Background

The following work plan identifies recent accomplishments and priority work items for the upcoming work plan period. The work plan includes items identified as priority projects within the City Council’s Strategic Plan. The Sustainability Committee shall review the work plan each year in January to identify accomplishments and ensure continued focus on completing work plan items. Work plans are presented to the Council every two years, and if a change is needed to the work plan outside of that schedule, the Sustainability Committee shall submit a “Request for Amendment to Advisory Body Work Plan” Form for review by the City Council.

Sustainability Committee Purpose

The Sustainability Committee is established to advise the City Council on policies, programs, and issues promoting environmental sustainability in the City of Albany. The Committee provides leadership, technical assistance, education and outreach to members of the public, schools, local businesses, and city agencies on innovative programs to promote environmental sustainability through energy conservation, solid waste reduction and recycling, water conservation, pollution prevention, transportation efficiency, and other means.

Recent Initiatives and Accomplishments

- Made recommendation to the City Council on Climate Action Plan (CAP) funding
- Provided valuable input on General Plan update, including incorporating new greenhouse gas reduction goals
- Reviewed UC Village and Public Works Maintenance Center projects for sustainable features
- Made recommendation to the City Council to adopt Building Energy Assessment and Disclosure Ordinance (BEADO)
- Reviewed County CCA feasibility study
- Conducted CAP outreach through planning the Arts & Green Festival and initiating the Albany Carbon Reduction Action Team (ACRAT)

2017-2019 Policy Review and Initiatives

- Review CAP implementation and greenhouse gas inventory
- Develop a new climate mitigation and adaptation plan for 2035 and 2050 targets with an implementation and funding strategy for feasible local initiatives
Following approval of a BEADO by the Council, review BEADO implementation and encourage property owners to obtain energy assessments

Work with a subcommittee of the Planning & Zoning Commission to research and make recommendations on green building reach codes

Support East Bay Community Energy program development and outreach

Develop alternative transportation initiatives, including policies that encourage electric vehicles

Continue to interact with schools regarding energy efficiency

Continue community outreach

Develop a community sustainability portal for collection of best sustainable practices from residents and to function as a resource center for other sustainable initiatives

Begin a pilot survey on building energy use