would like more information about the program, please contact PG&E’s Smarter Energy Line at [1-800-933-9555](tel:1-800-933-9555) or send an email to smarter-energy@pge.com.

Energy Upgrade California™ is a program of the California Public Utilities Commission in collaboration with the California Energy Commission, California counties, cities, nonprofit organizations, and the state’s investor-owned utilities. Funding comes from the utilities’ ratepayers under the auspices of the California Public Utilities Commission in addition to incremental funding from the U.S. Department of Energy.

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