

## BOARD OF ALDERMEN

ITEM No. **D(1)**

### AGENDA ITEM ABSTRACT

MEETING DATE APRIL 19<sup>TH</sup>, 2011

**SUBJECT: Capstone Presentation: Greenhouse Gas Inventory Report**

<b>DEPARTMENT:</b> PLANNING DEPARTMENT	<b>PUBLIC HEARING:</b> YES <input type="checkbox"/> No <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
<b>ATTACHMENTS:</b> A. Resolution B. BALD December 8 <sup>th</sup> , 2009 resolution C. Capstone GHG report.	<b>FOR INFORMATION CONTACT:</b> Jeff Kleaveland, Planner/ZDS 918-7332

#### **PURPOSE**

To present to the Board the Capstone Greenhouse Gas Inventory Report as prepared by students from UNC's *Institute for the Environment*.

#### **INFORMATION**

In September of 2010, staff contacted UNC's Institute for the Environment requesting assistance in completing its Greenhouse Gas (GHG) inventory. Though a similar inventory was created for the whole of Orange County, it did not adequately disaggregate the Town's data to qualify for the 'Milestone 1' of the *Cities for Climate Protection* protocol as defined by the ICLEI – Local Governments for Sustainability association.

(ICLEI (International Council for Local Environmental Initiatives) provides standards and tools designed to assist and encourage local governments to developing programs that enhance local sustainability. A "Capstone" project is a collaborative student project facilitated by UNC's Institute for the Environment teaching staff.)

The Town asked of the student group that they populate the ICLEI GHG *inventory and forecasting software* with data concerned with 1) the community as a whole, and 2) the Town of Carrboro government body. As is evidenced by the attached report, the students have completed this task.

Furthermore we have requested that they explore mitigation measures that can help the Town place an upper limit on its GHG emissions to 350 ppm CO2 (or CO2 equivalents) per the Board's December 8<sup>th</sup>, 2009 resolution to "take responsibility in a social just manner for Carrboro's portion of CO2 in the atmosphere..." (Attachment B).

It is hoped that the tools employed by the Capstone Group and the data they've collected will provide a policy basis for achieving this resolution's purpose. To this end is presented the attached report (Attachment C).

#### **FISCAL IMPACT**

There is no immediate fiscal impact to this agenda item.

#### **RECOMMENDATION**

The staff recommends that the Board of Aldermen adopt the attached resolution accepting this report.