

# TOWN OF CARRBORO

NORTH CAROLINA

# PLANNING DEPARTMENT

# TRANSMITTAL

## DELIVERED VIA: MAND MAIL FAX EMAIL

То:	Board of Aldermen
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From:	Randy Dodd, Environmental Planner
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Date:	April 21, 2016
Subject:	Community Climate Action Plan Public Hearing

#### Summary

At the April 12th, 2016 meeting, the Board of Aldermen directed staff to finalize plans to schedule a Public Hearing on April 26<sup>th</sup> for a Community Climate Action Plan. This memo summarizes the chronology of events related to the development of the plan and past and planned outreach to support the public hearing.

#### Information

In the spring of 2014, the Board of Aldermen created a temporary <u>Energy and Climate Action Task Force</u> charged with supporting the Town with community planning and resiliency. In the fall of 2014, advisory boards sponsored a series of <u>three forums</u> related to climate action planning. Using information from the advisory board forum series reports as a starting point, the Task Force has met regularly since late 2014 and prepared drafts of a <u>Community Climate Action Plan</u> for Board of Aldermen review in <u>June, 2015</u>, advisory board review in October/November, and Board of Aldermen review again in <u>November, 2015</u>. Staff provided feedback from the Board's direction from the November meeting at the <u>April 5<sup>th</sup>, 2016</u> Board meeting and the Board continued the discussion at their <u>April 12th meeting</u>.

The preparation of this plan, designed as a companion document to the <u>Energy and Climate Protection Plan</u> (focused on municipal operations and adopted in May of 2014) is a step toward reducing greenhouse gas emissions community-wide, becoming more energy efficient, generating more renewable energy, and nurturing a social and ecological environment that is more resilient, livable, and attuned with the epochal change currently occurring. The plan recommends a goal of a 50% reduction in per capita greenhouse emissions by 2025, and includes over 25 specific recommendations relating to community integration, buildings, transportation, renewable energy, and ecosystem protection and restoration.

#### Previous Public Outreach

The development of the draft plan over the course of the past 18 months has included some community engagement through the Planning Forums and advisory board review and presentation of drafts of the plan to the Board of Aldermen, as mentioned above. A public drop in outreach session at Town Hall was held on Wednesday, April 6th (5:30 pm-7:30 pm) with about 25 participants; input provided at this session is provided as Attachment C. A survey (online and hard copies) was created and available from mid-March through mid-April. 26 people completed the survey; survey results are included as Attachment D. The Energy and Climate

Action Task Force also had a table at the Farmers Market on April 9<sup>th</sup> and April 23<sup>rd</sup>. The <u>Town's website</u> has been updated to include information on the draft plan. A draft of the plan was sent to OWASA and CHCCS; their response is included as Attachment E.

## Planned Public Outreach

At the Board's direction from the April 12<sup>th</sup> meeting, staff plan to contact CHCCS staff to pursue outreach through the schools in May. Flyers and staff will be available for Carrboro Day and Bike Month activities. Outreach through WCHL and WCOM will be pursued. Staff will also reach out through internal/departmental contact lists and targeted outreach to organizations such as El Centro Hispano and Empowerment, Inc. After pursuing additional outreach in May, staff will provide a report to the Board in June with any additional recommendations in response to the feedback received. Staff are also looking into a possible summer movie series.

## **Fiscal and Staff Impact**

The normal advertising fee for holding a Public Hearing has been incurred. There will be a staff impact to pursue additional outreach after the Public Hearing and report back to the Board in June.

#### Recommendation

It is recommended that a Public Hearing be opened on April 26<sup>th</sup>, additional public outreach be pursued in May, and a report to the Board provided in June.