

TO: TOWN COUNCIL

FROM: TOWN MANAGER

RE: GREEN RIBBON TASK FORCE RECOMMENDATION REVIEW

ISSUE

At the October meeting Council Member Liss requested that Council review the Green Ribbon Task Force Recommendations since it has been a year since Council directed that certain of the recommendations be implemented.

RECOMMENDATION

Review recommendations that have been worked on over the past year and if Council wishes to embark on some of the other recommendations note those that should be considered and add them to the goals list that Council will confirm in January or February during the goal session.

CEQA

There are no CEQA issues at this time however there could be depending on how the Council wishes to proceed with report recommendations.

MONEY

Money to do work on the recommendations has not been identified but should be as part of the goal discussion in January or February. The expectation is that money will be very tight for new initiatives.

DISCUSSION

At the January 12, 2010 meeting Mayor Liss advised the Council that he planned to create a Green Ribbon Task Force. His plan was to name and chair an informal group in order to:

- identify current good examples of green and sustainable policies and programs
- consider green and sustainable policies and programs that the Town could adopt (e.g. Improve the Town's recycling program)
- identify businesses in Loomis that offer green and sustainable services or products
- identify business sectors in Loomis that could offer more green and sustainable services or products

[1/12/10 Council Agenda Staff Report]

Council agreed that the Mayor proceed with his Green Ribbon Task Force and report back later in the year. The Task Force Report was submitted in November 2010 and included recommendations. Council decided to add a 5th goal to the annual goals list as follows (projects noted with current status):

GOAL 5: SUSTAINABILITY INITIATIVES**A. Pilot Super Recycler Service****§**

<p>Develop pilot program for Recology, the Town's franchise refuse hauler, to promote a "Super Recycler" service and rate to all Loomis residents beginning in January 2011. Super Recycler service would include 32-gallon garbage service (in customer provided can) with free blue bags for recycling and green bin for yard trimmings in all "urban areas" of Loomis. Evaluate response to pilot program in April 2011 and consider any adjustments needed to program and garbage rates that need to be adopted in June 2011 to keep providing the Super Recycler service and rate. If there is sufficient interest, consider offering a Recology provided 32-gallon garbage cart that can be emptied by their automated collection trucks.</p> <p>Include labels with distribution of blue bags that includes Recology contact info and website URL with instructions on how to participate and what can be recycled. Phase out blue bags to labeled clear bags that can also be recycled.</p> <p>Ask Recology to develop and distribute a new recycling flyer that includes information about blue bags, green bins and Super Recycler 32-gallon can option including instructions on how to participate and what can be recycled on Town website and links to other recycling websites.</p>	<p>Kicked off program in February 2011</p> <p>3/25/11 Recology reports 115 customers have signed up for the recycler program.</p> <p>7/5/11 Project was evaluated in June and showed that of 126 services using 32 gallon containers 65 signed up for the vegetation cans. A new ad will be run in the newspaper in Sept.</p> <p>9/6/11 Recology looking to put labels on packets of Blue Bags starting in Sept.</p> <p>32 gal can done in conjunction with the vegetation can program and a program inviting people to trade down to a smaller can.</p> <p>9/23/11 Council Member Liss indicated he wished to discuss the one big bin program at a future Council meeting.</p>		
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GOAL 5: SUSTAINABILITY INITIATIVES (CONTINUED)

B. Lead by Example in Downtown Park

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<p>Include solar panels on shade structure proposed for new Downtown Park, funded by PG&E 0% interest program, and use energy from those panels for lights in park and Train Depot. Evaluate the pay off versus cost.</p> <p>Install LED lights in Downtown Park, with the incremental initial capital cost funded by PG&E 0% interest program. Include "help yourself" recycling locations and signs on top of trash containers.</p> <p>Include rainwater harvesting for Train Depot and Downtown Park to hold and gradually disperse rainwater so that it doesn't create more runoff.</p>	<p>8/9/11 Council approved agreement with Placer Sustain to determine feasibility.</p> <p>6/1/11 Contracts signed and Public Works will proceed with this under a Fed grant and may only need \$2,000 to complete.</p> <p>Grant for this denied August 2010.</p>		
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C. Cal-Green Building Code

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<p>The New Title 24 building code known as Cal-Green takes effect statewide January 1, 2011. The Town should partner with Placer Sustain and local experts to host educational forums on new requirements for clean and green technologies and approaches to help residents and businesses comply with these new requirements.</p> <p>Sustainable Loomis organize educational forums on new CalGreen Building Code and Low Impact Development water regulations to help residents and businesses comply with new laws.</p>	<p>3/8/11 Placer Sustain working on this.</p> <p>3/8/11 Placer Sustain working on this.</p>		
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GOAL 5: SUSTAINABILITY INITIATIVES (CONTINUED)**D. Green Business & Economic Development Programs**

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<p>Encourage Loomis businesses to join the Placer County Green Business Program when it is launched in January 2011.</p> <p>Work with the Placer County Economic Development Board to participate in the Board's Economic Development Professionals Stakeholders Network that would include the business community and interested local citizens.</p> <p>Encourage Businesses to join the Placer County Green Business Program, organized with Sacramento Area Sustainable Business program of the Sacramento Business Environmental Resource Center.</p>	<p>8/1/11 Placer Sustain working on this.</p>		
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E. Energy Audits

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<p>Promote cost effective energy audit programs for residents and businesses as the first step to improving their energy use and saving money, including free audits offered by PG&E to residential and non-residential customers.</p> <p>Publicize how to access and use Smart Meter information from PG&E Website to reduce/shift energy use.</p> <p>Invite PG&E to conduct presentations at local schools on the use of Smart Meters and encourage competitive challenge for classes to reduce energy use at students' homes. PG&E make presentations to local business groups (e.g., Chamber of Commerce) on Smart Meter and how to use the information from the meter to reduce or shift energy use.</p>	<p>8/9/11 Council approved agreement with Placer Sustain to work on an energy saving project for downtown businesses from HSB to WW Moulding, Taylor to UP right of way and determine feasibility.</p> <p>9/13/11 Placer Sustain held information session for downtown businesses in the shed to shed area.</p> <p>9/20/11 Placer Sustain held information session and vendor fair for any interested residents and/or business owners.</p>		
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GOAL 5: SUSTAINABILITY INITIATIVES (CONTINUED)**F. Public Facilities****§**

Build temperature-controlled closet in Town Hall around computer server so that the rest of Town Hall HVAC system can be turned off when building is not occupied.	5/20/11 Council given PGE report as well as Town's computer technician's review. No further action needed. 9-29-11 Town working with Placer Sustain on a solar idea for downtown Depot and surrounding area that could offset a significant amount of Town electrical use.		PROJECT COMPLETE
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G. Sunrise Park**§**

<p>Replace all spray heads with Hunter MP Rotator heads to save water and money. Put 2 spray nozzles on some of the heads for better water coverage.</p> <p>Remove strip of grass along the west side and replace with native ground cover.</p> <p>Arrange pilot program to improve the turf at the park with natural soil conditioners instead of chemicals. Remove landscape chemical use in park.</p>	9/1/11 Public Works reports spray heads changed.		
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H. Enforcement**§**

Council adopt a clear policy and progressive steps regarding the enforcement of ordinances, regulations and conditions adopted in Use Permits regarding parks, trees and open space preservation, including warning letters, cease and desist process, fines, demand for payment, liens etc, and appeals processes to provide the backup needed to properly enforce adopted policies and conditions. Any waiver of related enforcement actions should require a decision by the full Council.	7/12/11 Council reviewed. New Town Attorney needs time to review codes and procedures so as to be able to make legal recommendations. This will come back to Council when the new manager can review also.		
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The Green Ribbon Task Force report (see attached) contained other recommendations. If some other recommendations are going to be advanced as projects it would be prudent to identify where the money is coming from and to include the items in the goals session that Council conducts in January or February where the sustainability goals will have to compete for time and resources with the other goals that Council may have in mind. Thus far there has been no analysis to determine how much money has been saved or has been added to Town revenues as a result of the sustainability projects undertaken over the last 12 months.

Sustainable Loomis

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October 31, 2011

Rick Angelocci, Town Manager
Town of Loomis
3665 Taylor Road
Loomis, CA 95650

Dear Mr. Angelocci:

Sustainable Loomis and PlacerSustain have been working diligently over the past year to help implement the recommendations of the Loomis Green Ribbon Task Force.

Perry Beck had been providing to Council updates on these goals and priorities throughout the year. Attachment A provides a summary of the status of all the recommendations adopted by the Town Council in November 2010.

In addition, Sustainable Loomis met on October 26, 2011 to review the status of these priorities, and to recommend additional priorities for 2012 for the Town to adopt. Those are attached as well.

For more information, contact me at 916-652-7850 or gary@garyliss.com. If people would like to join the Sustainable Loomis Yahoo Group to keep apprised of all these activities, they should go to: <http://groups.yahoo.com/group/SustainableLoomis/> and join PlacerSustain at www.PlacerSustain.org.

Please forward the attached to the Mayor and Council for Council to consider adopting the Sustainable Loomis recommendations for 2012 at the November 2011 Council meeting.

Thanks!

Gary Liss

For Sustainable Loomis

RECOMMENDATIONS OF PRIORITIES FOR 2012

1. Improve & Promote Recycling Services

1a. Promote **Super Recycler Service** at community events, Town Hall, newspaper ads and on Town website. Survey all those who switched to this service in 2011 to determine reasons for their switch, how the transition went, was it working for them, and improvements they would recommend. Sustainable Loomis Recycling Subcommittee meet with Recology Customer Service staff to review messages they provide to Loomis residents and businesses. Sustainable Loomis draft Commentary article for Loomis News to describe new services and rates. Include flyer or label with every distribution of blue bags. Distribute clear bags once blue bag inventory is exhausted or sent to other locations. Finish and distribute flyer to all Loomis residents. Add links to other websites, including blog on PlacerSustain and responsible purchasing websites.

1b. Buy recycling receptacles with Town AB939 funds to place next to each garbage receptacle (or on top of them) in Blue Anchor Park and shed-to-shed. Work out with Public Works or Recology how to best service them and use AB939 funds for any equipment needed. Buy sufficient temporary recycling bins to loan for use at all special events shed-to-shed. Ask all those organizing events shed-to-shed to arrange for and monitor recycling services at their events.

1c. Organize schools outreach program and help develop model recycling programs at schools, using some of the AB939 funds available in the Town's budget for any needed recycling containers or related equipment.

1d. Work with Recology to explore offering rural yard trimmings chipping program.

1e. Promote food scraps recycling options, including food bank serving Raley's, and "gleaning" programs for extra fruits and vegetables grown in Loomis.

1f. Ask Placer County to remove Loomis logo from OneBigBin.com PR materials, including website. Ask Placer County to reconsider message of OneBigBin.com to BeyondOneBigBin.com or comparable.

2. Green Businesses and Green Jobs

2a. Town obtain consultant to evaluate technical details of solar shade structures for downtown area, considering public and private options, and how Town should proceed. Continue to explore potential for solar to be installed in shed-to-shed area that could offset a significant amount of Town electrical use.

2b. Encourage Loomis businesses to join the Placer County Green Business Program, organized with Sacramento Area Sustainable Business Program of the Sacramento Business Environmental Resource Center.

2c. Support Placer County Sustainable Economic Development Working Group initiative and develop a Loomis Sustainable Economic Development Action Plan. Include in that Plan how to support local foods, green and clean technologies, and local manufacturers. Identify how to develop additional investment tools to help with local sustainability initiatives, such as a lower interest rate for Loomis business loans for sustainability investments.

2d. Work with County Recycling Market Development Zone Administrator to help develop innovative local, reuse, recycling and composting businesses in Loomis.

3. Energy and Water Efficiency

3a. Town continue to partner with PlacerSustain (and its Loomis Energy Working Group) and others to promote energy and water efficiency opportunities and services. Conduct additional Energy Fairs to highlight opportunities for residents and businesses.

3b. Conduct pilot to use grasscycling and natural soil conditioners instead of chemicals for Town parks. Obtain information and advice from CalRecycle on how best to do this.

3c. Pursue grant for Loomis Energy Working Group sustainability initiative with PlacerSustain.

3d. Explore how Town could offset its electric uses by producing its own energy through installation of solar panels from shed-to-shed downtown.

3e. Consider rainwater harvesting and use of greywater for landscaping at Train Depot with evaluation of water feature at Blue Anchor Park.

4. Sustainability Education and Information

4a. Town partner with PlacerSustain on more energy events like those held this Fall. Town partner with PlacerSustain on an event in Loomis on Title 24 and Green Building targeted to local contractors, highlighting free or low cost training available, and how to be listed on PG&E, mPower and Energy Upgrade CA websites. Town work with PlacerSustain to develop Outreach and Education strategy on all aspects of above programs.

4b. Schools Education – Town work with PlacerSustain to recommend volunteer opportunities for High School Seniors to contribute to sustainability initiatives as community service projects. PlacerSustain help supervise such projects. Work with all levels of local schools to conduct assemblies and other presentations on sustainability issues.

4c. Greenhouse Gas (GHG) inventory – Post SBC Phase 1 GHG Inventory on Town Sustainability website. Assist SBC in developing Phase 2 of GHG Inventory. Develop user-friendly summary fact sheet for Town website summarizing findings from GHG inventories. Develop and track other sustainability measures as data and time permit.

**ATTACHMENT A - SUSTAINABLE LOOMIS REVIEW OF IMPLEMENTATION OF
LOOMIS GREEN RIBBON TASK FORCE RECOMMENDATIONS**

2011 Recommendations	Status
Recycling Initiatives	
<p>1. Pilot Super Recycler Service - Develop pilot program for Recology, the Town’s franchise refuse hauler, to promote a “Super Recycler” service and rate to all Loomis residents beginning in January 2011. Super Recycler service would include 32-gallon garbage service (in customer provided can) with free blue bags for recycling and green bin for yard trimmings in all “urban areas” of Loomis. Evaluate response to pilot program in April 2011 and consider any adjustments needed to program and garbage rates that need to be adopted in June 2011 to keep providing the Super Recycler service and rate. If there is sufficient interest, consider offering a Recology provided 32-gallon garbage cart that can be emptied by their automated collection trucks.</p>	<p>1. Pilot completed. About 290 households have subscribed for 32-gallon service (about 13% of all single-family households served by Recology in Loomis). Recology placed 2 ads, in Spring and Fall, in the Loomis News.</p>
<p>2. Improve Blue Bag Program - Improve existing blue bag residential recycling program by:</p>	
<p>2a. Including labels with distribution of blue bags that includes Recology contact info and website URL with instructions on how to participate and what can be recycled. Phase out blue bags to labeled clear bags that can also be recycled.</p>	<p>2a. Distributed 1 page overview of dos and don’ts once to blue bag customers with distribution of bags. Found that clear bags would be cheaper, would be recyclable and help ID contaminants.</p>
<p>2b. Asking Recology to develop and distribute a new recycling flyer that includes information about blue bags, green bins and Super Recycler 32-gallon can option</p>	<p>2b. Flyer in development.</p>
<p>2c. Including instructions on how to participate and what can be recycled on Town website and links to other recycling websites.</p>	<p>2c. Information on how Blue Bag program works is Done</p>
3. Green Building, Green Businesses and Green Jobs	
<p>3a. Lead by Example in Blue Anchor Park Downtown - Include solar panels on shade structure proposed for new Downtown Park, funded by PG&E 0% interest program, and use energy from those panels for lights in park and Train Depot.</p> <p>Install LED lights in Downtown Park, with the incremental initial capital cost funded by PG&E 0% interest program. Include “help yourself” recycling locations and signs on top of trash containers.</p> <p>Include rainwater harvesting for Train Depot and Downtown Park to hold and gradually disperse rainwater so that it doesn’t create more runoff.</p>	<p>3a. Town designed and built shade structure to be “solar ready” and contracted with PlacerSustain to explore solar shade structures throughout downtown, shed to shed. High Hand, Blue Goose and Wild Chicken are interested so far.</p> <p>6/1/11 contracts signed and Public Works will proceed with LED lights under a Federal grant and may only need \$2,000 to</p>

	complete Grant proposed for rainwater harvesting at Train Depot
3b. Cal-Green Building Code - The New Title 24 building code known as Cal-Green takes effect statewide January 1, 2011. The Town should partner with Placer Sustain and local experts to host educational forums on new requirements for clean and green technologies and approaches to help residents and businesses comply with these new requirements.	3b. Town partnered with PlacerSustain on 3 Energy events: 9/13 was info session for downtown businesses; 9/20 was general Energy Fair with 20 vendors and speakers for both businesses and residents; 10/6 focused on Energy Upgrade CA and how it provides up to to \$4,000 incentives for residents. Title 24 was not a focus of those events.
3c. Green Business & Economic Development Programs - Encourage Loomis businesses to join the So. Placer County Green Business Program when it is launched in January 2011. Work with the Placer County Economic Development Board (ED Board) to participate in the Board's recently recommended Economic Development Professionals Stakeholders Network that would include the business community and interested local citizens.	3c. Worked with PlacerSustain and ED Board to form Sustainable Economic Development Working Group. Survey Monkey to ID goals sent out. Planning event in So. Placer County to help businesses be more sustainable, with tools they say they want from survey.
4. Energy and Water Efficiency	
4a. Energy Audits - Promote cost effective energy audit programs for residents and businesses as the first step to improving their energy use and saving money, including free audits offered by PG&E to non-residential customers. Publicize how to access and use Smart Meter information from PG&E Website to reduce/shift energy use. Invite PG&E to conduct presentations at local schools on the use of Smart Meters and encourage competitive challenge for classes to reduce energy use at students' homes. PG&E make presentations to local business groups (e.g., Chamber of Commerce) on Smart Meter and how to use the information from the meter to reduce or shift energy use.	4a. Town partnered with PlacerSustain on 3 Energy events (see 3b above)
4b. Public Facilities - Build temperature-controlled closet in Town Hall around computer server so that the rest of Town Hall HVAC system can be turned off when building is not occupied.	4a. Council given PG&E report and Town's computer technician's review. Decided not needed.
4c. Sunrise Park - Replace all spray heads with Hunter MP Rotator heads to save water and money. Remove strip of grass along the west side and replace with native ground cover.	4c. 9/1/11 Public Works reported all spray heads changed.
5. Sustainability Education and Recognition	
5a. Educational Forums - Sustainable Loomis organize	5a. Town partnered with

<p>educational forums on new CalGreen Building Code and Low Impact Development water regulations to help residents and businesses comply with new laws.</p>	<p>PlacerSustain on 3 Energy events (see 3b above).</p>
<p>5b. Placer County Green Business Program - Encourage businesses to join the Placer County Green Business Program, organized with Sacramento Area Sustainable Business Program of the Sacramento Business Environmental Resource Center.</p>	<p>5b. Town and PlacerSustain helped at outset to promote the launch of this program.</p>