



Memorandum

TO: CITY COUNCIL

FROM: Mayor Liccardo

SUBJECT: Climate Smart San José Update

DATE: October 30, 2018

Approved

Date

10/30/18

RECOMMENDATION

Return to Council in January with a report of the following:

1. The specific metrics that will be utilized to assess progress on the specific initiatives identified within the successful Bloomberg Philanthropies' American Cities Climate Challenge proposal. Identify which metrics can be satisfied with existing methods of data measurement and collection, and which metrics will require additional time or resources to gather data.
2. A list of key municipal code or other regulatory changes that need to be made to clear the way for progress on the ACCC, with a proposed timeline for Council to consider adopting those changes.
3. A proposed timeline for achievement of key ACCC goals that stretches to 2020, and where appropriate, beyond. The timeline should include the anticipated "drumbeat" of progress from concrete implementation of initiatives, new legislation/ Council action, and reports of results.

Discussion:

In the few months since the launch of the Climate Smart Plan, we've seen tremendous progress: the launch of San Jose Clean Energy, expansion of non-auto mobility options for residents and workers, and the garnering of prestigious awards and grants from Oracle, BAAQMD, Microsoft, and Bloomberg Philanthropies. I'd like to thank Cyndy Comerford for her work in particular in securing the Bloomberg grant, the ongoing leadership of Kerrie Romanow, John Ristow, Rosalynn Hughey, and Jim Ortbal in aligning efforts to implement this plan, our mayoral team, Scott Green and Angel Ibanez, and the entire Council for their strong support of these efforts. I'm also grateful to Khanh Russo and our Strategic Partnerships team as well, for laying a critical foundation for relationships with such external funders as Bloomberg

Philanthropies and Microsoft over the last four years that has opened the door to these and other opportunities.

Much of staff's work has been accomplished on a shoestring budget, and without General Fund support. I appreciate that most U.S. cities have far more disposable resources to fund staff than we do, so out of necessity, we must continue to be strategic and opportunistic in securing outside funding.

The surest path to doing so in the future begins with our current funders, and ensuring that they see demonstrable progress in the initiatives that they support. Particularly in our relationship with Bloomberg Philanthropies—who will become our largest external source in financial, logistical, and expert support in our Climate Change efforts—we need to show quantifiable progress to best position ourselves for more investment of human and financial capital, and deeper partnership.

The recommendations above emerge from meetings that I had with Bloomberg leadership, including the people most directly responsible for monitoring and guiding progress, Katie Appel Duda and Nick Rodriguez. Ensuring that we're ready to hit the ground running on the ACCC as it commences in January will best position us for continued success on other elements of our Climate Smart plan. Metrics and data measurement—as with all initiatives at Bloomberg—remain a core requirement. While I appreciate that Staff has encountered hiccups in the implementation of a data dashboard for the entire CSSJ program, acceleration of those measures relevant to ACCC seems imperative given the January start date for that grant implementation.