

Climate Action Plan - Community Advisory Committee

May 31, 2018 12:00 – 2:30 pm

Council Information Center (CIC Room) @ 300 Laporte

Anticipated Meeting Results: CAC Members will advise staff in the following ways...

- Be informed on the most recent community carbon inventory results and identify key questions
- Provide staff with what supports and concerns them most about various CAP-related budget offers
- Provide initial feedback on considerations around analyzing a 100% Renewable Electricity goal
- Receive updates on other key efforts, e.g., CAP marketing campaign and Innovate Fort Collins Challenge

Attendees:

CAC Members:

- Dawn Paepke, Kaiser Permanente
- Marissa Bell, Colorado State University
- Lisa Leveillee, Wells Fargo
- Hunter Buffington, Fort Collins Sustainability Group
- Trudy Trimbath, Poudre School District
- Scott Denning, Colorado State University
- Jim Beers, Former Communications Professional at CSU
- Todd Dangerfield, Downtown Development Authority
- Stacey Baumgarn, Colorado State University
- Fred Kirsch, Community for Sustainable Energy
- Ann Hutchinson, Fort Collins Area Chamber
- Molly McLaughlin, Colorado State University
- Bob Gowing, Apex Engineering
- Dana Villeneuve, New Belgium Brewing
- Sheble McConnellogue, Northern Colorado Clean Cities
- Evelyn Carpenter, Solas Energy Consulting

CAC Members Not present:

- Jean Runyon, Front Range Community College
- Todd Parker, Brinkman Development
- Bruno Sobral, One Health Institute, CSU
- Steve Kuehneman, Care Housing

Staff Members: Lindsay Ex, Molly Saylor, Katy McLaren, Jackie Kozak Thiel, Carrie Frickman, Victoria Shaw, John Phelan, Brian Tholl, Tim McCollough, Wendy Serour, Rebecca Everette, Honore Depew

Facilitators: Chris Hutchison, Diana Hutchinson

Community members: Mark Houdashelt – Air Quality/Bicycle Advisory/Drive Electric, Dale Adamy

1. Introductions and Brief Updates (Inform) *(Chris Hutchinson, Lindsay Ex, Molly Saylor, CAC Members)*

- Introductions and ground rules
- 2017 community carbon inventory –we achieved 17% reduction toward 20% goal and are in good shape for the 2020 20% reduction goal.
- Innovate Fort Collins – sign up to judge on 8/30 if your organization is not submitting a proposal.
- Take 2 Pledge – do the pledge online, get a free ticket to Taste of Fort Collins + get 4 LED lightbulbs. Spread the word to your network.

2. Review of the CAP-related Budget offers (Involve) (CAC Members, Offer Project Managers)

- Budget offer schedule, how feedback was used in the last budget cycle, how it will be used this time, and other opportunities to influence
- Identified budget offers the group supports and has concerns with



Results

Offers Most Supported:

Energy Efficiency – 14
Non-Residential Solar Rebates – 13
Arterial and Collector Street LED Streetlight Conversion – 13
Solar Power Purchase Program – 12
Municipal Renewable Energy Fund - 12
Municipal Energy Efficiency Fund – 11
Battery Storage Demonstration – 11
Electric Bus Pilot – 11
Transportation Options Plan and Program – 10
Forestry Specialist and Forestry EAB Pre-infestation - 9
Road to Zero Waste Enhanced Outreach – 9
Road to Zero Waste Plan - 9
Expanded Municipal Sustainability Innovation Fund – 8
Municipal Electric Lawn and Garden Fund – 8
Innovate Fort Collins Challenge – 8
Plans Examiner – Expedited Plan Review for Green Building

Offers with more concerns:

Pedestrian Master Plan and FC Walks Program – 7
Cold Weather Heat Pump Demonstration – 7
Transportation Options Plan and Program - 5
Arterial and Collector Street LED Streetlight Conversion – 4
Bring Your Own Thermostat – 4
Theatrical LED Lighting – 4
Microtransit Pilot – 4

Note: Only two offers didn't have any concerns noted, many members expressed concerns even when they also supported an offer.

Note: See spreadsheet for full results – this slide includes feedback from CAC Members who sent in their feedback via email afterwards

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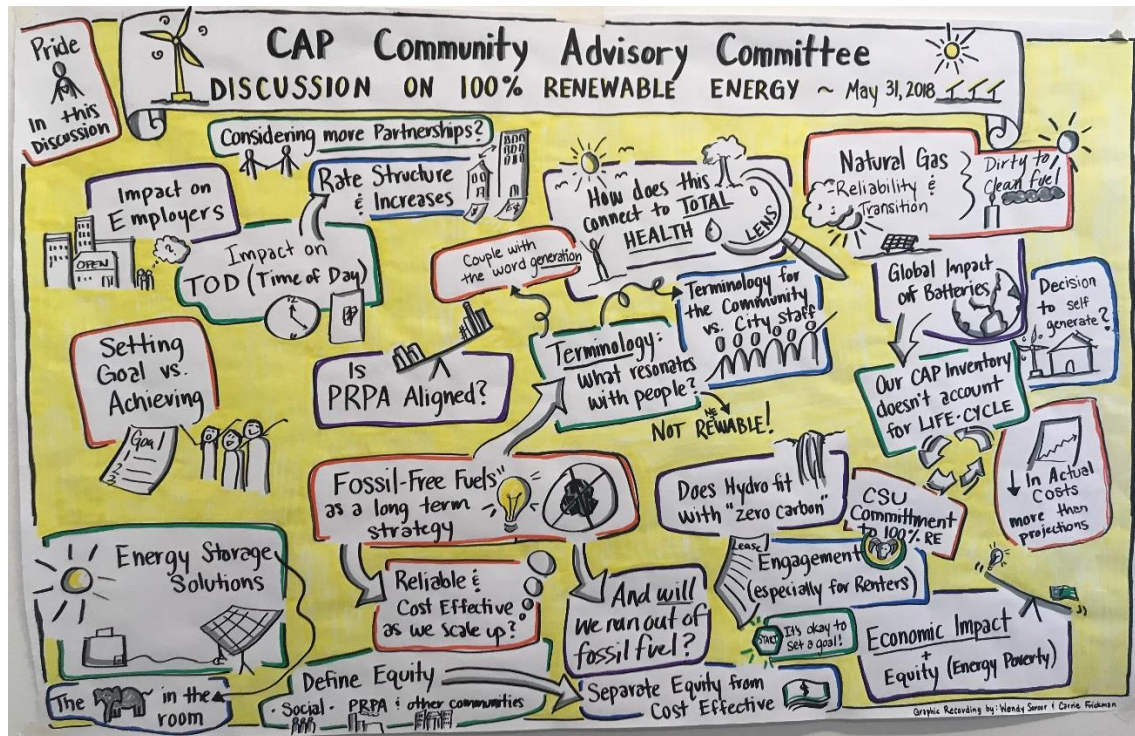
- Small group discussion on budget offers
 - Overall approach to identify offers you support
 - Easy to understand, measurable, realistic
 - \$ per GHG reduction (Biggest bang for the buck)
 - overall cost, long-term ROI, investment vs. sunk cost
 - Total reduction of emissions (Biggest bang)
 - Equity, Triple Bottom Line
 - Innovative, fresh ideas
 - Initiating a program (higher cost to start up new program)
 - Demonstrations – FC leadership, community participation
 - Number of people impacted, outreach
 - Items group tended not to support
 - Felt fuzzy, risky, uncertain descriptions
 - What is lifetime of existing products that would be replaced?
 - Planning vs. Physical changes
 - 2020 vs 2030 focus didn't play a role in decisions
 - Which offers did you feel most passionate about and why?
 - Community involvement, Physical change / visible, ease of participation of citizens (light bulbs, electric lawn equipment upgrade)
 - Energy efficiencies
 - Innovation
 - Long term impact

- Electricity-based offers (move to clean energy electrify everything, engage users)
- Planning to enable the next batch of band for \$ offers
- Waste – it's a way people relate/engage
- Commercial solar
- Direct to consumer
- Road to Zero Waste outreach & plan update
- Trees – need to plan now to avoid loss of trees downtown
- Items important to my stakeholders (commercial solar, electric bus)
- Electric bus
- Transportation (making it more convenient for more people, expand beyond 2 mi radius of CSU, expand hours beyond 10 pm)
- 50.5 was very well written & complete
- Which elements did you feel most concern about?
 - Less clear about what we would get, cost/benefit – theater lighting
 - Would behavior change really be an outcome from walking plan, spend funds on infrastructure rather than teaching people how to walk
 - Are solar rebates still needed to drive the market?
 - Are the current systems obsolete? Why are we changing them?
 - Are we leaping over cheaper or more proven options?
 - What happens to old equipment removed when upgrading to electric?
 - Are all in the right place under climate action (trees)
 - Are there other options – LED conversion through attrition
 - Focus needs to be on 2030 bigger picture
 - Wanted more justification on adding staff and what that included
 - “Green Washing” is a caution, what will 65.6 really do
 - Explore other partnerships– cold weather heat pumps, etc
 - Explore other funds or funding opportunities (grants, etc)
 - Not including sustainability in other capital projects - innovation, grant writing, fundraising can help accomplish
 - Unsure of applicability/relevance of Emerald Ash Borer offer

3. Conceptual Discussion around 100% Renewable Electricity (Collaborate) *(Tim McCollough, John Phelan, CAC Members)*

- Initial considerations identified by staff
 - *Terminology – what is included in RE*
 - *Alignment with Platte River (timing & sequence of changes, producer vs. consumer perspective)*
 - *Reliability (up time)*
 - *Flexibility (able to adopt different technology as developed)*
 - *Equitable & cost effective (equitable among communities, among rate customers – industrial/residential, social)*
 - *Partnerships*
 - *Engagement*
- What was missed on list of elements to consider?
 - Goal setting vs. market conditions – will we achieve 100% whether or not if we set this goal?
 - Impact on potential employers – Could attract more businesses who like 100% RE. Could have a negative impact if rates are raised or reliability reduced to achieve 100% RE.
 - Time of day rate changes – time variance of cost may get larger as we get more renewables (requiring storage abilities, paying people to take away energy)

- How does all this relate to Total Health (Individuals & community)
 - Medical health, clean air and water, well-being
 - Environmental, social, economic; mind-body-spirit
 - What is impacting day to day – strong need to make the language we use feel relevant to the average community member
- Terminology for “experts” vs. general public. RE = Renewable Energy, Renewable Electricity? Net carbon vs. 100% RE
- “Renewable” is a term from the 1970’s, tied to Middle East and availability of fossil fuels and them eventually being depleted. “Carbon Neutral” might be a better term, or “Green Energy”
- Natural gas as stepping stone. Currently it is a back-up capacity, fast, flexible. Cost is higher right now but not higher than storage cost.
- Energy storage – global impacts of mining, global supply
 - Worldwide amount of Lithium Ion batteries would supply PRPA for 1 hour
- Life cycle cost and assessment of carbon – disposing of PV panels and storage, carbon impact of building dams for hydroelectric
- Non-carbon, non-fossil generation is the goal. Right now inventory method does not include long term GHG emissions accounting.
- Engagement – how will people learn about changes like time of day? For example students, renters.
- Equitable and cost effective should be 2 separate items – flat-out cost increases is a big concern.
- Equity – 20% cost increase could be a huge difference for those on poverty line
- Economic impact –will key employers try to create own source to ensure reliability (if 100%RE is less reliable) or to ensure 100% net zero carbon (if City doesn’t move toward 100%RE)?
- What excites CAC members?
 - Fossil-free fuel strategy – not just net carbon. Need to also balance desire for fossil-free with cost and reliability.
 - Smart grids, micro grid opportunities
 - Value in setting a goal even if we don’t get there. For example how we set the CAP goal in 1996, it set the intention and drove action.
 - New Belgium hasn’t felt empowered to set this RE goal for themselves, but a city goal could make it more publicly possible for NBB to have such a goal.
- What concerns CAC about this opportunity?
 - Costs include reliability, flexibility, etc. in addition to generation.
 - Costs have fallen 5x faster than expected for the last 15 years. Projections need to take these falling costs in mind.
 - Partnerships – includes with customers, energy suppliers, others
 - What is event horizon for energy storage becoming cost effective? Could FC be more of a driver of this? PRPA developing a storage facility, also a demo storage at 222 building.



4. Evaluation and Next Steps (Chris Hutchinson, Lindsay Ex, CAC Members)

- Continue
 - Small group breakouts
 - Voting
 - Homework and an efficient way to respond
 - Homework 2 weeks early
 - Dessert was good
 - Staff engagement + taking notes
 - Explicit connection to how CAP work influences staff & council
 - Voices in the room – participation and sharing the air
- Stop
 - Clickers that don't work
- Start
 - A little more info on background of offers (how to maneuver to more info)
 - Raise concerns or questions early
 - Not sure we had full picture of budget offers
 - Tie letters on clicker voting to spreadsheet
- Next steps discussion Q3 meeting preview
 - Budgeting for Outcomes (BFO)
 - Climate Economy and/or City Plan