

Memorandum



CITY OF DALLAS

DATE April 9, 2020

TO Honorable Mayor and Members of the City Council

SUBJECT **Update on Comprehensive Environmental & Climate Action Plan (CECAP)**

Honorable Mayor and Members of the City Council:

The purpose of this memorandum is to provide you an update on Environment & Sustainability Committee's (ENVS) work on CECAP and the path forward to ensure that Dallas continues to be an environmental leader.

Background. As you know, the City staff are engaging the community and creating a CECAP, the first such document in North Texas, as we directed in our first climate change resolution from January 2019. CECAP is a comprehensive roadmap outlining activities and goals to improve quality of life for all residents, to reduce greenhouse gas emissions, to prepare for the impacts of climate change, and to create a healthier, more prosperous community. The plan identifies actions across eight sectors that have been carefully selected with community input to include mitigation, adaptation, and environmental equity activities. Actions were evaluated on their feasibility and potential to deliver a range of co-benefits, including social equity, economic, health, mitigation, environmental quality, and adaptation. Measurable targets were identified for all goals and objectives; approved and ongoing actions were also incorporated from other City plans so that CECAP is a full and comprehensive portrayal of the City's path forward.

Community Engagement. CECAP was developed with a robust and inclusive community outreach and engagement effort, including two rounds of formal community meetings around the City, over 180 individual meetings with community groups per request, two community-wide surveys, a public final draft review period, a bilingual social media kit, Spanish and English outreach materials and presentations, and a website (<https://www.dallasclimateaction.com>) devoted to this effort. Staff met one-on-one with over 6,000 people and received 9,000 individual comments. More importantly, input was received from every single zip code in Dallas, with engagement data compiled and presented to ENVS. Community engagement was completed on schedule well in advance of any COVID-related restrictions.

Additionally, two stakeholder groups were convened to advise the City on engagement, vision, actions, goals, and actions. Representatives of public agencies, education, business, and social and environmental advocacy groups were convened as a Stakeholder Advisory Group.

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A separate Environmental Planning Task Force was convened of City staff from over 20 departments. The EPTF ensured that CECAP developed in a way that would highlight ongoing actions and create new actions with maximum feasibility and the most benefit across all City operations.

Implementation Strategy. I have asked City staff to create an implementation strategy that is driven by innovative policy, partnerships, leveraging existing resources, and maximizing external funding opportunities. In this manner, I hope to address any budget concerns directly. Fortunately, this is an approach that is consistent with CECAP’s community and partnership-driven focus.

City staff anticipate completing several actions in the CECAP during FY 19-20, along with several ongoing planning efforts to support implementation actions moving forward. These additional efforts can assist with a more detailed assessment of the costs associated with individual plan implementation. Completion of partner plans such as the Strategic Mobility Plan and Comprehensive Plan Update, can help support implementation by focusing in on specific sector-specific details, and more detailed actions and related timelines.

While the CECAP accomplishes setting the most ambitious of goals – carbon neutrality by 2050 – and having a plan in place by 2020, implementation of the CECAP works by initially providing the neighborhoods and business community with the information and tools they need to be able to implement the measures independently. During this same time frame, the City will be developing internal infrastructure, building effective public-private partnerships, and building and growing community support to create momentum while also laying the groundwork for other transformational actions.

ENVS Timeline for CECAP. To date, the ENVS Committee has received 17 briefings from City staff and outside organizations on items relating to CECAP progress, and all eight goals have been covered in detail. For your convenience, a table summarizing these briefings along with links to the agenda packets and recordings is provided below.

Date	ENVS Committee Presentations	Agenda	Video
11/04/2019	A. Introduction to Environmental and Climate Planning Efforts B. Green Going Greener: Dallas’ First Urban Forest Master Plan C. Branch Out Dallas	Agenda Packet	Recording
12/02/2020	A. CECAP: Inclusive Community Engagement B. CECAP: Efficient, Affordable, Transportation Options C. DART’s Bus Service Plan D. Electric Vehicles in Texas	Agenda Packet	Recording

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Date	ENVS Committee Presentations (Continued)	Agenda	Video
01/06/2020	A. CECAP Update: Climate Leadership from Dallas B. CECAP: Protecting Water Resources and Communities from Flood & Drought C. Dallas Water Utilities: Conserving & Protecting Water Resources D. City of Dallas Water Conservation: Creating a Water Efficient Future E. 25 th Waterwise Landscape Tour Awards Ceremony	Agenda Packet	Recording
02/03/2020	A. Green Buildings: Sustainable Building Strategies in Dallas B. CECAP: Resilient and Energy Efficient Buildings powered by Sustainable, Renewable Energy	Agenda Packet	Recording
03/02/2020	A. Local Sustainably Grown Food in North Texas B. CECAP: Access to Healthy, Local Sustainably Grown food C. CECAP: Dallas is a Zero-Waste Community	Agenda Packet	Recording

I have asked City staff to make the revised draft CECAP available online by April 21, 2020 – the day before the 50th Anniversary of Earth Day – and to prepare to brief the ENVS on May 4, 2020. In the event ENVS is not able to meet, a full council briefing has been requested for May 6 or May 20, 2020. I anticipate that CECAP will be placed on the City Council agenda for May 27, 2020. This timeline should be adequate to visit with City staff, your constituents, or other interested parties if you have not already done so.

Please contact me or James McGuire, Director, Environmental Quality & Sustainability, if you have any questions or concerns.

Regards,



Councilmember Omar Narvaez
 Chair, Environment & Sustainability Committee

- c: T.C. Broadnax, City Manager
 Chris Caso, City Attorney (Interim)
 Mark Swann, City Auditor
 Blierae Johnson, City Secretary
 Preston Robinson, Administrative Judge
 Kimberly Bizer Tolbert, Chief of Staff to the City Manager
 Majed A. Al-Ghafry, Assistant City Manager
 Jon Fortune, Assistant City Manager
- Joey Zapata, Assistant City Manager
 Nadia Chandler Hardy, Assistant City Manager
 Dr. Eric A. Johnson, Chief of Economic Development and Neighborhood Services
 M. Elizabeth Reich, Chief Financial Officer
 Laila Aleqresh, Chief Innovation Officer
 M. Elizabeth (Liz) Cedillo-Pereira, Chief of Equity and Inclusion
 Directors and Assistant Directors