



## **Climate Action Plan Citizen Advisory Committee**

**July 23, 2014**

215 N. Mason Street, Community Room

**5:30 p.m. – 9:00 p.m.**

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### **MEETING MINUTES**

#### **Welcome; Introduce Members Not Present Last Time; Announcements**

##### **In Attendance:**

**CAC Members:** Dianne Ewing, Yvonne Myers, Stacey Baumgarn, Chadrick Martinez, Eric Levine, Dana Villeneuve, Harry Edwards, Mark Easter, Kellie Falbo, Bryan Watkins, Holly Wright, Suraj Renganathan, Marge Moore, Glen Colton, Stu Reeve, Bill DeMarco, Scott Denning, Lisa Rephlo, Rich Fisher, Mike Freeman

**CAC Alternates:** Hunter Buffington, Stacey Baumgarn

**Consultants:** Becky Fedak, Judy Dorsey – Brendle Group  
Martha Campbell, Dan Wetzel Coreina Chan (by phone)- Rocky Mountain Institute

**Staff:** Bruce Hendee, Steve Catanach, Lucinda Smith, Melissa Hovey, Elisa Rivera, Bonnie Pierce, Lisa Rosintoski, Kathy Collier, Travis Paige, Paul Sizemore, Michelle Finchum, Emily Wilmsen

**Guests:** Mark Houdersheldt, Kevin Jones, Tom Moore

##### **Announcements**

- Tour Proposal- Tour of the sites pertaining to issues
  - Sign up sheet passed around
  - One Planet Program- Tour for up to 5 people
  - Wind Sites Tour
  - CSU Solar Array Tour
- Document sharing site
  - Working with Brendle Group to set up site called Base Camp for committee to share documents
  - Serves as discussion forum as well
  - Should be set up by end of the week

##### **5:50 – 6:00 Public Comment**

- No Public Comment

## **6:00 – 6:05 Review Minutes**

- **Question:** In the Stepping Up review, is energy use really 50% from buildings? Perhaps clarification is needed
- **Answer:** Lucinda- We'll look back at the presentation to double check
- **Minutes approved**

## **6:05-6:25 Guiding Principles Discussion**

- **Guiding Principles Report-** Holly Wright
  - Took the brainstorm from last session, looked at samples from Boulder's CAP and 2006 Fort Collins CAP
  - **Question:** How does the group work through a block on key issue?
    - **Answer:** Informed Consent. For key decision points, we'll call for a vote (super majority), but not everything needs a formal vote.
      - **Solution:** This will be added to the Principles
  - **Question:** How are agricultural emissions handled by the Principles (see second bullet point)
    - **Answer:** we will add "etc." to the end of the list of emission sources.
  - **Question:** What does "Maximizing the triple bottom line," mean? Should we soften that language?
    - **Answer:** The thought was that we wanted to create jobs in the industry (the "profit" in people, planet, and profit)
      - **Solution:** Clarify what TBL means in the Principles. Modify the wording from "maximize" to "consider/optimize/etc."
  - **Question:** Will the plan include an implementation schedule?
    - **Answer:** Yes, but not at every single tactical level. This is mentioned in the document already.
- **Guiding Principles voted in as long as the amendments proposed are worked on.**

## **6:25 – 7:15 GHG Inventory and Forecast (Bonnie Pierce, City of Fort Collins)**

- GHG Inventory- detailed GHG emissions associated with relevant operations
- Types of Inventories: production/activity-based (geographic boundary), consumption-based (residents' consumption), life-cycle (cradle-to-grave analysis)
- 2012 ICLEI Community Protocol is the protocol Fort Collins uses
  - Focus on emissions that we have control over (generally within city-boundaries)

- FC includes these sources in its count: solid waste, energy use (non- and renewable), transportation (ground & air), waste & wastewater
- Some emission sources are not included because we may not have access to that information, they are already accounted for in another emission source, it's difficult to collect such data (ex: HFC, PFC, SF6 emissions), or sources don't have a significant presence within city limits (e.g., agriculture, but the group can decide to look at including things like that)
- **Inventory results:** GHG emissions lower than they were in 2005 despite population growth, but we are not on track to meet our goal.
  - We are down 4.9% from the 2005 baseline (we have been down lower in previous years).
    - **Can we make a slide that shows in what sectors we increased our GHG emissions in the years between 2005-2013?**
- Business-as-usual (BAU) Forecast- Compare what level of GHG emissions we'd have if we did not intervene versus where we'd be if we did intervene
- BAU Forecast assumptions: population, electricity, solid waste, and natural gas consumption forecasts

#### **Committee Discussion and Consensus (Art Bavoso, Facilitator)**

- **Emission Sources**

- **Question:** Is natural gas not purchased through Xcel counted in energy emissions?
  - **Answer:** Xcel tracks its transfer gas from other companies, so it is counted
- **Question:** How are non-locally produced goods & services taken into account in the emissions?
  - **Answer:** They aren't in our community-based inventory, but we could look at it through consumption-based inventories to take that into account
- **Question:** How do you get data for global emissions from imported goods that affect Fort Collins?
  - **Answer:** It's difficult. That's why education about buying locally is so important.
- **Question:** Are any upstream emissions from coal and natural gas productions included in emissions counted by the protocol?
  - **Answer:** No, our protocol looks locally. A Life-Cycle inventory would cover that. That's why it's important to educate folks about looking at the whole picture when making choices.
- **Question:** Are methane emissions taken into account?

- **Answer:** Yes
- **Question:** Are we going to look at consumption-based inventories?
  - **Answer:** We're planning on continuing to report through the ICLEI protocol as our base inventory, but we are open to including in an extended inventory subjects that the group is interested in. We are doing a community-based inventory because those are the things that we can influence and accurately track.
- **Concern:** It seems like with all the emission sources we are not including in our inventory there are some holes.
  - **Response:** Some emissions are difficult to get the data from, and because of this we don't know where there is overlap in what we already are counting. But, we can always ask to see if that data exists.
  - **Counter-response:** Maybe instead of tracking down all these tiny slices of emissions, we should focus on the big slices that we can influence—electricity, ground travel, and natural gas.
  - We don't actually measure the CO2 concentrations for the CAP. We measure usage.
- **Comment:** In future mitigation, we should consider carbon sequestration through photosynthesis
- **Question:** What is the mix of coal vs. natural gas consumption?
  - **Answer:** 80% coal, 18% hydro, 1-2% renewables

#### **Vote to continue to use the 2012 ICLEI as a base inventory**

- **Approved**

**Discussion:** Are there parts of consumption-based inventories that we want to draw on in an extended inventory?

- Carbon Sequestration
- Consider degree of local control (large, medium, small)
- We should look at electricity emissions in terms of the kind electricity it is
- Individual consumption segment
- Info on consumption vs. activity comparison at national and state level
- **Forecast Assumptions**
  - **Question:** Is the way that we are calculating forecasts thorough enough? We should compare changes in emissions to a baseline in the past. Better a known base than an uncertain forecast.
    - **Answer:** There were different calculations used, but they were all billed as BAU calculations. We do have 2005 as our baseline, but then project out where we think we'll go.

## 7:15 – 7:30 BREAK

- **Forecast Assumptions**

- How do we feel about the assumptions we use to calculate the forecast?
  - **Question:** Could the assumptions be a “moving target?” Can we change 10 years from now what business-as-usual would be?
    - **Answer:** We report our progress every year and update the CAP, so we will be looking at it again as a community. Every two years the city updates its forecast.
  - Need to remember that the BAU is going to be wrong, but our goal is still to aim to make progress because we’re still going to emit
  - Why 2005 as a base year?
    - **Answer:** That’s what the state of Colorado uses. So do most other people

- **Vote to approve BAU Forecast assumptions**

- **Approved**

## 7:30 – 8:45 Introduce Climate Action Plan Strategies (Judy Dorsey, Becky Fedak, Brendle Group)

- **Framework Review – Focus Area, Goal, Strategy, Tactic, Metric**

- **Guiding Principles-** tool for us to look back and make sure we’re staying on track
- **Focus Areas-** shrink amount of energy used in built environment, shrinking transportation emissions and providing alternatives, waste
- **Goals-** Includes main goals and sub-goals
- **Strategy-** Impactful projects addressing a specific sector
- **Tactic-** steps, practices, activities that support the implementation of a strategy
- **Scenario-** Combinations of strategies. Different pathways to reach the goal.

- **Strategy Characterization**

- Look at 16-20 strategies. Need to be impactful strategies.
  - **Goal:** Estimated now as need to reduce 2,225,000 tons. 80% reduction by 2030
  - **Question:** When will we address population growth as a big impact on GHG?
  - **Answer:** We can add that to the strategy list and see if City Council wants to pursue that
- **Sources for Strategies:** consulting national experts, leading-edge CAPs, local traction

- **Describing strategies**
    - Description of strategy (paragraph summary), Focus Area (transportation, energy, etc.), Sector (residential, commercial, etc.), Type (direct mitigation, innovative business model, behavior change).
    - Defining assumptions and variables, levels of uncertainty, climate adaptation impacts (If we try for more bike transportation, how will changing temperatures affect that success rate?)
- **Preliminary Strategy List and Committee Input**
- **Metrics – Review Survey Results and Discussion**
  - **Quantitative-** Are the costs worth the pay off?
  - **Qualitative-** Scale way of measuring (high, medium, low). Things like technical, funding, and political feasibility.
  - **Top 3 survey responses for Social Outcomes**
    - Supports health and wellness
    - Ensures food access and nutrition
    - Reduces hazards and/or increases safety
  - **Top 2 survey responses for Economic Outcomes**
    - Impact on community energy use
    - Impact on housing affordability index
  - **Comment:** It's redundant that community energy use is given a priority in the survey response because it doesn't cover the economic part of the triple bottom line.
  - **Comment:** Would like to look at other concerns that didn't make the top two or three. This would be a better way of taking into account the TBL
  - **Comment:** Send out the survey again now that we have more information. Put into the survey what people put under "Other"
  - **Response:** These metrics won't be the only things we look at. We're taking the pulse of the group
  - **Comment:** Costs of implementation of these strategies are important.

#### **8:45 – 9:00 Next Steps; Close (Art Bavoso, Facilitator)**

- **How will we ensure that we have a healthy conversation about what metrics to consider?**
  - **Comment:** Do we have to define the list that heavily and put value on different metrics at this point?
  - **Comment:** Would be helpful to look at what the different strategies will be in order to choose which metrics to examine.

- **Comment:** Looking at what best practices are out there to see successes and pitfalls
- **Comment:** We should be aware that strategies will change over time
- **Seeking input on the Draft Strategy list by email.**
- **Guiding Principles sub-committee will reconvene**