

**Comments from the Climate Open House
February 27, 2008**

The comments below include written comments from 11 individuals plus all the comments recorded on flip charts.

Energy Measures

- Global Warming issues are a symptom of the larger issue of needing faster, reliable renewable energy.
- We should have more pro-active educational programs.
- Why do we penalize renewable energy subscribers and reward coal-based energy users?
- How do we establish a network of abstracts on books, journals, and conferences that are maintained for our community?
- Join every renewable and conservation initiative and give support especially to new attendees to encourage their joining the new “religion.”
- Building Codes should be vastly improved.
- Offer solar panel and PV incentives
- Waste to energy without land filling – Biogas production – composting – vermicomposting.
- Pull all resources into DSM and Transit. After DSM potential reached, invest in PV.
- Dump the RECs. – Tiered rates with high dollar 3rd tier for electric hogs.
- My recently purchased house, built in 1982, has no windows on the South side. I’m interested in putting solar heating/green house on the south side to generate some solar heating, but am having trouble finding information about city requirements, permits, incentives, etc.
- Encourage big businesses to join climate wise.
- What is the potential for DSM and what is needed to achieve that potential?
- Can we use Horsetooth for wind or hydro power? Methane recovery from wastewater treatment or landfills for power?

FLIP CHART COMMENTS:

- Accurately estimate the cost/benefit ratio of renewable energy credit purchases.
- Carbon tax – duh!
- Sun/shadow legislation
- Adopt new building codes now.
- Solar orientation alone can reduce 30-50% energy use.
- Community competition for consumption reduction >\$1000 prize, single month; sustained
- Make wind energy available for purchase at additional cost for customer options.
- Renewable energy stations for Mason Corridor, including interpretive signage at stops.

Transportation:

- No More Roads
- Better public transit system
- More roundabouts
- Work with businesses to assist with alternative transportation projects. (ex. Bus to work day or retail sponsorship of bus use)
- Multi-modal transportation (transit, cycling, pedestrian, etc.) can achieve far greater efficiency than single occupancy vehicles (even hybrids). Multi-modal transportation efficiency cannot be achieved without appropriate land use planning and development. Urban sprawl does not facilitate efficient mobility within communities. Public transit does not operate at peak efficiency with low population density. Efficient mobility is a function of time and distance. Designing communities to reduce distance increases mobility. Increased capacity of public transit services (i.e. more buses/shorter headways) will convert SOV users.

- Lower bus fares and offer more routes.
- I think it is good that the City is encouraging drivers to turn off their engines at train crossings (I thought everyone already knew to do that?) However, why is nothing being done to limit the number of “drive thru” windows at many businesses around town?
- How has open enrollment impacted traffic in the city? Was this considered before implementation?
- Go to Zoning for trash collection!
- More education about food transportation impacts and buying local to reduce emissions. (“Food not Lawns”, Local Farms, etc).

FLIP CHART COMMENTS:

- Transit Transit Transit
- Bikes Bikes Bikes
- Remember the needs of the region

VERBAL COMMENTS:

- When will the Mason Corridor get started?
- How soon will they expand bus routes from Mason Corridor?
- Why have we waited so long on roundabouts? Roundabouts save on my car maintenance too but no one mentions that.
- How about rail service from Denver?

Waste Reduction:

- Ban most organics from landfills.

FLIP CHART COMMENTS:

- Make compost bins and service free (a weekly charge is a deterrent)
- Haulers should better publicize yard waste service and explain benefits.
- Make residential pay-as-you-throw as disincentivizing as possible for those throwing away the most trash.
- Concerned about tidiness of Rivendell Recycling center
- City should consider districting trash collection
- City should consider contracting recycling with one company, and City should drive a “hard bargain” on it.
- City’s PAYT system would make more sense with above programs (districting and sole recycler).

General Comments:

- There should be an emphasis on community power
 - This was a great forum to bring together different groups and network
 - Education and marketing for the younger generation is key for climate change programs.
 - Given the threat posed by climate change council needs to find a way to pay for the relatively modest cost of implementing the CTFs recommendations. If the first year costs can’t be absorbed in the budget, we need to look at how to finance them.
 - Use HOAs as a resource to educate the community, via HOA newsletters, meetings, etc.
- (FLIPCHART)