

To: Mayor and Town Council Members

From: Steve Toben and Maryann Moise Derwin

Date: September 25, 2007

Re: Presentation by Stefan Unnasch on Metrics and Adoption of AB 32 Standard

The Mayors' Climate Protection Agreement obligates the Town to reduce its carbon emissions by at least 7 percent below 1990 levels by the year 2012. This is the reduction target set forth in the 1997 Kyoto Treaty. However, the Kyoto standard is today widely viewed as insufficient, and new standards are emerging. Governor Schwarzenegger's Executive Order S-3-05 requires returns to 2000 levels by 2010 and an 80 percent reduction in GHG emissions by 2050. These reductions are expected to be implemented through a variety of initiatives including AB 32, AB 1493, the Low Carbon Fuel Standard and others. The City of Palo Alto has adopted the AB 32 standard in lieu of the Kyoto targets as well as the 80 percent reduction target for 2050. We are proposing that Portola Valley adopt this standard as well.

Furthermore, we propose to follow the measurement protocols that will be developed by the implementation of the Schwarzenegger standard. Stefan Unnasch will present information demonstrating the advisability of adopting these measures.

We believe that the greenhouse gas reduction standard of Executive Order S-3-05 can be met through a combination of measures that the State of California is implementing (such as the low carbon fuel standard) and measures that the Town and residents can undertake in coming years.

We recommend action by the Council on October 4 adopting the AB 32 standard.