



Legislation Text

File #: 14-0078, **Version:** 1

TITLE:

Energy and Climate Action Planning

PURPOSE: The purpose of this item is to present the Board with a draft energy and climate protection plan, and receive feedback on future planning.

DEPARTMENT: Planning

CONTACT INFORMATION: Randy Dodd, (919) 918-7326

INFORMATION: The Town has been involved in efforts to inventory and reduce greenhouse gas emissions for more than ten years. During the past year, the Board of Aldermen directed staff to begin developing a plan that would identify potential areas for improving efficiencies in Town operations with a target goal of reducing the Town's annual emissions by two- to- seven percent. Beginning with an initial kick-off meeting on April 30th, 2013, representatives from all departments have collaborated to consider new opportunities for energy and climate protection planning and implementation. Staff presented concepts for the development of a plan at the October 8th, 2013 Board meeting, and have subsequently been considering related opportunities in capital improvements and annual budgeting updates. A draft Energy and Climate Protection Plan has been prepared with a near term (1-2 year) focus on municipal operations but also with references to existing programs and initiatives for the community. The plan attempts to help the Town "lead by example", and touches on operations for outdoor lighting, facilities, and the municipal fleet and as well as community buildings, transportation, renewable energy, and urban forestry. Moving forward, staff recommend more emphasis in the coming year with outreach to the community through a fall forum, temporary task force, support from UNC, and online collaboration. The draft plan is available at <http://www.townofcarrboro.org/pzi/Env/PDFs/DraftEnergyPlan.pdf> .

FISCAL & STAFF IMPACT: Capital improvement and annual operating budget costs with energy and climate protection components have been presented separately as part of the CIP and operating budget updates. Additional staff time will be involved in finalizing and implementing the plan and outreach to community.

RECOMMENDATION: Staff recommends that the Board of Aldermen consider the resolution in Attachment A approving the draft plan and identifying any changes or additions for staff to consider in finalizing the plan, and authorize staff to finalize and implement the plan, including working with advisory board members to plan a fall community forum, online collaboration, and planning for one or more future UNC Capstone teams to provide support to the community. Staff also recommends that the Board of Aldermen consider the resolution in Attachment B establishing a temporary energy and climate planning task force.