



# 2019-2020 Annual Update

In January 2020, our board and executive director met for our annual retreat. Our goal was to reevaluate our organizational mission, values, and beliefs. We think you'll agree that our work paid off with our renewed focus and commitment to our community!

## Our Mission

To protect and enhance the environment of Los Altos and Los Altos Hills through community engagement, education, and advocacy while contributing to and leveraging regional and global environmental efforts.

## Our Values

- Leaving the environment a better place for the next generation
- Policy and decision-making based on data and scientific research
- Inclusion, partnership and conducting our activities in a fair, ethical (and, when appropriate, fun) manner
- Education, mentorship and the inclusion of youth as much as possible in our activities
- Honesty and respect when presenting fact-based research and educating our community

## Our Beliefs

- A clean and healthy environment is vital to the health of our communities.
- Human activities impact the natural environment and contribute to climate change and pollution that directly affects human health
- Individual, community and governmental actions can mitigate the negative environmental impacts of human activities
- We can arrest human caused climate change and environmental degradation by individual, community and legislative action



Volunteers planting a tree, one of 162 planted last year with the 500 Trees campaign.

**Volunteers are the lifeblood of GreenTown Los Altos.** We exist because of their incredible work, work that if it were paid would be valued at more than **\$118,537 in 2019-2020!**

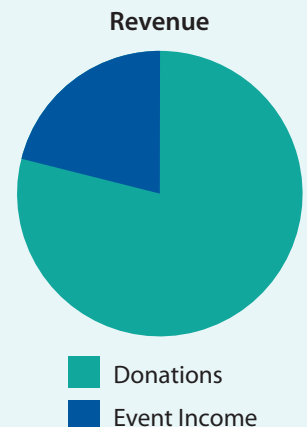
**Volunteer Hours = 4,358**

**Value of Volunteer Time = \$118,537.60**

While GreenTown is a small nonprofit, we're proud to say that **the vast majority of our support comes from individuals.** In 2019-2020:

**79% of GreenTown's revenue came from individual donations**

**21% of GreenTown's revenue came from events and other income.**



# Our Program Areas

## Clean Transportation

Transportation is the largest source of local carbon emissions. Our objective is to encourage our community to make conscious choices about how we commute and travel—Choosing walking or biking first, eliminating single car drives and if driving at all—Go Electric! We strive to encourage and enable these options through various activities and events that we hope you'll enjoy.



Jim Thurber leading the bike tour of historic places in Los Altos, one of our fun bike rides.

## Conservation

Sustainable use of our land and water is essential to our collective well-being. GreenTown supports urban development that encourages clean parks and open spaces, higher density development, and community hubs that promote friendly social interactions. We support policies that encourage wise use of our water resources and better management of stormwater run-off.

## Clean Air

Our clean air efforts are focused on reducing greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions that trap heat and cause diseases like respiratory illnesses as a result. We target local level actions to minimize their global effect for both residences & businesses. We hope you'll find out more to do your part!



Anna Michalak giving a lecture on reducing our carbon footprint, one of our many community lectures.

## Eating Green/Sustainable Food

When it comes to plant-based eating, what's not to love? It's good for our planet, good for our health and good for the animals! Our Eating Green team is here to support you and local restaurants in transitioning to more plant-based meals through education, recipes, and community!

## Zero Waste

Reducing waste in our community is WAY more than recycling! The original 3 R's of sustainability: **Reduce, Reuse, Recycle**...have evolved to include: **Rethink, Refuse, Reduce, Reuse, Refill, Repair, Repurpose, Regift, Recycle, Repeat**. We seek to support our residents, schools and businesses in their efforts to reduce waste, especially single-use plastic, and we advocate for local and state policies that reduce plastic use and pollution and reduce contamination of our landfills, lands and waterways due to toxic waste materials.



Two interns sampling solar-baked cookies at Energy Day 2019.



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