

REPORT TO CITY COUNCIL

DATE: OCTOBER 10, 2007

TO: MEMBERS OF THE CITY COUNCIL

FROM: DAN KUPERBERG, MAYOR

SUBJECT: PROPOSAL THAT THE CITY OF AGOURA HILLS ESTABLISH A COMMITTEE FOR ENVIRONMENTAL RESPONSIBILITY

Although Agoura Hills is a leader in the area of identifying, obtaining and preserving Open Space, the City has yet to formally identify in what other areas the City can protect the environment and still be fiscally sound.

Thus, I am formally proposing that the City establish the Committee for Environmental Responsibility, consisting of two (2) appointed Councilmembers working with staff, as an official committee of the City. The general tasks of this committee will be: (1) to identify, outline and recommend implementation of positive environmental actions in the City of Agoura Hills; (2) to move the City toward forming a sustainable municipality; and (3) to deal with the negative impacts on our natural environment, our community and our quality of life.

This committee will address the future and long-term environmental effects of decisions and policies presently being made. This may also include areas where the City can proactively be more sensitive to the environment in our daily operations, educate the surrounding businesses and residents, and effectively and properly assist in solving environmental concerns and protecting the future, rather than unknowingly contributing to making problems worse. The committee would take into account the economic benefits to the City and to the community in all of its recommendations and decisions. Suggested areas for the committee to look into which affect our quality of life might include resource conservation, environmental and public health, transportation and economic development, open space, land use, housing, community education and participation.

Due to staff's current workload, it is not expected that they will be able to begin work immediately. Instead, over the next 150 days leading up to next year's initial budget workshop, staff will work with the committee to form the preliminary presentation to City Council. The committee would initially be expected to act as a sounding board to staff in the development of that report. It is proposed that Mayor Kuperberg and Mayor Pro Tem Edelston be appointed to this committee.

RECOMMENDATION

It is respectfully requested the City Council approve the formation of a Committee for Environmental Responsibility under the general guidelines as outlined in this report. It is also respectfully requested the City Council approve the recommended appointments of Mayor Dan Kuperberg and Mayor Pro Tem John Edelston to the committee.

