

CAPAC Meeting Minutes 9/30/24 – DRAFT

- A. Call to Order: 6:04 PM by Toben Barnum, Staff Liaison
- B. Roll Call: Dave Atherton (Present), Judy Blumhorst (Present), Anita Scott (Present), Leonard Smith (Present), Mary Kenefick (Present-Acting as Commissioner tonight), Taylor Hasal (Absent), Alternate-Phyllis McDonald Present
- C. Public Comment: None
- D. Approval of the Minutes: No motion to pull the minutes from the calendar. Blumhorst Moves to Approve; Scott second; Vote 4-0 to Approve (Mary Kenefick abstaining).
- E. Discussion:

E.1 24-526: Modeling Results

- Committee Member Smith is concerned that with the modeling projections for 2045; he does not feel we are doing enough to preserve the environment for generations to come. He also reiterated his concern that the Committee was not doing enough to meet the mandates set by the state for Net-Zero emissions.
- Committee Member Blumhorst had questions regarding process & fugitive emissions and what qualifies in that classification. Consultant Rod Stinson informed the Committee that this is largely from consumer products, like deodorants and hairspray, and generally not something that the City has complete control over. Committee Blumhorst noted that even if the City were able to eliminate all mobile source emissions, the City would still not be able to achieve Net-Zero on Carbon Emissions without also eliminating Residential Energy, Commercial Energy, and Solid Waste Emissions
- A 55% reduction target was set by the CAPAC.

E.2. 24-527 Carbon Sequestration 101

- Carbon sequestration occurs when you pull carbon out of the environment and try to set it aside from the natural environment. The easiest way to do this in nature is with Trees—carbon molecules are locked up into the trunk of the tree and the tree will store the carbon molecules for the lifetime of the tree. One of the ways the City can focus on carbon sequestration is investigate the state of the City’s tree canopy. The City can also look at chemical and mechanical processes to segregate carbon molecules in the environment. That involves chemically capturing the carbon dioxide, and ultimately converting the CO₂ to liquid using chemical solvents and then storing it underground through an injection process.
- Staff liaison Toben Barnum posed to the committee what practical things could the City do to promote sequestration efforts—i.e., municipal code changes, biocharring (reduces methane gas emissions from biobreakdowns in the soil)
- Committee Member Blumhorst brought up issues with the Manteca Municipal Code and enforcement of houses that pave-in their frontyards with concrete in violation of MWEL0.

Committee Member Blumhorst also brought up the issue with cultural competence and not understanding the issues with not complying with the City's ordinances.

- The committee then discussed that trees is the best carbon sequestration effort that the City can do in terms of GHG, then the next best could be the biocharring, and then other available offset programs.
- More solar than required, electric charging (not just EV ready, but actual chargers) that exceed the City's ordinance and CalGreen Code, more shade tree requirements, all-electric, offsets, and no natural gas.
- Committee Member Blumhorst also asked what kind of reductions can be seen on modeling with carbon offset provided from the tree canopy? Doing preliminary calculations and looking at the existing tree canopy, if the City increased its tree canopy by 5%, it would reduce metric tonnes by 1,000 metric tonnes of CO2 per year, which is a de minimis amount of reduction.
- Staff Liaison brought up the issue of in-lieu fees for carbon offsets and how that actually works in practice? I.e., cap and trade programs do not work in themselves because pursuant to CEQA there needs to be actual mitigation measures, and not just payments.
- Consultant Rod Stinson also discussed the different types of carbon credits available for a project—one time retirement credits, 20 years of credits for the lifetime of the project (project-dependent on both the Manteca project and the off-set project)

Recess called at 7:07

Back on the Record at 7:15 PM

E.3. 24-528 Additional GHG Reduction Measures Proposed by CAPAC

- Consultant Rod Stinson brought up the issue of the CAPAC being able to manage the expectations of the CAPAC—i.e., is the Committee willing to try to come up with measure to get to the net-zero mandate by 2045, or do we try to come up with something more realistic for 2030 and state that we cannot meet the goals and objectives for 2045.
- Committee Member Smith left the meeting at 7:20. At that point, Committee Member Phyllis McDonald then acted as a full-member of the committee.
- Committee Member Blumhorst brought up the idea of a caveat in the plan—i.e., a best effort to achieve carbon neutrality in 2045. Deputy Director of Development Services—Planning Jesus Orozco brought up the issues with trying to qualify the
- Committee Member Atherton brought up the idea of attracting a business an energy-storage facility or building one ourselves (like the Noosa/BayWARE facility in Lathrop).
- What measures is the City actually looking at or what can we do? i.e., what about ordinance changes (warehouse ordinance), tax credits for renters for utilities, having staff investigate similar reduction measures in surrounding communities, encourage or incentivize city through landlords through educational and grant incentive programs.

E.4. 24-529 Next Steps

- Finish modeling with new suggestions and see how far off we are—and whatever gap remains will need either offset or revisiting in 5 years when the City undertakes the CAP process again.
- With the current modeling and reduction, this CAP will meet the requirements of SB32 for the 2030 reduction requirements.

F. Informational Items

- Next Meeting is October 21, 2024 at 6 PM in Development Services Conference Room.
- Following that meeting, Rod will begin actually preparing the document!
- After that document is circulated, we will all get to review, then external circulation, and move toward CEQA certification.

G. Committee Comments

- The CAP has been meeting for a year! Happy birthday to the CAP!
- The CAP must remember that if the mission of the CAP is not worth trying, we will not achieve our objective!

H. Adjournment

- Meeting Adjourned at 7:59 PM.