

## Attachment A: Background on Sustainability and Climate Action Plan (S/CAP) Development

- **April 18, 2016:** City Council adopted the ambitious goal of reducing GHG emissions to 80 percent below 1990 levels by 2030<sup>1</sup> (the “80 x 30” goal) - 20 years ahead of the State of California 80 x 50 target, and an interim step towards California’s statewide goal of achieving carbon neutrality by 2045<sup>2</sup>.
- **November 28, 2016:** City Council adopted the S/CAP Framework<sup>3</sup>, which has served as the road map for achieving Palo Alto’s sustainability goals.
- **December 11, 2017:** City Council accepted the 2018-2020 Sustainability Implementation Plan “Key Actions” as a summary of the City’s work program<sup>4</sup>.
- **June 16, 2020:** The City launched an S/CAP update to determine the goals and key actions needed to meet its sustainability goals, including the 80 x 30 goal.<sup>5</sup>
- **April 19, 2021:** Staff presented a preliminary impact analysis and Council directed the Mayor to form an S/CAP Ad Hoc Committee.<sup>6</sup>
- **August 2021 to April 2022:** The S/CAP Committee held several public meetings with City staff.<sup>7</sup>
- **November 17, 2021:** The S/CAP Ad Hoc Committee held the first meeting of its S/CAP Working Group, which assembled knowledgeable members of the community to consult with Council members and City staff on S/CAP implementation priorities.
- **December 13, 2021:** Staff presented a Progress Report on the Sustainability and Climate Action Plan Update and S/CAP Ad Hoc Committee Work<sup>8</sup> to Council.
- **March 7, 2022:** Council and the Utilities Advisory Commission (UAC) held a joint study

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<sup>1</sup> City Council, April 18, 2016; Agenda Item #10; SR #6754,

<https://www.cityofpaloalto.org/files/assets/public/agendas-minutes-reports/reports/city-manager-reports-cmrs/year-archive/2016/id-6754.pdf>

<sup>2</sup> In September 2018, Governor Brown signed California Executive Order B-55-18, setting the goal of achieving carbon neutrality as soon as possible, and no later than 2045. The state is to maintain net negative net emissions after 2045, meaning that GHG sinks must exceed GHG sources. The Executive Order explains that the carbon neutrality goal is layered on top of the state’s existing commitments to reduce greenhouse gas emissions 40% below 1990 levels by 2030 (as codified in SB 32), and 80% below 1990 levels by 2050.

<sup>3</sup> City Council, November 28, 2016; Agenda Item #9; SR 7304

<https://www.cityofpaloalto.org/files/assets/public/agendas-minutes-reports/reports/city-manager-reports-cmrs/year-archive/2016/id-7304.pdf>

<sup>4</sup> City Council, December 11, 2017; Agenda Item 15; SR #8487,

<https://www.cityofpaloalto.org/files/assets/public/agendas-minutes-reports/reports/city-manager-reports-cmrs/year-archive/2017/id-8487.pdf>

<sup>5</sup> City Council, June 16, 2020; Agenda Item 1; SR #11404,

<https://www.cityofpaloalto.org/files/assets/public/agendas-minutes-reports/reports/city-manager-reports-cmrs/year-archive/2020/id-11404-climate-sustainability-and-climate-action-plan.pdf?t=59513.75>

<sup>6</sup> City Council, April 19, 2021; Agenda Item 7; SR #12009,

<https://www.cityofpaloalto.org/files/assets/public/agendas-minutes-reports/reports/city-manager-reports-cmrs/year-archive/2021/id-12009.pdf>

<sup>7</sup> S/CAP Ad Hoc Committee Website, <https://www.cityofpaloalto.org/scapadhoc>

<sup>8</sup> City Council, December 13, 2021, Agenda Item 19; SR #13765

<https://www.cityofpaloalto.org/files/assets/public/agendas-minutes-reports/reports/city-manager-reports-cmrs/2021/id.-13765-s-cap-update.pdf>

session<sup>9</sup> to discuss sustainability and utility related items.

- **April 11, 2022:** Staff presented the Earth Day Report<sup>10</sup> to Council on April 11, 2022. The Earth Day Report described the work of the S/CAP Ad Hoc Working Group teams.
- **June 14, 2022:** The S/CAP Ad Hoc Working Group Teams held a public meeting to discuss their progress on three areas that would advance residential building electrification goals:
  - *Engagement.* The work of this team included fine-tuning messaging on residential building electrification and developing a strategy and timeline for engagement.
  - *Technology.* The work of this team included reviewing current and emerging technologies and their feasibility for meeting the demands of a typical home and developing a strategy. The team also considered the influence of electrification technologies that are implemented on the electrical grid improvements that are needed.
  - *Finance.* The work of this team included prioritizing the most feasible funding strategies and developing a strategy for financing S/CAP Implementation.The working group teams also discussed an outline of a proposed Advanced Heat Pump Water Heater Pilot Program at the June 14 meeting. They agreed to have staff develop the outline into a more defined proposal.
- **September 27 and October 3, 2022:** Staff and the S/CAP Committee recommended, and Council accepted, the S/CAP Goals and Key Actions that would be used for environmental review. Staff and the S/CAP Committee recommended the creation of an Advanced Heat Pump Water Heater Pilot program and Council took several actions to enable the program to be launched.<sup>11</sup>

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<sup>9</sup> City Council and Utilities Advisory Commission, March 7, 2022; Agenda Item 3; SR #14076

<https://www.cityofpaloalto.org/files/assets/public/agendas-minutes-reports/agendas-minutes/city-council-agendas-minutes/2022/20220307/20220307pccsmamendedfinal-linked.pdf#page=42>

<sup>10</sup> City Council, April 22, 2022; Agenda Item 2; SR # 14174,

<https://www.cityofpaloalto.org/files/assets/public/agendas-minutes-reports/reports/city-manager-reports-cmrs/2022/id.-14174-earth-day-report-2022-edr22.pdf>

<sup>11</sup> City Council, October 3, 2022; Agenda Item #9; SR # 14720

<https://www.cityofpaloalto.org/files/assets/public/agendas-minutes-reports/agendas-minutes/city-council-agendas-minutes/2022/20221003/20221003accsm-amended-presentations.pdf#page=131>