



Fort Collins Climate Task Force

July 11, 2007
MEETING MINUTES



Present:

Board Members and Alternates

John Bleem	A	Bruce Hendee	P	Garry Steen	P
Paul Davis	P				
William Farland	P	Blue Hovatter	P	Norm Weaver	P
Then Dick Johnson	P				
Bill Franzen	P	Jeff Lebesch	A	Steve Wolley	A
				Kelly Bole	P
Phil Friedman	A	Eric Levine	P		
Kevin Cross	P				
Stephen Gillette	P	Liz Pruessner	P		

Others present: Art Bavoso, Facilitator

Judy Dorsey, The Brendle Group

Darin Atteberry, City Manager

Lucinda Smith, Natural Resources Department

Kip Carrico, Alternate for Air Quality Advisory Board

Rick Price

Public Input

Rick Price (former member of Transportation Board and current member of Economic Advisory Commission)

Rick Price thanked the task force for their work and noted it was precedent setting to gather members of so many boards and commissions together to discuss an issue of interest to the community. He noted that the Bike Plan was reviewed by City Council recently and he felt there had not been a lot of dialogue from other interest areas or boards. He stated support for the idea of forming a community blue ribbon bicycle task force, like the climate task force, to study bicycle issues and recommend a community bike plan for the next 10 years.

Kip Carrico (Climate Task Force alternate for Air Quality Board)

Kip Carrico stated that he is impressed with the effort of the task force. He asked the task force to consider co-benefits of measures to reduce GHG such as air quality, visibility, and health. He also mentioned that while some measures may reduce carbon, they are not carbon neutral. The benefit of tree planting to the climate system depends on many factors. He favors near-term strategies such as Demand Side Management and energy efficiency. He also stated that while education is great, price mechanisms will get people's attention faster, and gave the example of smart metering combined with tiered rates.

Task Force Member Input

None

Introductions

Art Bavoso convened the meeting. All present introduced themselves.

Minutes Approval

Lucinda Smith stated that John Bleem had provided some minor corrections to the minutes.

Dick Johnson moved to approve the June 28 minutes. Stephen Gillette seconded.

The task force unanimously voted to approve the June 28 minutes, as amended.

Agenda Review

Lucinda reviewed the agenda and all concurred with the agenda as written.

Clarify and Review Tier I List of Measures

Art briefly reviewed the process for filtering and stated that the objective of tonight's meeting is to clarify the definition and scope of measures on the Tier I list and to add any measures that the task force feels are missing. Following this, but before the next meeting, task force members will begin the filtering process by e-mail to select measures for quantification by The Brendle Group.

Lucinda reviewed the process of condensing the June 28 Tier I list. Additional ideas from the task force had been added to the list, raising the total to ~ 200 measures. Staff and The Brendle Group then evaluated the long list using the following filters:

- 1) Remove existing actions (these will be quantified but need not be filtered by the task force),
- 2) Remove measures that could not be implemented by 2010,
- 3) Remove measures that were not largely within local control, and
- 4) Combine similar ideas into one measure.

Judy Dorsey explained how The Brendle Group performed the qualitative analysis for the revised Tier I list. She also stated that their initial assessment of the benefit of existing measures was ~ 325,000 tons CO₂e in 2010, or about 1/3 of the total 1.1 million tons of CO₂e reduction needed to meet the goal.

The task force then reviewed the list of measures, page by page. Eric Levine stated that while lobbying can be effective, the updated plan should not involve lobbying measures because we cannot assure the outcome. Kelly Bole asked when the implementation details would be fleshed out. The response is that the Tier II analysis performed by the Brendle Group will develop more implementation details. Kevin Cross asked that elements of the FCSG's suggestions be added back to the list including giving energy rebate preference if local vendors or contractors are used. Paul Davis noted that using REC dollars locally should have a low GHG benefit as this measure primarily addresses WHERE the RECs are purchased. Paul Davis also provided PRPA's

perspective on the potential for small hydro and power plant fuel switching, and these perspectives will be added to the measure definition. Eric Levine stated that the carbon sequestration benefits of urban forestry is questionable.

Darin Atteberry mentioned that some measures could take a long time to consider. For example, the City may allocate funding in '08/'09 to study trash districting in much greater detail. However he stated he is not discouraged by measures just because they might involve a capital investment or would cause significant change.

Eric Levine stated that he doesn't care as much about the time frame, whether some measures can be implemented by 2010, because global warming is a long-term issue that we will have to be working on for years to come. Kelly Bole asked whether the measures not selected for quantitative analysis would fall off the list. Art respond that the task force will have the opportunity to decide what will happen to them.

In addition to mentioning the co-benefits of a few of the measures, members noted that synergies between measures are also important, and that this component of possible synergy with other measures is not noted in the existing spreadsheet format. Judy responded that synergies and overlap (double-counting) would be addressed for all measures that make it to the Tier II list.

Garry Steen asked about the potential effectiveness of the proposed trolley expansion and pointed out that a community group manages it. Blue Hovatter and Bruce Hendee noted that the proposed expansion of the trolley system in Old Town may contribute significantly to a more comprehensive transportation system with larger net benefits.

Kevin Cross asked what happened to the idea of converting streetlights to LEDs. Judy responded that through the City performance contract audit, this idea had been evaluated and not considered cost-effective, so it was left off the Tier I list.

Judy asked about adding a new measure to the list to obtain funding for the "Solar Sculpture" project now under consideration, and the task force was comfortable with that. In relation to the idea that the City of Fort Collins set a GHG reduction goal for its own operations, Dick Johnson said that he would discuss the possibility of CSU also establishing a GHG reduction target with CSU administrations in the near future. Similarly, Stephen Gillette said that he would check on the possibility of Larimer County setting an organizational GHG goal. He said that County staff are very committed to reducing GHG emissions.

Bill Franzen stated that small actions can play a very important role by setting precedent and getting the ball rolling. Small actions can make a statement about the community and draw in investors.

Kelly Bole said that as an engineer, she noted that there are many measures on the list that are qualitatively rated as having LOW GHG reduction potential, so if the task force selects these Low measures for quantitative analysis, they will need a lot of measures to achieve the stated goal.

After the task force had the opportunity to clarify the measures or definitions and provide comments on the qualitative analysis of all measures, Judy outlined the next steps. The task force will receive an updated list and descriptions on July 12, and will be asked to select their individual top 25 by Noon on Monday, July 16. The next meeting will start with a summary of the “group think”.

Art closed the meeting by asking everyone what they learned today that they didn’t know before.

Next Meeting

Monday, July 16

281 North College Avenue, Conf. Rooms A & B

5:30 – 8:30 p.m.

(Dinner served starting a 5:15 p.m.)
