



## CITY OF MARTINEZ

## CITY COUNCIL AGENDA October 1, 2014

**TO:** Mayor and City Council

**FROM:** Michael Chandler, Senior Management Analyst

**SUBJECT:** Climate Action Plan and Sustainability Programs Update

**DATE:** September 25, 2014

### **RECOMMENDATION:**

This report is provided for informational purposes. Staff will provide a brief presentation to accompany this report that will also include information on FY 2014-15 programs.

### **BACKGROUND**

The City continued to make significant progress over the past year in support of its Climate Action Plan and Sustainability programs. The following list reflects recent key accomplishments:

- 1) Initiated and secured the City's participation in the California Youth Energy Services Program provided by Rising Sun Energy Center
  - a. Program provided a paid workforce training and development opportunity for 8 Martinez youth and served over 200 Martinez residences with free energy and water conservation assessments, infrastructure, and installation services
  - b. Major funding secured from program partners Shell (\$10K), Republic Services (\$5K), and Martinez Unified School District (\$2K, plus in-kind office space and workstations)
- 2) Continued Beverage Container Recycling and Education Project for Local Schools
  - a. Coordinated with Republic Services to develop specialized, campus-specific recycling education programming for Martinez Junior High encompassing over 900 students
  - b. Provided two more elementary schools (John Swett and Las Juntas) with assembly-level educational presentations in FY 2013-14
  - c. All MUSD schools in grades K-8 (approximately 2,600 children) have now received recycling educational programming
  - d. City is actively pursuing a grant opportunity with CalRecycle to support a dedicated recycling education program in local schools in partnership with New Leaf Collaborative and Republic Services
- 3) Developed Water Conservation Educational Workshops
  - a. *Water Conservation 101: Every Drop Counts*
    - i. Held in July 2014; playback now regularly airing on City Channel
  - b. *Water Conservation 102: Greywater and Rain Barrel Systems*
    - i. Held in August 2014; playback pending on City Channel

- 4) Adopted Plastic Bag Ban and Initiated Public Outreach and Education
  - a. Council adopted June 18, 2014, with start date of January 1, 2015
    - i. Sixth city in CCC to adopt (following Richmond, El Cerrito, Pittsburg, San Pablo, and Walnut Creek)
  - b. Public Outreach – Residents
    - i. Reusable bag giveaways started in May at area schools, City events, CYES “Green House Calls,” etc.
    - ii. Additional bag orders en route (ChicoBags and reusable dining/take-out bags)
    - iii. Future distribution via Snow Park event, farmer’s markets, City Recreation and Chamber and Main Street events and functions
    - iv. “BYOB” car reminder stickers distributed starting in July
  - c. Public Outreach – Merchants
    - i. Created storefront signage and flyers promoting use of reusable bags for general retail, grocery, and food establishments and partnered with Chamber and Main Street to begin door-to-door distribution to merchants in September
  - d. Public Outreach – Website
    - i. Created dedicated webpage under Sustainability Resources section of website (found under “Services” tab of homepage [www.cityofmartinez.org](http://www.cityofmartinez.org))
- 5) Completed Project to Convert all City-owned Streetlights to LED
  - a. Expansion of original downtown LED streetlight conversion project using Federal stimulus block grant funding (180 streetlights)
  - b. Remaining 482 streetlights were converted to LED in spring 2014
- 6) Electric Vehicle Charging Stations – The City’s three electric vehicle charging stations in downtown Martinez, located at City Hall, near the Amtrak parking lot, and at the corner of Main/Court streets, had 1,450 sessions in FY 13-14 (compared to 1,154 sessions in FY 2012-13). In April, three new dual port stations were installed at the Pacheco Park n’ Ride facility. The City is actively pursuing replacement and upgrade of the damaged station near Amtrak.
- 7) Continued Participation in Earth Hour City Challenge – The City enrolled as one of only 77 cities nationally for the World Wildlife Fund’s “Earth Hour City Challenge” to highlight local plans and actions taken to help promote sustainable solutions to climate change.
- 8) Hosted Earth Day Booth – The City hosted a booth for the sixth consecutive year with information on the City’s sustainability programs during the April 2014 Earth Day celebration.
- 9) Bike Rack Voucher Grant – The City successfully applied for a grant through the Air District in June to provide vouchers for 30 new bike racks in and around downtown. The new bike racks are expected to be installed for public use by the end of October.
- 10) Hosted Numerous Free Workshops – Held two Sustainable Citizen classes and one Home Composting workshop in FY 2013-14, providing important training to a total of 75 participants. Also hosted a Multifamily Building Enhancements Workshop and rebroadcast on City Channel.

**ACTION:**

Receive and file the report.

**APPROVED BY:** \_\_\_\_\_  
Interim City Manager