



DATE: September 17, 2019

TO: Council Sustainability Committee

FROM: Director of Public Works

SUBJECT: Establishing Hayward's Sustainability Goals for 2025 and 2030

RECOMMENDATION

That the Committee reviews and comments on this report and provides direction to staff regarding the development of sustainability goals.

SUMMARY

Many cities across the U.S. have adopted goals related to sustainability or climate action. Several have recently adopted goals or policy statements inspired by the Green New Deal (GND), proposed by Representative Alexandria Ocasio-Cortez and Senator Edward Markey. Hayward's Climate Action Plan, adopted years before the GND, includes broad goals for greenhouse gas emissions reductions beyond 2020. However, more detailed goals and programs are needed to guide efforts for the coming decade. Staff seeks the Committee's direction on the development of new sustainability-related goals for 2025 and 2030.

BACKGROUND

On February 7, 2019, Representative Alexandria Ocasio-Cortez (D-NY) and Senator Edward Markey (D-MA) released a 14-page resolution, which would address the twin crises of climate change and inequality through a 10-year mobilization of the U.S. economy and workforce. The mobilization effort, named the Green New Deal (GND), calls for: net-zero greenhouse gas emissions by 2050; the creation of a national smart power grid supplied by 100% carbon free electricity; the elimination of as much carbon from U.S. manufacturing, agriculture, and transportation as technologically feasible; the creation of high-quality apprenticeship programs and a federal job guarantee program offering family-wages and union protections; and for all people of the U.S. to have access to high-quality health care, safe and affordable housing, economic security, clean water, clean air, healthy and affordable food, and nature.¹ Although the resolution was voted down in the U.S. Senate, awareness of the GND's goals and principles have lead states and cities across the country to set and adopt their own social, economic, and environmental sustainably goals, passing resolutions and enacting new implementation policies.

¹ <https://www.congress.gov/bill/116th-congress/house-resolution/109/text>

Most of Hayward's goals related to sustainability or climate action are included in the *Hayward 2040 General Plan*, which was adopted by Council in 2014. Additional goals have been adopted by Council including:

ZNE Policy for New and Retrofitted City Buildings – On May 17, 2016, Council adopted [Resolution 16-082](#) requiring that any new or significant retrofits of City buildings that begin design after January 1, 2017 be constructed as ZNE buildings.

ZNE Goal for Municipal Portfolio – On December 6, 2016, Council adopted [Resolution 16-219](#) establishing the goal of achieving ZNE for electricity and natural gas use for the City's portfolio of facilities by 2025.

Other significant Council actions since 2014 include Hayward's participation in East Bay Community Energy and the decision to make *Brilliant 100* (100% carbon free electricity) the default energy product in Hayward.

DISCUSSION

Since the release of the GND resolution, cities and states have drawn from the GND's principles to create their own local goals. The most common elements among these local GND-inspired goals include:

1. The creation of inclusive commissions or task forces charged to direct climate action investment and policy decisions
2. Carbon neutrality or zero-net GHG emission targets
3. Carbon-free or renewable energy procurement goals
4. Building electrification and energy efficiency goals
5. Waste and consumption reduction goals
6. Investment in sustainable transportation
7. Municipal decarbonization and electrification commitments

Attachment II includes a summary of comprehensive plans adopted since the release of the Ocasio-Cortez/Markey resolution including plans from San Francisco, Los Angeles, New York, and Milwaukee. In addition, the City of Fremont, on February 19, 2019, adopted a goal of achieving carbon neutrality by 2045, mirroring California Governor Brown's Executive Order B-55-18. Fremont also committed to updating its Climate Action Plan and adopted a "Framework for a Post-Carbon Community."

Hayward's Sustainability Goals – Much has changed since 2014 when Council adopted the *Hayward 2040 General Plan*, which included an updated Climate Action Plan. The Plan includes policies and programs intended to reduce GHG emissions to meet the City's 2020 goal of a 20% GHG emission reduction below Hayward's 2005 baseline. The Plan also includes policies with GHG reduction goals for 2040 and 2050; however, the programs do not provide a clear path toward meeting these longer-range goals. Staff recommends the development of a comprehensive set of sustainability goals including new targets for both 2025 and 2030. The Committee has recommended an interim goal of reducing emissions by 40 percent below 2005 baseline levels by 2030 and this could be included in the comprehensive list. Once the new goals or targets are adopted, the General Plan may need

to be revised to incorporate them into the policies. The Plan may also need new programs in order to meet the goals for 2030 and beyond. Staff is seeking the Committee's input on the following list of potential topics:

- GHG Reduction
 - Goals for 2030 and beyond
 - Support California's goal of carbon neutrality by 2045
- Transportation
 - Electrification of the City's vehicle fleet
 - Electric vehicle charging infrastructure
 - Active transportation (bicycle & pedestrian infrastructure)
 - Public transportation improvements (efficiency, reliability, accessibility, increase in ridership)
 - Reduce vehicle miles traveled by single-occupant vehicles
- Buildings
 - All-electric design for new buildings
 - Electrification of existing buildings (at certain stages of renovation)
- Renewable Energy
 - East Bay Community Energy (increase the use of renewable energy)
 - Solar for City facilities
 - Solar for the community
- Water
 - Water conservation
 - Bay-Friendly landscaping
 - Stormwater quality
- Waste & Recycling
 - Composting
 - Carbon lifecycle of materials and products
 - Product bans
 - Compliance with SB 1383 (food rescue)
 - Consumption reduction
 - Landfill diversion (Developing goals related to landfill diversion will need to include discussions about the future of recycling and recycling markets.)
- Adaptation
 - Preparation for sea level rise
 - Wildfire and air quality impacts from wildfires
 - Community vulnerability to extreme heat
- Tree planting/Urban canopy

Goals established for the above topics may be incorporated into the development of the Citywide Strategic Plan and may also require the City's General Plan be revised to incorporate new programs to meet established goals.

ECONOMIC IMPACT

Climate change is expected to negatively impact national and local economies. Updating Hayward's climate action and sustainability goals and programs will help make Hayward's economy more resilient to climate change.

FISCAL IMPACT

Developing new sustainability goals will require significant staff time. Depending on the direction from the Committee and Council, this effort may entail amendments to the City's General Plan, including the implementation programs contained in the General Plan. In conjunction with the development of the goals, staff will work to identify the potential impacts on staff time for both the development and implementation of the goals.

STRATEGIC INITIATIVES

Setting new climate action goals would indirectly advance all three of the City's Strategic Initiatives and resonates with the Council's *Green* priority.

SUSTAINABILITY FEATURES

The development of new sustainability goals for 2025 and 2030 would help Hayward meet its longer term GHG reduction goals. Meeting these goals will improve energy efficiency, increase the use of renewable energy, and reduce vehicle-related emissions; all of which will result in cleaner air for Hayward residents and for the region.

PUBLIC CONTACT

There will be opportunities at this Committee meeting and other venues for public participation as the goals are developed.

NEXT STEPS

Upon direction from Committee, staff will refine the list of topics for new sustainability goals for 2025 and 2030 and develop a work plan for the effort for presentation at future Committee meetings.

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