

CITY OF ESCONDIDO

Planning Commission and Staff Seating



- A. CALL TO ORDER: 7:00 p.m.
- B. FLAG SALUTE
- C. ROLL CALL:
- D. MINUTES: [07/10/18](#)

The Brown Act provides an opportunity for members of the public to directly address the Planning Commission on any item of interest to the public before or during the Planning Commission's consideration of the item. If you wish to speak regarding an agenda item, please fill out a speaker's slip and give it to the minutes clerk who will forward it to the chairman.

Electronic Media: Electronic media which members of the public wish to be used during any public comment period should be submitted to the Planning Division at least 24 hours prior to the meeting at which it is to be shown.

The electronic media will be subject to a virus scan and must be compatible with the City's existing system. The media must be labeled with the name of the speaker, the comment period during which the media is to be played and contact information for the person presenting the media.

The time necessary to present any electronic media is considered part of the maximum time limit provided to speakers. City staff will queue the electronic information when the public member is called upon to speak. Materials shown to the Commission during the meeting are part of the public record and may be retained by the City.

The City of Escondido is not responsible for the content of any material presented, and the presentation and content of electronic media shall be subject to the same responsibilities regarding decorum and presentation as are applicable to live presentations.

If you wish to speak concerning an item not on the agenda, you may do so under "Oral Communications" which is listed at the beginning and end of the agenda. All persons addressing the Planning Commission are asked to state their names for the public record.

Availability of supplemental materials after agenda posting: any supplemental writings or documents provided to the Planning Commission regarding any item on this agenda will be made available for public inspection in the Planning Division located at 201 N. Broadway during normal business hours, or in the Council Chambers while the meeting is in session.

The City of Escondido recognizes its obligation to provide equal access to public services for individuals with disabilities. Please contact the A.D.A. Coordinator, (760) 839-4643 with any requests for reasonable accommodation at least 24 hours prior to the meeting.

**The Planning Division is the coordinating division for the Planning Commission.
For information, call (760) 839-4671.**

E. WRITTEN COMMUNICATIONS:

"Under State law, all items under Written Communications can have no action, and will be referred to the staff for administrative action or scheduled on a subsequent agenda."

1. Future Neighborhood Meetings

F. ORAL COMMUNICATIONS:

"Under State law, all items under Oral Communications can have no action, and may be referred to the staff for administrative action or scheduled on a subsequent agenda."

This is the opportunity for members of the public to address the Commission on any item of business within the jurisdiction of the Commission.

G. PUBLIC HEARINGS:

Please try to limit your testimony to 2-5 minutes.

H. CURRENT BUSINESS:

Note: Current Business items are those which under state law and local ordinances do not require either public notice or public hearings. Public comments will be limited to a maximum time of three minutes per person.

1. [Review of the Climate Action Plan \(PHG 18-0009\) – status update](#)

I. ORAL COMMUNICATIONS:

"Under State law, all items under Oral Communications can have no action and may be referred to staff for administrative action or scheduled on a subsequent agenda."

This is the opportunity for members of the public to address the Commission on any item of business within the jurisdiction of the Commission.

J. PLANNING COMMISSIONERS

K. ADJOURNMENT

CITY OF ESCONDIDO

**ACTION MINUTES OF THE REGULAR MEETING OF THE
ESCONDIDO PLANNING COMMISSION**

July 10, 2018

The meeting of the Escondido Planning Commission was called to order at 7:00 p.m. by Chairman Spann, in the City Council Chambers, 201 North Broadway, Escondido, California.

Commissioners present: James Spann, Chairman; Don Romo, Vice-chairman; Michael Cohen, Commissioner; Joe Garcia, Commissioner; James McNair, Commissioner; Mark Watson, Commissioner; and Stan Weiler, Commissioner.

Commissioners absent: None.

Staff present: Bill Martin, Director of Community Development; Mike Strong, Assistant Planning Director; Owen Tunnell, Principal Engineer; Adam Phillips, Deputy City Attorney; and Kirsten Peraino, Minutes Clerk.

MINUTES:

Moved by Commissioner Weiler, seconded by Commissioner Cohen, to approve the minutes of the June 26, 2018, meeting. Motion carried unanimously. (7-0-0)

WRITTEN COMMUNICATIONS – None.

FUTURE NEIGHBORHOOD MEETINGS – Announcement of a July 30, 2018 Climate Action Plan workshop.

ORAL COMMUNICATIONS: None.

PUBLIC HEARINGS:

1. **MODIFICATION TO A MASTER AND PRECISE DEVELOPMENT PLAN
– ARCO AM/PM – PHG 17-0005:**

PROJECT DESCRIPTION: A modification to a Master and Precise Development Plan for ARCO AM/PM to install eight vacuum stalls with a canopy/shade structure and a masonry retaining/screen wall along the northern portion of the project site. The vacuum equipment would be located within a separate 186 SF equipment building designed to match the architecture of the convenience store and car wash. The project also includes a 310 SF expansion to the storage building located behind the existing convenience store; installation of an approximately 499-gallon propane tank; relocation of the trash enclosure and air/water station, installation of four new parking spaces, and landscape improvements. The eucalyptus trees located towards the northeastern corner of the site would be removed and replaced with new specimen-sized trees. Grading to support the new stalls and retaining/screen wall would require a variety of construction equipment to remove the existing granite rocks, which may necessitate drilling, blasting or other alternative rock breaking/removal methods.

LOCATION: 450 W. El Norte Parkway (APN 226-201-23)

STAFF RECOMMENDATION: Approval

MOTION AND ACTION:

Moved by Chairman Spann, seconded by Commissioner Weiler, to approve staff's recommendation. Motion carried. Ayes: Weiler, Cohen, Romo, Spann, and Garcia. Noes: None. Commissioner Watson recused himself. (6-0-0).

CURRENT BUSINESS:

1. **CLIMATE ACTION PLAN (CAP) – STATUS UPDATE – PHG 18-0009:**

PROJECT DESCRIPTION: Review of the CAP update work program – status update

STAFF RECOMMENDATION: Receive report and presentation. No action is required at this time except to provide direction to staff as appropriate.

ORAL COMMUNICATIONS: None.

COMMISSIONERS:

ADJOURNMENT:

Chair Spann adjourned the meeting at 7:52 p.m. The scheduled meeting on July 24, 2018 has been cancelled. The next regularly scheduled meeting will be held on August 14, 2018, at 7:00 p.in the City Council Chambers, 201 North Broadway Escondido, California.

Mike Strong, Secretary to the Planning
Commission

Kirsten Peraino, Minutes Clerk

CASE NUMBER: PHG 18-0009

APPLICANT: City of Escondido

LOCATION: Citywide

TYPE OF PROJECT: Climate Action Plan (CAP) Update

PROJECT DESCRIPTION: Review of the CAP update work program – status update

STAFF RECOMMENDATION: Receive report and presentation. No action is required at this time except to provide direction to staff as appropriate.

BACKGROUND/SUMMARY OF ISSUES: In 2013, the City of Escondido adopted a CAP as a pathway toward creating a more sustainable, healthy, and livable community. The strategies outlined in the CAP not only reduce greenhouse gas emissions but will also provide energy, fuel, water, and monetary savings while improving the quality of life in Escondido. Although the City of Escondido was one of the first group of cities to prepare and adopt a CAP in the San Diego region, a lot has changed since then – and the City’s CAP needs to be amended. The City recently initiated an effort to update the CAP, with the objective of recommending updated strategies and programs to ensure compliance with updated state policies and regulations.

The proposed work plan and schedule proposes a series of meetings with the Planning Commission over the next nine (9) months to discuss different aspects and components related to the CAP update. The “review meetings” schedule is reflected in Table 1. The concept of an expanded review process in a public setting increases public input and facilitates additional dialogue. The study session format will provide the Commission with an opportunity to learn more about the project, hear from various residents and stakeholders, and to discuss preliminary issues/concerns. Furthermore, study sessions in advance of final action allow the Commission to methodically work through new policies and regulations. Pursuant to the overall work program schedule, the Planning Commission will be asked to take action on the CAP update in the spring of 2019.

Table 1: Planning Commission Review Schedule

Meeting No.	Topic Or Discussion Item Covered	Milestone or Target Date
1	General overview about the process and public engagement	May 8, 2018
2	Review of Phase 1 outreach materials and workshop format	July 10, 2018
3	Presentation on greenhouse gas emission inventory and forecasts	August 28, 2018

4	Informational meeting on Phase 1 outreach results	Early fall
5	Review of Phase 2 outreach materials and workshop format	Mid fall
6	CEQA study public review and CEQA significance thresholds discussion	Winter 2019
7	Informational meeting on Phase 2 outreach results	Spring 2019
8	Planning Commission recommendation to City Council	Spring 2019

As mentioned in previous meetings with the Planning Commission relative to the CAP update, attachments to the Staff Report will be basis of the discussion and will be provided to facilitate each meeting. This third meeting consists of a review of the greenhouse gas emission inventory and forecasts.

Local agencies create greenhouse gas emission inventories as an important tool for establishing historical emission trends and tracking progress in reducing greenhouse gas emissions. Environmental and energy efficiency initiatives currently underway in California originate from the Global Warming Solutions Act of 2006 (AB 32) and the resulting strategic plans set forth in the AB 32 Scoping Plan. The Scoping Plan, adopted by the California Air Resources Board in 2008, outlines a variety of strategies (both mandated and voluntary) to reduce emissions in the state to 1990 levels by 2020. A mid-term goal for California is expressed in SB32, which requires a statewide reduction of 40 percent below 1990 levels by 2030. A longer-term goal for California is in Executive Order S-3-05, which calls for an 80 percent reduction from 1990 levels by 2050. In concert with data collected through various AB 32 programs, the greenhouse gas emissions inventory is a critical piece in demonstrating the state's progress in achieving the statewide greenhouse gas emissions targets for 2020, 2030, and 2050.

The City's existing CAP (dated 2013) describes 2010 municipal operations and community-wide greenhouse gas emission inventories, which includes a range of data from different sectors including transportation, waste, energy, natural gas, and water use. In preparation for each new edition of the inventory, recalculations are made to correct errors, incorporate new methodologies or, most commonly, to reflect changes in statistical data supplied by other agencies. Emission estimates are recalculated for all years to maintain a consistent time-series following best practices for developing GHG inventories. Thus the new inventory may report a different emission level for an earlier year than previous inventory editions. The attached report includes data for the years 2012, 2013, and 2014. Data results are organized by scope, source, and sector to provide a foundation for city planning and actions to reduce greenhouse gas emissions. At the August 28, 2018 meeting, City staff will facilitate a presentation on the greenhouse gas emission inventory and forecasts.

ENVIRONMENTAL STATUS: The action before the Planning Commission is statutorily exempt from the requirements of the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) pursuant to CEQA Guidelines Section 15262, Feasibility and Planning Studies. This organizational and administrative activity relates to the ongoing study of preparing a CAP update. The Planning Commission will

provide direction as appropriate to facilitate the public's review of the CAP update. This general direction does not have a legally binding effect on any possible future discretionary action.

Public input received and technical information prepared during the proposed process will be utilized in preparing a future environmental review document to support the CAP update work program. As of this writing, it is anticipated that the CAP update would culminate into something intended to streamline future environmental review of development projects in Escondido by following the CEQA Guidelines for a Qualified GHG Reduction Strategy.

PUBLIC PARTICIPATION: In addition to providing public comment directly to Planning Commission and City staff, the City has developed a periodic review page that can be accessed online at link below to help the public access key documents. Informational reports and data generated during the review will be available for the public to view online.

<https://www.escondido.org/climate-action-plan-documents.aspx>

As the planning process moves forward, all correspondences received will become part of public record and will be incrementally attached to all Planning Commission staff reports. Attached to this report are all written correspondences received from July 4, 2018 to August 15, 2018. Refer to previous Planning Commission reports for previous correspondences.

Respectfully submitted,



Mike Strong
Assistant Planning Director

ATTACHMENTS:

1. City of Escondido Greenhouse Gas Emission Inventory and Forecast Report
2. Public Correspondences from July 4, 2018 to August 20, 2018

ATTACHMENT 1

CITY OF ESCONDIDO GREENHOUSE GAS EMISSION INVENTORY AND FORECAST REPORT

Due to the number of pages of the attachment, a link has been provided to review the document electronically.

https://www.escondido.org/Data/Sites/1/media/PDFs/Planning/ClimateActionPlan/CAPUpdate/DraftvrsdEscondidoGHGInventoryProjection_07252018.pdf

A hardcopy of the attachment is available for review in the Planning Division during normal business hours. To obtain a copy, please call (760) 839-4556.

PHG 18-0009
August 28.2018
Planning Commission Meeting

ATTACHMENT 2

PUBLIC CORRESPONDENCES FROM JULY 4 to AUGUST 20, 2018

Mike Strong

From: Laura Hunter <earthlover@sbcglobal.net>
Sent: Friday, July 27, 2018 11:54 AM
To: Mike Strong
Subject: comments for consideration on the ECAP update
Attachments: Diet_related_Esco_CAP_comments_27July2018.pdf

Dear Mike,

I'm sorry I can't attend on Monday due to being out of town, but please find a set of comments attached for your consideration. We know this is probably a new issue for the city but it is one we need to get started on...no time like the present! 😊

Please contact me with any questions.

Thank you,

Laura Hunter

July 27, 2018

Mr. Mike Strong
City of Escondido
Via Email mstrong@escondido.org

Subject: Comments on the Preparation of the Escondido Climate Action Plan Update

Dear Mr. Strong:

It was 1990, when some of the very first discussions began to occur in San Diego about an emerging threat to water quality—storm water pollution and urban runoff. This was a new concept that most governments did not know about or really believe was an issue. There was significant resistance to the idea of polluted runoff but, the more it was investigated, we ultimately learned that this was the largest source of pollution to local waterways and, as a region, we began to take action to address it.

Likewise, the Climate Action Plan (CAP) updates throughout the County are the time and place where another issue, perhaps unpopular but necessary nonetheless, needs to be addressed—the significant climate impacts of consumption of animal products for food. As Escondido has a rich farming community and is lucky to have access to local food, the new CAP should investigate and address ways to reduce our carbon contribution and increase our food security through increased consumption of, preferably locally grown, plant-based, whole foods.

While the links between diet and GHG emissions are not yet widely acknowledged, the issue is well-known and the science is clear—**the climate impact of animal agriculture is a significant generator of carbon emissions**. It is equally clear the more people eat a plant-based diet, the lower their carbon footprint. We request that the draft of the Climate Plan include an assessment of actions related to reducing emissions by promotion of a plant-based diet.

Although diet is an individual choice, promotion of changes to it is not out-of-bounds for a goal and strategy in the CAP. CAPs frequently include several areas where the individuals are urged to make different, more climate-friendly choices. The updated E- CAP should include goals for residential tree planting, home gardening, and incentives to use rain barrels. So, too should the CAP include information on 'climate-friendly diets'. Further, the city can determine its own behavior and purchasing actions in what would be measurable and enforceable actions.

Increasingly, climate planning and adaptation plans are addressing impacts of diet.

A highly relevant report was released last year, *MEAT OF THE MATTER: A Municipal Guide to Climate-Friendly Food Purchasing*, outlines the issues and a process for addressing climate impacts in the climate planning process.¹

Municipalities across the country are using their economic clout, political power and cultural influence to fight climate change. They are establishing ambitious greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions reduction targets and pursuing aggressive strategies, such as requiring the purchase of

¹ https://1bps6437gg8c169i0y1drtgz-wpengine.netdna-ssl.com/wp-content/uploads/2017/12/MunicipalReport_ko_120117_v2-1.pdf

100 percent renewable energy and fuel-efficient vehicles. But one critically important sector that accounts for about one fourth of global greenhouse gas emissions has largely been ignored: food. A wealth of scientific research underscores the urgency of substantially reducing meat and dairy consumption, which accounts for more than half of all food-related GHG emissions.

It is clear that the world cannot meet global greenhouse gas reduction targets without curbing consumption of animal products. High-meat eating nations like the United States, which consumes 2.6 times more meat than the global per capita average, must help shoulder this responsibility (emphasis added).²

This report “summarizes the compelling environmental and health reasons for transitioning institutional food purchases towards more plant-based foods. Key findings include:

- The production of meat and dairy generally has much higher greenhouse gas emissions than plant-based foods.
- In order to fully account for their climate impacts, municipalities should consider upstream emissions — that is, the embedded emissions associated with the production of food purchased and served by the city or county.
- Americans are overconsuming meat, which is contributing to heart disease, diabetes, some cancers and billions of dollars in health care costs associated with these maladies. The federal government’s Dietary Guidelines for Americans recommend a maximum of 3.7 ounces of meat, poultry and eggs a day, which is significantly less than average U.S. consumption rates.
- Water resources are at risk in our warming world hit by increasingly frequent and catastrophic natural disasters. Meat and dairy production has a harmful impact on water quality and uses substantially more water resources than plant-based foods.
- As demonstrated by the Oakland Unified School District case study, shifting to plant-forward options can save valuable tax dollars since plant-based proteins are generally less expensive than meat.
- Food waste is a substantial contributor to food-related greenhouse gas emissions. Serving more plant-based foods and smaller portions of meat and dairy will help cut waste from animal products, which account for an outsized portion of total emissions associated with food waste
- Buying less conventionally produced meat can make it easier to afford third-party certified, sustainably produced food. Local and organic food, in particular, can have climate benefits. An array of third-party certifications has been endorsed by leading public interest groups.”³

The report goes on to provides practical policy guidance for municipalities, broken down into six steps. **We strongly urge the climate planners to review and pursue the recommendations contained in this report adapted for Escondido.**

The report concludes...*cities and counties can make a meaningful impact — both locally and globally — by shifting their food purchases towards plant-based and plant-forward options. Whether these changes are made for health, environmental or cost-saving reasons, municipalities that serve less meat*

² Meat of the Matter, Executive Summary

³ Meat of the Matter, p. 5

in their food service operations will experience a triple win for community well-being, local budgets and the planet.⁴

The reductions achieved by a plant-based diet by the population could be significant.

A study cited below demonstrates that plant-based diets result in 0.8 ton/year annual emissions reduction compared to those who frequently eat a meat in their diet. Using this number, if just **half** of the city's 152,000 residents reduced their meat and animal product consumption by **50%**, it could result in **30,400 tons** annual reduction of GHG emissions. This could significantly boost the reductions needed to meet targets regionally.

Even a modest goal of 50,000 people reduced their meat consumption by 50% could achieve a 20,000 ton reduction annually. If just 50% of Escondido residents participated in Meatless Monday for a year it would result in 8,664 tons of reductions.

Just like our travel habits, water use, waste generation, and activities are assessed and addressed, so should our food consumption and diet be added as a sector and analyzed for suitable actions.

Increases in local and urban produce farming would reduce emissions even more.

In terms of reducing the carbon footprint of the travel/shipping related to food, the city could have a significant role to play in supporting, and increasing, local agriculture of fruits, plants, and vegetables. An article in the *Edible San Diego*, Sept/Oct, 2017 issue titled, *The State of Local Farming*, speaks to the challenges of farming and selling produce locally and makes recommendations. We have included some of those suggestions in our recommendations below.

Scientific Rationale for Reducing GHG Emissions Through Diet

We have summarized some of the science on this issue but urge the City to do an assessment specific to our residents so that we may set goals, conduct education, and address this important issue.

An increasing number of studies are finding, like the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations did, that raising animals for food is "*one of the top two or three most significant contributors to the most serious environmental problems, at every scale from local to global.*"

Effects of livestock industry on climate change and the environment

An early assessment into the climate impacts of animal agriculture was the 2006 report *Livestock's Long Shadow* by the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations. While it discussed the many environmental impacts associated with animal agriculture, the climate findings are relevant here. The livestock industry is responsible for 18 percent of carbon dioxide equivalents and exceeds the transportation sector.⁵ It accounts for nine percent of anthropogenic CO₂ emissions, 37 percent of anthropogenic methane emissions, and an astonishing 65 percent of

⁴ Meat of the Matter, p.6

⁵ Livestock's Long Shadow, p xxi

worldwide nitrous-oxide emissions.⁶ Nitrous oxide is about 300 times more potent as a greenhouse gas than carbon dioxide.

How Animal Agriculture Contributes to Climate Change

Feeding massive amounts of grain and water to farmed animals and then killing them and processing, transporting, and storing the produce (refrigeration required) is extremely energy-intensive. And forests—which absorb greenhouse gases—are cut down in order to supply pastureland and grow crops for farmed animals. Finally, the animals themselves and all the manure that they produce release even more greenhouse gases into our atmosphere.

Greenhouse-Gas Emissions: Carbon dioxide, methane, and nitrous oxide are all powerful greenhouse gases, and together, they cause the vast majority of climate change. Animal agriculture causes significant generation and emission of these gases as discussed below.

Carbon Dioxide: Burning fossil fuels (such as oil and gasoline) releases carbon dioxide. Since it takes, on average, about 11 times as much fossil fuel to produce a calorie of animal protein as it does to produce a calorie of grain protein, considerably more carbon dioxide is released. Researchers acknowledge that *“it is more ‘climate efficient’ to produce protein from vegetable sources than from animal sources.”*

Methane: Chickens, turkeys, pigs, and cows who are kept in factory farms each year produce enormous amounts of methane, both while they digest their food and from the acres of waste pools. The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency has shown that animal agriculture is globally the single largest source of methane emissions and that, pound for pound, methane is more than 25 times as effective as carbon dioxide at trapping heat in our atmosphere.

Some analyses claim even higher impacts to climate from animal husbandry. The 2009 *Livestock and Climate Change* report published by the Worldwatch Institute found that the earlier totals understated the GHG emissions from animal agriculture. The authors concluded that a staggering 51 percent *or more* of global greenhouse-gas emissions are caused by animal agriculture.⁷

Unaccounted, Overlooked, and Misallocated Livestock-related GHG Emissions		
	Annual GHG emissions (CO ₂ e)	Percentage of worldwide total
	million tons	
FAO estimate	7,516	11.8
Unaccounted in current GHG inventories:		
1. Overlooked respiration by livestock	8,769	13.7
2. Overlooked land use	≥2,672	≥4.2
3. Undercounted methane	5,047	7.9
4. Other four categories (see text)	≥5,560	≥8.7
Subtotal	≥22,048	≥34.5
Misallocated in current GHG inventories:		
5. Three categories (see text)	≥3,000	≥4.7
Total GHGs attributable to livestock products	≥32,564	≥51.0

Table⁸

Studies demonstrate plant-based diets have lower GHG emissions.

The encouraging news is that plant-based diets can significantly reduce GHG emissions.

⁶ Ibid, p.xxi

⁷ World Watch Livestock and Climate Change, 2009, Robert Goodland and Jeff Anhang, <http://www.worldwatch.org/files/pdf/Livestock%20and%20Climate%20Change.pdf>

⁸ World Watch Livestock and Climate Change, 2009, Robert Goodland and Jeff Anhang

An Oxford University study by Peter Scarborough and published in the journal *Climatic Change*, shows that meat-eaters are responsible for almost twice as many dietary greenhouse-gas emissions per day as vegetarians and about two and a half times as many as vegans. The study indicated that the dietary greenhouse-gas emissions among meat-eaters were between 50 and 54 percent higher than those of vegetarians and between 99 and 102 percent higher than those of vegans. In conclusion, dietary GHG emissions in self-selected meat-eaters are approximately twice as high as those in vegans. It is likely that reductions in meat consumption would lead to reductions in dietary GHG emissions.⁹ Overall, the study's authors concluded that the production of animal-based foods causes significantly greater greenhouse-gas emissions than the production of plant-based foods.

Many other scientists around the world have reached the same conclusion. A study published in the American Journal of Clinical Nutrition, using the nonvegetarian diet as a reference, the mean reductions in greenhouse gas equivalents for semivegetarian and vegetarian diets were 22% and 29%, respectively.¹⁰

Reduced Emissions and Resource Use with Plant-Based Diets.

Numerous studies document the beneficial role of plant-based diets in reducing greenhouse gas emissions, resource consumption, and environmental degradation. While this area of research is evolving, studies generally find that plant-based foods (with some exceptions) require less energy to produce and generate fewer greenhouse gas emissions than animal foods.

Please find appended to this letter a summary of findings of studies in the *Plant-Based Diets in Climate Change Mitigation and Resources Conservation* by the Academy of Nutrition and Dietetics subcommittee on vegetarian nutrition.

We have listed some of the findings below:

- A Swedish study of 22 foods and their respective energy use and greenhouse gas emissions found that the higher the protein content of the plant-based food, the lower the greenhouse gas emissions and the more energy-efficient the food was. The opposite was true for animal foods.
- A study of 84 common foods in Sweden, the protein delivery efficiency was highest among plant foods while greenhouse gas emissions were lowest. As an example, eating soybeans as the main protein source for a meal generated far fewer greenhouse gas emissions as measured in carbon dioxide equivalents (0.23 kg) than serving pork (0.94 kg) or beef (3.0 kg), respectively.
- A recent study of several dietary patterns consumed by participants of the EPIC-Oxford study in the United Kingdom (UK) found that eating more than 100 grams (~1/2 cup) of meat daily generated 2.5 times the greenhouse gas emissions as the vegan diet when analyzing for a 2,000 calorie per day intake.
- Using environmental impact indicators such as greenhouse gas emissions, air acidification, and freshwater eutrophication (an excessive amount of anthropogenic-induced nutrients

⁹ Dietary greenhouse gas emissions of meat-eaters, fish-eaters, vegetarians and vegans in the UK, <https://link.springer.com/content/pdf/10.1007%2Fs10584-014-1169-1.pdf>

¹⁰ American Journal of Clinical Nutrition, Samuel Soret et. Al. <http://ajcn.nutrition.org/content/early/2014/06/04/ajcn.113.071589.short>

such as nitrogen and phosphate that contributes to conditions such as hypoxia and algal blooms), a recent analysis of the French diet found that the environmental impact was highest for animal products such as meat, fish, eggs, and dairy products.

- Eutrophication and greenhouse gas emissions were highest for ruminants while eutrophication alone was highest for pork, poultry, and eggs. Conversely, starchy foods (grains, beans, potatoes) and fruits and vegetables had the lowest environmental impact.
- An analysis of 61 food categories and their related embodied greenhouse gas emissions in the UK found that meat and dairy products generally had the highest carbon intensities, whereas fruits and vegetables that had not been air-freighted or grown with artificial heat had the lowest emissions.
- Agricultural inputs of water, pesticide, and energy use in the state of California for non-vegetarian diets used 2.9 times the water, 2.5 times more energy, 13 times more fertilizer, and 1.4 times more pesticides than vegetarian diets.
- Agricultural practices within the Mississippi River Basin contribute to the dead zone in the Gulf of Mexico. An important study found that shifting production in the area away from beef and pork to producing a lacto-ovo vegetarian diet or a vegetable protein-based diet could result in impressive reductions in land and chemical use—with the plant-based diet offering the greatest reductions. Such changes could mitigate hypoxia in the Gulf of Mexico dead zone. It should be noted that decreasing animal product consumption does correspond with decreasing greenhouse gas emissions and other benefits to the natural environment.
- Foods of plant origin generally have smaller water footprints than animal products. Milk, eggs, and chicken utilize 1.5 times the water per gram of protein than pulses (dried legumes) while beef uses six times the water.
- Substituting plant-foods such as pulses and nuts for meat would decrease the average U.S. food-related water footprint by 30%.

Health and Climate Co-benefits of Plant-Based Diets

In a study titled, *Analysis and valuation of the health and climate change co-benefits of dietary change*, published in the Proceedings of the National Academy of Sciences, researchers found that the food system is responsible for more than a quarter of all greenhouse gas emissions while unhealthy diets and high body weight are among the greatest contributors to premature mortality.¹¹

They went on to say,

*We project that health and climate change benefits will both be greater the lower the fraction of animal-sourced foods in our diets. Three quarters of all benefits occur in developing countries although the per capita impacts of dietary change would be greatest in developed countries. The monetized value of health improvements could be comparable with, and possibly larger than, the environmental benefits of the avoided damages from climate change.*¹²

In addition, authors stated,

¹¹ <http://www.pnas.org/content/113/15/4146.abstract>

¹² Ibid, 4146

Transitioning toward more plant-based diets that are in line with standard dietary guidelines could reduce global mortality by 6–10% and food-related greenhouse gas emissions by 29–70% compared with a reference scenario in 2050. We find that the monetized value of the improvements in health would be comparable with, or exceed, the value of the environmental benefits although the exact valuation method used considerably affects the estimated amounts. Overall, we estimate the economic benefits of improving diets to be 1–31 trillion US dollars, which is equivalent to 0.4–13% of global gross domestic product (GDP) in 2050.¹³

Further, they found significant economic benefits to higher rates of plant-based diets in a population.¹⁴

More reasons to encourage plant based diets, avoids many co-negatives

Co-negatives of the livestock industry are rampant land degradation, water waste and pollution, air pollution, and loss of biodiversity. For human health risks of disease and death are lower in plant-based diets as well as are health care costs.

Other cities are already planning and addressing this issue.

In addition to the many local governments taking action on this issue outlined in the *Meat of the Matter* report, Eugene, Oregon’s Community Climate and Energy Action Plan has an entire section on Food and Agriculture. Some of the goals and strategies are of interest here.

- 5.1. Begin a community campaign to educate the public about food choice as part of a climate-friendly lifestyle.
- 5.2. Implement a “Buy climate-friendly first” food purchasing policy for public institutions including city and county governments, schools, and hospitals
- 8.3b) Prioritize development of vegetable protein crops such as beans and grains that are suited to the Willamette Valley.
- 8.2 Develop an updated regional emergency food distribution plan that accounts for climate- and energy-based disruptions. The level of need for such a plan will be made clear by conducting a vulnerability assessment...
- 9.1 Expand community gardens on public and private lands including school campuses, City lands, and church properties.
- 9.2 Encourage planting of non-invasive food-bearing trees and shrubs on public and private lands. Support urban tree food programs of such advocates as Tree by Tree, and the Eugene Tree Foundation (now Friends of Trees).

¹³ Ibid, p. 4146

¹⁴ Ibid, p.4149, Figure 2.

- 8.1.b) Develop a comprehensive Community Food Security Assessment and implement changes to improve food security. ¹⁵

Failure to address this issue could threaten the success of other actions to reverse climate change.

Researchers have found that if we animal product consumption continues unabated as the population grows, we will not be able to arrest the worst impacts of climate change. New research from GRAIN and Institute for Agriculture and Trade Policy (IATP) shows that:

- Together, the world’s top five meat and dairy corporations are now responsible for more annual greenhouse gas emissions than Exxon, Shell or BP.
- By 2050, we must reduce global emissions by 38 billion tons to limit global warming to 1.5 degrees Celsius. If all other sectors follow that path while the meat and dairy industry’s growth continues as projected, the livestock sector could eat up 80% of the allowable GHG budget in just 32 years. ¹⁶

The information is available and the warning is clear, now is the time to address this issue proactively.

Recommendations for the updated Escondido Climate Action Plan

A shift toward, or some say back to, a plant-based food is vital if we are to combat the worst effects of climate change. The good news is that it is very easy to do, cost-effective, better for health, and can be implemented immediately by anyone at any level.

Policy recommendations

We recommend that the City investigate this issue, assess the levels of GHG emissions from the diets of population and establish goals to reduce them.

The Climate Action Plan should be updated to include the following measures and actions.

1. We strongly urge the climate planners to review and pursue the recommendations contained in the report ***MEAT OF THE MATTER: A Municipal Guide to Climate-Friendly Food Purchasing***, adapted for Escondido.
2. CAP should create a staffed working group to evaluate resources and develop a plan to increase food security, reduce climate emissions, and improve health for the city and environs.
3. The City should provide pathways for institutional procurement of local produce that would facilitate investment in local farms and offer farm microloans, tax-incentives, and grants. These should be restricted to produce farming since animal agriculture does not support emissions reductions.
4. The CAP should include requirements or incentives for institutional adoption of a minimum number of fully plant-based meals at government meetings, hospitals, schools, universities

¹⁵ <https://www.eugene-or.gov/ArchiveCenter/ViewFile/Item/2385>

¹⁶ <https://www.grain.org/article/entries/5976-emissions-impossible-how-big-meat-and-dairy-are-heating-up-the-planet>

etc.. The city could build upon Palomar Hospital's commitment to Meatless Mondays and vegetarian options in its cafeteria.

5. The City should encourage and fully support the local Farmer's Markets in the region to promote more consumption of locally grown foods which have the lowest carbon footprint.
 6. The City should support or jointly initiate a climate and public health campaign to encourage more plant-based, whole foods eating in the region. This type of public health campaign has already been demonstrated to work through anti-smoking campaigns, and may result in savings based solely on the public health burden reduction.
 7. The CAP should include commitment to educational materials, workshops on plant based eating, and promotional events to encourage more plant-based eating.
 8. The city should develop an education program for 'climate-friendly living' to encourage and educate residents about all the ways to reduce personal and family level GHG emissions and include promotion of plant-based diets including a widespread commitment to Meatless Monday.
 9. The CAP should include a sector analysis and measures to promote plant-based diets. Just like establishing goals for bike and transit commuting, it should quantify goals for the population to eat a plant-based diet. Even a reduction of 50% meat consumption by a portion of the population would yield significant results.
 10. Climate-friendly menus (plant-based) should be served at all City and city sponsored events with educational materials to accompany them.
 11. The City should partner with groups like Physicians for Responsible Medicine and evaluate and share materials such as Every Meal Power Plate.¹⁷
 12. The CAP should include measures to create an *Eat a Climate-Friendly Diet* working group and partner with local vegan and plant-based groups, farmers, business and spiritual traditions that already eat a plant-based diet and have expertise to share.
 13. The CAP should include measures to offer tax-incentives to restaurants where 50% or more of the menu offerings are plant based.
 14. The CAP should include measures to fully preserve and increase suitable agriculture reserve lands suitable for produce farming and create urban agricultural zones to put vacant parcels into produce food production in urban areas.
 15. The City should partner with organization that support produce farmers and help them sell locally. Groups like San Diego Food System Alliance, California Food Link, and the San Diego New Farmers Guild would be good partners.
 16. The CAP could investigate programs to incentivize food technology industry to develop plant-based and cellular agriculture alternatives to animal products.
-

Through these policy recommendations, Escondido would reduce climate damaging emissions, help stabilize our environment, improve community health, and support sustainable businesses and our economy.

We ask the city to consider this issue seriously and include actions to reduce animal foods and increase plant-based agriculture and diets among Escondido residents in the Climate Action Plan Update. It will be better for our environment, our health, and our region. Please contact us at earthlover@sbcglobal.net with any questions.

¹⁷<http://www.pcrm.org/sites/default/files/images/health/pplate/EveryMealPowerPlate.pdf>

Sincerely residents of the city and sphere of influence of Escondido,

Georgia Simon

Laura Hunter

Lucy Khoury

Ron Forster

Jennifer Heraty

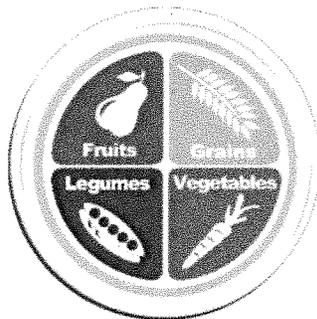
Cheryl Phibbs

Paul Phibbs

Thich Chan Phap Ho

Christine Nava

James Cook



Mike Strong

From: Laura Hunter <earthlover@sbcglobal.net>
Sent: Monday, July 30, 2018 9:28 AM
To: Mike Strong
Subject: Transportation comments for the ECAP
Attachments: IMG_3298.JPG; Untitled attachment 00112.txt; IMG_3293.JPG; Untitled attachment 00115.txt; IMG_3290.JPG; Untitled attachment 00118.txt; IMG_3286.JPG; Untitled attachment 00121.txt; IMG_3483.JPG; Untitled attachment 00124.txt

Dear Mr. Strong,

Unfortunately, I cannot attend tonight's July 30th public meeting as I am in Oregon caring for my elderly parents. However, I wanted to share with the Climate Action Plan Update team some of the amazing things that Eugene, Oregon has accomplished related to transportation actions that reduce climate impacts.

Eugene (166k) is the roughly the same population as Escondido (151k). It all begins with intent. Eugene has the expressed intent to create a bikeable, walkable city.

I am continuing to research how Eugene is achieving high levels of biking that I witness (and participate in up here due to the ease of biking). I will continue to share what I learn.

However, I wanted to offer some photos of real-world examples of how Eugene is accommodating and encouraging bike use. The redesignation of 'bike route' roads makes biking safer and more expedient without significant loss to driving. A few strategic roads have been turned from 2-3 lane roads to a one way driving lane with the other lane split into two way bike lanes. If the road was three lanes wide, the middle lane creates more car parking thus protecting the riders even more. I can tell you it works great and has heavy use! You'll also see that bikes have their own stoplights! This kind of project could be implemented easily, without a lot of cost.

Eugene also has an extensive bike-sharing program implemented by the local health provider (PeaceHealth) that is in constant use and an amazing river bikeway. In addition, Eugene's free bike path map is easy to acquire <https://www.eugene-or.gov/1849/Bike-Maps>

Eugene established a goal for biking-- "Create 20-minute neighborhoods by providing accessible, efficient, and convenient methods for pedestrians and bicyclists to travel to the places where they live, shop, work and play by expanding and improving Eugene's bicycle and pedestrian network." The Draft Pedestrian and Bicycle Master Plan includes the following recommended policies:

- 1.1: Make bicycling and walking more attractive than driving for trips of two miles or less.
- 1.2: Increase pedestrian and bicycle connectivity between existing residential neighborhoods and nearby commercial areas, parks, and schools.
- 1.5: Construct high-quality pedestrian and bicycle infrastructure to provide safer, more appealing and well-connected facilities.
- 1.8: Provide a continuous sidewalk network along all city streets that have been upgraded to urban standards or as part of urban standards upgrades to unimproved streets.

All of these goals have resulted in an amazing amount of biking and walking throughout the city.

I hope to work with the staff to achieve a plan like this for Escondido.

Thank you for your consideration.

Laura Hunter

Mike Strong

From: Pura, Anthony <Anthony.Pura@10news.com>
Sent: Tuesday, July 31, 2018 2:41 PM
To: Mike Strong
Subject: Climate action plan

Hi Mike,

Nice speaking with you today. Could you send me a link to the climate action plan materials website when you get a chance,

Thanks,
Anthony
(619) 507-9900

Sent from my iPhone

Scripps Media, Inc., certifies that its advertising sales agreements do not discriminate on the basis of race or ethnicity. All advertising sales agreements contain nondiscrimination clauses.

Mike Strong

From: Mike Strong
Sent: Friday, August 03, 2018 1:20 PM
Cc: Bill Martin
Subject: City of Escondido - Climate Action Plan Workshop Follow-Up
Attachments: CAP Workshop Summary.pdf

All, blind-copied –

Thanks again for attending Monday's Cap update workshop. It was nice to see so much interest in the planning process and/or local climate action planning.

The Project website has been updated to incorporate information about the workshop. The PowerPoint presentation, station boards, and passport questionnaire has been uploaded. The Project website link is below.

<https://www.escondido.org/climate-action-plan-documents.aspx>

I have also enclosed a summary of the workshop. It includes some highlights, key observations, and images of the dot exercise results. Please bear in mind that the dot exercise was one way the City is collecting information, so it should be treated as such. The outreach is not final. We are still seeking out ways to collect more input. The final outreach results, which includes the dot exercise and Passport questionnaire, will be compiled at the conclusion of the public engagement period (i.e. after September 14, 2018).

This email has been sent to all of those that provided an email address contact on the sign-in sheet. As noted on the sign-in sheet, and as restated, completing the email address field indicates an interest in subscribing to the CAP update electronic newsletter service. You will always have an option to unsubscribe immediately. You can also respond to this email and let me know that you want to opt out of this service.

As a reminder, our public engagement effort is ongoing. If you would like to schedule a mobile workshop, please let me know. It is a great way to have convenient access to the same information and participate.

Mike Strong
Assistant Planning Director
City of Escondido
(760) 839-4556
mstrong@escondido.org



Mike Strong

From: Patricia Borchmann <patriciaborchmann@gmail.com>
Sent: Friday, August 03, 2018 1:51 PM
To: Christine Nava; Mike Strong
Cc: Patricia Borchmann
Subject: Fwd: City of Escondido - Climate Action Plan Workshop Follow-Up
Attachments: CAP Workshop Summary.pdf

Chris -

Since you were unable to attend City of Escondido's first Public Workshop on Climate Action Plan Update, I wanted to forward Mike Strong's meeting summary, with links to the power point slides, and the Passport Questions, and dot tally ratings from audience.

If you're interested to be placed on City's mailing list for future Notices, Phase 1 Events (Summer 2018), and future phases - Phase 2 workshop (2019) prior to public hearings, at Escondido Planning Commission and City Council.

fyi - I believe Mike Strong indicated Escondido Planning Commission will have an informational item on their Agenda soon, to inform Commissioners about Escondido's Climate Action Plan Update, and ask them for Commissioner comments. At the Planning Commission Meeting when this CAP Update is scheduled, I believe public comment opportunity (up to 2 or 3 minutes) will be available as long as yellow Speaker Slip is turned into City Clerk before that Agenda items starts.

----- Forwarded message -----

From: **Mike Strong** <mstrong@escondido.org>
Date: Fri, Aug 3, 2018 at 1:19 PM
Subject: City of Escondido - Climate Action Plan Workshop Follow-Up
To:
Cc: Bill Martin <bmartin@escondido.org>

All, blind-copied –

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Mike Strong

Assistant Planning Director

City of Escondido

(760) 839-4556

mstrong@escondido.org



Mike Strong

From: Robert Stromberg <stromberg4@cox.net>
Sent: Friday, August 03, 2018 3:06 PM
To: Mike Strong
Subject: Re: City of Escondido - Climate Action Plan Workshop Follow-Up

Mike,

Thanks for following up. I was a bit disappointed in lack of progress on implementation of global change initiatives in Escondido but, after speaking to the City Council member in attendance, I understand the current Mayor has been less than supportive but that will probably be changing after the November elections. I do not remember seeing any solar power on city buildings initiative on any of your boards. One lady actually asked you that question with a very vague non-answer. With major solar companies (Baker Solar) operating in Escondido I would think some kind of arrangement could be worked out to make that happen at low or no cost to the city. It would set a great example and let Escondido residents know progress is being made.

Looking forward to future events but hope we can get out of the planning mode into project implementation soon.

Bob Stromberg
30 year Escondido resident.

On Aug 3, 2018, at 1:19 PM, Mike Strong <mstrong@escondido.org> wrote:

All, blind-copied –

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Mike Strong
Assistant Planning Director
City of Escondido

(760) 839-4556
mstrong@escondido.org

Mike Strong

From: Patricia Borchmann <patriciaborchmann@gmail.com>
Sent: Friday, August 17, 2018 8:32 PM
To: Abraham Garcia-Casillas
Cc: Jerry Harmon; Christine Nava; Mike Strong
Subject: Re: City of Escondido - CAP Newsletter Service

That's super Abraham !

How was your first week at new organization?

Thank you for your sincere interest in Escondido's Climate Action Plan Update , starting 2018.

On Fri, Aug 17, 2018 at 7:08 PM, Abraham Garcia-Casillas <a.garcia760@live.com> wrote:

Thank you.. will sign up!

From: Patricia Borchmann <patriciaborchmann@gmail.com>

Sent: Friday, August 17, 2018 6:49 PM

To: Jerry Harmon; Christine Nava; Mike Strong

Cc: Patricia Borchmann

Subject: Fwd: City of Escondido - CAP Newsletter Service

For those of you who share interest in City of Escondido's Climate Action Plan Update, if you're not already signed up to receive this City CAP Newsletter (from Mike Strong), you need to sign up by placing your name on the subscription click on email where shown. The Climate Action Plan Update for Escondido is also easily accessible on Facebook !

If possible, share with your friends, family, neighbors, students, teachers, mentors, church friends, activists/non activists, any/all ages. The Plan to Update Escondido's Climate Action Plan is gender neutral, politically neutral, age neutral, income level neutral, and will develop best possible practical steps , based on objective cost benefit analyses.

A 2nd Public Workshop will be scheduled in September 2018, so please sign up to receive the NEXT (4th) Newsletter from Mike Strong !

----- Forwarded message -----

From: **Mike Strong** <mstrong@escondido.org>

Date: Fri, Aug 17, 2018 at 5:41 PM

Subject: City of Escondido - CAP Newsletter Service

To:

Cc: Bill Martin <bmartin@escondido.org>, Jay Petrek <jpetrek@escondido.org>

Good evening and happy Friday - residents and interested parties (bcc),

Please see the attached August 17, 2018 e-newsletter for the Climate Action Plan Update work program. The e-newsletter was developed to provide timely and informative news about the planning process so that interested parties would know more about the project and how to be involved.

Visit the City's Project website at <https://www.escondido.org/climate-action-plan-documents.aspx> for more information about the Project and/or the planning process.

This City-sponsored email provides an informational service only. Your email will not be used for any other purpose in accordance with the CAN-SPAM Act. If you do not wish to receive these e-newsletters in the future, please reply to this email to indicate as such.

Mike Strong

Assistant Planning Director

City of Escondido

(760) 839-4556

mstrong@escondido.org

