



CITY OF TACOMA SUSTAINABLE TACOMA COMMISSION MEETING NOTES

Date: September 9, 2014

Commission Members Present: Agnes Pate, Chrissy Cooley, Sarah Chessman, Nick Cutting, Alyssa Illich, Karen Hamilton, Phil Coughlan, Felicity Devlin, Holly Williams

Commission Members Excused: Ellen Moore, Ken Campbell

Others Present: Kristin Lynett, Jetta Antonakos, Bill Smith, Emily Campbell, Catherine Taylor, Barbara Mitchell

▪ **APPROVAL OF THE AUGUST 12, 2014 MEETING NOTES**

The August 12, 2014 meeting notes were approved and adopted.

▪ **REVIEW OF THE SEPTEMBER AGENDA**

The September agenda was reviewed and approved.

▪ **INTRODUCTIONS**

Co-Chair Nick Cutting called for self-introductions.

▪ **REVIEW OF 2014 WORK PLAN IMPLEMENTATION AND DISCUSSION OF 2015 PRIORITIES**

2014 Work Plan Status

Land Use and Green Building

- Regional Green Land Use and Building Codes – several model codes were passed in 2013; one recommendation to Council on electric vehicles was partly adopted re: new requirements for commercial.
- Sustainability goals/policies reflected in Comprehensive Planning process – placed on hold for 2014 while the City is focusing on the strategic plan; may revisit this winter.
- Adopt Urban Forestry Codes – receiving pushback; a few codes were passed in the annual amendment; more broader landscaping codes will be coming in 2015
- Implementation of Green Building outreach program – did not happen; PDS has not had sufficient resources to move forward.

Transportation

- Encompass sustainability principles in Transportation Master Plan – Transportation Commission has been working for the past 6-9 months; there is opportunity for the STC to become more involved with the Transportation Master Plan as it gets drafted.

Energy

- Implement/Promote energy benchmarking and reporting – Kristin will receive training on the new system in two weeks; TPU's will pilot three other customers to ensure the systems working well, then push out to their major commercial customers in 2015. Staff discussions include the potential to do a pilot with Environmental Services facilities for a year and if successful, roll out to other departments.

Waste Reduction and Recycling

- Development of Material Management Plan – Council has passed the resolution; Environmental Services is finalizing the RFP to hire a consultant to assist staff in plan development; part of that would include doing a waste characterization audit. Consultant should be onboard before year end.

Education and Outreach

- The new Healthy Homes, Healthy Neighborhood coordinator (Pat) started 9/8/2014 and will be working the Dome Top neighborhood. Staff is looking to hire a college intern and two Lincoln HS seniors to assist Pat with this project.
- Expansion of Environmental Services grant funding was not completed. Staff has talked about expanding the Make-A-Splash grant program to projects that benefit the Solid Waste Utility.
- The City received their STAR rating; will again work towards for 2016.
- Members will entertain annual presentations to the neighborhood councils; suggestion to also meet with business districts.

Climate Change

- ES is finalizing the RFP for a Climate Change Risk and Vulnerability Assessment for hire of a consultant to work with staff.
- Climate Action Plan Update – the City manager has instead expressed interest in developing an Environmental Master Plan.

City Leading by Example

- Research fossil fuel divestment – staff has hit several roadblocks, although, one Council member is still interested in pursuing.
- Tacoma is a Greenroads City! Staff will be working to develop an implementation program to ensure a lot of the greenroads policies and checklists are embedded in the everyday work.

2015 Priorities – Potential member assignments to explore outside regular monthly meetings

- Transportation Master Plan (*Sarah, Phil, Holly*), Comprehensive Plan (*Sarah, Phil, Holly, Karen*), Material Management Plan (*Phil, Nick, Felicity, Karen*) and Environmental Master Plan (*all*).
- Disposal/reusable bag education and outreach (*Agnes, Phil, Nick, Felicity, Ken, Chrissy*)
- Expansion of Environmental Services grant program.
- Additional research re: electric vehicle usage and infrastructure for residential (*Agnes, Alyssa, Chrissy*). It was proposed that members host a workshop geared towards: 1) regional planners re: permitting and land use, right-of-way charging, etc.; and 2) developers and building owners re: infrastructure, retrofitting, case studies for new development, etc.
- Green Building / deconstruction (*Phil, Nick*)
- Sustainability Expo (*Nick, Sarah, Holly*)

▪ **STAFF UPDATES**

- The Planning Commission is looking to fill two seats for Transportation and Environmental interests; they meet twice monthly.
- ESMS – staff is on track to get audited and certified for wastewater in spring 2015; will start on Solid Waste in January.
- Green Day at Proctor Farmers' Market (8/25/14) was a great success.

▪ **PUBLIC COMMENT**

There was no public comment.

- **OBJECTIVES FOR NEXT MEETING**

Members will have an off-site social immediately following the October meeting.

- **ADJOURNMENT**

The meeting adjourned at 5:30 pm

The next meeting of the Sustainable Tacoma Commission will be Tuesday, October 14, 2014, 3:30 to 5:30 pm, Tacoma Municipal Building North, 733 Market Street, Room 16.