



CITY OF TACOMA SUSTAINABLE TACOMA COMMISSION MEETING NOTES

DATE: August 10, 2010

COMMISSION MEMBERS PRESENT: Dr. Jane Moore, Phil Coughlan, Louise Bray, Bliss Moore, Steven Garrett, Julia Petersen

COMMISSION MEMBERS ABSENT: Dale Anderson, Elaine Ott, Ken Schmidt, Jim Gawel, Bill Anderson

OTHERS PRESENT: Steve Bicker, Michael P. Slevin III, Kristi Lynett, Lisa Rennie, Bob Mack, Bill Smith, Ramie Pierce, Ken Peachey, Ryan Dicks, Dan Dzyacky, Jeff Dade, Ryan Couch, Catherine Taylor

▪ **Approval of the June 8, 2010 Meeting Notes**

Subject to requested changes being made, the June 8, 2010 meeting notes were approved and adopted.

▪ **Review and Approval of the August Agenda**

The August agenda was reviewed and approved.

▪ **TPU Energy Conservation Program**

Conservation Resources Manager, Steve Bicker of Tacoma Power gave a presentation on TPU's Energy Conservation Program.

2010 is the first year that Tacoma Power (Power) has been required under I-937, the Energy Independence Act (EIA), to comply with energy savings requirements. As of June, they are comfortably ahead of year-to-date targets. And with people and programs in place, are now in the midst of a demanding process of putting together their 2011-2012 program portfolio which starts with their integrated resource plan (combines the supply side and demand side resources).

Targets

- I-937 requires Power to get 4.6 aMW in 2010 (this is a floor); 4.7 aMW in 2011
- Biennial target of 9.3 aMW
- Penalty for failure to achieve biennial target
- Power's functional goal is 5.4 aMW

Energy efficiency requirements of I-937

- All cost effective, achievable conservation
- Pro-rata share 10-year potential biennially
- Use NWPCC's methodology
- Failure resulting in \$50MWh penalty

Program portfolio considerations

- Cost effectiveness (key tests by perspective: participant, utility/ratepayer, total resource costs)
- Customer satisfaction
- Equitable availability of programs
- Regional coordination
- Programs must accommodate Council's Regional Technical Forum measures
- Minimize market risk

Commercial/industrial sector – Current programs

Bright Rebates

- This program provides technical assistance and financial incentives for qualifying lighting projects: changing out T-12 to T-8 retrofits, HID to LED or induction, HID to fluorescent, incandescent to fluorescent or LED

Equipment Rebate

- Motors (new and efficient rewinds) Note: approximately 57% of power consumption in the world is motors.
- Variable speed drives
- PC power management software – allows a computer to be put to sleep from a central server location
- Kitchen equipment: dishwashers, ice makers, refrigerators, freezers, steam cookers combination ovens, hot food holding cabinets
- HVAC equipment: heat pumps and air conditioners

Compressed Air

- Considered best-in-class in the NW
- Very cost effective; there are huge savings associated w/compressed air

Custom Retrofit

- Safety net for complex conservation projects not covered by other programs (large customers/big buildings)
- Up to 70% of the project cost
- Funding available for energy studies up to 50% of the cost

Residential sector – Current programs

Lighting

- Retail – represents about 70% residential savings goal
- Showroom and distributor – sales incentive for lighting representatives

Appliances

- High-efficiency clothes washers – incentive: \$50, \$75, \$100 based on model purchased
- Refrigerator and freezer recycling – incentive: \$30 and free pick-up

Home heating and weatherization

- Weatherize homes (ceiling, floor, wall, windows), installation of heat pumps, heating ducts tested and sealed
- \$.50 per square foot of insulation
- Loan option - zero interest

Direct distribution

- CFL bulbs (35,000 distributed year-to-date)
- Energy and water kit – includes 2 showerheads, faucet aerators and 3 CFL bulbs
- Incentive: Free

Market transformation –

Tacoma Power co-funds the Northwest Energy Efficiency Alliance projects that:

- Focus on the future, upstream
- Require broad regional collaboration
- Address emerging technology

Program promotions

- Customer – newsletter, bill insert, print materials (brochure)
- Retailer – point of purchase, cooperative ads with local retailers, national and regional campaigns
- Contractors – training, participating contractor list

▪ Subcommittee Updates

Waste Reduction/Recycling Subcommittee

- Staff presented to STC for a review, a draft sustainable purchasing resolution. This draft resolution mirrors a lot of what is in the current purchasing policy, but there has been some stakeholder interest from an organization called Institute for Environmental Research and Education (IERE). Part of their non-profit organization does life cycle assessments and certifies professionals. IERE expressed an interest in Tacoma becoming the first “Life Cycle City” and wanted to execute a resolution for our City Council. Therefore, a lot of IERE’s suggestions and bullet points are incorporated into this draft Sustainable Purchasing/Life Cycle City Resolution for Council’s preview.

Staff has been in contact with King County about coming to Tacoma, sometime in 2010, to provide training for our front-line purchasing staff and customizing it specifically for us. IERE has also been talking with Clover Park Technical Institute about them providing some life cycle assessment training to the City. The City’s HR director has been approached about the possibility of having general staff participate in the Clover Park training to bring awareness to the departments in how they can use best practices in their purchases.

- This subcommittee will meet again on Wednesday, August 11, 2:00 p.m.

Small Grant Program Subcommittee

- Using the Make-a-Splash grant program as a template, the group spent time refining the Sustainable Tacoma Grant application.
- Applications will be posted to the website the first part of September, with submissions due October 29.
- The City’s community relations representative spoke to the group about the outreach and marketing for the Make a Splash program, and provided several contacts and ideas on what the STC could do to outreach their small grant program.

Transportation/Neighborhoods/Land Use Subcommittee

- A decision was made to ask for a study on the present and future capacity for off-street parking downtown in order to meet the CAP and ghg goals.
- There was discussion on a potential parking lot on the Sauro’s Dry Cleaning lot. STC agreed against a parking lot on that site.
- Parking minimums need to be reduced or removed altogether. STCs initial recommendation is to drop parking amendments across city wide.
- Discussion around a light synchronization study (pilot program downtown), and a look at the potential development of bicycle boulevards on streets like Fawcett to move traffic smoothly.
- An Urban Forestry Plan was passed, but the City cannot afford to plant trees on City land. At the last EPW meeting, a coalition of environmental groups asked for an open space coordinator; the only way to do that would be via stormwater rates.
- A few City planners want to include CO2 impacts built into SEPA. Seattle has done this; would like to see such action occur in Tacoma.
- Suggestion of needing a study for potential places for future community gardens.

Energy/Green Building Standards Subcommittee

- The subcommittee revisited items in the CAP and discussed the various energy strategies on: LED streetlights, municipal green building standard, permitting issues, the new state energy code, how much oil heating remains in the City, the requirement of home energy audits at point of sale, and the recent implementation of sewer inspections at point of sale (obtaining more background information on the process).
- PSE was contacted about giving a presentation to the subcommittee on their natural gas and conservation programs. It was also suggested to bring someone in to talk about solar projects and programs.

▪ **Staff Report**

- At the May EPW meeting, Council members inquired if the STC would be amenable to holding a joint meeting on Wednesday, September 8, 2010, 4:30 pm, to review the vision and definitions of sustainability. The Commission agreed to this joint meeting.
- The STC will be presenting a CAP Accomplishments Update to the Council at the EPW meeting on Wednesday, August 25, 4:30 pm.
- Staff held a meeting last week regarding a Municipal Green Building Resolution (setting a minimum LEED standard for new and major renovations of City facilities). There was general consensus at the meeting to include, in a possible follow-up resolution, performance and operations and maintenance standards for existing City facilities.

▪ **Public Comment**

- Ken Peachey – On July 31, 2010 the Mobility Master Plan (MoMap) became part of the City's comprehensive plan. If the City does not seed the MoMap now, it is not in compliance with the CAP the Commission is chartered to oversee. However, should the Commission do all they can to spur community momentum and interest which was built during MoMap's creation, and gain Council support to build the first five bike projects by January 1, 2012, this could result in one giant arc across Tacoma. This arc could reshape transportation choices, the health of constituents and the social fabric of the City.

▪ **Objectives for Next Meeting**

- Subcommittee Updates

The next meeting of the Sustainable Tacoma Commission will be Tuesday, September 14, 2010, 3:30 p.m. to 5:30 p.m., Tacoma Municipal Building North, 733 Market Street, Room 16.