



CITY OF TACOMA SUSTAINABLE TACOMA COMMISSION MEETING NOTES

DATE: September 14, 2010

COMMISSION MEMBERS PRESENT: Dale Anderson, Elaine Ott, Ken Schmidt, Phil Coughlan, Bliss Moore, Steven Garrett, Bill Anderson

COMMISSION MEMBERS EXCUSED: Jim Gawel, Dr. Jane Moore, Louise Bray, Julia Petersen

OTHERS PRESENT: Michael P. Slevin III, Kristi Lynett, Lisa Rennie, Bob Mack, Bill Smith, Ken Peachey, Dan Dzyacky, Catherine Taylor

▪ **Approval of the August 10, 2010 Meeting Notes**

The August 10, 2010 meeting notes were approved and adopted.

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

The September agenda was reviewed and approved.

▪ **Sustainable Purchasing Resolution**

The City's legal team reviewed the draft Sustainable Purchasing Resolution and has submitted a revised version based on feedback from the Purchasing Department and the STC. (Members took time to review the revised version). There were a fair amount of changes; not so much policy changes but more purchasing-focused. In the initial document, there were several bullets dealing with life cycle decision making, life cycle training and life cycle inventory of utility operations. Legal shortened those to one bullet, which may not capture the full policy intent. It was suggested that there be a separate resolution dealing with the life cycle decision making and training aspect, and have this particular resolution geared towards procurement and purchasing.

TPU staff is much more comfortable with the revised version of the resolution. They are not opposed to life cycle analysis being applied to certain types of purchases, as outlined in the original version, but they did have concerns about it being expanded to all of their purchases and service contracts. The original resolution called out the IERE as an entity that will be providing the life cycle cost analysis to the City. The propriety of having the City Council adopt a resolution specifying a particular entity without having an RFQ/RFP process was a concern for TPU staff. After having expressed their concerns to Legal, TPU staff believes the majority of their concerns have been addressed in the revised version of the resolution.

A motion was made to have the STC review the revised Sustainable Purchasing Resolution and provide comment to City staff within a couple days.

▪ **Subcommittee Reports – Including Climate Action Plan Budget and Policy Recommendations for Council Environment and Public Works Committee**

Members reviewed the 2011-2012 Draft Policy and Budget Request list to ensure it represents everything the STC is wanting in terms of policy and budget requests for specific areas. It was concluded that the STC will want to bring all policies, and more urgently, all budget requests for the next biennium to the EPW as soon as possible. Members will present EPW with a letter summarizing the STC's key budget priorities for implementing the CAP by. The letter would be hand-delivered to the EPW next week, at their joint meeting with the STC. Members were asked to prioritize the list of policies and budget requests by subcommittee.

Energy Reduction Subcommittee

Policies:

- 1) Support adoption of the updated 2009 WA State Energy Code
 - a. The STC will draft a letter of support to the WA State Building Code Council for implementation of the Code.
- 2) Support adoption of the City's Green Building Policy, including operation and maintenance performance.
- 3) Support Community Solar projects on City properties.
- 4) Support a State Energy Strategy that complements and furthers the CAPs goals.

Budget Requests:

- 1) Develop a Green Building Advocacy Program Workplan
 - a. Educational programs
 - b. Websites
 - c. Outreach on permits
 - d. Participating in regional Green Building Forums
 - e. Look at City incentives
 - f. Policy codes, etc.
- 2) Support establishment of a City resource conservation manager
 - a. This position would focus on all City facilities; looking at the operations and actual performance of each facility.

The STC is requesting programs to support these policies. It was suggested that the STC identify the appropriate lead department, and within that policy the statement should state that the following programs are recommended to be funded by, and identify the lead department. If the departments are told to produce a workplan, they will find out what resources are necessary to meet the Council's requirements.

Waste Reduction, Reuse and Recycling Subcommittee

Policies:

- 1) Support development of Product Stewardship Resolution
- 2) Support digestion of commercial and residential food waste at the Wastewater Treatment Plant (expansion of the organic recovery infrastructure)
- 3) Support use of life cycle decision making tool (sustainability balance scorecard)
- 4) Support long-term rate restructuring away from consumption-based funding.

Budget Requests:

- 1) Pilot program for bi-weekly garbage pick-up
- 2) Expand commercial food composting program

Land Use/Transportation Subcommittee

Policies:

- 1) A comprehensive demand analysis of the off-street parking system
 - a. There's a lot of talk regarding additional parking. The demand and supply for parking lots is unknown, and to continue to build them without knowing if they are needed may be contrary to the CAP.
- 2) Implement Phase I of the Mobility Master Plan
 - a. Allocate \$168K in the six-year street plan toward MoMap
 - b. Elevate MoMap projects to the highest priority for state, regional and federal grant requests from the City where projects fit relevant grant criteria

- 3) Implement the open space/urban forestry plans
 - a. Provide funding through the stormwater program, for high priority deliverables (stewardship plans) from the Open Space Management Plan and Urban Forestry Program.

In several jurisdictions, the stormwater utility also manages the open space program, but be aware there will have to be support for additional rate revenues to manage that. The utility as a whole is willing to take a look at it; it may be a plan to look at absorbing in the next biennium.

▪ **Staff Report**

- Introduction of the new Sustainable Tacoma Grant brochure.
- There will be a co-chair position is up in November; nominations will be held next month.
- 1% of the Arts – members were asked to begin thinking of projects or ideas that would be linking environmental sustainability solid waste issues with the arts.
- Suggestions for future STC presentations:
 - Waste audit results and the food composting pilot program
 - Food system policy
 - Puget Sound Energy's Conservation Programs (natural gas, solar energy)
- 10-10-10 – International Day of Advocacy for Climate Change. The STC may want to plan an event.

▪ **Public Comment**

Ken Peachey –

- MoMap – It was Ken's perception that there may be more monies in the budget for MoMap than currently allocated. If so, he encouraged the commission to maximize their financial commitment to MoMap, even in a down economy. Ken would like the commission to make MoMap their number one priority.
- Inflow and infiltration – side sewers would be subject to inspection at the point of sale on a house or business. One of the items in the CAP is the point of sale energy audit; Ken would like the commission to begin thinking about this as a viable issue to be brought forward.
- City's ghg inventory (scheduled end of 2010, start of 2011). Ken would advocate that the next ghg inventory be done so the information could be available for Council in the next biennium.

▪ **Objectives for Next Meeting**

- Presentation on food waste/waste audit
- Follow up from EPW meeting

The next meeting of the Sustainable Tacoma Commission will be Tuesday, October 12, 2010, 3:30 p.m. to 5:30 p.m., Tacoma Municipal Building North, 733 Market Street, Room 16.