

# EUGENE CITY COUNCIL

## AGENDA ITEM SUMMARY



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### Action: An Ordinance Concerning Climate Recovery

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Meeting Date: July 28, 2014  
Department: Central Services  
[www.eugene-or.gov](http://www.eugene-or.gov)

Agenda Item Number: 5  
Staff Contact: Matt McRae  
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#### ISSUE STATEMENT

This item is a request for the City Council to take action on a Climate Recovery Ordinance. The council held a public hearing concerning the proposed ordinance on July 21, 2014. During the public hearing, 24 people testified in support of the ordinance and three testified in opposition.

#### BACKGROUND

##### Existing Eugene Climate and Energy Goals

In 2008 and 2009, upon recommendation from the Sustainability Commission, the Eugene City Council:

- Approved a formal goal of making all City-owned facilities and City operations carbon neutral by 2020.
- Directed the City Manager to develop a community climate and energy action plan that includes a carbon emissions reduction goal and that will aim to reduce total (not per capita) community-wide fossil fuel consumption 50 percent by 2030.

While the City of Eugene does not have ultimate control over community-wide greenhouse gas emissions, the City does have the power to convene and collaborate with partners, and support progress toward shared community-wide goals.

##### Existing Eugene Climate and Energy Plans

###### *Internal Climate Action Plan*

The City developed an [Internal Climate Action Plan](#) (2009) which contains action items for reducing the greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions associated with City operations and facilities.

###### *Community Climate and Energy Action Plan*

The City developed the [Community Climate and Energy Action Plan](#) (2010), though it was not formally adopted by the City Council. The greenhouse gas emissions targets contained in the plan are aligned with those set by the State, including.

- Reduce greenhouse gas emissions 10 percent below 1990 levels by 2020 and 75 percent below 1990 levels by 2050.

- These targets mirror the Oregon State greenhouse gas emissions targets.
- Reduce community-wide fossil fuel use 50 percent by 2030.
- These targets are unique to Eugene.
- Identify actions to adapt to climate change and rising and volatile energy prices.

### **Progress on climate action**

While the development of these climate action plans provides a path for reaching the City's goals, without adoption, their status is somewhat uncertain as are the goals on which they are based.

#### *Carbon neutral goal for City operations and facilities*

Recent progress reports to the City Manager indicate that the City is not on track to meet the goal for reducing greenhouse gas emissions.

The 2010 Internal Greenhouse Gas Inventory contains long term organizational energy use trends. The report can be found on the City of Eugene website:

<http://www.eugene-or.gov/DocumentCenter/View/9467>

#### *Community fossil fuel reduction goal*

In spring 2013, staff released a 2013 CEAP Progress Report that summed up progress toward local climate and energy goals:

*Community-wide energy consumption continues to trend downward. Total electricity use has been flat over the last few years but is down 15 percent since 2000. Gasoline and diesel consumption has dropped 16 percent since 2005 including two percent over the last year. Natural gas consumption, down about one percent in 2012, has declined more than 12 percent since 2006. All of this while Eugene's population continues to increase, growing eight percent between 2005 and 2011. These are hopeful trends that demonstrate success in substantially reducing reliance on fossil fuels.*

*Looking at individual actions, in the 12 months between September 2011 and September 2012, several recommendations contained in the Community Climate and Energy Action Plan were completed while others remain unchanged.*

The full 2013 CEAP Progress Report can be found on the City of Eugene website:

<http://www.eugene-or.gov/sustainability>.

### **RELATED CITY POLICIES**

The City has existing adopted greenhouse gas emissions and fossil fuel consumption goals:

- Achieve carbon-neutral internal operations by 2020.
- Reduce total community-wide fossil fuel consumption 50 percent by 2030.

The Community Climate and Energy Action Plan contains community-wide greenhouse gas emissions targets, though they have not been formally adopted:

- Reduce community-wide greenhouse gas emissions 10 percent below 1990 levels by 2020 and 75 percent below 1990 levels by 2050.

The City maintains a number of policies directly related to community-wide energy consumption including, but not limited to:

- Growth Management Policies
- Green Building Policy (2006)
- Sustainability Resolution (2000)
- Environmental Policy
- Sustainable Practices Resolution (2006)
- Sustainable Procurement Policy (2008)

The proposed Climate Recovery Ordinance would influence a number of existing City plans including, but not limited to:

- Eugene Community Climate and Energy Action Plan
- Eugene Internal Climate Action Plan
- Eugene Pedestrian Bicycle Master Plan
- Regional Transportation System Plan/ Eugene Transportation System Plan
- Metro Plan/ Eugene Comprehensive Plan: Envision Eugene
- Regional Prosperity Economic Development Plan

## **COUNCIL OPTIONS**

1. Approve Attachment A, Climate Recovery Proposal.
2. Revise and approve Attachment A, Climate Recovery Proposal.

## **CITY MANAGER'S RECOMMENDATION**

The City Manager recommends adoption of the proposed Climate Recovery Ordinance.

## **SUGGESTED MOTION**

Move to adopt Council Bill 5124, an ordinance concerning climate recovery.

## **ATTACHMENTS**

A. Proposed Climate Recovery Ordinance

## **FOR MORE INFORMATION**

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