



County of Los Alamos

Council Meeting Staff Report

May 17, 2022

Agenda No.: C.
Indexes (Council Goals):
Presenters: Anne Laurent
Legislative File: 15890-22

Title

Discussion of Council Priority - Environmental Sustainability

Body

This discussion is for the purpose of reporting progress and receiving feedback periodically throughout the year on Council's strategic goals - specifically environmental sustainability this month. The following are highlights of current activities:

On February 8, 2022 Council approved the 2022 Strategic Leadership Plan (Attachment A) that includes *Environmental Sustainability* as an overarching goal in all of the County's and partnership coordination efforts, and a strategic priority of *Protecting our environment and improving our open spaces, recreational, and cultural amenities*.

On February 22, 2022, the Los Alamos Resiliency, Energy and Sustainability (LARES) task force final report was accepted by Council (Attachment B presentation), and staff was requested to move forward with a budget revision for implementing a Green House Gas (GHG) study and a Climate Action Plan as a first step. On March 8, 2022, Council approved a budget revision in the amount of \$250,000 for consultant services and a request for proposals (RFP) is in-progress with members of the LARES task force and staff from Public Works, Public Utilities and the County Manager's Office as the review team. The goal is to issue the RFP in June.

During the FY2023 Budget Hearings in April, Council approved two additional LARES recommendations for a new Sustainability Coordinator staff position and funding for community outreach and education in the total amount of \$190,000. The job description for the Sustainability Coordinator position is being drafted and will be included in the updated salary plan efforts and anticipated to be on a June Council meeting agenda.

Work continues through the Environmental Services division of Public Works on the potential of a Food Waste collection program and outreach and education support of the Environmental Sustainability Board, Zero Waste team, Los Alamos Public Schools, PEEC recycling/reuse education programs, and many other events/opportunities when they arise. The Department of Public Utilities has filled their Energy and Water Conservation Coordinator position, support of PEEC conservation programs, and continue their work towards the 2040 carbon neutral electric generation and elimination of natural gas usage by 2070 goals.

As a new initiative, symbols indicating the four overarching goals were added to the Management Action Plan document (Attachment C). This effort is still a work in-progress, but there are other efforts that may be applicable for discussion purposes.

Attachments

A - Council's 2022 Strategic Leadership Plan
B - LARES February 22, 2022 Presentation

