City of Sebastopol
Climate Action Committee Staff Report

Meeting Date:	November 10, 2026
Agenda Item:	8B
To:	Climate Action Committee
From:	Eli Arreola, Associate Planner
Subject:	Mid-Year Subcommittees and Work Plan Review

Background:

The City Council requested all standing committees to prepare and adopt a 2026-2027 Work Plan that went to the City Council for review and approval. The Climate Action Committee (CAC) Work Plan may be periodically updated as work items are completed or as other items come forward. These updates are done with the input of Planning staff and the CAC and are then presented to the City Council for their review and approval. This ensures that the various city entities, elected, appointed, and staff, are aware of the work being done by staff and the Committee; allows for transparency and public input; and enables the Council to establish priorities for climate-related work. Work Plans are prepared and approved for each City Board, Committee, or Commission, and together they allow staff to allocate time and resources and apply for potential grants to fund various initiatives.

The Climate Action Committee has created several ad hoc sub-committees (identified in the discussion section) to advance climate-related initiatives and work plan items. A periodic review of active sub-committees allows the CAC to identify work performed to date, alter membership, or dissolve sub-committees that have achieved their established purpose.

Discussion:

Work Plan:
On March 10, 2026, the Climate Action Committee (CAC) adopted their 2026-2027 Work Plan. On October 6, 2026, the City Council approved the 2026-2027 Work Plan with the following addition:

1. **#8 EV and E-Bike Education and Promotion**: "Include a safety education component at the event."

This item before the Committee is intended for a discussion about the City Council's addition, a review of what has been done so far, and to create a plan to achieve the remaining Work Plan items. Additionally, the Committee should discuss preparing a report to the City Council on the progress of Work Plan items.

Separately, Committee Member/Councilmember Carter requested to include a discussion to consider adding a Work Plan item to:

1. Establish updated baselines with new data, sustainability goals, and critical metrics, and
2. Consider establishing new term definitions (i.e., "net-zero" or "zero waste")

If the Committee wishes to add this as a new item in the CAC Work Plan, the Committee should identify its priority level amongst the existing work plan items, and direct staff to return to the Committee with an amended 2026-2027 Work Plan. The Committee should be aware that an amendment to the Work Plan will require City Council approval.

Sub-Committees:
The following table identifies existing CAC sub-committees. The Committee should review the existing sub-committees, discuss work performed to date, identify any potential alterations to existing sub-committee membership, identify any sub-committees that can be dissolved, and identify any new sub-committees that should be established based on the work plan discussion.

Table 1: Existing CAC Sub-Committees

Sub-Committee Name/Goal	Date Initiated	Members
Community Engagement & Education	5/13/2026	Kenna Lee, Lila Newton, Steve Pierce
Transportation	5/13/2026	Emily Ocon, Phil Carter, Steve Pierce
Municipal Buildings	5/13/2026	Phil Carter, Steve Pierce
Zero Waste	5/13/2026	Lila Newton, Emily Ocon
Soil Compost	5/13/2026	Steve Pierce, Emily Ocon, Phil Carter
Joint w DRB Tree Ordinance	12/9/2025	Kenna Lee, Emily Ocon
Active Transportation Plan	6/9/2026	Steve Pierce

Public Comment:

No public comments have been received as of the writing of this staff report.

Recommendation:

The Committee should review and discuss all subcommittees' work to date and the City Council approved Work Plan, and develop a plan to complete the remaining items.

Attachment:

2026-2027 Climate Action Committee Work Plan

CLIMATE ACTION COMMITTEE WORK PLAN 2026-2027

Adopted by the Climate Action Committee at their March 10, 2026, regular meeting

In Order of Priority

#	Description of item	Timing/Responsible Department and review body(s)
1	**Compost Giveaway Events** Coordinate and implement the public compost giveaway events. This item does not require a CAC project proposal. Climate Action Framework LU2.6: Promoting regenerative landscaping practices, including mulching and composting, through community education and implementation on City-owned properties LU3.5: Continue conducting compost giveaways and expand education about the benefits of composting. City Council Goal 1.3	Ongoing Zero Waste Sonoma/Public Works
2	**Public Education on Climate Issues** • Articles in local press • Tabling events • SRJC Climate Night promotion and participation Policy CIR 1-4: Promote public education and participation in transportation issues and decision-making. Policy CIR 2-16: Promote public education to help create an atmosphere of respect for bicycles and pedestrians. COS 9: Promote Conservation of Energy and Other Natural Resources Policy COS 8-1: Recognize that successful climate action planning efforts are dependent upon a wide range of factors and strategies detailed throughout this General Plan, including programs that promote energy conservation and the use of renewable energy sources. Climate Action Framework CW2: Reduce emissions from the consumption of goods and services through education and advocacy.	Ongoing CAC
3	**Laguna Cleanup Day Public Event** CAC organizes and implements a publicized Laguna Cleanup Day public event.	Underway CAC/Public Works

	This item does not require a CAC project proposal. COS 4: Proactively Manage, Protect, and Restore the Laguna de Santa Rosa City Council Goal 1.3	
4	**Spare the Air Day City Website Link Creation** CAC, working with the planning staff, researches and implements a change to the City's website that indicates when a Spare the Air Day is in effect and/or a link to sign up for notifications, which is announced and managed by the Bay Area Air Quality Management District. This item does not require a CAC project proposal. Policy COS 7-5: Continue to enforce air quality standards in collaboration with the BAAQMD. COS 7: Improve Air Quality in Sebastopol and Reduce Air Quality Impacts from Future Development	Complete Planning Department
5	**Free Compost Kitchen Buckets** CAC, working with the planning staff, publicizes in the City newsletter and on the City website the public availability at City Hall of free kitchen compost buckets provided by SCRR. This item does not require a CAC project proposal. Policy COS 9-13: Continue the citywide recycling program, actively encourage recycling citywide, including the recycling/composting of food waste, and advocate for a regional composting facility.	Underway Planning Department
6	**Tree Protection Ordinance** Review and possibly revise the Tree Protection Ordinance in coordination with the Design Review Board. The effort is intended to strengthen monitoring provisions for re-planting efforts, to help ensure the long-term health and viability of re-planted trees. Revisions should also address the current fee structure for violations of the TPP to ensure that violations are more costly than compliance with the TPP requirements, while addressing equity issues for homeowners needing to follow their home insurance requirements. This item does not require a CAC project proposal. Action COS 6c: Review and possibly revise the Tree Protection Ordinance in order to strengthen monitoring provisions for re-planting efforts, in order to ensure the long-term health and viability of replanted trees.	Underway Joint Subcommittee with DRB Planning/ DRB/Planning Commission
7	**Quick Build Items for Active Transportation** Identify "quick build" items for active transportation that enhance public safety and facilitate the use of non-automotive transportation. Climate Action Framework T3. Make biking, walking, and other active	Complete by Winter 2026 Public Works/Traffic Safety Group/City

	transportation options safer and easier by implementing a Complete Streets approach to street design. GP Policy CIR 2-10: Increase the safety of popular bicycle and pedestrian routes to schools, downtown, and other destinations in the City that don't involve riding on SR 116, SR 12, and/or Bodega Avenue, including enhanced crossings of SR 116, SR 12, and/or Bodega Avenue. City Council Goal 3.2	Council

8	**EV and E-Bike Education and Promotion**
	
	• Public charging infrastructure needs assessment
	  ○ Testing and assessment of existing public EV charging network
	  ○ User survey of public chargers in Sebastopol to identify where the users are coming from, and survey opinions of the local charging infrastructure.
	  ○ Report on City-owned public charger reliability, usage, revenue, and expenses.
	• Public EV and E-bike event sponsored by The City in collaboration with other local groups to showcase EV vehicles and bikes and present the results of the EV charging assessment and survey. Include a safety education component at the event.
	
	Policy COS 9-7: Promote efforts and programs, including increased access to clean technologies such as electric vehicles and charging stations, to encourage residents, businesses, and local organizations to use clean energy sources to supplant dirty technologies.
	
	City Council Goal 1.3
		Planning/Public Works/Administrative Services

9	**Gas-powered Equipment versus Electric-powered Equipment** Research trade-in options for gas-powered landscape equipment to electric-powered and research available incentives, and share with City staff to inform vendors and Public Works. Policy N 2-3: Ensure that maintenance activities in the Downtown area do not pose a noise nuisance. Climate Action Framework CO3.6: Replace City gas yard equipment and other tools with electric alternatives at end-of-life. City Council Goal 1.3	CAC/Public Works
10	**Collaboration with Sonoma Clean Power** CAC works in coordination with the Sonoma Clean Power board and staff to analyze and make recommendations on public financing for assisting building electrification and the purchase of electric-assisted active transportation	CAC/SCP staff, Board/ SCP Community Advisory Committee

	equipment. Policy COS 9-6: Promote regional efforts and partnerships, such as Sonoma Clean Power, to increase opportunities for residential and business customers across the county to access environmentally friendly power generated by renewable sources (like solar, wind, and geothermal) at competitive rates.	
11	**EV Charging Sites** Review existing Chapter 15.120 Municipal Code for permit requirements for EV charging sites. Compare current requirements with nearby cities that have streamlined their requirements. Make suggestions to the city for changes that make the process easier and faster. Policy CIR 5-3: Support the establishment and expansion of a regional network of electric vehicle charging stations and encourage the expanded use of electric vehicles. Policy COS 9-7: Promote efforts and programs, including increased access to clean technologies such as electric vehicles and charging stations, to encourage residents, businesses, and local organizations to use clean energy sources to supplant dirty technologies.	Building & Safety Dept
12	**City Website Updates** Identify and report to staff on outdated or incorrect information on the City's website related to climate. Climate Framework C1.2: Improve the organization and content of the City website as it relates to sustainability and climate change. CO4.2: Provide up-to-date information on climate progress on the City website, including data on the City's progress towards carbon neutrality for municipal operations and other metrics included in the Framework document. City Council Goal 4.2	Ongoing Planning Dept