

Press Release



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Organizational Change within GreenTown Los Altos

Los Altos, California, October 26, 2009 - GreenTown Los Altos has transitioned its fiscal sponsorship to Acterra (www.Acterra.org). As a fiscal sponsor, Acterra, a nonprofit organization, provides financial and legal oversight for nonprofit projects that are not yet 501C3 organizations.

"GreenTown Los Altos is grateful to the Los Altos Community Foundation for serving as our fiscal sponsor for the last year and a half," said Kacey Fitzpatrick, executive director, GreenTown Los Altos. "Moving to Acterra provides many new opportunities with a shared environmental focus."

Michael Closson, Executive Director of Acterra, says, "We are excited to be working with a dynamic group like GreenTown Los Altos, which has accomplished so many things in a short amount of time. This partnership comes at a good time as we have been expanding our environmental education programs in Los Altos, and have signed a contract with the City of Los Altos to begin restoration of Redwood Grove."

Another recent organizational change includes the departure of five advisory volunteers. "As GreenTown grows and evolves, we expect there will be differing opinions regarding the direction of the organization as it progresses from one phase to the next," said Paul Blumenstein, a GreenTown Los Altos leadership volunteer. "We greatly appreciate the contributions our advisory volunteers have made to the organization and respect their decision to pursue other interests."

Acterra has retained Olive Grove Consulting (www.olivegroveconsulting.com) through a grant from the Packard Foundation to work with GreenTown to adopt a more formal governance structure, along with a more detailed organizational and development plan. This work began in early October and will continue for four months, involving a large number of GreenTown volunteers in setting the blueprint for future growth.

Arnold Ambiel, another leadership volunteer, said, "It's very common for the structure of a start-up organization to evolve as it grows, and the changes GreenTown Los Altos is undergoing present an opportunity to reevaluate and strengthen the organization. We are excited about the work ahead."

GreenTown Los Altos continues to grow and evolve as it pursues its vision for a more sustainable community. Primary areas of focus include 1) Freiker / Bike to School 2) Green Business and Co-Op 3) Waste Reduction 4) Sustainable Land Use 5) Education and outreach.

GreenTown Los Altos is a grassroots environmental organization of citizens in Los Altos and Los Altos Hills working to educate and inspire people to embrace sustainability for the benefit of the earth and our community now and for future generations. Please see www.greentownlosaltos.org for more information.