

# Austin Climate Protection Program Quarterly Update



Resource Management Commission  
October 19, 2010



# Climate Action Team

- Monthly meetings continue with COA staff to provide
  - Updates or new information from different departments
  - Discussion on implementing DCPPs
- Working in teams to identify barriers and solutions for achieving climate actions in the 6 areas of DCPPs
  - Energy
  - Transportation Fuel
  - Materials management
  - Water
  - Purchasing
  - Waste



# Departmental Climate Protection Plans (DCPPs)

- All 23 departments and 5 building plans filed on [coolaustin.org](http://coolaustin.org) as of June 2010
- Plans set goals and outline implementation strategies for reductions within departments
- Goals posted in CARS

# Climate Action Reporting System (CARS)

- CARS in development with CTM
  - Provides dashboard for Department Directors to review greenhouse gas emissions of facilities, operations, and fleet
  - Includes a carbon reduction performance measure to be linked to 2012 Budget
  - Scheduled deployment date January 2011
- ACPP Staff in place to provide oversight and maintenance of data for CARS

# Online Employee Training

- Online training scheduled to be available by November 1 through City's TRAIN
- Employees will receive 1 hour of required training for completing course
- Class will cover Climate Science, CoA activities to reduce carbon, personal action employees can take reduce personal carbon footprint



# Community Plan

- Community Climate Action Plan 2010
  - Community Workshop August 24<sup>th</sup>
  - Advisory board and chair meeting Oct. 18<sup>th</sup>
  - Working with Planning Department to incorporate Climate related issues into the Comprehensive Plan, **Imagine Austin**
- Target date of March 2011 for Climate Summit and release of draft plan for greater community input and buy-in.



# Carbon Calculator

- Personal Calculator is averaging 150 visitors per month, of whom 72% are new users
- The One Minute Calculator is getting about 300 visitors per month, of whom 80% are new users





# Challenge Grants

The Austin Climate Protection Program (ACPP) is drafting Challenge Grant RFP

- City Council directive to *“Provide tools and resources for citizens, businesses, organizations, and visitors to measure and reduce their carbon footprint,”*
- Support local projects that prevent the release of or reduce the amount of greenhouse gases already present in the atmosphere.





# Industries Sustainable Leadership for Austin (ISLA)

## Business Community Plan

- Coordinate communication between environmental professionals in Austin's industrial sector to improve environmental practices
- Promote GHG reduction strategies to local businesses and keep the business community informed on what they can do to protect our climate.

# Air Quality Monitoring

- January 2010 Environmental Protection Agency proposed ozone standard between 60 and 70 parts per billion (ppb)
- On August 28<sup>th</sup>, Austin area recorded an air quality monitoring reading of 74 ppb, placing it above the proposed standard
- Reasonable to assume region will be designated non-attainment by 2011
- Local clean air partners, including the City of Austin, continue current voluntary efforts to improve air quality

# 2010 Ozone Season Summary

## October 2010



5/28/2010

77

8/28/2010

76

5/5/2010

75

**2010 Ozone Season design value is the 3-year average of the 4<sup>th</sup> highest reading at the prevailing monitor.**

Current 2008 -2010

2008

74

2009

76

5/4/2010

73

Design Value

=

74

***\*Number rounded DOWN to nearest 2 significant digits***

# Walk, Bike And Roll 2010

Total Trips Avoided in 18 Weeks =  
23,357

- To and From Work Trips = 5,771
- During the Work Day Trips = 17,766
- 227 lbs. of NOx avoided (2008 CAMPO)
- 168,011 lbs of carbon dioxide avoided (2008 CAMPO)
- \$102,263 cumulatively saved (2009 AAA)

# Urban Heat Island Tree Plantings

- Shade Tree Contract
  - 13 trees (5" Caliper) Cedar Elms Wells Branch Parkway
  - 11 trees (2 5" caliper, and the rest 15 gallon) for Keep Austin Beautiful neighborhood grant program
  - Austin Community Tree program, South Congress Neighborhood Planning Area, November 2009
- NeighborWoods Tree Planting
  - 2025 trees (5 gallon) placed in neighborhoods throughout Austin so far in 2010
  - 25,900 trees placed through this program since 2002

# Urban Heat Island Activities

- Green Roof Advisory Group Report finished and presented to Boards & Commissions for comments. Presented to Council in late October.
- Austin's Tree of the Year event, October 18<sup>th</sup> at St. Andrew's School.
- 2010 Austin Community Trees (ACT) planting project in the Montopolis Planning area (October 16<sup>th</sup>).
- NeighborWoods began delivery of trees in October

# Plug in your Wheels

- Provided incentives totaling \$11,700 during fy 2010
  - 39 electric bicycles
  - 40 electric scooters
  - 4 electric motorcycles
- Pending Council approval, Plug-In Partners Pilot Program will offer home charging station incentives to people who buy or lease Plug-in Electric Vehicles (PEVs)



# Decision Points

- Continuation of Carbon Calculator contract
- City facilities on GreenChoice
- Offsets and Challenge grants

# Questions?

