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ENERGY CONSERVATION ACTIVITIES IN SAN MATEO COUNTY

Issue

The 2007/2008 San Mateo County Civil Grand Jury (the Grand Jury) sought to determine if certain local government agencies that are large energy consumers in San Mateo County are doing a good job of reducing their current and future consumption and thereby exercising good stewardship as well as saving taxpayers' money.

Background

The following quotations from the Nobel Prize winning Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC) establish the growing concern over the effects of greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions on the earth's current and future climate. The IPCC 2007 Summary for Policy Makers (references are listed in an appendix to this report) contains the following statements:

“Warming of the climate system is unequivocal, as is now evident from observations of increases in global average air and ocean temperatures, widespread melting of snow and ice and rising global average sea level.”

“Global GHG emissions due to human activities have grown since pre-industrial times, with an increase of 70% between 1970 and 2004.”

“Carbon dioxide (CO₂) is the most important anthropogenic GHG. Its annual emissions grew by about 80% between 1970 and 2004. The long-term trend of declining CO₂ emissions per unit of energy supplied reversed after 2000.”

“Atmospheric concentrations of CO₂ (379 ppm¹) and CH₄ (1774 ppb²) in 2005 exceed by far the natural range over the last 650,000 years. Global increases in CO₂ concentrations are due primarily to fossil fuel use, with land-use change providing another significant but smaller contribution. It is *very likely* that the observed increase in CH₄ concentration is predominantly due to agriculture and fossil fuel use....”

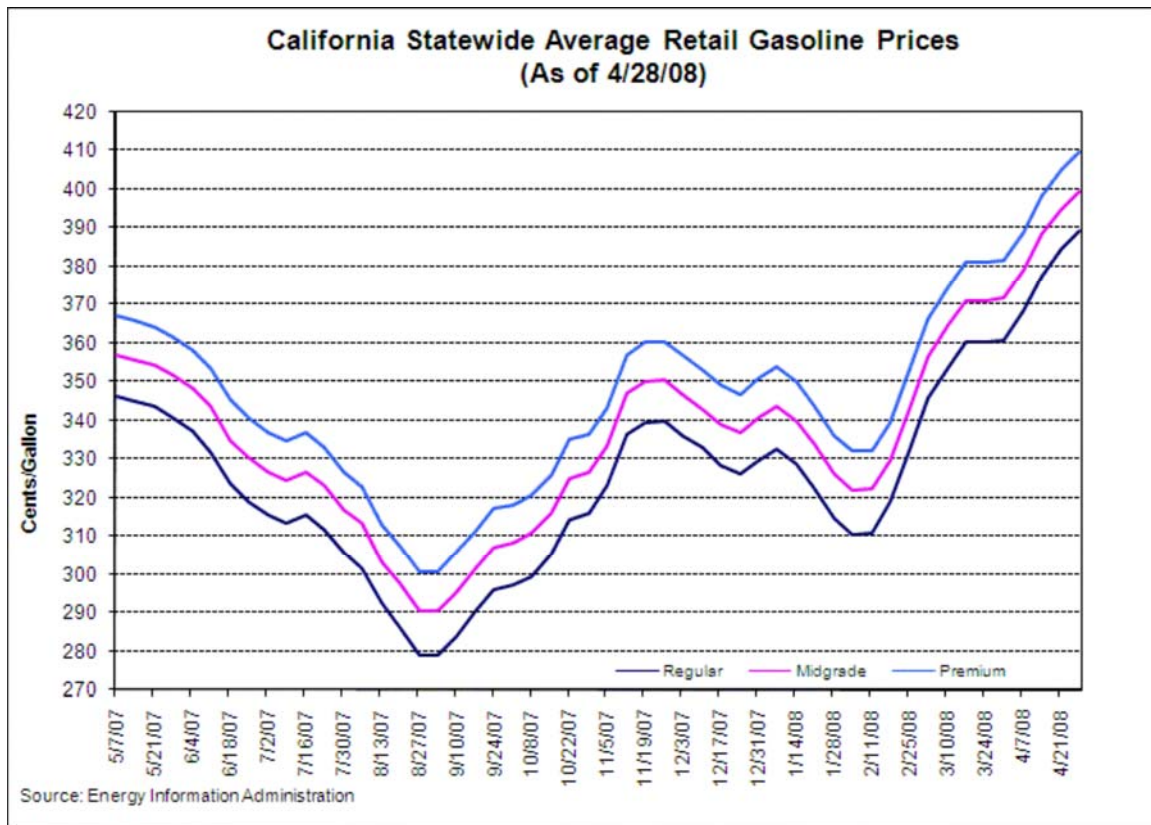
“There is *very high confidence* that the net effect of human activities since 1750 has been one of warming.”

¹ ppm is parts per million.

² CH₄ is methane and ppb is parts per billion.

The long term issue of climate change is one of the two main reasons for the Grand Jury’s concern about our county’s energy consumption. The other reason is more immediate and practical. Each trip to the gas station and each utility bill make it clear that the cost of energy has been increasing rapidly. Figure 1, from the California Energy Commission web site, shows average gasoline prices in California between May 2007 and April 2008. It is obvious that fuel costs have grown to the point where they are becoming an ever more important part of governmental budgets within the county, particularly transit budgets to which the impact is in the millions of dollars.

Figure 1. Average gasoline prices in California – May 2007 through April 2008



With the need for conserving energy and reducing GHG emissions established, the Grand Jury decided to focus on the efforts of two major countywide governmental organizations and two non-governmental programs that are major factors in the county’s energy consumption. Those agencies and programs are:

- City/County Association of Governments of San Mateo County (C/CAG).
- San Mateo County Transit District (SamTrans).
- Green Team.
- Cool Cities program.

C/CAG is a Joint Powers Authority composed of the County government and all cities in San Mateo County which provides a platform for working together on matters of common interest, planning, and allocation of resources.

SamTrans provides bus service throughout San Mateo County and, through its participation in Caltrain, under a Joint Powers Authority, provides passenger rail service on the old Southern Pacific tracks for three counties: San Francisco, San Mateo and Santa Clara. This is a vital mass transit link for the area. These agencies are headquartered in San Carlos.

The Green Team is a committee of “green” personnel from each County department that was established by the County Board of Supervisors.

The Cool Cities Program was committed to by the County Board of Supervisors on October 16, 2007. The objective is to have the County adopt the U.S. Cool Counties Initiative to combat global warming and reduce GHG emissions by the joint efforts of county and city governments and the Sierra Club. The program promotes actions by individuals and local governments that will reduce GHG emissions 80% by 2050, beginning with a shorter term goal of stopping the increase in emissions by 2010 and reducing them by two percent per year through 2050.

Investigation

The Grand Jury interviewed County Facilities Management staff and senior management from Public Works and the County Manager’s Office. The Grand Jury also interviewed senior management of C/CAG and SamTrans.

The Grand Jury interviewed an expert on alternative energy for transportation from the Environmental Business Cluster of Silicon Valley, which is a nonprofit clean energy and environmental technology commercialization center in San Jose that provides business assistance to environmental companies and helps them form technology partnerships and networks.

Numerous documents and web pages were consulted as indicated in the attached Appendix.

Findings

C/CAG has published for final review a draft of the report, “San Mateo County Energy Strategy 2012,” which presents detailed information and many suggestions for ways in which the County and its cities can reduce energy use by the year 2012. The report focuses on natural gas and electric utility conservation. C/CAG has also coordinated planning and communication among the County and City elected officials.

The County Facilities Management Staff has developed and implemented cost-effective energy conservation measures that include:

- Replacement of lighting in most County buildings (and some leased space through agreements with the landlords) with high efficiency fluorescent lights and ballasts.
- Inefficient chillers and boilers have been replaced.
- Elevator motors are being replaced with more efficient ones.
- Window films are planned as heat barriers for County buildings.
- Motion detectors are being placed in some areas to turn off lights when unneeded. Otherwise, they are left off. Other equipment changeouts are in process.

The County Public Works Department is replacing aged vehicles with more fuel-efficient models.

SamTrans is a major consumer of the fuel used by county agencies. Among their efforts to improve fuel efficiency and reduce costs are the following:

- Changed engines in 137 buses to achieve 25% reduction in fleet average emissions and a 40% increase in fuel economy.
- Modified routes to encourage transit use and thereby reduce countywide emissions.
- Adopted policy for and has been pursuing funding for electrification of Caltrain, which would increase transit efficiency, save money, and reduce emissions.
- Engaged in experimental alternate energy programs sponsored, in large part, by state and federal programs.

Green Team members have worked (both in their individual neighborhoods and in the County workplace) to promote and implement:

- Bicycle commuting.
- Car-pooling.
- Subsidized mass transit for County employees.
- “Point of use” signage, to remind employees to turn off lights and computers when not in use.

The Sierra Club’s Cool Cities Project is aligned with the U. S. Mayors Climate Protection Agreement. It promotes these main strategies:

- Green vehicle fleets.
- Energy efficiency.
- Renewable energy.

To date, the County and 16 of 20 cities in the County have engaged in at least one of the five milestones³ of the Cool Cities Campaign. The cities which have not engaged are Brisbane, Colma, Daly City, and East Palo Alto.

³ The milestones are: 1. Establish campaign; 2. Engage community; 3. Sign formal Mayors’ climate protection agreement; 4. Take initial solution steps; 5. Implement advanced energy solutions.

Conclusions

The County agencies and programs examined by the Grand Jury have recognized the importance of energy conservation, both for environmental improvement and for reducing the impact of increasing fuel costs on the County budget. Those organizations have not only recognized the importance of energy conservation, they have also made good progress toward achieving significant levels of energy conservation.

C/CAG's appointment of the Utilities and Sustainability Task Force turned out to be a very important step toward more efficient energy use in the County. That Task Force did a comprehensive review of our county's non-transportation energy expenditures, and the possible ways in which those expenditures can be reduced. Many of the suggestions proposed by the Task Force have already been implemented, and plans are in effect for implementing many of the remaining recommendations.

Aside from private vehicles, much of the energy used for transportation in our county is used by SamTrans and Caltrain vehicles. The SamTrans refitting of buses with cleaner, more efficient engines was an important step toward reducing fuel costs. Other SamTrans activities, such as possible Caltrain electrification, revising bus routes to be more attractive and studies of alternative fuels for their vehicles, have had some impact to date, but hold promise for considerably more cost and efficiency improvements in the future.

Efforts to reduce fuel consumption by vehicles operated by the government agencies in our county have not been consistent. Some cities, the County, and agencies, such as SamTrans, have paid considerable attention to the problems of fuel usage, whereas other agencies seem to have been less concerned.

The Green Team and Cool Cities programs have been quite active in our county. These programs have brought many correctible inefficiencies to the attention of those officials who can bring about changes.

Recommendations

The Grand Jury recommends that City/County Association of Governments:

1. Work with cities, the County, and independent agencies to ensure implementation of the recommendations set forth by the Utilities and Sustainability Task Force in their San Mateo County Energy Strategy.
2. Appoint another task force to do an in depth study, with practical recommendations for reducing transportation-related energy use by cities, the County, and independent agencies. The new task force would be composed of experts from a variety of fields, such as was the case for the Utilities and Sustainability Task Force.

3. Encourage cities, the County, and independent agencies to share ideas and coordinate efforts toward improving efficiency of the vehicle fleets.
4. Work with cities, the County, and independent agencies to ensure implementation of the recommendations set forth by the new transportation energy use task force (see #2 above) when it completes its work.
5. Continue supporting Green Team and Cool Cities programs.

The Grand Jury recommends that the SamTrans Board of Directors:

1. Encourage staff members to continue tests and studies of alternative fuels and electrification for their vehicles and to continue to share their expertise with other county agencies.
2. Continue to be poised to expand SamTrans service should increasing fuel costs cause the public to suddenly move from cars to mass transit.
3. Encourage Caltrain to expand service should increasing fuel costs cause the public to suddenly move from cars to mass transit.

The Grand Jury recommends that the San Mateo County Board of Supervisors:

1. Continue to support and recognize the efforts of County management through its Green Team initiatives to conserve energy and reduce carbon emissions.

The Grand Jury recommends that the Cities of Brisbane, Colma, Daly City, and East Palo Alto:

1. Initiate engagement in the five milestones of the Cool Cities program, thereby achieving the enrollment of all cities within San Mateo County.

Appendix: Sources of Information

Documents

Chandler, K. and L. Eudy, 2006: *Santa Clara Valley Transportation Authority and San Mateo County Transit District – Fuel Cell Transit Buses: Evaluation Results*, National Renewable Energy Laboratory, Golden, CO (*Tech Rept.* NREL/TP-560-40615), 74 pp.

Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change, 2007: *Climate Change 2007: Synthesis Report – Summary for Policymakers*, 22 pp.

P3, Pollution Prevention Post, 2008, (Vol. 1, No. 2), 4 pp.

San Mateo County Transportation Authority, 2007: *Progress Report*, 12 pp.

San Mateo County Utilities and Sustainability Task Force (USTF), 2007: *San Mateo County Energy Strategy 2012 – final draft for review*, 72 pp.

Sustainable San Mateo County Indicators Project, 2008: *Indicators for a Sustainable San Mateo County – Twelfth Annual Report Card • April 2008*, Sustainable San Mateo County Indicators Project, San Mateo, CA, 80 pp.

World Wide Web sources:

<http://coolcities.us/state.php?state=CA>

<http://www.ccag.ca.gov/>

<http://www.energy.ca.gov/gasoline/>

<http://www.environmentalcluster.org/>

<http://www.ipcc.ch/>

<http://www.samtrans.com/>

http://www.samtrans.com/news_2003_remanufacturing.html

<http://www.smcta.com/>

<http://www.sustainablesanmateo.org>



BOARD OF DIRECTORS 2008

ADRIENNE TISSIER, CHAIR
ZOE KERSTEEN-TUCKER, VICE CHAIR
CAROLE GROOM
ROSE GUILBAULT
SHIRLEY HARRIS
JIM HARTNETT
JERRY HILL
ARTHUR L. LLOYD
KARYL MATSUMOTO

MICHAEL J. SCANLON
GENERAL MANAGER/CEO

June 24, 2008

Hon. Joseph C. Scott
Judge of the Superior Court
Hall of Justice
400 County Center, 2nd Floor
Redwood City, CA. 94063-1655

Dear Judge Scott,

We are in receipt of the San Mateo County Grand Jury report titled "Energy Conservation Activities in San Mateo County" and have reviewed the conclusions and recommendations concerning the San Mateo County Transit District (SamTrans).

On behalf of the District Board of Directors and the Peninsula Corridor Joint Powers Board, which oversees the operations of Caltrain, we concur with the Grand Jury recommendations and at the direction of our Boards are engaged in activities to undertake and expand upon them. Our specific response is as follows:

Recommendation 1

"Encourage staff members to continue tests and studies of alternative fuels and electrification for their vehicles and to continue to share their expertise with other county agencies."

We will continue to seek new, innovative ways to improve fuel efficiency and will continue to work actively with the communities we serve and our governmental and non-governmental partners to seek collaborative programs that have as their goal expanded use of alternative fuels.

Further, Chief Operating Officer Chuck Harvey recently returned from a federally sponsored international program to explore sustainability practices that may be applicable to SamTrans bus service and Caltrain rail service. He has begun to incorporate sustainability standards and measures into his reports to our Boards.

Recommendations 2-3

"Continue to be poised to expand SamTrans service should increasing fuel costs cause the public to suddenly move from cars to mass transit."

"Encourage Caltrain to expand services should increasing fuel costs cause the public to suddenly move from cars to mass transit."

SAN MATEO COUNTY TRANSIT DISTRICT
1250 San Carlos Ave. – P.O. Box 3006
San Carlos, CA 94070-1306 (650)508-6200

Hon. Joseph C. Scott
Judge of the Superior Court
June 24, 2008
Page 2 of 2

As the Grand Jury observed, rising fuel costs and growing public awareness of the impact on the environment of carbon emissions are driving increased ridership on our services and will continue to raise expectations that alternative modes of transit will be readily available.

In the short-term, Caltrain is in the midst of the purchase of eight additional rail cars, which we are able to obtain on an expedited procurement cycle. The eight cars should be in service before the end of the calendar year and will allow expanded capacity on our trains.

In the long-term, expanded service will be achieved by modernization of our bus service, planning for which is underway at the direction of the SamTrans Board, and electrification of Caltrain, a longstanding first priority of the Joint Powers Board. Expansion of all transit services, ultimately, however, will require identification of additional dedicated and reliable sources of revenue for Caltrain and SamTrans.

The Grand Jury in its many manifestations represents the views of opinion leaders in our community. We appreciate the recognition by the Grand Jury of the need for expanded service and the resources necessary to meet the growing needs of the public.

Sincerely,



Mark A. Simon
Special Assistant to the CEO

Cc: San Mateo County Transit District Board of Directors
Peninsula Corridor Joint Powers Board
Michael J. Scanlon, Executive Director/CEO
David Miller, General Counsel
Martha Martinez, District Secretary
Chief Executive Officers

Enclosure



COUNTY OF SAN MATEO
Inter-Departmental Correspondence

County Manager's Office

DATE: August 18, 2008
BOARD MEETING DATE: September 9, 2008
SPECIAL NOTICE: None
VOTE REQUIRED: None

TO: Honorable Board of Supervisors
FROM: John L. Maltbie, County Manager
SUBJECT: 2007-08 Grand Jury Response

RECOMMENDATION

Accept this report containing the County's responses to the following 2007-08 Grand Jury report: Energy Conservation in San Mateo County.

VISION ALIGNMENT:

Commitment: Responsive, effective and collaborative government.

Goal 20: Government decisions are based on careful consideration of future impact, rather than temporary relief or immediate gain.

This activity contributes to the goal by ensuring that all Grand Jury findings and recommendations are thoroughly reviewed by the appropriate County departments and that, when appropriate, process improvements are made to improve the quality and efficiency of services provided to the public and other agencies.

DISCUSSION

The County is mandated to respond to the Grand Jury within 90 days from the date that reports are filed with the County Clerk and Elected Officials are mandated to respond within 60 days. To that end, attached is the County's response to the Grand Jury report on Recycling Performance Measurements issued on June 18, 2008.

Energy Conservation Activities

Findings:

Staff agrees with the findings in the report relating to County operations and programs.

Recommendations:

The Grand Jury Recommends that the Board of Supervisors:

- **Continue to support and recognize the efforts of County management through its Green Team initiatives to conserve energy and reduce carbon emissions.**

Response: Concur. The Board is very supportive of all the Department and Green Team efforts to reduce carbon emissions from county activities.



CITY OF DALY CITY

333-90TH STREET

DALY CITY, CA 94015-1895

PHONE: (650) 991-8000

September 19, 2008

Honorable Joseph C. Scott
Judge of the Superior Court
Hall of Justice
400 County Center, 2nd Floor
Redwood City CA 94063

RE: Grand Jury Findings on Energy Conservation Activities in San Mateo County

Dear Judge Scott:

The following is the City of Daly City's response to the San Mateo County Civil Grand Jury Report referenced above:

- 1) The City of Daly City agrees that the San Mateo County Energy Strategy 2012, which focuses on natural gas and electric utility conservation, provides many useful suggestions for ways in which the County and its cities can reduce energy use by the year 2012.
- 2) The City of Daly City supports the finding that implementation of the Cool Cities Program in San Mateo County to promote actions by individuals and local governments that will reduce GHG emissions 80% by 2050 is a commitment that every city in the County should engage.
- 3) The City of Daly City concurs that all San Mateo County cities should implement the five milestones of the Cool Cities Campaign, which promote green vehicle fleets, energy efficiency, and renewable energy.

In an effort to engage the community of Daly City in the countywide Cool Cities Program, the City of Daly City agrees to initiate implementation of the five milestones of the Program by December 31, 2008, thereby contributing to the enrollment of all cities within San Mateo County.

Should you or the Grand Jury require additional information, please contact me directly at (650) 991-8127.

Very truly yours,

Patricia E. Martel
City Manager

PEM/rp



CITY OF BRISBANE

50 Park Place
Brisbane, California 94005-1310
(415) 508-2100
Fax (415) 467-4989

September 9, 2008

Hon. Joseph C. Scott
Judge of the Superior Court
Hall of Justice
400 County Center; 2nd Floor
Redwood City, CA 94063-1655

Re: Grand Jury recommendation regarding Brisbane and Cool Cities program milestones.

Honorable Joseph C. Scott:

The 2007/2008 San Mateo County Civil Grand Jury has recommended that the City of Brisbane initiate engagement in the five milestones of the Cool Cities program. The City of Brisbane respectfully disagrees with the findings and recommendation contained in the June 18, 2008 Grand Jury Report on Energy Conservation Activities in San Mateo County for the following reasons.

The Sierra Club's Cool Cities website list the following milestones:

1. Establish Cool Cities Campaign
2. Engage the Community
3. Municipality Signs Commitment Agreement
4. Implementing Initial Solution Steps
5. Implementing Advanced Smart Energy Solutions

The first two milestones would generally entail action by community volunteers to launch a Cool Cities campaign. Local citizens have not initiated this effort in Brisbane, and the program has therefore not been established here. However, as discussed below, the City of Brisbane has already adopted many of the Milestone #4 steps which focus on improving municipal operations. Milestone #5, however, contains steps such as community wide audits that the City is not yet willing or able to commit to at this time because they are premature and/or sufficient resources are not available. Brisbane is actively engaged in climate protection efforts, and has adopted policies and implemented programs to reduce greenhouse gas emissions.

The City of Brisbane is a member of ICLEI (Local Governments for Sustainability), an organization that is partnering with the Cool Cities Campaign to assist municipalities in creating and implementing climate protection measures. We are presently working with ICLEI to conduct a baseline emissions inventory of City operations. The City of Brisbane is also a member of the Silicon Valley Joint Venture Network Climate Protection Task Force, formed in 2007 to help cities and other public agencies develop

collaborative solutions for reducing greenhouse gas emissions from public agency operations within the Silicon Valley.

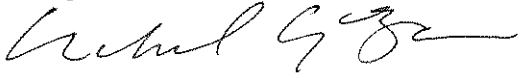
In addition to conducting a greenhouse gas emissions inventory, the following are examples of measures that Brisbane has already undertaken to reduce carbon emissions and promote sustainability.

- Brisbane is the first and only city in San Mateo County to adopt a Green Building Ordinance that requires LEED and Build It Green standards for public buildings, as well as larger private commercial and residential developments.
- Brisbane adopted a Construction and Demolition (C&D) Debris Ordinance mandating diversion of 100% of inert solids and 50% of other C&D debris for larger projects.
- Brisbane's Water Conservation program promotes conservation and efficiency, prohibits water waste, and requires drought tolerant plants and water efficient irrigation in large landscape projects.
- Brisbane has implemented City Hall Energy Saving upgrades:
 - fluorescent bulbs and high efficiency ballasts replace old office lighting
 - flat panel computer monitors replace older monitors
 - double-paned windows and motion-sensing light switches installed to conserve energy
 - new, energy efficient HVAC system is currently being installed
- Compact fluorescent light bulbs and energy-saving literature have been distributed free to Brisbane residents.
- A solar thermal supplemental heating system has been installed at Brisbane's municipal community pool.
- A roof top photovoltaic system planned as part of the City Hall remodel project.
- The City purchases recycled paper products.
- City offices incorporate recycling of mixed paper, cardboard, glass, aluminum cans, plastic bottles, as well containers for proper disposal of batteries, cell phones, and CFLs. Homeowners may deposit household batteries and CFLs at City Hall for recycling or proper disposal.
- There is strong support of public transportation, including employee shuttle services, and citywide pedestrian and bicycle access.
- The City has an active program for acquisition and management of open space for protection of native habitat. In the past ten years, the City has received over \$1million in grants matched by over \$1.2million in City funds to acquire over 50 acres of open space and habitat lands on San Bruno Mountain.
- The City Council has created the Open Space and Ecology Committee, an environmental advisory body appointed by the City Council to promote sustainability in Brisbane.

In view of the efforts represented by the above measures, the City also believes the recommendation of the Grand Jury is unwarranted because participation in the Cool

Cities program could divert the City's attention and resources from programs already being implemented in Brisbane.

Respectfully,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Michael G. Barnes". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a long horizontal stroke at the end.

Michael G. Barnes
Mayor

C/CAG

CITY/COUNTY ASSOCIATION OF GOVERNMENTS OF SAN MATEO COUNTY

*Atherton • Belmont • Brisbane • Burlingame • Colma • Daly City • East Palo Alto • Foster City • Half Moon Bay • Hillsborough • Menlo Park
Millbrae • Pacifica • Portola Valley • Redwood City • San Bruno • San Carlos • San Mateo • San Mateo County • South San Francisco • Woodside*

October 16, 2008

Judge of the Superior Court
Hall of Justice
400 County Center; 2nd Floor
Redwood City, CA 94063-1655

Attention: Honorable Joseph C. Scott

Subject: Response to Grand Jury Report on Energy Conservation Activities in San Mateo
County

Honorable Joseph C. Scott:

On behalf of the City/ County Association of Governments of San Mateo County (C/CAG), I would like to thank the Grand Jury for their report on Energy Conservation Activities in San Mateo County. Since the City/ County Association of Governments of San Mateo County is mentioned in the report C/CAG would like to provide the following comments on the Grand Jury recommendations.

- 1- C/CAG is working with the County to complete the San Mateo County Energy Strategy. Currently it is out for comments with final approval scheduled for December 2008. C/CAG and the County will actively pursue getting all 20 Cities to adopt a resolution supporting the Countywide Energy Strategy. C/CAG has established a grant program to fund (\$273,000) the Green House Gas Baseline emissions for the 20 Cities and the County. Currently all the Cities and County have either scheduled or completed a baseline emissions inventory. The Energy Strategy adoption will further define the role for C/CAG on this issue.
- 2- The Energy Strategy specifically did not address the transportation side of the energy issue. Transportation is a great deal more complex with many of the solutions needing to be addressed at the State and Federal levels.. C/CAG can be more effective at this time getting the Cities to adopt and implement the measures outlined in the Countywide Energy Strategy. The Local Government and Communitywide Green House Gas Baseline Inventories that we are supporting include the energy used for transportation. This will enable the Cities and the County to monitor and take actions to reduce their transportation energy use. Most of the remaining transportation energy issues are best addressed at the State and Federal level.

- 3- Given the makeup of the County it is critical the Cities and County share their ideas and coordinate efforts to improve overall energy efficiency. Toward that end C/CAG intends to establish forums such that successful ideas can be shared. These forums would be focused on all energy issues and not just focused solely on transportation.
- 4- It is premature to set up a new task force for transportation until we have achieved a consensus and success with the Energy Strategy implementation.
- 5- C/CAG supports the Green Team and Cool Cities programs.

C/CAG and the County are in the process of establishing a Local Government Partnership (LGP) with Pacific Gas and Electric (PG&E) to create a San Mateo County Energy Watch. This effort will provide up to \$5M in incentives for energy savings achieved for all of San Mateo County. The program will address the government, business, and residential sectors.

Our compliments to the Grand Jury on this important report. If there are any questions please contact me at 650 599-1420.

Sincerely,



Richard Napier
Executive Director
C/CAG



TOWN OF COLMA

1198 El Camino Real • Colma, California • 94014-3212
Tel 650-997-8300 • Fax 650-997-8308

October 14, 2008

City Council

Helen Fisicaro
Mayor

Joanne F. del Rosario
Vice Mayor

Frossanna "Fro" Vallerga
Council Member

Joseph Silva
Council Member

Diana Colvin
Council Member

City Treasurer
Rae P. Gonzalez

City Officials

Laura Allen
Interim City Manager

Robert L. Lotti
Chief of Police

Roger Peters
City Attorney

Richard Mao
City Engineer

Andrea Ouse
City Planner

Brian Dossey
Director of Recreation
Services

Lori Burns
Human Resources Manager

Hon. Joseph C. Scott
Judge of the Superior Court
Hall of Justice
400 County Center, 2nd Floor
Redwood City, CA 94063-1655

Dear Judge Scott:

The Town of Colma is in receipt of the San Mateo County Grand Jury report titled "Energy Conservation Activities in San Mateo County" and we have reviewed the recommendations concerning the Town of Colma.

On behalf of the City Council, as the Mayor, we agree with the findings and concur with the Grand Jury recommendations.

Recommendation: The Grand Jury recommends that the Cities of Brisbane, Colma, Daly City, and East Palo Alto initiate engagement in the five milestones of the Cool Cities program, thereby achieving the enrollment of all cities within San Mateo County.

Response: The Town of Colma City Council concurs with the recommendation and has authorized the Mayor to execute all documents necessary for the Town to participate in the Cool Cities Program and the Silicon Valley Climate Protection Partnership. The Town of Colma has also authorized the Interim City Manager to take all steps necessary to join the following organization and to pay the respective annual dues:

- ❖ Joint Venture Silicon Valley Network (JVSVN)
- ❖ ICLEI – Local Governments for Sustainability
- ❖ Sustainable Silicon Valley (SSV)

Enclosed is a certified copy of the Town of Colma Resolution 2008-45, titled "Resolution Authorizing Participation in the Cool Cities Program, the Climate Protection Partnership and the C/CAG Funding Agreement", which was adopted by the City Council on July 30, 2008.

Sincerely,

Helen Fisicaro
Mayor



**CITY OF EAST PALO ALTO
OFFICE OF THE MAYOR**

Hon. Joseph C. Scott
Judge of the Superior Court
Hall of Justice
400 County Center, 2nd Floor
Redwood City, California 94063-1655

Dear Judge Scott:

On behalf of the East Palo Alto City Council, please accept our comments regarding the 2007-2008 Grand Jury "Energy Conservation Activities in San Mateo County Report" with our apology for the late submission. If there are any questions, please contact Alvin James, our City Manager at either (650) 853-3100 or ajames@cityofepa.org.

CITY OF EAST PALO ALTO RESPONSE RE: ENERGY CONSERVATION ACTIVITIES IN SAN MATEO COUNTY

Issue:

The 2007/2008 San Mateo County Civil Grand Jury (the Grand Jury) sought to determine if certain local government agencies that are large energy consumers in San Mateo County are doing a good job of reducing their current and future consumption and thereby exercising good stewardship as well as saving taxpayers' money.

Findings

To date, the County and 16 of 20 cities in the County have engaged in at least one of the five milestones of the Cool Cities Campaign. The cities which have not engaged are Brisbane, Colma, Daly City, and East Palo Alto. (The milestones are: 1. Establish campaign; 2. Engage community; 3. Sign formal Mayor's climate protection agreement; 4. Take initial solution steps; 5. Implement advanced energy solutions.)

The city agrees with the finding that the City of East Palo Alto must engage in efforts, generally described in the Cool Cities Campaign to reduce current and future energy consumption. Consistent with that goal, the City Council authorized the city's participation in a number of initiatives collaboratively with other governmental entities, as described below, to quantify its "emissions footprint" as well as improve transit services to its residents.

Recommendations

The Grand Jury recommends that the Cities of Brisbane, Colma, Daly City, and East Palo Alto:

- 1. Initiate engagement in the five milestones of the Cool Cities program, thereby achieving the enrollment of all cities within San Mateo County.*

The city agrees with the Grand Jury's finding that the City should initiate engagement in some form of the five milestones of the Cool Cities program. It is currently familiarizing itself with the program. As described below, the city is currently working with other agencies to identify steps necessary to reduce its current and future energy consumption. It will explore the possibility of combining its current effort with participation in the Cool Cities Program.

The City of East Palo Alto was only made aware of the Sierra Club Cool Cities Program via the Grand Jury's recommendations. We will evaluate the possibility of combining participation in the Sierra Club program with our current air quality and energy conservation initiatives.

The city is currently participating in the Silicon Valley Climate Protection Partnership that includes 20-plus cities from San Mateo, Santa Clara, and Santa Cruz counties. Joint Venture: Silicon Valley Network is spearheading the effort on behalf of participating public agencies, and has contracted with the International Council for Local Environmental Initiative (ICLEI) to work with cities, to complete Greenhouse Gas (GHG) Inventories associated with their respective governmental operations. East Palo Alto's participation is being subsidized, in part, via a grant from C/CAG.

This effort is in response to California AB 32 – the Global Warming Solutions Act of 2006, that requires global warming emissions to be reduced to 1990 levels by 2020 on a state-wide basis. At the local level, ICLEI is working with local governments to establish baseline GHG emissions inventories for the year 2005, pursuant to Local Government Protocols being developed by the California Air Resources Board.

ICLEI is working with cities to collect GHG emissions data on the following governmental operation sectors:

Facilities – all government owned and/or operated facilities.

1. Street Lights – all government operated outdoor lighting unrelated to facilities.
2. Vehicle Fleets – all vehicles owned or operated by the government.
3. Water and Wastewater – all government operated treatment, pumping, etc.
4. Government Owned Wastewater Treatment & Disposal – not applicable to the City of East Palo Alto.
5. Government Owned Power Generation – not applicable to the City of East Palo Alto.
6. Contractor Operated Vehicle Fleet – all vehicles owned and/or operated by contractors fulfilling core government services.
7. Employee commute – emissions resulting from employees traveling to and from work.
8. Employee Business Travel – emissions resulting from employee business travel
9. Waste Generation – waste generated by government operations.

10. Other – fugitive, agricultural, industrial processes and other emissions not captured in above categories.

Data has already been collected (from PG&E) on items nos. 1 and 2. The next step in the process is to begin data collection on the City's vehicle fleet and other equipment (Mobile Emissions Inventory). The timeline to complete the Government Operations Inventory is December, 2008. Attached are pages from the Draft San Mateo County Energy Strategy 2012 recently prepared and distributed by C/CAG's Utilities & Sustainability Task Force, which specifically recognizes East Palo Alto's participation.

Relative to air quality and transit programs, the city has hosted a demonstration hydrogen shuttle bus service since last year. Specifically, the hydrogen shuttle (8 passenger vehicle) has been operating between East Palo Alto and the Palo Alto Caltrain Station since December 2007 and, according to a recent C/CAG report, has traveled 5,600 miles. Since the fuel is hydrogen there are essentially no emissions. It is estimated that the service has achieved a minimum (gasoline-related) emission savings of 9,060 lbs of carbon based emissions.

East Palo Alto continues to work with SamTrans, C/CAG, and the Metropolitan Transportation Commission (MTC) and others to improve transit service for the city's residents. Utilizing various available grant programs the city, through the efforts of a transit service consultant and a Mobility Coordinator, has been coordinating expanded shuttle services for youth, seniors, and commute purposes. The city is currently supporting SamTrans 2nd Cycle Lifeline Transportation funding to increase fixed route service in East Palo Alto as well as submitting an application for funds from the same grant source to continue complementary shuttle service for East Palo Alto residents.

Sincerely,



Patricia Foster
Mayor