

**Climate Action Plan
Citizen Advisory Committee
June 12, 2014
215 N. Mason Street, Community Room
5:30 p.m. – 9:00 p.m.**

In Attendance:

Citizen Representatives: John Holcomb, Scott Groen, Dianne Ewing, Tom Ghidossi, Yvonne Myers, Stacey Baumgarn, Michael Rechnitz, Francie Martinez, Chadrick Martinez, Eric Levine, Dana Villeneuve, Hunter Buffington, Harry Edwards, Mark Easter, Kellie Falbo, Bryan Watkins, Holly Wright, Suraj Renganathan, Sarah Frazier, Olivia Stowell

Consultants:

Becky Fedak, Judy Dorsey – Brendle Group
Coreina Chan, Rocky Mountain Institute

Platte River Power Authority: John Bleem

Staff: John Phelan, Kathy Collier, Lisa Rosintoski, Lucinda Smith, Melissa Hovey, Steve Catanach, Paul S. Sizemore, Alexis Hmielak, Travis Paige

Guests: Kevin Jones

Introductions (Art Bavoso facilitator)

Project Introduction and Background by City of Fort Collins Staff

- Steve Catanach
- Lucinda Smith
- John Phelan

Need/Opportunity- “Stepping Up” Summary - Coreina Chan, Rocky Mountain Institute. The Rocky Mountain Institute is in Boulder and Aspen and works with corporations and businesses to transform how they use energy in a more efficient manner.

- The energy sector is changing dramatically and quickly and is an international market
- There are opportunities for communities to participate.
- Energy use in Fort Collins is 53% from residential and commercial buildings and 36% from transportation.
- Is Fort Collins going to respond to these changes, can it lead, and what can we do to reduce fossil fuel use, become more efficient, and use new technology?
- There is a technological and economic potential to reduce fossil fuel energy use.
- Can Fort Collins customize its infrastructure to achieve a significant reduction in energy use?
 - Study what is happening in other countries
 - Change behaviors
 - Renovate buildings regularly
 - Use efficiency and cleaner energy as population increases

- Realize there may be a carbon cost instituted soon
 - Try to reduce miles travelled by 50%
 - Invest in cleaner energy infrastructure
- Fort Collins is uniquely positioned to go beyond what others have done because of expertise from smart metering and undergrounded utilities, innovative companies, CSU, FortZED and Clean Energy Cluster.

Platte River Power Authority Overview - John Bleem

- PRPA produces 5-6% of Colorado energy market with some of the lowest rates in the state.
 - PRPA strategic plan is online at www.prpa.org/plans and has nine strategic initiatives to diversify resources, reduce GHG emissions, expand renewables and keep rates the lowest in the state
- The PRPA board passed resolutions and is working with Fort Collins Utilities to lay out how we can analyze the City's options from a resource supplier perspective and balance the lowest cost with risk, reliability and compliance safety.
 - PRPA project modest cost increases over time, unless a carbon tax is instituted. Then it would be more.

Climate Action Plan Process / Framework Overview – Judy Dorsey and Becky Fedak - Brendle Group

- The Brendle Group has been engaged by the City of Fort Collins to support the Climate Action Plan process, do analysis of options and help update the Climate Action Plan for Council's consideration.
- The Climate Action Plan update process will incorporate some new things including:
 - Integration of the Triple Bottom Line (TBL)
 - The CAC team will include intergenerational representatives from high school to the senior population.
 - The planning team will also include national experts
 - Rather than looking at climate mitigation strategies from just carbon perspective, the plan will also look at financial and social mobilization of the community.
 - Adaptation planning will also be considered for impact reduction and resiliency of the community.
- The process schedule between now and December will include visioning, determining opportunities, planning and recommendations, and input from groups such as boards and staff meetings.
- The Brendle Group will take a "looping approach" and will cover:
 - Guiding principles (framework and organization of the plan)
 - Focusing on efficient built environment, energy supply and distribution, transportation and waste.
 - Metrics and strategy characterizations including direct mitigation, business models and community engagement
 - Strategy analysis including TBL
 - Scenario analysis including roles of City government, residents and others.
 - Drafting of plan

- The CAP analysis and metrics will be measured and organized into reports.

CAC Role and Operating Agreements - Art Bavoso, Facilitator

- The role and responsibilities of the Climate Action Plan Citizen Advisory Committee is to follow through on what Council has asked for and to develop the draft plan that describes the steps Fort Collins can do to achieve these goals
- The committee will be assisted by experts and will not do the analysis.
- The group will strive for informed consent.
- Committee members may designate alternates if they cannot attend a meeting
- Members of the committee can always address City Council with their input.
- Members of the committee will be participating as a citizen and are encouraged to speak up if they think something is missing in the discussion. They are also encouraged to be an ambassador of the project and interact with and get feedback from others about it.
- The committee will use a looping process and may ask members to form sub-committees to further investigate topics.
- Schedule – Future monthly meeting dates are July 23, August 27, September 18, October 9 and November 20, and will be from 5:30 – 9 pm. Notices will be sent electronically.

Guiding Principles - Art Bavoso, Facilitator

- The group conducted a brainstorming session to establish the following Guiding Principles for the work ahead.
 - Push harder
 - Sometimes it's overwhelming and you give up
 - If you push harder you can achieve something you wouldn't be able to achieve
 - Inclusivity
 - Be mindful of the people who are outside of the room
 - Think outside the box
 - Expand the horizon
 - Put yourself in someone else's shoes
 - Stop and think about what others think and what is important to them
 - Everybody matters – economic perspective and individual actions matter
 - It's going to take all of us
 - Participate in dialogue – active listening
 - Multiple types of communication can occur
 - I should be listening to what you're saying instead of thinking of what I will be saying
 - Acknowledge what they said by summarizing what they said
 - Be curious – ask questions
 - No criticism
 - No barriers to get input from everyone

- Embrace the challenge
 - This is a worthwhile important project, especially in the context that Fort Collins is a leader in many public policies
 - Focus on the task before you to achieve goal
- Be realistic
 - Keep in mind limitations in community and make sure we don't over-promise
- Try to understand the numbers
 - It's your role to try to learn. Ask questions
- Celebrate achievements
 - It's important for the community to know what it has already achieved (MAX, trails, ClimateWise, etc.)
 - Celebrate achievements within the room
- Don't limit your options or possibilities
 - Together we can be much
 - Don't self-censor
- Optimize the Triple Bottom Line
 - Each affects the other
 - Show unification
 - Plan the entire community can get behind
- Think and learn outside of your discipline
 - Lots of varied expertise
 - Listen to what others have to say
 - Try to understand others
 - Bring own perspective
- Remember you represent all of the citizens
 - It's a citizen advisory board
 - Think more globally than your own ideas
 - Think about what is our role as a citizen advisory board
- Don't drink the Kool-Aid
 - Healthy skepticism is sometimes important
 - Avoid groupthink
 - What is the thing we're not thinking about
 - Question the numbers
 - If it doesn't make sense to you, question

Next Steps; Close – Art Bavoso

- If anyone has any other ideas, send to the group.
- Next steps between now and next meeting
 - The following participants volunteered to take the Guiding Principles, distillate them and bring them back to the group to review. They will be working with staff.

- Holly Wright
 - Olivia Stowell
 - Suraj Renganathan
 - Francie Martinez
 - Next steps – between now and July 23
- Post documents on FTP site
 - Determine what is appropriate information to share
 - Individuals determine where they would want to spend time investigating
 - Start thinking along the lines among four focus areas where your expertise would be best placed
- Lucinda will compile list of basic background information
 - Perhaps shared through “Basecamp” or other on-line sharing program

The next meeting will be Wednesday, July 23, from 5:30 – 9:00 pm at the 215 N. Mason Community room.