



**City of Tacoma
Sustainable Tacoma Commission
Meeting Notes**

Date: May 9th, 2017

Commission Members Present: Alexandra Brewer, Josh Jorgensen, Chrissy Cooley, Philip Coughlan, Jaclyn Layton, Chris Karnes, Sheree Cooks

Commission Members Excused: Peter Hickman, Alison Baur, Theda Braddock

Others Present: Kristin Lynett, Jim Parvey, Emma Keese, Adrienne Chaney, Erika Tucci, Sue Coffman, Gary Kato, Shane Pettit, Jessica Knickerbocker, Mike Slevin, Ryan Mello

Roll Call

The meeting was called to order at 3:36 pm.

Approval of April 11th Meeting Notes

The April meeting notes were approved with no changes.

Review of May Agenda

There were no changes to the agenda.

Green Building and Demolition and Deconstruction Program Update – Gary Kato & Sue Coffman

Gary Kato gave an overview of the demolition and deconstruction program that is focusing on demolition of construction projects and where the waste is REALLY going. Contractors must use special permits to haul waste and the City is trying to beef up its enforcement. Since recycling is a free market system, commercial contractors can contract with someone other than the City which makes it harder to regulate. They are considering differential fees for sorted waste and looking a policy updates to better enforce the regulations. STC commissioner asked that Solid Waste require a disposal/recycle plan for permit holders. Other counties have banned certain items from the landfill in order to make commercial contractors recycle.

Sue Coffman gave an update on the Green Building program

1. Adopted the 2015 State Building Codes, which included the new WA State Energy Code. With this adoption, Washington now has the most stringent energy code in the country.

2. With the adoption of the new energy code, plan review and inspection staff received training to understand how to enforce these new codes.
3. Some staff also attended a Green Inspector training in the Fall of 2016, this provided some good information on building construction that goes beyond the state code requirements.
4. We are working with the developers and owners on implementing our new live/work codes that allow you to work and live in the same space, and can enable some existing buildings to be able to incorporate a live portion in their commercial space without going through the cost of full upgrades that would be triggered with a change of occupancy.
5. Our Deputy ISO is now LEED certified.

Green Advocate

1. General funds would need to be provided in order to hire a green building advocate as we cannot use building permit fees to pay for staff.
2. In establishing our 2017/18 budget, we included a green building advocate in our list of requests, but it was not funded.
3. Other groups to engage:
 - Planning Commission – to incorporate sustainable building requirements in our land use codes
 - City Council - for general fund dollars.
 - MBA – to start a Build Green program
 - AGC - for commercial development

Port Container Element – Councilmember Ryan Mello

Councilmember Mello is calling for a stay on fossil fuels in the Port of Tacoma specifically targeting the transportation network and underground utilities. He called for the STC to identify a list of egregious uses that would not be allowed at the Port. He wants to tighten up the regulations now and require a conditional use permit so that a review process can be established. Currently, any use can be allowed at any time without any review. He also wants to emphasize on what we do want rather than what we do not. He encourages the commissioners to attend the 5:00pm City Council meeting today regarding the tidelands agenda item.

TPU Solar Power Plan update - Erika Tucci

Erika Tucci explained to the commission that TP had conducted a meeting regarding a 4 year integrated resource management plan – this is a plan that analyzes where TPU will get the resources to meet the demand over the next 20 years. This review will include all cost effective energy, including solar power.

Environmental Services Strategic Plan Update – Mike Slevin, Director/ Jessica Knickerbocker, Project Manager & Shane Pettit, Project Manager

A PowerPoint was presented to discuss the bottom up approach to creating the 2018-25 Environmental Services strategic plan. Staff is currently reviewing the

Environmental Action Plan, the Tacoma 2025 plan & the Equity plan. They are also outreaching to internal staff as well as external partners such as the STC.

STC Commissioners are invited to attend the June 1st meeting at the Center for Urban Waters to provide feedback to the department. An invitation will be sent out.

EAP Sub Committee Updates

Due to the scheduled Council meeting, subcommittee updates were postponed. However, Lexi gave an overview of subcommittee tasks and asked for each new commissioner to consider which committees they would like to be appointed.

Sheree Cooks – Education & Outreach

Chris Karnes - Transportation

Staff Updates – Kristin Lynett

- Greenhouse Gasses (GHG) report is being issued with corrections.
- Bring Your Own Bag (BYOB) outreach is being organized and STC members are needed to help. A list of events will be provided.
- Make a Splash surface water grants are currently open.
- OEPS is actively recruiting for 2 AmeriCorps members and 2 interns.
- EAP outreach to Council members

Public Comment Chris van Dallen spoke up about Northwest Energy Alliance partner looking to do a 1 year contract on green buildings in mid-June. He wants to meet with TPU and the Building Official to go beyond code compliance. He also asked the STC members to speak up for green buildings when they meet with the city council members.

Objectives for Next Meeting

- EAP outreach with Councilmembers - talking points and scheduling

Adjournment

The meeting adjourned at 5:05pm.

The next meeting of the Sustainable Tacoma Commission will be Tuesday June 13th from 3:30 to 5:30 p.m., Tacoma Municipal Building, 747 Market Street, 9th Floor Visibility Center.