

CITY OF SANTA ROSA  
CLIMATE ACTION SUBCOMMITTEE

TO: CLIMATE ACTION SUBCOMMITTEE  
FROM: TASHA WRIGHT, SUSTAINABILITY COORDINATOR  
SANTA ROSA WATER

SUBJECT: UPDATE ON THE IMPLEMENTATION OF SANTA ROSA WATER  
ENERGY OPTIMIZATION PLANS

AGENDA ACTION: FOR INFORMATION ONLY. NO ACTION REQUIRED

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RECOMMENDATION

Santa Rosa Water staff will present an update on the 2019 Energy Optimization Plans (EOPs) and their implementation. No action is being recommended at this time, but the Climate Action Subcommittee may ask questions and provide feedback to staff.

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EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

Santa Rosa Water staff will provide an informational update on the status of the identified projects and measures included in the Santa Rosa Water 2019 Energy Optimization Plans. The Water Department's Energy Optimization Plans (EOPs), finalized in 2019, serve as a roadmap for strategically and systematically optimizing energy use in Santa Rosa Water's (SRW's) Regional Water Reuse and Water Operations. The EOPs identified various practices and projects for the two system's operations that would facilitate the reduction of energy usage, energy costs, and greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions.

In January 2020, the City Council adopted Resolution 2020-002 endorsing the declaration of a climate emergency, the establishment of the Climate Action Subcommittee (CAS), and a goal of carbon neutrality by 2030. The identified measures not only yield cost-efficient operational benefits for SRW and their customers, but also help achieve city-wide goals in pursuit of energy independence, GHG emission reductions and carbon neutrality.

BACKGROUND

The EOPs, completed by Kennedy/Jenks Consultants (K/J), provided the opportunity for City staff to holistically evaluate the systems, as well as department energy practices.

## UPDATE ON THE IMPLEMENTATION OF SANTA ROSA WATER ENERGY OPTIMIZATION PLANS PAGE 2 OF 3

The EOPs accomplished several objectives: 1) Memorialized energy efficiency and renewable energy projects completed to date; 2) Evaluated the efficiency of current water systems and practices, and 3) Identified cost-effective measures that if implemented can enhance energy efficiency, reduce energy demand, and increase renewable energy generation. Santa Rosa Water staff worked with K/J and evaluated and prioritized potential measures for implementation using several metrics and the measures were ultimately sorted into four broad categories of prioritization: “Pursue”, “Completed or In Planning”, “Not to Pursue at this Time”, and “Not Recommended”. Measures are referred to as Energy Efficiency Measures (EEMs), Renewable Energy Measures (REMs), and Process Improvements (PIs). Since the EOPs were adopted several projects have been either implemented, are in the process of being implemented, or identified as infeasible by Santa Rosa Water.

Further, many things have changed since the adoption of the 2019 EOPs. In 2020 the City of Santa Rosa enrolled all their electric energy accounts in Sonoma Clean Power’s 100% renewable Evergreen Program, including those associated with Santa Rosa Water’s operations. This switch requires a robust review of the prior cost-efficiency analysis of identified projects and further evaluation of project benefits now that the City is purchasing 100% renewable electricity. Staff have identified the need to further investigate the measures prioritized as “to pursue” to better understand if the measures should be implemented given the new parameters, and if so, when, and how. The additional investigation would also include more refined calculations of potential capital costs, energy cost savings, and GHG savings. Measures approved for implementation would be evaluated as part of the Capital Improvement Plan and be brought forward to the Board of Public Utilities for additional discussion and approval as appropriate.

### PRIOR CITY COUNCIL OR SUBCOMMITTEE REVIEW

In September of 2019, the completed EOPs were presented by staff and accepted by the Board of Public Utilities.

### ANALYSIS

This update to the Climate Action Subcommittee will identify the many energy efficiency and renewable energy measures in the EOPs that have already been completed by the Department. Staff will additionally identify preferred projects that are feasible and need further evaluation to better understand both cost and environmental benefits.

### FISCAL IMPACT

None currently.

### NOTIFICATION

Not applicable.

UPDATE ON THE IMPLEMENTATION OF SANTA ROSA WATER ENERGY  
OPTIMIZATION PLANS PAGE 3 OF 3

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