



City of Palo Alto

(ID # 12369)

Utilities Advisory Commission Staff Report

Report Type: New Business**Meeting Date: 7/7/2021****Summary Title: UAC Annual Work Plan 2021-2021****Title: Staff Recommends the Utilities Advisory Commission Review and Approve the Utilities Advisory Commission's 2021-2022 Annual Work Plan, and Recommend the City Council Review the Work Plan and Provide Feedback****From: City Manager****Lead Department: Utilities****Recommendation**

Staff Recommends the Utilities Advisory Commission Review and Approve the Utilities Advisory Commission's 2021-2022 Annual Work Plan, and Recommend the City Council Review the Work Plan and Provide Feedback

Background**ANNUAL WORKPLAN AND PERFORMANCE MEASURES**

In accordance with the [2020 City Boards, Commissions, and Committees Handbook](#), each Board and Commission should prepare an annual work plan for proposal to the City Council by the second quarter of the calendar year. The Council will review the work plan and provide feedback annually at a dedicated City Council meeting. The annual report should include the results of the prior year's plan. When applicable, the City Council would like to see metrics of community involvement and participation in meetings and activities included in the work plan.

Council expects Boards and Commissions to work on items in the approved workplan. In addition, Council may refer additional items to the Boards and Commissions in response to new developments. Boards and Commissions should refrain from expending their time and that of the staff liaison on items that have not been approved by the City Council. If the Board or Commission would like to add an issue for review after an annual workplan has been approved by the City Council, a prompt request by the Board or Commission Chair to the City Council is required and the item will then be addressed by the City Council as a whole.

Attachments:

- Attachment A: Work Plan 2021 - 2022

Board or Commission Name: Utilities Advisory Commission (UAC)

Staff Liaison Name and Contact Information: Dean Batchelor – 650.496. 6981

Lead Department: Utilities

General Purpose and/or Purview of Board/Commission:

The Utilities Advisory Commission (UAC) is charged with providing advice on acquisition and development of electric, gas and water resources; joint action projects with other public or private entities which involve electric, gas or water resources; environmental implications of electric, gas or water utility projects, conservation and demand management. Additionally, the UAC is charged with providing advice on the fiber and wastewater collection utilities. As a highly regulated industry, there may be matters not listed below that will be presented to the UAC in accordance with current or future (local, state or federal) legislative requirements.

Anticipated Item/Topic	Description and/or Info	Quarter (July 2021 – June 2022)
Electrification of the City	Meet the S/CAP goals to reduce natural gas consumption by 2030. This includes possible code modifications, potential full or partial retirement of the gas distribution system, replacement of space and water heating systems, cooking and cleaning appliances. It also includes permitting and inspection processes for customers wishing to install solar PV, energy storage, and/or EV charging systems.	These projects are ongoing and will be discussed by the Commission periodically
Utilities CIPs	Rebuild/repair reservoirs; Foothills water piping; ongoing maintenance of electric, gas, water and wastewater infrastructure.	These projects are ongoing and will be discussed by the Commission periodically.
Fiber to the Home	Build an infrastructure within the City to supply fiber to the community.	These projects are ongoing and will be discussed by the Commission periodically.
Advanced Metering Infrastructure Project	Upgrade the antiquated meter system by replacing the citywide meters (gas/electric/water) with digital meters that can be read through a software program, enable time of use billing, and provide more detailed usage data to customers.	These projects are ongoing and will be discussed by the Commission periodically.
Commodities	Rate Increases: Water, Gas, Electric, and Wastewater collection.	These projects are ongoing and will be discussed by the Commission annually

Greenhouse Gas Emission Reduction	Meet the S/CAP goals to reduce GHG emissions 80% below 1990 levels by 2030. This includes modifying the energy supply portfolio, purchasing RECs and/or other carbon offset instruments, as well as EV charging infrastructure, allocation of LCFS funds, solar PV adoption, and distributed energy resources.	These projects are ongoing and will be discussed by the Commission periodically
Water Supply	Consider potential future sources of water supply.	These projects are ongoing and will be discussed by the Commission periodically.
Workforce	Attract and retain workers for key Utility positions that are chronically unfilled, including line workers, engineers, and system operators.	These issues are ongoing and will be discussed by the Commission periodically.
Other legislative or customer-driven initiatives	The Utility tracks many state and federal bills that touch on utilities. Should any bills become law during the year, the UAC may need to address the matter. Likewise, should a customer-driven initiative impact Utilities (such as reach codes or ADUs/JDUs) the commission may want to address the matter.	These issues are ongoing and may be discussed by the Commission periodically.