

2025 Los Altos Environmental Commission Work Plan - Details

CORE WORKPLAN							
Powers & Duties B: Review & provide recommendations for the implementation of the CAAP							
CAAP Focus Area	Goal	Projects	Anticipated Completion	Priority Source	Status	Assignment	Notes
Energy	<u>Priority Level 1</u> Building Electrification: Reduce or eliminate methane gas use in buildings	Community engagement through education & outreach	Q4 2025	<u>City Council Strategic Goal:</u> Environmental Sustainability, Public Safety CAAP Actions 2.3 & 2.4	Started	<u>Working Pair</u> + Sustainability coordinator	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <u>Community engagement through education and outreach</u> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Promote SVCE & 3rd party incentives & audits - Educate residents & contractors on electrification benefits - Host annual Electrification Fair • <u>Encourage electrification through city sponsored incentives</u> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Monetary incentives for electrification projects - Non-monetary incentives via Planning & Building Divisions - Budget estimate \$70-100k • <u>Policy guidelines and ordinance(s)</u> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Track BAAQMD & regional policies - Research REACH codes, NOx ordinance, other options
		Incentive programs to encourage electrification					
		Policy guidelines & ordinances to promote electrification					
Green Community + Climate Risk	<u>Priority Level 1</u> Expand green infrastructure for human & environmental health + Mitigate risk	Develop Urban Forest & Ecosystem Master Plan	Q2 2026	<u>City Council Strategic Goal:</u> Environmental Sustainability, Public Safety CAAP Action 5.2 Supporting CAAP Actions 5.5, 6.1, 6.2	Started	<u>Working Pair</u> + Sustainability coordinator	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <u>Phase 1: Tree protection ordinance (enacted in 2022)</u> • <u>Phase 2: Research & Analysis - 2025 budget estimate \$150k</u> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Canopy analysis, green spaces inventory - Ecosystem health assessment - Research adaptation and resilience impact & strategies - Evaluate fire safety & wildfire prevention techniques - Reference Santa Clara County Multijurisdictional Hazard Mitigation Plan - Reference Los Altos Safety Element Update • <u>Phase 3: Master Plan development - 2025-26 budget estimate 200k</u> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Set goals, scope, budget, based on analysis - Include fire safety and wildfire prevention as a priority - Ensure alignment with County weed abatement guidelines - Identify additional funding sources & grants for implementation - Community engagement - Work with staff & consultant to layout plan • <u>Phase 4: Masterplan implementation (2026-35)</u>
Transportation	<u>Priority Level 2</u> Reduce carbon emissions: reduce single occupancy vehicle (SOV) travel	Promote a Walkable & Bikeable City	Q4 2025	<u>City Council City Council Strategic Goal:</u> Environmental Sustainability, Circulation Safety & Efficiency	Planning	Commissioner Research and outreach	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <u>Consider walkability/bikeability & shared mobility in development projects</u> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Increase awareness of CAAP transportation goals with CSC and PC - Identify areas of workplan overlap & incorporate CAAP goals - Include SOV travel reduction goals in relevant City Plans - Develop guidelines & proposals to promote SOV free accessibility • <u>Expand on shuttle program laid out in Downtown Vision</u> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Assess underserved community needs - Evaluate neighboring city programs - Identify potential funding & implementation partners
	<u>Priority Level 3</u> Reduce carbon emissions: electrify transportation	Plan for Shared Mobility					
	<u>Priority Level 3</u> Reduce carbon emissions: electrify transportation	EV Charging Master Plan	Q4 2025	CAAP Actions 1.1, 1.3 & 1.4	Not started	Ad-hoc Subcommittee + Sustainability coordinator	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Review EV Charging network efficacy <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Outreach to assess community EV charging needs / where more is needed • Identify & Promote EV Supply Equipment incentives - Collaborate with internal & external stakeholders • Estimate budget and outline RFQ to hire a specialist consultant
Resource Conservation	<u>Priority Level 2</u> Resource conservation & Waste reduction	Promote deconstruction rather than demolition in building projects	Q2 2025	<u>City Council Strategic Goal:</u> Environmental Sustainability CAAP Action 3.1C	50% done	Commissioner Research	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Deconstruction recovers building materials for reuse, fosters circular economy • Evaluate options for incentives & ordinance • Research future "Design for Disassembly Guidelines"

2025 Los Altos Environmental Commission - Additional Activities Based on Assigned Powers & Duties

Powers & Duties	Goal	Projects	Anticipated Completion	Priority Source	Status	Assignment	Notes
Powers & Duties B: Make annual recommendations for changes or updates to the plan							
Update CAAP	Review CAAP priorities	Reassess CAAP timelines Propose goal/action edits Adjust priority levels	Q4 2025	Power & Duties Item B	Planning	Commissioner Research	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Per the municipal code, the EC should make "annual recommendations for changes or updates to the plan" • Commissioners to review sections through the year & report to EC • EC to bring recommended updates if any to council at joint meeting
Powers & Duties C: Annually provide recommendations to the council that affect the natural & built environment to inform policy, budget, & CIP prioritization;							
Recommend to Council	CAAP implementation	Develop a staff task force for CAAP Implementation	Q1 2025	CAAP Goal 4.6	Planning	Sustainability Coordinator	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Improve collaboration with other city departments • Empower Sustainability coordinator to <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Ensure CAAP guidelines are prioritized in all city plans & projects - Include CAAP implementation budget in annual fiscal planning • Review additional staff/resource needs indicated in CAAP Appendix E
	Foster green community	Support Arbor Day celebration Apply for Tree City USA	Q1 2025	CAAP Action 5.2A	Planning	City Staff	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Allows access to grants & builds community pride • Approved by Environmental Commission in 2024 • Staff to confirm Los Altos meets qualifications and complete application
Powers & Duties D. Serve as a forum for community input & engagement							
Community Outreach	Annual outreach at Electrification Fair	Broaden EV fair to cover electrification & sustainability	Q2 2025	CAAP Action 1.4A	Ongoing	EC Liason (Carl van Reis) + Volunteer group	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Support & provide guidance to Volunteer Group
	Year-round outreach & communication	Increase engagement with the residents of Los Altos	Ongoing	Powers & Duties Item D	Planning	Commissioners	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Implement outreach plan approved by EC in Q4 2024 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Develop content & timeline for various outreach efforts - Assign liasons to key community groups to increase collaboration - Publish articles in local news papers & quarterly newsletters
	Educate & prepare for climate adaptation & emergency response	Adaptation & emergency preparedness outreach	Q4 2025	CAAP Strategies 7 & 8	Planning	Commissioners + Community groups	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Build community wide Climate Adaptation awareness • Outreach to understand needs & concerns of residents and businesses • Identify & connect with vulnerable populations • Support & advise Emergency Response Coordinator