



## **Climate Action Committee Report**

# essons Learned and Recommendations

## September 27, 2022

cityofpaloalto.org/ClimateAction

# Ad hoc Report and Recommendations O PALO ALTO

- Lessons Learned
- Additional Questions
- Future Prospective Actions
- Recommendations for Council Direction







## Lessons Learned





- Utility infrastructure and renewable capacity
- Healthy, rightsized, smart electric appliances
- EV charging the transportation/building nexus
- Commercial building electrification
- Next goals carbon neutrality and upstream/consumption based emissions

# Lessons Learned – Utility System



- State Grid Capacity
  - State investments in infrastructure and storage
  - High methane GHG impacts from generation and transmission – 85X worse than CO2 over 20 years
- City Grid
  - Renewables are now cheap, getting cheaper, and available to meet growing demands.
  - Significant current equipment supply issues
  - Workforce shortages
    - PA needs to be competitive
    - Aggressive statewide workforce development is critical

# Ad hoc Report and Recommendations O PALO ALTO

LA Times Op-Ed:

California's giant new batteries kept the lights on during the heat wave



### cityofpaloalto.org/ClimateAction



Solar is now the cheapest form of energy in California and its cost is declining

## **SunShot Progress and Goals**



\*Levelized cost of energy (LCOE) progress and targets are calculated based on average U.S. climate and without the ITC or state/local incentives. The residential and commercial goals have been adjusted for inflation from 2010–17.

#### https://www.energy.gov/eere/solar/sunshot-

2030#:~:text=2030%20Goals%20Detailed,contributing%20to%20greater%20energy%20affordability

### cityofpaloalto.org/ClimateAction

# Healthy, Smart, Rightsized Appliances DEALO ALTO

- Low-watt appliances
  - Reduce grid upgrade stresses
  - Reduce electrification costs to residents
- Healthier and more comfortable homes Meta-analysis of the effects of indoor nitrogen dioxide and gas cooking:

"children living in a home with gas cooking have a 42% increased risk of having current asthma, a 24% increased risk of lifetime asthma and an overall 32% increased risk of having current and lifetime asthma."

https://academic.oup.com/ije/article/42/6/1724/737113?login=false



## The transportation/building connection

- "Oversized" home EV chargers are stressing our utility in residential areas
  - Most homes are installing bigger chargers than are needed, driving panel and transformer upgrades.
- Future EVs will be a backbone of "distributed storage"
  - Reduce the scale of grid upgrades needed
  - Save consumers costs by charging when electricity is cheapest and greenest, and supplying power when electricity is most in demand and expensive

## **Commercial Building Electrification**









 Replacing methane-based rooftop "Gas Packs" upon End-of-Life (EOL) is efficient and provides healthier buildings for workers



### cityofpaloalto.org/ClimateAction

# **Additional Goals**





- Palo Alto lacks a "Carbon-Neutrality" Goal
  - Leading cities and governments have adopted these goals as a key climate metric
  - CARB defines Carbon-Neutrality as carbonreductions and offsets or sequestration
  - Palo Alto is already on a strong path to 2030 Carbon-Neutrality

