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GreenTown Los Altos Embracing Next Chapter of Success, Says Outgoing Executive Director

LOS ALTOS, California, July 1, 2010 – GreenTown Los Altos founding Executive Director, Kacey Fitzpatrick, has resigned her position as leader of the local, environmental non-profit, effective the end of July. Los Altos resident Arnold Ambiel will serve as Interim Executive Director while a new Executive Director is recruited. Fitzpatrick will continue supporting GreenTown Los Altos in a volunteer capacity.

“I am very proud of GreenTown’s accomplishments since its founding over 2½ years ago. Through this organization, the volunteers and members of the Los Altos and Los Altos Hills communities have had very positive impacts on waste management and vehicle trip reductions, among other initiatives. Now, with the completion of our three-year strategic plan and a strengthened volunteer structure, the organization is poised for continued success,” said Fitzpatrick. “This is a good time for the organization to transition leadership.”

Ambiel chaired the strategic planning task force, which engaged in a structured, months-long process funded by a grant from the David and Lucile Packard Foundation. “As part of our planning process, we put in place a new organizational structure which positions us to mature successfully from a founder-driven organization, drawing upon the diverse strengths of a core leadership team with a mix of paid staff and dedicated volunteers. The core team of volunteer leaders is now in place with a set of very specific three-year goals,” said Ambiel. “Kacey has been an integral part of this entire process.”

GreenTown’s three-year goals were formed through one-on-one conversations with many influential residents and business owners in Los Altos and Los Altos Hills as well as a market research survey sent out to 900 interested members of the community. The three-year goals are:

1. Reduce total water consumption – Achieve community water reduction of 15% below 2004 baseline each year as measured and reported by Cal Water and the local municipal governments.
2. Reduce total energy usage – From a 2005 baseline, propose and support community usage targets in line with regional goals.
3. Reduce waste generated and landfilled – Partner with our new waste services contractor, Mission Trail Waste Systems, to educate business and residential customers to meet or exceed the 78% contracted waste diversion rate by September 2013.

4. Reduce vehicle miles traveled – Reduce vehicle trips in Los Altos and Los Altos Hills through education, incentive programs and improved bicycle and pedestrian accessibility.

“GreenTown Los Altos is a strong and vibrant organization with a phenomenal, committed volunteer base that has had a positive impact in the community. The organization now has the strategic framework and infrastructure to implement its broader vision and move to its next phase of maturity and success,” said Emily Hall, President of Olive Grove Consulting, who advised GreenTown Los Altos throughout its strategic planning process.

Reflecting on Fitzpatrick’s contributions, Ambiel added, “The core team of volunteers is enormously grateful for the vision, leadership, and inspiration that Kacey has provided from the beginning of the organization. We are very pleased that she will continue to apply her passion and commitment as a GreenTown volunteer.”

A search committee has been formed to recruit a new Executive Director with a goal of hiring a qualified candidate by September 1, 2010. Interested candidates should contact the GreenTown Los Altos Search Committee at resumes@greentownlosaltos.org.

About GreenTown Los Altos

GreenTown Los Altos is a local, volunteer, non-profit environmental organization. Founded in 2007, its mission is to educate and inspire the people of Los Altos and Los Hills to take action that will make our communities more environmentally healthy and vibrant today and for future generations. For more information please visit www.greentownlosaltos.org, and become a fan on Facebook.

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