



REPORT TO COUNCIL

City of Sacramento

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STAFF REPORT
February 12, 2008

**Honorable Mayor and
 Members of the City Council**

Title: 2008 Sustainability Implementation Plan

Location/Council District: Citywide

Recommendation: Adopt a **Resolution** approving the 2008 Sustainability Implementation Plan.

Contact: Yvette Rincon, Legislative Analyst, (916) 808-5827

Presenter: Reina J. Schwartz, Director of General Services, (916) 808-7195

Department: General Services

Division: Facilities & Real Property Management

Organization No: 3289

Description/Analysis:

Issue: On December 18, 2007, Mayor and City Council adopted Resolution No. 2007-944, approving the Sustainability Master Plan – *Creating a Sustainable City*. The Sustainability Master Plan is meant to serve as a policy framework for the City of Sacramento to ensure that sustainability is incorporated into the City's decision making processes.

Staff is now bringing forward for adoption the 2008 Sustainability Implementation Plan (the Plan). This Plan identifies key initiatives that staff plans to implement in 2008 to move the City toward the goals and targets identified in the Master Plan. The Plan was developed by subject matter experts within the City and the community. Given the state of the City's budget, the initiatives within the Plan can be implemented using existing resources; however, staff will continue to pursue federal, state, and local grant opportunities. For example, through a recent multi-departmental effort, staff applied for a \$250,000 U.S. Department of Energy Solar Initiative grant.

While the Plan does not fund new City programs, the initiatives within the Plan will have a great impact on reducing energy usage by City facilities and will begin

to educate City employees and the public on how to live more sustainably. Overall, the Plan includes continuing existing sustainability programs, drafting new policies, and exploring new programs. Some of the highlights of the Plan include the Mayor's "GO GREEN" Challenge, performance contracting, green policies for daily department operations, beginning the LEED certification process for seven City facilities, implementing an environmentally preferred purchasing policy, expanding bike lanes and parking facilities, and employee and public outreach and education.

Through the "GO GREEN" Challenge, the Mayor will kick off the year and the City's Sustainability Implementation Plan by challenging Sacramento residents to commit to five simple actions that, together, citywide, will have a tremendous impact on reducing greenhouse gas emissions. The GO GREEN Challenge is modeled after the Energy Star program, a proven grassroots program, founded by Curtis Park activist Kathy Les. The five simple actions that residents are challenged to commit to include; replacing four standard light bulbs with Compact Fluorescent Lights (CFLs), turning the thermostat down by two degrees in winter and up two degrees in summer, vacuuming refrigerator coils twice a year, turning off lights in rooms that are not being used, and unplugging major appliances while on vacation.

Through performance contracting the City will be able to make significant capital improvements to City facilities that will ultimately result in a significant reduction in green house gas emissions. Staff will also explore the possibility of funding a position from the savings realized as a result of reduced energy costs. Staff will report back to Mayor and City Council on the feasibility of funding a dedicated sustainability position through this mechanism. In addition, staff will implement, citywide, a number of green policies that will reduce the environmental impact of City operations as well as bringing awareness to City employees. These policies will include restricting the purchase of bottled water, keeping buildings two degrees warmer in the summer and cooler in the winter, copying and printing double-sided, turning off lights and computers when not in use, purchasing environmentally friendly products, and challenging all City departments to obtain certification for City facilities through the Business Environmental Resource Center (BERC).

Policy Considerations: The Plan identifies key initiatives that staff can implement in 2008 within existing resources. These initiatives include continuing existing programs with existing resources, drafting needed policies, exploring new programs, and educating City employees and the public.

Committee/Commission Action: None

Environmental Considerations: The key initiatives in the Implementation Plan will have a positive impact on the environment.

Rationale for Recommendation: As a major landowner, employer, building manager, fleet operator, utility owner and operator, consumer of goods and services, and service provider, the City of Sacramento has both the opportunity and the capacity to bring about significant improvements in environmental quality in and around the region through the Sustainability Implementation Plan.

Financial Considerations: The key initiatives will be implemented within existing budget resources. Staff will continue to aggressively pursue grant opportunities and other creative funding mechanisms.

Emerging Small Business Development (ESBD): There are no ESBD considerations in this report.

Approved by: 
Reina J. Schwartz
Director, Department of General Services

Recommendation Approved:


Ray Kerridge
City Manager

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RESOLUTION NO. 2008-xxxx

Adopted by the Sacramento City Council

February 12, 2008

ADOPT THE 2008 SUSTAINABILITY IMPLEMENTATION PLAN

BACKGROUND

- A. As a major landowner, employer, building manager, fleet operator, utility owner and operator, consumer of goods and services, and service provider, the City of Sacramento has both the opportunity and the capacity to bring about significant improvements in environmental quality in and around the region through the 2008 Sustainability Implementation Plan.
- B. On December 18, 2007, Mayor and City Council adopted Resolution No. 2007-944 approving the Sustainability Master Plan – *Creating a Sustainable City*. The Sustainability Master Plan is meant to serve as a policy framework for the City of Sacramento to ensure that sustainability is incorporated into the City’s decision making processes.
- C. The 2008 Sustainability Implementation Plan identifies key initiatives that staff plans to implement in 2008 to move the City toward the goals and targets identified in the Master Plan. The Implementation Plan was developed by subject matter experts within the City and the community. Given the state of the City’s budget, the initiatives within the Plan can be implemented using existing resources.
- D. The Sustainability Master Plan includes continuing existing sustainability programs, drafting new policies, and exploring new programs.

BASED ON THE FACTS SET FORTH IN THE BACKGROUND, THE CITY COUNCIL RESOLVES AS FOLLOWS:

Section 1. The 2008 Sustainability Implementation Plan is approved.

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Exhibit A – 2008 Sustainability Implementation Plan