County of Monterey Monterey Room 168 W. Alisal St., 2nd Floor Salinas, CA 93901



**Meeting Agenda** 

Thursday, December 3, 2020

2:00 PM

SPECIAL MEETING Monterey Room, 2nd Floor, Government Center IMPORTANT COVID-19 NOTICE ON PAGES 2 AVISO IMPORTANTE SOBRE COVID-19 EN LA PAGINAS 2 https://montereycty.zoom.us/i/91219730220? Alternative Energy and Environment Committee

#### **IMPORTANT NOTICE REGARDING COVID 19**

Based on guidance from the California Department of Public Health and the California Governor's Office, in order to minimize the spread of the COVID 19 virus, please do the following:

1. You are strongly encouraged to observe the Alternative Energy and Environment Committee meeting via Zoom at https://montereycty.zoom.us/j/91219730220? pwd=TTF0Yi9VNXpxU0p1cmlmRVd1blorQT09, Passcode: 789137

2. If you choose not to attend the Alternative Energy and Environment Committee meeting but desire to make general public comment, or comment on a specific item on the agenda, you may do so in two ways:

a. submit your comment via email by 5:00 p.m. on the Wednesday prior to the Alternative Energy and Environment Committee meeting. Please submit your comment to the Clerk of the Committee at ruiz-ignaciom@co.monterey.ca.us. In an effort to assist the Clerk in identifying the agenda item relating to your public comment please indicate in the Subject Line, the meeting body (i.e. December 3, 2020 Special AEE Agenda) and

b. you may participate through ZOOM.

For ZOOM participation please join by computer audio at:

https://montereycty.zoom.us/j/91219730220?pwd=TTF0Yi9VNXpxU0p1cmlmRVd1blorQT09,

Passcode: 789137

OR to participate by phone call any of these numbers below:

+1 669 900 6833 US (San Jose)

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Enter this Webinar ID: 912 1973 0220 when prompted. Please note there is no Participant Code, you will just hit # again after the recording prompts you. You will be placed in the meeting as an attendee; when you are ready to make a public comment

3. If you attend the Alternative Energy and Environment meeting in person, you will be required to maintain appropriate social distancing, ie, maintain a 6-foot distance between yourself and other individuals and wear appropriate face covering.

<u>Pursuant to Governor Newsom's Executive Order No. N-25-20, some or all Supervisors may</u> participate in the meeting by telephone or video conference.

NOTE: All agenda titles related to numbered items are live web links. Click on the title to be directed to corresponding Committee Report.

Call to Order

Additions and Corrections

#### Public Comment Period

#### Consider accepting Minutes from previous meeting on September 24, 2020

1. Consider accepting Minutes from previous meeting on September 24, 2020.

Attachments: 09.24.2020 AEE draft minutes

#### Consider adopting the 2021 Alternative Energy and Environment Calendar

1. Consider adopting the 2021 AEE Calendar.

Attachments: 2021 proposed AEE Meeting Calendar

#### Agenda Items

 Consider recommending that the Board of Supervisors authorize the Chair of the Board to sign letters of support for local and national organizations and institutions that are applying for grants that directly support sustainability efforts in either the Local Hazard Mitigation Plan, the County General Plan, the forthcoming Climate Action Plan, and other relevant County adopted plans as recommended by the Sustainability Program Manager; provide other direction to staff.

#### Presenter: Ashley Paulsworth

Attachments: Staff Report

2. Receive a presentation from the County Sustainability Program with updates from the Sustainability Program; discuss the stakeholder engagement plan for the Climate Action Plan; discuss budget request for the Sustainability Program and Climate Action Plan; provide other direction to staff.

#### Presenter: Ashley Paulsworth

 Attachments:
 Board Report

 Stakeholder Engagement Plan AEE

 Example Costs from Other Jurisdictions

 Receive a presentation from the Central Coast Energy Services; consider a recommendation to support a Resolution to the County Board of Supervisors in support of the Central Coast Energy Services program for low income energy plans; provide other direction to staff.

#### Presenter: Central Coast Energy Services

Attachments: Staff Report

MontereyCo.CCES
DRAFT Resolution Central Coast Energy Services

#### **Adjournment**

Next meeting scheduled for: To be announced.

Committee members: Supervisor Jane Parker (Chair) and Supervisor Chris Lopez (Vice Chair). Staff: Nicholas E. Chiulos, Assistant CAO; Ashley Paulsworth, Sustainability Program Manager; and Maegan Ruiz Ignacio, Administrative Assistant Confidential.

• Copies of staff reports or other written documentation relating to items referenced on this agenda and/or submitted after distribution of the agenda packet are on file and available for public inspection at the County Administrative Office, Monterey County Government Center, 168 West Alisal Street, 3rd Floor, Salinas.

• Meetings of the Board of Supervisors' Cannabis Standing Committee are accessible to individuals with disabilities. Please contact the Monterey County Civil Rights Office at 831 755 5117 if you need assistance or accommodations in order to participate in a public meeting or if you need the agenda and public documents modified as required by Section 202 of the Americans with Disabilities Act.

• The following services are available when requests are made at a minimum of one (1) business day before the meeting: American Sign Language interpreters during a meeting, large print agenda or minutes in alternative format.

• If you require the assistance of an interpreter, please contact Maegan Ruiz Ignacio in the County Administrative Office at 831 755 5508. Every effort will be made to accommodate requests for translation assistance. Requests should be made as soon as possible, and at a minimum of one (1) business day in advance of any meeting.

• Si usted requiere la asistencia de un interprete, por favor comuniquese con las oficina de Administracion localizada en el Centro de Gobierno del Condado de Monterey, (Monterey County Government Center), 168 W. Alisal, Tercer Piso, Salinas o por telefono llamar a Maegan Ruiz Ignacio 831 755 5508. La asistente hara el esfuerzo para acomodar los pedidos de asistencia de un interprete.



**Board Report** 

Legistar File Number: 20-1005

Item No.

Board of Supervisors Chambers 168 W. Alisal St., 1st Floor Salinas, CA 93901

December 03, 2020

Introduced: 11/24/2020

Version: 1

Current Status: Agenda Ready Matter Type: General Agenda Item

1. Consider accepting Minutes from previous meeting on September 24, 2020.



### **Action Minutes - Draft**

### Alternative Energy and Environment Committee

Thursday, September 24, 2020	2:00 PM	Esselen Room, 3rd Floor				
Zoom Call-in Instructions						
Call to Order						
Chair Parker and Vice-Chair Lopez	present by Zoom call in at 2:00p.m.					
Additions and Corrections						
None.						
<b>Public Comment Period</b>						
None.						
Approval of Action Minutes						

1. Consider accepting Minutes from previous meeting on July 23, 2020.

#### Minutes are accepted

Agenda Items

2. Receive a presentation from Procure America on the Tariff Rate Optimization Study and provide direction to staff.

Presenter: Fred Armendariz Procure America

#### Supervisor Comments:

Lopez: How do you get paid and when?

Parker: How long does the relationship last with the vendor? What are the implications for our utility bill tracking, cost allocation and payment? Whose decision is it where the savings go- that needs to be figured out. There is a bit of a time-constraint, what are the next steps to move quickly to get the savings while we figure out the administrative parts.

Answers: This is a performance-based program where vendor takes 30% and County receives 70% of savings. Quarterly and in arrears we reconcile. Short term savings will end after March 1st. Long term and UUT removal continue for 60 months. There may be an opportunity to reconsider how we pay our utility bills especially as we look at energy efficiency projects moving forward. Maybe we need to set up a fund that can capture the savings. We need to go to the Board and the Budget Committee because the study has shown the payment to the vendor will be over \$100K over the lifetime of the contract. We can make the short-term switches in the meantime.

#### Public Comment:

Tom Ward wants to know whether a sole source justification was completed for this? Robert Frischmuth commented that sustainability goes beyond emissions to economics as well.

The vendor explains that they have a regional cooperative agreement that allows the County to avoid issuing an RFP.

#### **Recommendations:**

Move forward with short-term switches and try to capture the savings.

 Receive an update on the General Plan Amendment for the GHG Reduction Policy and provide direction to staff.
 *Presenter:* Ashley Paulsworth

Supervisor Comments: Lopez: Updates make sense to me. Parker: The updates look like they make sense. Thank you for bringing attention and energy to this area.

Public Comment: Tom Ward: Is this policy regarding County-wide Emissions? Answers: Yes Recommend that the Board of Supervisors direct staff to develop a plan for interdepartmental coordination for SB1383 and provide other direction to staff.
 *Presenter*: Ashley Paulsworth

#### Supervisor Comments:

Lopez: Thank you for bringing this forward to let us know the efforts will continue. I wish there was some more funding for this effort from the state. We are extremely effective at capturing methane at the Authority and we will need to process outside of this and change our efforts, this is an unintended consequence of a one-size fits all.

Parker: Thank you for looking to energize and coordinate the County efforts, everyone is going to be doing a little something and there will be more synergies if we are working together. I think in the list of what the departments do, Environmental Health will likely be working on the hauler contracts.

#### Public Comment:

Kristin Skromme: Waste Management is working on a plan for outreach and virtual outreach for businesses and is here for technical assistance and zoom trainings on organics. Robert Frischmuth: Is there positive cash flow that could emerge? This waste stream will stop methane emissions, but it should have commercial value and so should the compost. Patrick Mathews: Robert may be right; we do have a perfect digestor in the form of a landfill. We've been meeting regularly with partner agencies on this topic. The bar has been expanded to include much smaller generators of commercial organics, so this is a massive effort. Answers: We recognize this is a big challenge. There is some methane capture and gas to energy at the District and at Monterey One Water.

Other Items None.

#### Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at 3:00p.m.



### **Board Report**

#### Legistar File Number: 20-1006

168 W. Alisal St., 1st Floor Salinas, CA 93901

Board of Supervisors Chambers

Item No.

December 03, 2020

Introduced: 11/24/2020

Version: 1

Current Status: Agenda Ready Matter Type: General Agenda Item

1. Consider adopting the 2021 AEE Calendar.

# MONTEREY COUNTY BOARD OF SUPERVISORS

# 2021 Alternative Energy and Environment Committee Meeting Calendar

The Alternative Energy and Environment Committee meets the fourth Thursday bi/month at the Monterey County Government Center 168 W. Alisal Street, Salinas, CA 93901 (2<sup>nd</sup> Floor/Monterey Room) unless otherwise notified.

DATE	TIME	LOCATION
January 28, 2021	2:00p.m. – 3:30p.m.	Zoom Meeting https://montereycty.zoom.us/j/94138296438
March 25, 2021	2:00p.m. – 3:30p.m.	Zoom Meeting https://montereycty.zoom.us/j/94138296438
May 27, 2021	2:00p.m. – 3:30p.m.	Zoom Meeting https://montereycty.zoom.us/j/94138296438
July 22, 2021	2:00p.m. – 3:30p.m.	Zoom Meeting https://montereycty.zoom.us/j/94138296438
September 23, 2021	2:00p.m. – 3:30p.m.	Zoom Meeting https://montereycty.zoom.us/j/94138296438
November 18, 2021	2:00p.m. – 3:30p.m.	Zoom Meeting https://montereycty.zoom.us/j/94138296438

#### **IMPORTANT NOTICE REGARDING COVID 19**

Based on guidance from the California Department of Public Health and the California Governor's Office, in order to minimize the spread of the COVID 19 virus, you are strongly encouraged to observe the Alternative Energy and Environment Committee meeting via Zoom.





**Board Report** 

Legistar File Number: 20-1007

168 W. Alisal St., 1st Floor Salinas, CA 93901

Board of Supervisors Chambers

Item No.

December 03, 2020

Introduced: 11/24/2020

Version: 1

Current Status: Agenda Ready Matter Type: General Agenda Item

 Consider recommending that the Board of Supervisors authorize the Chair of the Board to sign letters of support for local and national organizations and institutions that are applying for grants that directly support sustainability efforts in either the Local Hazard Mitigation Plan, the County General Plan, the forthcoming Climate Action Plan, and other relevant County adopted plans as recommended by the Sustainability Program Manager; provide other direction to staff.

#### Presenter: Ashley Paulsworth



**Board Report** 

Legistar File Number: 20-1010

Chambers 168 W. Alisal St., 1st Floor Salinas, CA 93901

Board of Supervisors

Item No.

December 03, 2020

Introduced: 11/24/2020

Version: 1

Current Status: Agenda Ready Matter Type: General Agenda Item

- a) Consider recommending that the Board of Supervisors authorize the Chair of the Board to sign letters of support for local and national organizations and institutions that are applying for grants that directly support sustainability efforts in either the Local Hazard Mitigation Plan, the County General Plan, the forthcoming Climate Action Plan, and other relevant County adopted plans as recommended by the Sustainability Program Manager and;
- b) Provide other direction to staff.

#### RECOMMENDATION:

It is recommended that the Committee members

- a) Consider recommending that the Board of Supervisors authorize the Chair of the Board to sign letters of support for local and national organizations and institutions that are applying for grants that directly support sustainability efforts in either the Local Hazard Mitigation Plan, the County General Plan, the forthcoming Climate Action Plan, and other relevant County adopted plans as recommended by the Sustainability Program Manager and;
- b) Provide other direction to staff.

#### SUMMARY:

Public and private sector partners often reach out to the County Sustainability Program seeking letters of support in their grant applications and need replies in short timeframes. The Sustainability Program is seeking direction from the Committee on guidance for having the Chair of the Board sign-off on letters of support for those grants that seek funding directly related to sustainability efforts that are identified in relevant County adopted plans.

#### DISCUSSION:

Sustainability efforts are being undertaken in Monterey County by many of our public and private sector partners. For instance, the nonprofit, Point Blue Conservation Science, is applying for a Proposition 68 grant that would help the region to address sea level rise, storm erosion, and other coastal hazards in Monterey Bay and along coastal California. If awarded, this grant would produce a science-based tool for researchers to identify suitable sites for dune and beach restoration along the coast of California. Sea level rise,

storm erosion, and other such coastal hazards have been identified in the Local Hazard Mitigation Plan as climate-change-related hazards that will have an impact on Monterey County. Since those hazards are already identified in a local plan, it follows that the County would support efforts to implement mitigation measures by local and national partners.

Staff is seeking a recommendation from the committee members to the Board of Supervisors authorizing the Chair of the Board to provide letters of support, at the recommendation of the Sustainability Program, for our local partners who are implementing measures that are related to sustainability efforts identified within adopted County plans. Many of those letters are requested on relatively short timetables as specified within the grant applications and cannot be brought before the Board of Supervisors in time to receive approval in the normal fashion.

OTHER AGENCY INVOLVEMENT:

None

<u>FINANCING</u>: No funding is being requested at this time.

#### BOARD OF SUPERVISORS STRATEGIC INITIATIVES:

The Sustainability Program is designed to support the County's environmental, social, and economic well-being through comprehensive planning and stakeholder engagement. Our support of programs that work to implement the strategies within our plans is helpful to furthering the goals of the program.

Mark a check to the related Board of Supervisors Strategic Initiatives

\_\_Economic Development \_X\_Administration \_X\_Health & Human Services \_X\_Infrastructure Public Safety

Prepared by: Ashley Paulsworth, Sustainability Program Manager, x 5344 Approved by: Nicholas E. Chiulos, Assistant County Administrative Officer, Ext. 5145

Attachments: Staff Report



**Board Report** 

Legistar File Number: 20-1008

168 W. Alisal St., 1st Floor Salinas, CA 93901

Board of Supervisors Chambers

Item No.

December 03, 2020

Introduced: 11/24/2020

Version: 1

Current Status: Agenda Ready Matter Type: General Agenda Item

2. Receive a presentation from the County Sustainability Program with updates from the Sustainability Program; discuss the stakeholder engagement plan for the Climate Action Plan; discuss budget request for the Sustainability Program and Climate Action Plan; provide other direction to staff.

Presenter: Ashley Paulsworth



### **Board Report**

### Item No.

Board of Supervisors Chambers 168 W. Alisal St., 1st Floor Salinas, CA 93901

Legistar File Number: 20-1012

December 03, 2020

Introduced: 11/24/2020

Version: 1

Current Status: Agenda Ready Matter Type: General Agenda Item

- a) Receive a presentation from the County Sustainability Program with updates from the Sustainability Program;
- b) Discuss the stakeholder engagement plan for the Climate Action Plan;
- c) Discuss budget request for the Sustainability Program and Climate Action Plan; and
- d) Provide other direction to staff.

#### RECOMMENDATION:

It is recommended that the Committee members

- a) Receive a presentation from the County Sustainability Program with updates from the Sustainability Program;
- b) Discuss the stakeholder engagement plan for the Climate Action Plan;
- c) Discuss budget request for the Sustainability Program and Climate Action Plan; and
- d) Provide other direction to staff.

#### SUMMARY:

On October 27, 2020, the Sustainability Program presented to the Board of Supervisors, in conjunction with staff from the Resources Management Agency (RMA), a proposed update to the General Plan Policy for greenhouse gas reductions. The revisions to the policy were adopted via a resolution and staff was directed to move forward with locating funding for the Community Climate Action and Adaptation Plan (CCAAP) and to complete the plan by 2022. Staff plans to request funding at an upcoming Budget Committee meeting for the CCAAP and program operation in the amount of \$250,000. Staff has been working on a stakeholder engagement plan and is presenting that plan to the committee today for discussion.

Additionally, the Sustainability Program launched or made progress on several other initiatives:

- 1. Held the second meeting of the Sustainability Ambassadors Program and reviewed ideas from the group for sustainability internally.
- 2. Completed the Tariff Rate Optimization Study, which will help the County save money on energy costs due to recent changes in electricity rate structures

- Initiated the Net Zero pilot project energy audit and executed the Program Services Agreement to launch the audit. Recommendations from the Audit will be brought to the Capital Improvements Committee and Budget Committee in January.
- 4. Launched efforts to develop an internal action plan to meet SB1383 regarding food waste diversion in the County which will be brought before the Board of Supervisors in early January.
- 5. Initiated a study on fleet electrification for the County which will be presented to AEE in February.
- 6. Began the process of developing a resiliency and adaptation partnership with federal agencies including NOAA, EPA, USGS and FEMA.

#### DISCUSSION:

The development of a successful Climate Action Plan in Monterey will rely heavily on input from local stakeholders through a series of stakeholder engagement meetings.

The stakeholder engagement process as it is currently envisioned will be split into three phases:

#### Phase 1: Project Initiation & Visioning

Phase 1 consists of outreach and engagement focused on developing the vision for the plan, providing education to the community, including the science and historical context of climate change issues in our region, high-level goal setting, and inspirational engagement.

#### Phase 2: Policy & Strategy Development

Phase 2 will be the development and prioritization of sustainability, resilience/adaptation, and climate action strategies including sharing the results of any technical analyses, the greenhouse gas inventories and forecasts, any vulnerability assessments, sustainability indicators and any preliminary assessments of existing activities and GHG reductions and other co-benefits. Phase 2 outreach and engagement will continue to inform and provide opportunities for the County to consult, involve, and collaborate with stakeholders during the identification and development of strategies.

#### Phase 3: Plan Preparation & Environmental Review

Phase 3 will focus on review and refinement of the draft greenhouse gas reduction and adaptation strategies and the implementation plan. Outreach and engagement during Phase 3 will focus on review of the CAP document itself.

The Sustainability Program recommends engaging with the following groups through various suggested workshops and panels. Internal Staff Sustainability Team

- Board of Supervisors
- Technical Advisory Committee
- Jurisdictions within the County
- External Stakeholders
  - Sector Working Groups
  - Equity Panel

- Youth Council/Students
- Community/Members of the Public
  - Speaker Series/Education
- Business Roundtable
- Ag Showcase
- Advisory Bodies
  - Planning Commission
  - Alternative Energy and Environment Committee

The extent to which these groups can be engaged will depend upon funding availability. More details on how and when these meetings and groups will be engaged are included the Stakeholder Engagement Plan attached to this report.

Staff asks that the committee members provide advice and direction on the details of the Stakeholder Engagement Plan.

#### OTHER AGENCY INVOLVEMENT:

RMA, Health Department, Agricultural Commissioner's Office, WRA, TAMC, AMBAG

#### FINANCING:

Financing is needed to execute a CCAAP, especially if the CCAAP is meant to be a qualified climate action plan. Staff has identified and applied for potential source of funding for the CCAAP through the Department of Conservation's SALC planning grants and has a Civic Spark fellow working on the adaptation portion of the plan. Staff is working with the budget office to locate potential sources of funding. Similar plans range from approximately \$75,000 to \$250,000 depending on scope, staff availability and purpose.

#### BOARD OF SUPERVISORS STRATEGIC INITIATIVES:

The Climate Action Plan is required by the County General Plan and will provide strategies to support the County's environmental, social, and economic well-being through comprehensive planning and stakeholder engagement.

Mark a check to the related Board of Supervisors Strategic Initiatives

- \_\_Economic Development \_X\_ Administration
- \_X\_Health & Human Services
- \_X\_ Infrastructure
- \_\_Public Safety

Prepared by: Ashley Paulsworth, Sustainability Program Manager, x 5344 Approved by: Nicholas E. Chiulos, Assistant County Administrative Officer, Ext. 5145

Attachments: Staff Report Stakeholder Engagement Plan Example costs from other Jurisdictions

# Monterey County 2030 CAP Stakeholder Engagement Plan DRAFT

#### Engagement Timeline:

#### Phase 1: Project Initiation & Visioning (Winter-Summer 2021)

Phase 1 consists of outreach and engagement focused on developing the vision for the plan, providing education to the community, including the science and historical context of climate change issues in our region, high-level goal setting and inspirational engagement.

#### Phase 2: Policy & Strategy Development (Summer-Fall 2021)

Phase 2 will be focused on the development and prioritization of sustainability, resilience/adaptation, and climate action strategies including sharing the results of any technical analyses, including the greenhouse gas inventories and forecasts, any vulnerability assessments, sustainability indicators and any preliminary assessments of existing activities and GHG reductions and other co-benefits. Phase 2 outreach and engagement will continue to inform and also provide opportunities for the County to consult, involve, and collaborate with stakeholders during the identification and development of strategies.

#### Phase 3: Plan Preparation & Environmental Review (Winter 2022)

Phase 3 will focus on review and refinement of the draft greenhouse gas reduction and adaptation strategies and the implementation plan. Outreach and engagement during Phase 3 will focus on review of the CAP document itself.

#### **Engagement Members**

- Staff Sustainability Team Project Kick-off & Visioning
- BOS Review of Vision, Engagement Plan, and Stakeholder List
- TAC
- Stakeholder Meetings
  - Sector Working Groups
  - Equity Panel and outreach
  - Youth Council/Student Engagement
- Community Workshops
  - Speaker Series/Education
  - Equity panel and outreach
  - Business Roundtable
  - Ag Showcase
  - Student Competition
- Advisory Body Presentations
  - Planning Commission
  - Alternative Energy and Environment Committee
- Multi-Jurisdiction Engagement
- Online Engagement

1

Communications Strategy

#### County Staff Sustainability Team Project Kick-off & Visioning

**Purpose:** To ensure that appropriate County staff and departments are involved in the development and review of the Climate Action Plan and strategies to inform and collaborate on feasibility and resource assessment for implementation.

#### **Technical Advisory Committee**

**Purpose:** The Technical Advisory Committee is intended to provide high-level technical expertise in emissions reductions strategies and will serve to provide feedback to the County on questions raised throughout the stakeholder engagement process. This group will meet early in the process to review the GHG inventory and initial strategies prior to stakeholder meetings. They will then continuously re-evaluate the strategies throughout the process as more data and concerns arise. Members of this group will have a deep understanding of emissions reductions and sequestration strategies.

#### Stakeholder Meetings



Sector Working Groups

**Purpose:** Working groups are meant to assist County Sustainability staff in the development of strategies and key performance indicators to drive the County towards its sustainability goals. The groups will provide both historical reference and insight into the current situation of the focus area and will build a

bridge between the public and private sector in the development of the County's Community Climate Action and Adaptation Plan (CCAAP). Working group members should be knowledgeable in the topic area through either industry expertise, volunteer experience or educational background.

**Process:** This phase of the stakeholder process is expected to kick-off in Winter of 2021 with an initial meeting to share high-level goals as well as the future science-based emissions targets and current emissions inventories. Breakout meetings will follow where stakeholders will discuss and brainstorm initial mitigation and adaptation strategies and key performance indicators. Working groups will be guided by external and internal experts. Strategies will be evaluated for impact, cost-benefit, social return on investment (SROI), and feasibility in conjunction with technical experts and consultants when possible. Then, staff will share with the group down-selected strategies and implementation language for discussion. Finally working groups as well as the general public will be given time to review the draft CCAAP and provide input.



Each working group should have one County staff expert and representation from industry, advocacy and the private sector. Ideally, each group would also have representation from all the County districts as well and will consist of 8-12 individuals.

**Commitment:** 4-5 Meetings over an 18-month period.

- Phase 1- Visioning, History, & Education
  - Meeting 1 -Full Group (Winter/Spring 2021) 1 to 1.5 hours
    - Introduce all working group members to CCAAP process, our local GHG inventory, the 2030 Target and Working Group timeline. Working group members are encouraged to provide their point of view and historical reference into sustainable practices. High level goals will be introduced.
- Phase 2 Strategy Development and Prioritization
  - Meetings 2/3- Working Group Breakouts (Summer 2021) 2.5 hours to half day
    - Group to brainstorm and discuss proposed strategies for GHG reduction goals.
    - County staff will distribute packets of strategies (in advance and review each

3

strategy as well as provide an overview of meeting structure. 30 min)

- External lead will provide a 15-20-minute presentation outlining current status of topic area and emissions reductions strategies in place including any historical reference or data provided by stakeholders in the initial visioning meeting.
- Participants will have a chance to share their big ideas (3-5 minutes each)
- Internal lead will capture strategies/provide internal feedback/expertise as needed.
- Interactive Dot Voting Process for feasibility of proposed strategies
- Phase 3- DRAFT REVIEW
  - Meeting 4- Full Group (Winter/Spring 2022) 2.5 hours to half day
    - Provide Comments on Draft CCAAP, provide comments in advance limit to 20 minutes per breakout team

#### Equity Panel

Purpose: An equity panel made up of representatives from Community Based Organizations (CBOs) and their members is intended to provide an equity lens which is a tool comprised of reflective questions and principals, intended to improve decision-making and lead to more equitable policies and programs. An Equity Panel will help to consider the equity implications of a strategy before that action is adopted as well as to consider the consequences as the strategy is implemented. Interpreter services may be needed.

The Equity Panel will meet in a similar fashion to the working groups, but the members will be composed of representatives from CBOs and their members.

#### **Equity Panel Objectives**

1. Learn about the needs of underserved communities in the face of climate change and disasters;

2. Produce an equity lens and equity considerations for decision-making processes relevant for the Climate Action Plan and the Hazard Mitigation Plan;

3. Produce a set of recommendations and a case study report for public distribution;

4. Share scientific data and policies relevant for the CAP with leaders of underserved community;

5. Foster future partnerships pertinent to climate change, adaptation and community resilience with the City and among Panel members. Build overall community capacity to address and prepare for climate change.

#### Student Engagement/Youth Commission

Purpose: Student engagement through either a youth council or club is intended to gain a perspective of the future bright minds of our community and provide them with a chance to offer their input into the Climate Action Plan. This group has the opportunity to bring awareness to the plan and further its objectives and goals.

#### **Business Roundtable**

Purpose: The purpose of the business roundtable is to act as an innovation generator and to connect what our businesses are already doing in the County to our goals and strategies within the plan. Businesses can discuss past pitfalls or barriers to achieving climate action goals and the solutions that they have engineered. Importantly, the business roundtable could serve as a place to form the beginnings of private sector champions for the strategies and the Community Action Toolkit.

This roundtable will bring business owners in the County together in a 2-hour meeting to discuss ways that climate action can be an economic driver. Businesses will have a chance to share how they are employing the strategies within their operations and how they are finding success. Such a roundtable could become an annual even to demonstrate progress on the CCAAP.

#### Community/Public Workshops

Purpose: Discussions and interviews with community stakeholders allow for an in-depth exploration of the issues the stakeholders work with on a regular basis and provides for an opportunity to hear the voices of the community.

Meetings with external stakeholders during Phase 1 will support project initiation, visioning, and initial assessment. This will be a time for residents to explore the big picture and their big dreams about living in a sustainable future. During phase 2, the County will showcase selected strategies, possibly through an outdoor poster exhibit or museum type of experience and take feedback from County residents online. In Phase 3, the County will encourage stakeholders to review the draft Plan and share comments during a scheduled community event. Other options for community meetings could be as facilitated group discussions or one-on-one interviews. Materials should be made available in English and Spanish and interpreter services may be necessary.

#### Community Events:

- Climate Summits: An opportunity to inform and educate with a limited opportunity to receive comments. An agenda including a presentation by a keynote speaker followed by a question and answer/discussion session, and dedicated time for public comment. This approach informs participants and provides limited opportunity for consultation and involvement.
- Community workshops: An opportunity to inform, consult, involve, and collaborate. An agenda could include a presentation by the project team and/or community members, question and answer opportunities, trainings, and/or small or large group facilitated activities to present key project information and answer questions helpful to preparation of GHG reduction strategies, sustainability strategies, adaptation strategies, or implementation programs.
- Open house/Townhall style event: in which people are invited to attend an organized event during an open window of time. Participants are invited to review material, participate in activities, and engage in discussion at their leisure. Materials, such as posters or boards, are often set-up as "stations" at tables or along a wall, and each station is staffed by members of the project team. Stations can include interactive activities to allow responses to the information

presented. Participants are free to come and go at any time, and there is no presentation or agenda. Community workshops can include an open house component or format as well.

- Ag Showcase- specifically focused on providing a venue for local farmers to showcase the sustainability best practices they are utilizing on their farms and engage with other farmers.
- Student Engagement-A potential engagement with local schools maybe in combination with the youth council. Intended to align with Next Generation Science Standards and integrate into the student curriculum for the Fall semester of 2021. Provides an opportunity for input to the CCAAP from the voice of future generations.

#### Advisory Body Presentations and Public Hearings

The Sustainability team will lead presentations to and discussions with the Planning Commission, Alternative Energy and Environment Committee (AEEC) and the Board of Supervisors. The engagement plan proposes presentations by the project team to the advisory bodies as informational or study session items during regularly scheduled meetings. The advisory body members will also be invited and encouraged to participate in all community activities. Advisory body engagement will occur during project initiation, policy and strategy development, and public review of the draft CCAAP. The County will follow the Brown Act for all meeting noticing.

#### Planning Commission and Alternative Energy and Environment Committee Meetings

Phase 1: Initial Meeting/s: This meeting/s would provide an overview of the project, allow input on the vision, stakeholder engagement plan and share any early results of technical analyses. Materials from the study session could also be used by County staff for presentations to other advisory bodies or used for the Youth Commission.

Phase 2: AEEC will provide input into development GHG reduction strategies, sustainability strategies, and adaptation strategies and will hear feedback summaries from stakeholder engagement sessions.

Phase 3: The Planning Commission and AEEC will review the CCAP formally and provide a recommendation to the BOS during a public hearing.

#### Board of Supervisors Study Sessions and Public Hearings

The BOS is responsible for reviewing and making a final decision to adopt, deny, or recommend revisions to the CCAP, and so a formal adoption hearing will be one of the final steps in the Climate Action Plan process. Public hearings are important to ensuring that the CCAAP meets the requirements of the State CEQA Guidelines.

Information updates and presentations will be made to the BOS during the planning process. The presentations will include: 1) project initiation (receive input on draft vision and engagement approach); 2) policy and strategy development (present the draft findings of data analysis, updated vision and goals, and approach to strategy development, including benefits and tradeoffs); 3) presentation of the Public Review Draft and subsequent Final Community Climate Action and Adaptation Plan during a public hearing.

#### Multi-Jurisdiction Engagement:

Purpose: Within the County of Monterey there are 12 cities that represent 72% of the County residents. The Cities have varying levels of capability with respect to Climate Action Planning, with some cities leading the way, and others lacking the resources dedicated to write or implement a CCAAP. The goal of multi-jurisdiction engagement is to bring the cities together at varying points throughout the County's CCAAP process to see if there is any overlapping efforts or ways to share resources. While cities are more positioned to act on urban development to reduce emissions, the County has an opportunity to sequester carbon in its land and water sinks and take more regional action on issues like organics diversion from landfills. So, while the strategies to reduce emissions may end up looking very different from jurisdiction to jurisdiction, some of the stakeholder engagement feedback and processes may be transferrable. In addition, the technical work done to calculate GHG emissions reductions may also be shared leading to less expensive processes for all involved. In addition, coordinated efforts are needed to meet overall goals. For instance, education and outreach on energy efficiency, diversion of organics, and other measures can be developed together. Also, model ordinances can be shared across all jurisdictions where strategies are the same.

Phase 1: During phase 1 the County will partner with AMBAG to host a ½ day Jurisdiction Summit where AMBAG will share their GHG inventory for each jurisdiction. Jurisdictions will be asked to provide a 5-minute update on their CAP plans for 2021.

Phase 2: During phase 2 the County will reach out to each jurisdiction with their list of external stakeholders and working groups and invite the jurisdiction to participate as a listener in the sessions. The County will share the strategies that come out of the working groups and community engagement sessions in a concise format so that cities can see the result and use them as they prefer.

Phase 3: During phase 3 the County will share the draft plan with the cities. If deeper relationships and efforts have evolved as a result of the engagement, the County may explore opportunities for incorporating the jurisdiction into the CCAAP if the City is interested through a community addendum or otherwise.

#### Online engagement: Sustainability Website and Open Town Hall

The Sustainability website will be the prime location for interested individuals to learn more about the Climate Action Plan and the plan preparation process. Example of <u>online participation</u>.

26

#### Communications

The County will lead promotion of the CCAAP and community engagement activities. Methods of communication can include, but are not limited to:

- The County Newsletter
- Social media: Facebook, Twitter, Instagram, NextDoor, and YouTube
- Press releases/News engagement
- County Sustainability website

27

8

### CAP costs by jurisdiction

JURISDITCTION	COST	TIMELINE	SCOPE
TACOMA	\$90K	6 months	CAP
SOMERVILLE	\$140K	14 Months	CAP with staff assistance
SANTA MONICA	\$225	18 months	CAAP
RICHMOND	\$150K	NA	CAP
BOSTON	\$150K		CAAP
DALLAS	\$500K		CAP and Env Plan
ANCHORAGE	\$80K		CAAP
SANTA BARBARA	\$500K	24 months	CCAP, EIR, Tiering
MARIN	\$70K		CCAP, NS



**Board Report** 

Legistar File Number: 20-1009

168 W. Alisal St., 1st Floor Salinas, CA 93901

Board of Supervisors Chambers

Item No.

December 03, 2020

Introduced: 11/24/2020

Version: 1

Current Status: Agenda Ready Matter Type: General Agenda Item

3. Receive a presentation from the Central Coast Energy Services; consider a recommendation to support a Resolution to the County Board of Supervisors in support of the Central Coast Energy Services program for low income energy plans; provide other direction to staff.

Presenter: Central Coast Energy Services



### **Board Report**

Item No.

Board of Supervisors Chambers 168 W. Alisal St., 1st Floor Salinas, CA 93901

Legistar File Number: 20-1011

December 03, 2020

Introduced: 11/24/2020

Version: 1

Current Status: Agenda Ready Matter Type: General Agenda Item

- a) Receive a presentation from the Central Coast Energy Services;
- b) Consider a recommendation to support a Resolution to the County Board of Supervisors in support of the Central Coast Energy Services program for low income energy plans; and
- c) Provide other direction to staff.

#### **RECOMMENDATION:**

It is recommended that the Committee members

- a) Receive a presentation from the Central Coast Energy Services;
- b) Consider a recommendation to support a Resolution to the County Board of Supervisors in support of the Central Coast Energy Services program for low income energy plans; and
- c) Provide other direction to staff.

#### SUMMARY:

Central Coast Energy Services, a non-profit organization in Monterey County that provides both energy payment assistance and weatherization services for low-income households, is seeking support of the Monterey County Board of Supervisors to encourage qualifying residents to seek financial relief via assistance programs such as Pacific Gas and Electric Company's California Alternate Rates for Energy (CARE), Family Electric Rate Assistance Program (FERA), and Medical Baseline and would like the Supervisors of this Committee to recommend their support of the draft resolution

#### DISCUSSION:

California residents are facing greater financial challenges now more than ever. Even prior to the COVID-19 pandemic, millions of California residents were already struggling to meet their monthly expenses. Electricity and gas represent the second-highest cost of living expense for County residents.

Energy insecurity has significant impacts to the livelihood and development of familiesespecially those with children, chronic illness, and/or that are living on support. Energy insecurity disproportionately impacts low-income households. This disparity has only increased with the COVID-19 pandemic and related shelter-in-place orders. While the California Public Utilities Commissions instituted a moratorium pausing shutoffs due to non-payment through April 2021, past due amounts will still be owed when the moratorium ends. With the support of Monterey County Board of Supervisors, Central Coast Energy Services wants to prevent potential shutoffs when the moratorium ends and is promoting and encouraging enrollment in Pacific Gas & Electric's discount rate programs, which could provide monthly discounts on resident home energy bills. Staff asks that the Committee consider supporting this draft resolution to go before the Board of Supervisors to assist Central Coast Energy Services in promoting their program and helping them to reach out to County residents or provide other direction.

#### OTHER AGENCY INVOLVEMENT:

None

FINANCING: No financing is requested to support this resolution.

#### BOARD OF SUPERVISORS STRATEGIC INITIATIVES:

The Sustainability Program is designed to support the County's environmental, social, and economic well-being through comprehensive planning and stakeholder engagement. Promotion of these programs supports our low-income communities by reducing their utility costs.

Mark a check to the related Board of Supervisors Strategic Initiatives

\_\_Economic Development \_X\_Administration \_X\_Health & Human Services \_X\_Infrastructure

Public Safety

Prepared by: Ashley Paulsworth, Sustainability Program Manager, x 5344 Approved by: Nicholas E. Chiulos, Assistant County Administrative Officer, Ext. 5145

Attachments: Staff Report Central Coast Energy Services Presentation DRAFT Resolution Central Coast Energy Services



# Central Coast Energy Services



Programs Overview

2020

www.EnergyServices.org

# Central Coast Energy Services



Central Coast Energy Services, Inc. is a 501(c)(3) not-for-profit organization.

The Low Income Home Energy Assistance Program (LIHEAP) is a federally funded Social Services Program which is administered by the California Services and Development (CSD), a division of the Health and Human Services Department first established in 1981, and distributed annually.



#### CENTRAL COAST ENERGY SERVICES SERVICE AREA



# Central Coast Energy Services

# Home Energy Assistance Program (HEAP)

The 2020 HEAP program provides a one-time per calendar year credit on utility accounts of up to \$433 and offers emergency assistance and additional benefit amounts to households at risk of having their utilities disconnected.

# **Home Weatherization Services**

The Home Weatherization Program provides energy conservation measures for low-income households in an effort to reduce energy costs and improve health and safety.

# Low-Income Home Energy Assistance Program

The 2020 LIHEAP program provides a one-time per calendar year credit on utility

accounts of up to **<u>\$433</u>**. The HEAP benefit may be applied to:

- ► Electric/Gas accounts
- Propane accounts
- ► Wood/Oil costs
- Sub-metered (mobile homes) accounts
- Utilities included in rent

# Shut-Off Notices

Emergency assistance and additional benefit amounts are provided to households at risk of having their utilities disconnected:

- 48-Hour Shut-off Notice
- 15-Day Shut-off Notice
- Disconnected Accounts

# Eligibility Guidelines

Eligibility is determined by **HOUSEHOLD SIZE** and total **GROSS INCOME** for a complete month (4 weeks). Gross monthly income cannot exceed the amount listed below for the number of persons living in the household:





If applicants are over-income, they may re-apply when they are within their eligibility bracket.

# Home Weatherization Program

The Home Weatherization Program provides energy conservation measures in an effort to reduce energy costs and improve health and safety. Special priority is given to households that have an emergency situation, applicants that are disabled, senior citizens and households with children. Homeowners and renters, including those who occupy mobile homes may apply.

Weatherization services include an on-site <u>energy</u> and <u>safety</u> assessment and possible installation of the following energy conservation and heat-loss measures:

- Windows
- Water Heater
- Weather-stripping
- Porch Lamps

- Doors
- Attic & Floor Insulation
- tripping Carbon Monoxide Alarm
  - Water conservation measures
- Furnace
- Thermostat
- Caulking
- Much more!
- \*Measures installed depend on the initial home assessment



# California Alternate Rates for Energy (CARE/FERA)



The CARE program is a discount-rate program offered by PG&E which provides eligible low-income households with a 20% discount on utility bills for 2 years.

Households on a <u>fixed</u> income receive a 30% discount for 4 years.



CARE applicants are encouraged to apply for the LIHEAP benefit as well!

#### Form 01-9077 CARE/FERA PROGRAM APPLICATION PGÆE **Residential Customers** Please fill out the information below about you and your household, and then the information for EITHER Section 2A OR 2B. Sign and date this form and return it to PG&E as soon as possible. If you qualify, your CARE or FERA discount will appear on the first page of your next PG&E bill. You and Your Household -Your PG&E Account Number (Find yours on page 1 of your PG&E bit Your Name (Use the name as it appears on your PG&E bill, which must be in your name.) Your Home Address (Address must be your primary residence. Do NOT use a P.O. Box.) Unit # City/State/Zip Code Preferred Phone Number Email Address Home Work Mobile (By entering your email address, you are authorizing PG&E to sendy ou information from time to tim regarding your PG&E utility service and PG&E programs and services that may be available to you.) What language do you prefer for future Alternative Phone Number Home Work Mobile CARE and FERA communications? [Choose one] English Spanish Mandarin Cantonese Vietnamese Number of people in your household at this address Russian Korean Tagalog Hmong + Children Adults What is your preferred method of communication? (Choose one) (under 18) Mail Email Phone Text (Message and data rates may apply Household Qualification Your Declaration 3 Fill out Section 2A **OR** Section 2B. You do not need to complete both By signing this declaration, I certify that based sections. You will be enrolled in either the CARE or the FERA Program, on my household size and income I qualify for either the CARE or the FERA Program. depending on your household income and household size. I acknowledge that I have read and understood 2A Public Assistance Programs the contents of this application, and will have the Check all the programs in which you, or someone in your household, participate. opportunity to ask questions at any time. Low Income Home Energy Medi-Cal for Families (Healthy Families A&B Assistance Program (LIHEAP) National School Lunch Program (NSLP) I also agree to the following program terms and Women, Infants, and Children (WIC) conditions in order to remain eligible for the CARE Bureau of Indian Affairs or the FERA Program CalFresh/SNAP (Food stamps) General Assistance CalWORKs (TANF) or Tribal TANF Medicaid/Medi-Cal (under age 65) 1. I will notify PG&E if my household is no longer Head Start Income Eligible (Tribat only) Medicaid/Medi-Cal (age 65 and over) eligible for the CARE or FERA discount. Supplemental Security Income (SSI) 2. Lunderstand Lmay be required to provide proof of household income and to participate If you checked any of the boxes in this section, skip to Section 3. in the Energy Savings Assistance Program. 3. I will allow PG&E to share my information with other utilities or their agents, for the sole 23 Household Income purpose of facilitating enrollment in their If you did not check any of the boxes in Section 2A, please add up all the income assistance programs. from every household member and check the box below that matches your household's total annual gross income. Please note: The income ranges listed 4. I will pay back the discount if any of the below ARE NOT fixed incremental amounts, so carefully review each income information provided above is untrue. range before selecting the appropriate box. 5. The information I have provided here is true I am currently on a fixed income and receive income or benefits from one or more of and correct. the following: pensions, Social Security, SSP or SSDI, interest/dividends from retiremen accounts, Medicaid/Medi-Cal (age 65 and over) or SSI. My household income is: \$0-\$32,040 \$40,751\_\$45,140 \$81,781-\$90,100 Customer Signature \$65,161-\$71,100 \$90,101-\$91,825 \$32.041-\$40.320 O Fill in circle if you are a guardian or you have power of attorney \$71,101-\$73,460 \$40.321-\$48.600 \$91,826-\$98,420 \$48,601-\$50,400 \$73,461-\$81,450 \$98,421-\$102,225 FOR INTERNAL USE ONLY \$50,401-\$56,880 Other \$ \_ \$81,451-\$81,780 111 56.881-\$60.750 Date

PG&E relers to Pacific Gas and Electric Company, a subsidiary of PG&E Corporation, ©2016 Pacific Gas and Electric Company, All rights reserved. These efferings are funded by California utility customers and administered by PG&E under the auxpices of the California Public Utilities Commission. Rev 5.16

# Medical Baseline Application



The medical baseline/life support is an allowance billed at the lowest rate for customers who rely on life support equipment. This includes: § All types of respirators, iron lungs, hemodialysis machines, suction machines, electric nerve stimulators, pressure pads and pumps, aerosol tents, electrostatic and ultrasonic nebulizers, compressors, IPBB machines and motorized wheelchairs.

Must renew every year



CARE applicants are encouraged to apply for the LIHEAP benefit as well!

#### Medical Baseline Program Application—Part A (To be completed by customer.) For Medical Baseline Program Enrollment and Recertification

TEP 1 Account and Customer Information (Please print.)			I understand and agree that:	
&E CUSTOMER ACCOUNT ND.	]		<ol> <li>If the qualified medical practitioner certifies the resident's medical condition is permanent, PG&amp;E requires completion of a form every two years self-certifying the resident's continued eligibility for the Medical Baseline Program.</li> </ol>	
STOMER NAME (as it appears on PG&E bill)			<ol> <li>If the qualified medical practitioner certifies the resident's medical condition is not permanent, PG&amp;E requires completion of a form every year self-certifying</li> </ol>	
EDICAL BASELINE RESIDENT'S NAME [if different than	customer name)		the resident's continued eligibility for the Medical Baseline Program and completion of a new application including a qualified medical practitioner's certification every two years.	
RVICE ADDRESS	STATE	APT #	<ol> <li>Residents with a vision disability may contact PG&amp;E to request special notification when notices are sent for either recertification (completion of a new application including a qualified medical practitioner certification)</li> </ol>	
			or self-certification.	
ISTOMER MAILING ADDRESS [if different than service a	address)	APT #	<ol> <li>PG&amp;E cannot guarantee uninterrupted gas and electric service. I am responsible for making alternate arrangements in the event of a gas or an electric outage.</li> </ol>	
TY	STATE	ZIP CODE	5. Both Part A and Part B of this form must be completed and submitted to PG&E, online or by mail, prior to PG&E processing the application.	
DME PHONE #	WORK PHONE #		6. Customers may also benefit from energy savings	
TEP 2 For customers billed by som	neone other t	han PG&E	programs such as Energy Upgrade Catifornia® Home Upgrade. The Energy Savings Assistance Program for income-qualified customers, provides improvements at no charge. For more information, please visit pge.com/saveenergy.	
IME OF MOBILE HOME OR APARTMENT COMPLEX			<ol> <li>PG&amp;E may share my contact information with organizations such as state and local emergency first response agencies, so that they can provide assistance to PG&amp;E and to me personally during an</li> </ol>	
			extended outage to support my safety and well-being. 8. The standard Medical Baseline allowance provides	
IMPLEX MANAGER'S NAME	COMPLEX PHONE	#	extra energy at the lowest price. Medical Baseline allowances are added to your standard rate plan baseline allocation. For electricity, it is 16.438 kWh per	
NANT'S NAME	TENANT'S PHONE		day (approx. 500 kWh per month), an additional amount equal to the daily consumption of an average electric	
TEP 3 Contact preferences for outa communications (Check all the		Medical Baseline	household. For gas, it is 0.82192 therms per day (approx. 25 therms per month), an additional amount equal to three-quarters of the daily consumption of an average gas household. If these Medical Baseline	
ease make sure PG&E has your correct conta advance of a planned public safety power shu ay result in an outage. In certain situations, w ethods will be used during a PSPS event.	utoff (PSPS) or ot	her situations that	allowances do not meet your medical energy needs, please contact PO&E at 1-800-743-5000. More information about the Medical Baseline Program can be found at pge.com/medicalbaseline.	
INTACT PREFERENCES			STEP 4 Signature	
Call phone number 1:			I certify the above information is correct. I also certify the Medical Baseline resident lives full-time at this address	
Call phone number 2:			and requires the Medical Baseline Program. I agree to allow PG&E to verify this information. I also agree to notify PG&E	
Text mobile number 1:			promptly if the qualified resident moves or the resident no longer needs the Medical Baseline Program.	
Text mobile number 2:			tonger needs the Predicat Dascure Program.	
Email 1:			SIGN	
Email 2:			CUSTOMER SIGNATURE	
Contact by TTY at phone number:			DATE	
nated Document Preliminany Statement Part &				

ornated Document, Preliminary Statement, Part A

62-3481-A October 2019 CCR-0719-1297W

39



# Thank You

# Daniela Suarez Daniela@EnergyServices.org (831) 761-7080 x126



#### Resolution of the Board of Supervisors of Monterey County In Support of Campaign to Increase Promotion and Enrollment in California's Low-Income Rate Assistance Programs

WHEREAS, electric and gas bills represent the second-highest living cost behind rent for residents of **Monterey County**. Nearly 70% of the 3.3 million low-income households in California are classified as energy insecure<sup>1</sup>; and

WHEREAS, an energy burden is the percentage of income that is spent on energy bills. *High* energy burdens persist in low-income homes as a result of households allocating a disproportionate amount of their income on utility-related expenses; and

**WHEREAS,** Shelter-in-Place orders have resulted in higher residential energy bills due to more residents at home during the day; and

WHEREAS, the COVID-19 pandemic has led to rising unemployment rates and a decrease in household income in every county of California. In Monterey County, the current unemployment rate is 8.8%<sup>2</sup>; and

WHEREAS, a decrease in income in addition to an increase in home energy bills has perpetuated an already serious problem of energy insecurity for low-income households; and

WHEREAS, that California Public Utilities Commission instituted a moratorium that prohibits disconnections for non-payment until April 2021 for all residential households due to the COVID-19 pandemic; and

**WHEREAS**, while the moratorium pauses shutoffs due to nonpayment, those in arrears face the possibility of being shut off when the moratorium is lifted; and

WHEREAS, enrollment in low-income rate assistance programs such as Pacific Gas and Electric Company's California Alternate Rates for Energy (CARE), Family Electric Rate Assistance Program (FERA) and Medical Baseline are crucial now more than ever; and

WHEREAS, Pacific Gas and Electric Company's CARE, FERA, and Medical Baseline Allowance programs provide eligible customers 18% to 30% monthly discounts on home energy bills; and

WHEREAS, while income qualified households may also apply for one-time financial assistance through federally funded Low-Income Home Energy Assistance Program (LIHEAP), funds are very limited. Similar to other LIHEAP Service Providers in California, Central Coast Energy Services is only able to help less than 6% of eligible households each year with available LIHEAP funding; and

WHEREAS, California's rate assistance programs are under-enrolled. Enrollment in these programs would advance true energy equity in needy communities; and

<sup>1</sup>https://www.cpuc.ca.gov/uploadedFiles/CPUCWebsite/Content/UtilitiesIndustries/Energy/EnergyPrograms/Infrastructure/DC/TURN\_EnergyInsecurityFactSheet.p

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2</sup> https://www.labormarketinfo.edd.ca.gov/file/lfmonth/sali\$pds.pdf

WHEREAS, previously Pacific Gas and Electric Company had the second highest shutoff rate in comparison to other utility companies in California. **Residents of Monterey County** reside in Pacific Gas and Electric Company's service territory; and

WHEREAS, low-income households are at higher risk of shutoffs for non-payment. In 2019, **5,627** households in all of **Monterey County** were disconnected for non-payment<sup>3</sup>. This is compared to 91,667 low-income households being shutoff in all Pacific Gas and Electric Company's service territory; and

**WHEREAS,** in 2019, 42% of all disconnected households experienced more than one utility disconnection in the same year; and

WHEREAS, utility shutoffs have negative impacts on hunger, childhood development, respiratory illnesses, stress levels, chronic illnesses, and increased heat and fire risks<sup>4</sup>; and

WHEREAS, Central Coast Energy Services advocates for low-income households to apply for low-income rate assistance programs offered by Pacific Gas and Electric Company and is supported by many partners to prevent utility disconnections and minimize economic hardships;

**NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED,** the **Monterey Board of Supervisors** support organizations serving those in need by actively encouraging county official's designated lowincome constituents to apply for Pacific Gas and Electric Company's low-income rate assistance programs such as California Alternate Rates for Energy (CARE), Family Electric Rate Assistance Program (FERA), and/or Medical Baseline Allowance.

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED,** that the board of supervisors and low-income customers be encouraged to contact Central Coast Energy Services with any questions or concerns regarding these low-income rate assistance programs.

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED,** that a copy of this resolution be sent to city council members and other social service organizations working with low-income populations to bring awareness to Pacific Gas and Electric Company's California Alternate Rates for Energy (CARE), Family Electric Rate Assistance Program (FERA), and Medical Baseline Allowance programs.

#### ADOPTED [effective date] by the Board of Supervisors of Monterey County

Signed: \_\_\_\_\_

Title: \_\_\_\_\_

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>3</sup> Pacific Gas & Electric Company's (PG&E) Aggregate Monthly Disconnection Data Report filed with the California Public Utilities Commission (January 2020).

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>4</sup> <u>http://www.turn.org/wp-content/uploads/2018/05/2018\_TURN\_Shut-Off-Report\_FINAL.pdf</u>





Dennis Osmer, Executive Director **Central Coast Energy Services** 135 Aviation Way, Suite 7 Watsonville, CA 95076



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Teresa Sullivan, Executive Director Alliance on Aging, Monterey County 247 Main Street Salinas, CA 93901



[Digitally Signed] Lauren C. Suwansupa, Director Community Action Partnership, Monterey County 1000 S. Main Street, Ste. 211-C Salinas, CA 93901



Judith Cabrera, Executive Director Central Coast Center for Independent Living 318 Cayuga Street, Suite 208 Salinas, CA 93901





[Digitally Signed] Katy Castagna, President and CEO United Way, Monterey County 60 Garden Court, Suite 350 Monterey, CA 93940



[Digitally Signed] Kurt Schake, Executive Director Veterans Transition Center 220 12<sup>th</sup> Street, Marina, CA 93933



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John O'Brien, CEO/President Central Coast Senior Services, Inc. 22 Lower Ragsdale Drive, Suite E Monterey, CA 93940



Analotura Phares

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John Bennett Major, Corps Officer The Salvation Army Monterey Peninsula 1491 Contra Costa St. Seaside, CA 93955