

# CAP Community Advisory Committee Q2 Meeting

12-2:30pm April 20<sup>th</sup>, 2017

222 Laporte Ave. Colorado Room

## Attendees:

CAC Members: Steve Kuehneman, Alan Strobe, Dana Villeneuve, Marissa Bell, Hunter Buffington, Fred Kirsch, Steve Balderson, Ann Hutchison, Clint Skutchan, Trudy Trimbath, Chadrick Martinez

Facilitator: Chris Hutchinson, Diana Hutchinson

City Staff: Jackie Kozak Thiel, Lisa Rosintoski, John Phelan, Molly Saylor, Lindsay Ex, Carrie Frickman, Caroline Mitchell, Susie Gordon, Lucinda Smith, Katy Bigner, Emily Wilmsen

Public Visitors: JD Murphy, Janice Lynn, Mark Houdashelt

## Action Items:

- **Lindsay:** Send out a doodle poll for the Q3 meeting as well as interest in additional engagement outside of these meetings;
- **Lindsay:** Provide periodic updates to CAC members outside of these meetings, e.g., upcoming Work Sessions, etc.
- **CAC Members:** Respond to doodle poll + interest survey
- **Molly/Victoria:**
  - How does community in/out of the City affect the inventory? How will we address this issue in future projections?
  - How much of the inventory is affected by local efforts versus broader trends?
  - Develop more personal stories around the inventory, e.g., what is a metric ton, how big is the difference between us and national trends/regionally comparable cities? Ensure stories are relevant to an individual + the whole community
- **Caroline/Victoria:**
  - Consider enhancing methane capture as an option within the organics work
- **Katy:** Follow up with CAC members who expressed interest in participating in pitch night

## Meeting Objectives:

- Receive an update on preliminary 2016 community inventory (inform)
- Deep dive into waste sector of Climate Action Plan and provide feedback on Community Organics Recycles Project (involve)
- Receive and update and soliciting CAC engagement in “pitch night” for Innovate FC Challenge (involve)
- Follow up on CAC interest in engaging outside of regular CAC meetings

## Meeting Notes

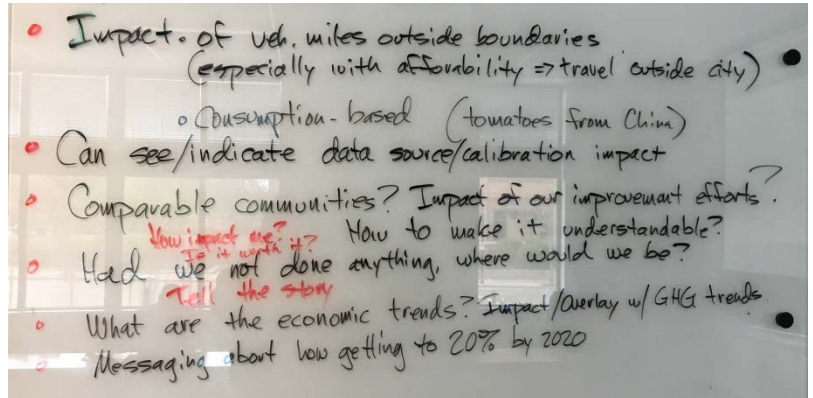
### **Introductions and Grounding (Lindsay Ex)**

- Council meeting key takeaways:
  - Use “Climate Action Plan”, do not use “Road to 2020”, testing “Fortify” language
  - Overall council support for where we are heading with CAP
  - Support for CAC Dashboard, new dashboard includes triple bottom line to show various elements of impact
- Anything else they want to hear more about?
  - Will we be seeing an update on the Fortify feedback? Yes, we will share back the measurable results, will discuss at the Q3 meeting

## Preliminary 2016 Carbon Inventory Report (Molly Saylor)

- What is a carbon inventory?
  - A way of benchmarking our progress, comparing ourselves to other cities and calculating our communities climate-related emissions
  - greenhouse gas related emissions within city limits (plus electricity generation outside of limits)
- Current inventory is based on the ICLEI Community Protocol
- We are tracking electricity, natural gas, ground travel (transportation), solid waste and water
  - Electricity emissions (about 50% of inventory): resource mix breakdown of where our electricity comes from on pie chart in presentation
  - Ground Travel (20-25% of inventory): looks at vehicle miles traveled, types of vehicles, mileage per vehicle type and the emissions factor for fuel combustion
    - Concern to measure it in this way with strict community boundaries, inventory includes travel within city limits and doesn't consider people commuting in/out
    - Are metrics of consumption measured? (i.e. the food/products we consume and the carbon footprint of these products)
      - CSU study: looking into when a consumption-based study would be feasible?
  - Natural Gas (about 20-25% of inventory)
  - What's not included in this protocol:
    - Transportation or energy use from people in adjacent cities, for example as people can't afford to live in Fort Collins how do we consider the impact of their electricity or travel use
    - Doesn't include impact of transportation for consumer goods
- Our Progress (2005-2016)
  - In 2015: reported 9%, actually down 11% based on updated metrics
  - Big reveal: down 12% from 2005 community emissions levels, over half way to our 2020 goals of 20% reduction
  - Data sources are varied (some internal like electricity data, some comes from the State (transportation data) and is updated and released every few years)
  - Why were their lower emissions in 2011? Higher use of hydropower (typically around 19% of resource mix, in 2011 it was closer to 26%)
  - There are many factors such as weather that are out of our control that impact the inventory
  - Inventory is going down despite increase in our population, per capita emissions also going down and slightly less than the US national average consistently
    - Fort Collins has reduced from about 18 to 13 metric tons Co2e/capita, other parts of the world have lower levels
    - Would like to see how much impact we are making from our programmatic efforts vs. national trends. Are the kinds of investments we are making working? What is a metric ton and how big is the difference between us and similar locations? We are on par with Boulder and Denver for per capita emissions
    - What is the meaningful gap and how do we explain metric tons in a way that is easier to understand?
      - People focus on the temperature, hard to translate how it impacts people's daily lives, would like to see data in relevance to one person (For example: my electricity is cleaner by X solar panels, Businesses are saving X \$)

- make sure we are still telling stories (specific stories that relate to our community and what progress had been made and how this impact's people's daily lives)
- Take home messages:
  - Down 12% and over halfway to our 2020 goal
  - Carbon accounting is an iterative process
  - Dashboard launch in May
  - 2016 inventory status report in June
  - Transitioning to a new protocol for next year (Global Protocol for Community-scale GHG Emission Inventories- GPC, related to compact of mayors standard)



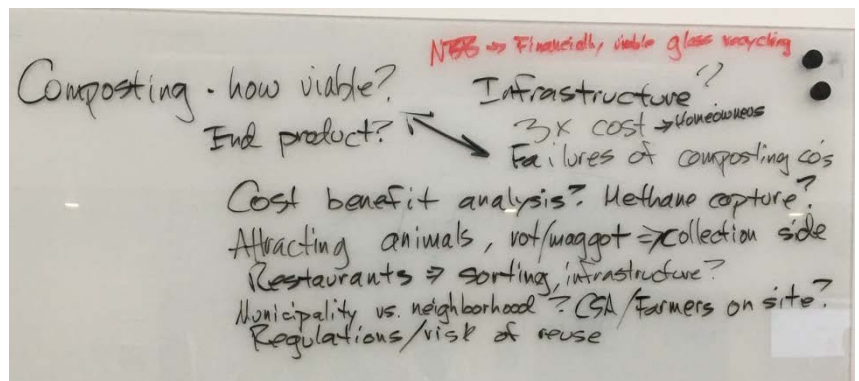
### Waste Deep Dive and Focus on Community Organics Recycling Project (Caroline Mitchell)

- Road to Zero Waste goals: this project was identified in the original Road to Zero Waste plan
- Study in 2016: Landfill Composition
  - Over ½ of the material we are sending to the landfill could be composted
  - Organics: means anything that will break down in a landfill
  - Common misconception: the landfill is a place for things to break down, but really landfills are designed as “dry tombs” where things are not supposed to break down
    - If things break down in this anaerobic environment it increases methane emissions
  - Instead of putting organics into a landfill where the anaerobic breakdown produces methane into the environment, options are:
    - Composting – produces very little methane and may sequester carbon
      - Industrial composting – can take more materials because temperatures are hotter, can break down meat, bones, dairy (this project would include industrial composting)
    - Anaerobic digestion – like at wastewater treatment plant, takes nitrogen rich materials like food – purposefully generate methane and burn it or capture it to use as natural gas
    - Conducting research on the carbon sequestration benefits of using composting on the land
- Community Recycling Ordinance: approved by Council September 2016
  - Outcomes:
    - Updated rules for trash and recycling (yard trimmings pick up April- November, residents pay a fee)
    - Recycling service to multi-family homes and commercial
    - Grocers will have food scrap collection by end of 2017
  - Organics collection was not initially included due to additional considerations and analysis needed (Organics collection from residents and restaurants)
- Services Being Considered Now
  - Curbside collection of food scraps + yard trimmings (single family homes)
  - Restaurant collection of food scraps

- Analysis: Financial impacts, climate impacts, waste sorts at restaurants
- Decision points:
  - Should this be mandatory or voluntary?
  - For residential: should it be yard trimmings only, or add food scraps
  - End destination of materials (City's role is to create the ordinance, haulers are private)
- Analysis: received input from other Colorado communities & meeting with Fort Collins haulers
- Modeled End Destination Options
  - A1 Organics in Eaton & Keensburg (Currently operational)
  - Transfer station at Larimer County, Composting facility in Larimer County, Drake Water Reclamation Facility, Heartland Bio digester in Kersey (Theoretical options)
    - CSU composts materials from Campus, but can't accept outside food scraps
- Results of Modeling (see PowerPoint chart for detailed breakdown)
  - Financials: efficiencies of scale, the more people who participate, the less expensive it is overall (least expensive is the mandatory yard + food)
  - Opt-in services get about 10-20% participation; bundled in service gets about 95% participation and reduces per user cost by spreading out fixed costs
- Developing a Food Waste Reduction Education Campaign
  - Starting with residents (beginning this year)
  - Goal is to reduce the amount of food waste created in the first place

Questions:

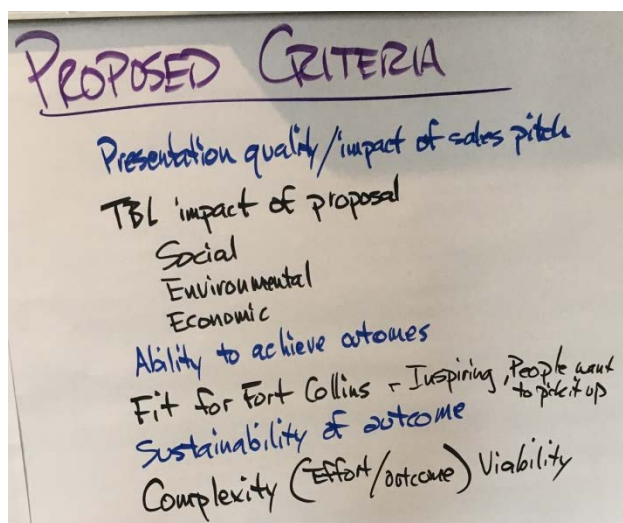
- Is this financially beneficial for the private sector?
  - Many composting businesses have started in Fort Collins and have gone out of business
  - Challenge because landfill fees are so low and haulers are having to charge high fees for these types of services
    - This should be leveraged in the policy realm, how can we make it profitable
- CSU Facility: can this be expanded, or could the permit be changed?
  - Not large enough for the community, designed for CSU capacity
- It would be beneficial to see a cost/benefit analysis of all of these options, including methane capture
- Amount of land-use as a barrier (for private sector engagement)
- What are the retail options when it becomes compost? Could this be profitable?
- Glass Recycling Coalition (New Belgium)
  - Beverage brands working with communities to find a more efficient way to recycle glass
  - Could this be a model for working with agricultural producers and restaurants?
- What about those who already backyard compost and don't want to pay this additional cost?
  - Larger-scale composting can take more materials, diverts more materials from landfill
- What questions do you think the stakeholders you represent would have about organics collections and the various approaches?
  - Need to evaluate thoroughly on the collection side, issues with attracting pests
  - Restaurants concerned about infrastructure and processing costs



- Neighborhood composting model vs. large scale curbside pickup
  - Is this something we are considering?
- Is this something CSA's would consider helping with?
  - Heavy regulated side to this process
- If it is mandatory and costs go up, how would citizens feel about this?

### Innovate FC Challenge (Katy Bigner)

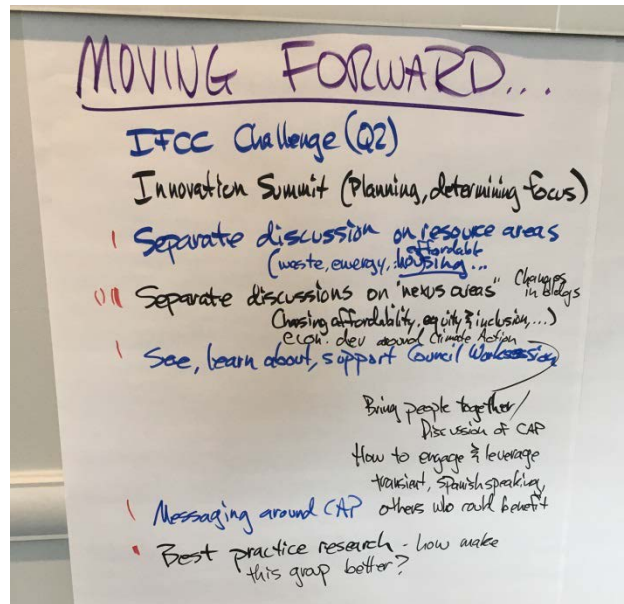
- There is a separate Municipal Innovation Fund – city employees can submit ideas for a variety of city goals and need to incorporate triple bottom line benefits
- Innovate FC challenge is for community-wide engagement, focused on Climate Action Plan goals (waste/energy/transportation)
  - Modeled after Boulder Energy Challenge in 2014, including their lessons learned
- Financial awards of \$5k-\$250k (have \$432k in funding awards for 2 years)
- Applicants to submit letter of intent by end of April, with full application after initial screening, due by end of May
- Eligibility: clear alignment with target areas of waste, energy or transportation (one, two, or all of them), quality of project plan, budget, schedule (one year timeline), defined potential to reduce GHGs and Impact in Fort Collins
  - Preferred if they can bring matching funds, social equity, scalability, inclusive project mgmt., focused collaboration
- Public Pitch night (June 28)- would love CAC support for this
  - Those on pitch panel are not expected to be technical experts or able to calculate GHG impact, instead they are providing “fit for Fort Collins” perspective
    - Interested in judging - Hunter, Steve, Dana. Trudy interested but knows PSD will submit some proposals.
  - Feedback on the proposed criteria?
    - Provide information on how projects are specifically measured (CO2 emissions, metric tons, etc.)
    - Considerations of long-term impacts
    - Aspects of complexity and viability
    - Is it engaging to the community?
    - Options for projects that aren't quite ready to come back next year
  - What role does the CAC play in pitch night?
    - Represent the community and their stakeholder groups, give general feedback on if this is a fit for our community



### CAC Role Going Forward

- How would they like to be engaged?
  - Mix of levels of interest in additional engagement – will give opportunity to opt in for areas of interest

- Would like to talk more about nexus areas (a few CAC members mentioned this)
  - economic development around climate action, changes in building, CAP as a platform for community building, engaging marginalized populations, housing affordability (combined with affordable solar)
- Heads up on Council work sessions, to see and support the process
- Messaging and engagement
- Best practice research on how to make the CAC can function to the best of its ability



### Closing and Other Topics

- Q3 Meeting Preview:
  - Focus on Energy Initiatives – identify additional initiatives to achieve goals (ex. Building Energy Scoring), communication around initiatives
  - Enabling initiatives – debrief pitch night, messaging & engagement, climate economy

### Open Discussion (CAC feedback on what is going well and needs improvement):

- Like the longer period of time today
- Homework was a perfect synopsis of topics that allowed people to prepare and be ready to participate
- Graphs with visuals were helpful (Molly section)
- Build in a break next time