

**ENVIRONMENTAL COMMITTEE**  
**November 12, 2008, 11 A.M. – 12:30 P.M.**  
**Municipal Services Center South Conference Room 5**  
**Meeting Minutes**

**ATTENDING MEMBERS:**

Chris Carrieri – Community Advisory Board  
Jane Rozga – CH2MHILL  
Melody Stewart – Studio L' Image  
Mark Armstrong – City of Santa Rosa  
Steve Brady – City of Santa Rosa  
Peter Brown – City of Santa Rosa  
Nicole Dorotinsky – City of Santa Rosa

Barbara Firestone – City of Santa Rosa  
Susan Gorin – City of Santa Rosa  
Lisa Grant – City of Santa Rosa  
Rita Miller – City of Santa Rosa  
Gina Perez – City of Santa Rosa  
Rob Sprinkle – City of Santa Rosa  
Mike Whitaker – City of Santa Rosa

**Introductions:** Steve Brady welcomed members who introduced themselves to the group.

**Interstate Renewable Energy Council Award:** Nicole Dorotinsky reported that two months ago, an application was submitted for the Algae to Fuel Project. The City was 1 of 4 agencies who won an award for the project and Tasha Wright went to San Diego to accept the award on the City's behalf.

**Santa Rosa's Intelligent Transportation System:** Rob Sprinkle discussed the successful 2007 Pilot Test that was conducted to adapt traffic control on College Ave between Dutton and Brookwood. Rob stated that the City has applied for a grant for \$1.1 million to complete two more corridors in Santa Rosa. New detection traffic controllers were installed on 11 signals on Guerneville Rd between Illinois and Ridley and a second phase will take place on Marlow between West Steele Ln. and Glenbrook. Fuel savings for Guerneville Rd. could reach 19,989 gal/yr and 194 tons of CO<sub>2</sub>. Rob discussed how cycles are determined to create a minimum amount of stopping and are able to adapt depending on traffic demand. Rob noted that if anyone notices any problems with signal timing, please report time of day, and direction of travel to him.

**Community Advisory Board (CAB) Update:** Chris Carrieri reported on the October meeting and stated that only 4 members were present. Discussions are ongoing to address effectiveness and grant proposals and he is unaware if Council responded.

**Draft Storm Water NPDES Permit Update:** Rita Miller discussed the history of the storm water permit and the Storm Water Management Program. She said staff is working with the Regional Water Board on the current draft NPDES Storm Water Permit. The draft permit is a copy of one issued to Ventura, California and compliance would be costly to the City with little improvement to water quality. She said that some of the provisions of concern include non-storm water discharge prohibitions; expanded municipal operations including trash excluders on catch basins; increased requirements for development/CIP projects; and unrealistic timelines for compliance. Of special note, the proposed non-storm water discharge prohibitions include emergency fire fighting flows; fire hydrant testing; water line/water tank draining; irrigation runoff and residential car washing. Lisa Grant added that the permit would require that parks staff train contractors in pesticide application when they are already trained by the State. Rita said that City Council was copied on the written comments to the Regional Board. Susan Gorin said the Council heard the comments and reviewed the permit at their last meeting in October. Susan suggested that the City apply for a pilot project through the USEPA and Rita said staff is talking about it.

**How to Maintain the Effectiveness of the Environmental Committee:** Steve Brady said the Strategic Plan Update was sent to City Manager's Office. Susan said that the Plan is on a two year cycle; the overall goals won't change much; and there is an overlay of sustainability. Steve said all departments need to be represented and that better attendance is needed throughout the year. Jane Rozga said they need to keep the GHG reduction goals and it should be a focal point of the City. Steve talked about the Sonoma County Climate Action Plan that was recently released. Susan asked that the Action Plan be

made a regular agenda item. Steve suggested a report card to measure what has been accomplished and provide a baseline analysis.

**New Projects/Announcements:** Peter Brown distributed a summary list of new and existing greenhouse gas emission reduction goals and policies in the General Plan 2035. He said there are new studies that show a mixed use development can reduce GHG's by 40%. Peter said they are finalizing the Plan and are anticipating adoption in June 2009. Chris asked if permitting of grey water plumbing is included in the Plan and Peter responded that additions will be looked at on a case by case basis.

Mark Armstrong reported that the conversion is on schedule for City Hall and Police to replace lamps and ballasts; MSCN and Chamber have had cool roofs installed and City Hall had dual flush toilets installed and the plumbing in the fountain repaired. Susan suggested that Mark forward this information to Greg and/or Jeff for inclusion in the weekly newsletter. She also announced that she was invited to the NANO Bioclear Conference. She asked that Dell or Elise forward the power point presentation to her that was prepared on climate change.

**Meeting adjourned** at 12:35 P.M.

**NEXT MEETING:** Wednesday, January 14, 2009 at 11:00 A.M.