



Community Environmental Council

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Date: October 8, 2007

To: Jim Armstrong, City Administrator
City of Santa Barbara

From: Dave Davis, Executive Director
Community Environmental Council

Subject: Request to place item on the City Council's Agenda:
"A New Energy Direction: Bold Local Solutions to a Global Problem"

1. An outline and brief summary of the request

With global and local attention on climate change and energy issues more generally, the Community Environmental Council has completed an ambitious county energy plan (**A New Energy Direction: a Blueprint for Santa Barbara County**) for transitioning away from fossil fuels to increased energy efficiency and renewable energy sources. With the City's demonstrated interest in doing its part to mitigate climate change, we request the opportunity to deliver a full briefing to the Council on the plan and discuss how the City can play a role in putting the region on a path to carbon-neutrality.

Requested Time: 1 hour: presentation (20 minutes); public comment (20 minutes); Council questions and discussion (20 minutes).

2. A concise statement of what action the Council will be asked to take:

CEC requests the following items be referred to City staff to work with CEC in bringing back at a future meeting the following items for Council consideration:

- Setting a goal of becoming carbon neutral by 2020 for its own operations, pending the completion of the City staff's climate mitigation plan
- Incorporating the reduction of Greenhouse Gases into Plan Santa Barbara Goals and Implementation strategies
- Participation in an "Energy Summit" with other local governments and the County, hosted by CEC to begin forming a Regional Energy Task Force.
- Consider participating with other local governments in a low cost feasibility study for Community Choice Aggregation.

3. A statement of reasons why it is appropriate and within the Council's jurisdiction

This is an appropriate agenda item consistent with of the City's stated sustainability goals and interest in doing its part to mitigate climate change. The City has full authority to do what we propose above.