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## MEMORANDUM

Date: October 12, 2023  
 To: Mayor Arndt and City Council  
 Thru: Kelly DiMartino, City Manager  
 Tyler Marr, Deputy City Manager  
 From: Our Climate Future Executive Committee<sup>1</sup>  
 Our Climate Future Lead Team<sup>2</sup>  
 Re: 2023 Our Climate Future Update

The purpose of this memo is to provide an update on Our Climate Future (OCF) progress and implementation.

**Key Highlights:** Included in this memo are summaries of several key outcomes and projects:

- The **2023-2024 Next Moves Plan** is now available as a dynamic webpage, which summarizes priority Next Moves for this year and next as well as a gap analysis.
- The **OCF Council Roadmap** is a strategic tool for Council to use when considering the timing of decisions across multiple areas and how they impact the OCF Big Moves and goals between now and 2030. *(2023 Council Roadmap Attachment)*
- The **2021-22 Our Climate Future Update Infographic** includes progress towards community-wide goals and community partnership and resilience stories. Because of data availability, progress towards adopted goals is from 2021 and community partnership and resilience stories are from 2022. *(2021-22 Our Climate Future Update Attachment)*
  - *GHG Emissions:* Community-wide, GHG emissions were down 24% in 2021 compared to the 2005 baseline. Per capita emissions were down 41%.
  - *Renewable Electricity:* Renewable electricity made up more than half of the community's consumption (50.5%) in 2021.
  - *Waste:* The community-diversion rate in 2021 was 51.5%, meaning that more than half the total material that was generated throughout the year was recycled or composted.
- With the 2023-24 **OCF Community Partnership** budget enhancement, staff have been able to continue the Community Consultants program, start the Climate Equity Committee, and create the Community Leadership Grants program. Together, these programs help the City's work on climate better serve the community equitably by integrating community voices, perspectives and experiences.
- **Sustainable Funding** strategies for climate action and other priorities have been considered over the past two years within the framework of the OCF Big Moves. This informed the Council decision to pursue key funding strategies that OCF staff will continue to support, and which will go to a community vote on November 7<sup>th</sup>, 2023.

## **2023-2024 Next Moves Plan**

When Our Climate Future was adopted in 2021, City Council supported an “evergreen approach” to advancing and tracking OCF initiatives. This means the transformational outcomes that will help us reach our goals (Big Moves) can stay constant while the year-to-year strategies (Next Moves) could be revisited and recalibrated every two years to align with City Council priorities, the City’s Strategic Plan, and the biannual budget cycle, as well as community needs and priorities and technological advancements.

For this iteration of the OCF Next Moves Plan community members can access a more dynamic webpage at [www.fcgov.com/climateaction/ocf-nextmoves](http://www.fcgov.com/climateaction/ocf-nextmoves). This version of the Next Moves plan is easily accessible to the community and creates transparency around strategies that have been informed by community priorities and needs.

The 2023-24 OCF Next Moves Plan showcases dozens of key strategies that are advancing Our Climate Future – detailing planned actions, leadership roles, and how progress is being measured.

*Next Moves* are the specific strategies and tactics that lead to transformational outcomes of the *Big Moves*. Each Big Move has an associated set of Next Moves. The Next Moves are evaluated for their impact on goals, benefits and costs, potential results for improving equity, and resilience.

*Pathways* are groups of Next Moves with results that drive toward a specific outcome. Current Pathways are summarized for electricity, buildings, transportation, industrial manufacturing, waste, and land use.

## **City Council OCF Roadmap**

Last October, staff presented an OCF Council Roadmap of direct actions that current and future City Councils will need to consider between now and 2030 to make reaching the community’s ambitious goals possible. Initiatives in the Roadmap range from policy processes to infrastructure investments to funding decisions – while continuing the OCF commitment to prepare for the impacts of climate disruption and to center community voices and priorities.

The OCF Roadmap is a strategic tool for City Council to use when considering decisions in multiple areas and how they impact the Our Climate Future Big Moves. In the 2023 version, the timelines of some initiatives have shifted over the past year and a few more decision points have been added; however, the same key areas remain – addressing building and energy codes, land use and transportation, and waste reduction and recycling policies. These actions will make it possible to achieve the emissions reductions pathways shared during the Q4 Work Session in 2022.

Of course, City Council also plays other roles in influencing progress toward goals, such as community storytelling and influencing statewide policy and rulemaking, which are not displayed within the roadmap graphic. The Roadmap may not be comprehensive of all major decisions upcoming in the next seven years, and staff will continue to update it as more information becomes available.

Please see attached 2023 OCF Council Roadmap.

## 2021/2022 Our Climate Future Update Infographic

Staff complete an annual update on the Community Greenhouse Gas Inventory in the form of an infographic report. To more fully represent the many elements of Our Climate Future (OCF), the 2021-22 Update includes progress towards the greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions, renewable energy, and zero waste goals; stories about community partnership and leadership; and examples of resilience projects that help our community prepare for continued impacts of climate disruption. Because of data availability, progress towards adopted goals is from 2021 and community partnership and resilience stories are from 2022.

Key takeaways from the Update include:

- **GHG Emissions.** Community-wide, GHG emissions were down 24% in 2021 compared to the 2005 baseline. Per capita emissions were down 41%.
- **Renewable Electricity.** Renewable electricity made up more than half of the community's consumption (50.5%) in 2021.
- **Waste.** The community diversion rate in 2021 was 51.5%, meaning that more than half the total material that was generated throughout the year was recycled or composted.
- **Community Partnership.** Our Climate Future is made possible by City-led, co-led, and community-led actions. In 2022, 15 community members provided their expertise and lived experience to City-led projects, which helped staff better design and deliver projects that serve many parts of the community.
- **Resilience.** Important projects that advanced the community's resilience in 2022 included battery storage at the Northside Aztlan Community Center, watershed recovery from the Cameron Peak Wildfire, and community water conservation programs.

The full 2021-2022 Update is attached to this memo and is also available on the City's Climate Action webpage ([www.fcgov.com/climateaction/reports](http://www.fcgov.com/climateaction/reports)).

## Community Partnership Programs

Our Climate Future is committed to centering community voices, perspectives, and priorities, which helps make climate action benefit everyone and to limit unintended consequences, particularly for those in the community who have been underserved. In 2022, City Council approved a \$60,000 enhancement for 2023-24 for OCF to continue action on this commitment. With this funding, OCF has been able to continue the Community Consultants program, reimagine a community advisory committee (now the Climate Equity Committee), and launch a small grants program (OCF Community Leadership Grants). These programs demonstrate the necessity and roles of City-led, co-led, and community-led projects.

- **Community Consultant Program (City-led).** This program is a continuation of the Plan Ambassador and Community Partner program that was a key element of engagement for OCF plan adoption. Now, in the implementation phase of OCF, Community Consultants are compensated individuals who share their insights, expertise, and experiences on a wide variety of City-led projects connected to OCF Big Moves.

- *13 community members are supporting 7 City projects in 2023 into early 2024. Projects include energy efficiency for manufactured homes, the Water Efficiency Plan, Open Streets, and a Neighborhood Services equity scan.*
- **Climate Equity Committee (CEC) (Co-led).** The CEC is an advisory committee that is centered in equity in process and outcome. The CEC is currently in a “forming and norming” stage and will soon be reviewing projects and making recommendations to staff for further embedding equity in them.
  - *Eight community members are currently part of the committee and are on 1- or 2-year terms. They are compensated for their time and expertise. The CEC is facilitated by an external party to create a neutral space and to provide professional facilitation skills for difficult and deep conversations.*
- **Community Leadership Grants (Community-led).** This program was designed as a low-barrier, flexible small grants program (up to \$10k per grantee) to advance community-leadership and capacity in the climate space, and followed a “curated” approach to seek out organizations that represent and serve marginalized parts of the community.
  - *Four grants have been awarded to local organizations who are leading projects in local food, reusable and shared materials, and education. Staff expect to share results and impacts from these projects in Q1 of 2024.*

The programs provide pathways for community members and organizations to lead and engage with Our Climate Future. OCF cannot be achieved through City action alone, and at the same time, the City’s support for community leadership is essential for advancing the vision of OCF.

### **Sustainable Funding**

Council considered several Sustainable Funding strategies over the past two years to secure new revenue for climate action and other community priorities. This work was presented within the framework of the OCF Big Moves and resulted in both a proposed ballot measure for a new sales tax (estimated to generate ~\$5M/year for OCF initiatives) and an opportunity for an increase to the methane (natural) gas Franchise Fee (estimated to generate ~\$1M/year for OCF initiatives). OCF Lead Team and OCF Executive Committee will continue to engage and support on how these potential revenue sources can scale and accelerate initiatives supporting adopted OCF goals.

## 2023 Our Climate Future Council Roadmap

The OCF Roadmap is a strategic tool for Council to use when considering decisions in multiple areas and how they impact the Our Climate Future Big Moves – addressing building and energy codes, land use and transportation, and waste reduction and recycling policies. These actions will make it possible to achieve the emissions reductions pathways shared during the Q4 Work Session in 2022. An asterisk (\*) indicates a change from the 2022 Roadmap.



