



CITY OF TACOMA SUSTAINABLE TACOMA COMMISSION MEETING NOTES

Date: August 12, 2014

Commission Members Present: Agnes Pate, Chrissy Cooley, Sarah Chessman, Nick Cutting, Ellen Moore, Ken Campbell, Karen Hamilton

Commission Members Excused: Phil Coughlan, Felicity Devlin, Alyssa Illich, Holly Williams

Others Present: Jim Parvey, Kristin Lynett, Catherine Taylor, Chris van Daalen

▪ **APPROVAL OF THE JULY 8, 2014 MEETING NOTES**

The July 8, 2014 meeting notes were approved and adopted.

▪ **REVIEW OF THE AUGUST AGENDA**

The August agenda was reviewed and approved.

▪ **PUBLIC PRIVATE PARTNERSHIP PRESENTATIONS - ENVIRONMENTAL SERVICES AND ENVIRONMENTAL POLICY AND SUSTAINABILITY OFFICE**

Environmental Policy and Sustainability (EPS) Office – Kristin Lynett

July 2014, Public Works and Planning and Development Services gave a Public, Private Partnerships (P3) presentation to Council at their Tuesday noon Study Session; the City Manager encouraged the continuation of this presentation with other departments.

The EPS Office has many partnerships in working through the 4Ps (Policy, Programs and Initiatives, Public Education and Performance Measurement):

- Policy – worked with local organizations on several resolutions: Green Building, Life Cycle, Green Roads, Mobility Master Plan
- Programs and Initiatives –
 - Puyallup Watershed Initiative – \$10 million over 10 yrs.; commitment by the Russell Family Foundation dedicated to improve the health of the people and environment in the Puyallup Watershed; active transportation (\$160K); Environmental education (\$200K) towards hiring a county-wide/watershed-wide coordinator, and more formal education for teachers.
 - Green Events Program – summer pilot program reaching out to new partners about methods for reducing waste at their events.
 - EBT (Electronic Benefits Transfer) Incentive Pilot Program – currently being implemented at Tacoma's Farmer's Market; those on WIC or SNAP dollars will be provided a local City match (1:1) receiving up to an additional \$10 to spend on healthy foods.
 - Puget Sound Clean Air Agency – Kristin sits on the Advisory Board and also assists with the Air Safe Program (wood change-out program).
 - Tacoma-Pierce County Health Dept. – grant dollars helped fund the "Drive Better Tacoma" (bike safety campaign); worked jointly on hosting a county-wide workshop for

street/traffic engineers to learn the latest in complete streets and active transportation elements.

- Pt. Defiance Zoo – staff assisted in sponsoring their Paw approval award and actively working to enhance Five-Mile Drive (bicycle/pedestrian infrastructure).
- Downtown to Defiance – scheduled for September 28, 8:00 to Noon.
- Bike Month – May 2014, over 2,000 attendees.
- Sustainability 2014 Expo – 950 attendees; 77 non-profits, agencies, private vendors; 8th annual event is March 7, 2015.
- Public Education
 - Healthy Homes/Healthy Neighborhoods – 2012 focus was on Wapato Lake neighborhoods; 2014-15 focus will be on the Dome-top neighborhood.
 - Stadium in Motion – new grant-funded program to encourage Stadium district residents to explore more active transportation.
 - Safe Routes to School – grant program ongoing for two yrs. at Sheridan Elementary (300 kids participated in bike rodeo, 30 bikes donated, helmet fittings, etc.)
- Performance Measurements - Staff relies on several partners for the raw data that goes into their performance measurements (STAR, GHG Inventory, Commute Trip Reduction, etc.).

Environmental Services Department – James Parvey

- Ongoing Partnerships
 - UWT is one of the City's co-tenants and partners in the Center for Urban Waters and the Urban Waters Board. The Board and staff are in the process of working on the 2nd phase of (CUW) construction and broadening the mission to include additional economic development and environmental issues. The UWT/WSU partnership forms the WA Stormwater Center with part of their mission to evaluate new stormwater treatment management technologies for WDOE.
 - Puget Sound Partnership is located on the 3rd floor of CUW; staff is working with PSP on storm outreach.
 - The City's Environmental Compliance group is working with Puget Sound Clean Air Agency in the Tacoma area on burn ban inspections; utilizing special equipment in locating violators.
 - Citizens for a Healthy Bay – instrumental in working with staff in maintaining the Thea Foss Waterway, and the "Clean Marina Program" to assist marina's in keeping boats clean.
 - Customer Advisory Panel – The Environmental Services (ES) Commission serves as a sounding board for ES staff looking to roll out new projects/programs.
 - PC Economic Development Board – Innovation Partnership Zone, government and businesses working together to help develop new technologies for new statewide industries; 3rd Annual Wellspring Conference, October 14-15 focused on clean water and economic opportunities.
 - Goodwill Industries – works with Solid Waste on the Material Recovery and Reuse program.
 - Make a Splash Grants – small grants made available to community groups.
 - Staff is working with Metro Parks to foster an agreement for Open Space Maintenance.
 - Community Gardens – currently have 34 gardens; began 5 yrs. ago with 8.
- Project Based Partners
 - Food Waste Pilot Study – staff working with UPS to take food waste out of the waste stream and utilize at the CTP to make biogas methane.
 - Prairie Line Trail – staff doing some of the stormwater treatment
 - Cheney Sustainable Project – stadium entrance project received Silver Certified by the Green Roads Association.
 - Sprague Avenue Landscaping – joint project between City and WSDOT to enhance the exit off 16 onto Sprague.
 - Foss Waterway Cleanup – was 10 yrs. in the making; Simpson was instrumental in providing a location to dispose of 500K cubic yards of mud.
 - Infrastructure Coordination – Monthly meetings are held with staff from ES, PW, TPU, PSE, MetroParks, Comcast/CenturyLink, and private developers.

▪ **ELECTRIC VEHICLE ORDINANCE UPDATE – KRISTIN LYNETT**

As opposed to making EV parking and installation of charging stations infrastructure “Mandatory” for new multi-family development, Council adopted such requirements as “Recommendations.” The STC will be tasked with developing these Recommendations, by year-end 2014, so that further regulatory amendments may be considered by Council and Planning Commission as part of the Comprehensive Plan. Members determined this process would include obtaining regional case study examples.

▪ **STAFF UPDATES**

- Staff will bring on one AmeriCorps staff and two high school seniors (interns) to work on the Healthy Homes/Healthy Neighborhoods 10-month project
- Construction completed on the asphalt batching plant
- Material Management Plan - “draft” RFP completed; waste characterization audit
- The EPS Office just released a new e-community report that’ll be e-mailed to the community twice a year, with a possible move to quarterly.
- Public Engagement Opportunities – City has launched a new microsite on budget which provides information to the public on budget structure/updates and access to submit online comments - budget.cityoftacoma.org.

▪ **PUBLIC COMMENT**

Chris van Daalen, Northwest Eco Building Guild – A regional non-profit (21 yrs.) with chapters in Portland, Seattle and the South Sound. In the last few years, they’ve contracted with the City of Olympia to do a series of symposiums on topics related to sustainability and the built environment - geared towards civic dialog and public (stakeholders) engagement. There’s an interest in partnering with the City. Their next symposium “Adapting to LID” is Friday, October 3, 8:00 - 1:00 pm. A brief intro was given on their new Code Innovations Database, a web-based resource to help building officials, builders and other stakeholders to share information about successfully permitted green and high-performance building innovations.

▪ **OBJECTIVES FOR NEXT MEETING**

STC subcommittee planning

▪ **ADJOURNMENT**

The meeting adjourned at 5:00 pm

The next meeting of the Sustainable Tacoma Commission will be Tuesday, September 9, 2014, 3:30 to 5:30 pm, Tacoma Municipal Building North, 733 Market Street, Room 16.