



Commission Meeting Minutes

Wednesday, September 18th, 2019 - 5:30 p.m.

Saul Room, Atrium Building, 3rd Floor

99 W. 10th Ave., Eugene

Sustainability Commissioners: Chair-Kelsey Zlevor, Vice-Chair Zach Mulholland, Howard Saxion, Ralph McDonald, Doug Edwards, Kevin O'Brien, Jon Kloor, Greg Ringer, Laura Allen, and Councilor Emily Semple

Absent: Art Farley, Louisa de Heer, Julia Johnson

Staff: Chelsea Clinton, Mark Nystrom

Chair Zlevor called the meeting to order.

Action item: review agenda

Ralph McDonald moved Eugene Climate Strike discussion to the beginning of the agenda.

Doug Edwards seconded the motion.

Councilor Semple moved to approve the agenda with the proposed change.

Zach Mulholland seconded the motion

Vote—all in favor

Action item: approve minutes from July Meeting and August Retreat

Zach Mulholland moved to approve.

Howard Saxion seconded the motion.

Doug Edwards—abstained from July minutes

Councilor Semple and Kevin O'Brien—abstained from August minutes

Vote—all in favor (except absences above)

Public comment

- Sabrina Siegel discussed the potential of the climate impacts of 5G and the amount of data being produced and digitized today. The storing and transmission of data require a great deal of energy.
- Pete Frost asked the commission to consider banning plastic single use in favor recycled content paper cups.
- Jim Ball—requested the following:
 1. Include a statement about equity for each recommendation that you make to the City Council.
 2. Learn more about our regional electrical grid, particularly the following:
 - A. The limits of existing hydro for electrification of transportation and building heating.
 - B. The challenges of integrating wind and solar energy into the grid.
 3. De-escalate the Culture Wars.
- Marc Rabinowitz wants to know who wrote a statement in the Work Plan about spraying. He went on to state that we are damned if we drill, damned if we don't. He pointed out that some drilling is necessary and that we should not rely on nuclear.
- Linda Heyl thanked the Commission for discussing the Eugene Climate Strike and encouraged the Commission to support them. She also asked the Commission to ask the City Council to schedule some work sessions to approve the CAP2.0.
- Karin Austin urged the Commission to declare a climate emergency.
- Leonard Higgins echoed the request to declare a climate emergency. Additionally, he requested support the global climate strike.
- Aeron Lerch requested that the Commission support the global climate strike.

- Karyn Kaplan thanked the Council and Commission for the work that they have done around single use plastic and she urged the Council to continue reduce the amount of single use plastic items. She asked the Commission to form a committee to do research regarding replacements for single use plastics. Finally, she stated support for the climate emergency and the global climate strike.
- Brennen Matherly stated that he urged the Commission and Council to continue to work towards eliminating the use of Styrofoam in Eugene.
- Victor Oddivak stated that we need to dismantle the 5G network. He urged the Commission to go to familysforsafetechnology.com
- Mallorei Roe urged the Commission to support the Climate Strike.
- Artemio Paz supports the youth led Climate Strike. He also stated support for the CRO but noted that there is a lack of equity lens. He urged the City to work with the education community.

Commissioner response to public comment

Councilor Semple—November 18 public hearing on bags polystyrene and a vote on November 25. October 28—Sustainability Commission annual report. There are many slots available for CAP2.0 updates and paper cups are currently not on the schedule.

Laura Allen thanked everyone for coming out.

Chair Zlevor stated she appreciated the comments about equity and that the Commission is planning on addressing this issue and she thanked everyone for coming to the meeting tonight.

Eugene Climate Strike

Commissioner McDonald outlined the rationale for the Climate Strike.

Howard Saxion moved to approve the resolution as written.

Commissioner Semple Seconded

Vote—all in favor

Carbon Free Challenge

Linda Perrine from 350Eugene walked the Commission through the website for the Eugene Carbon Free Challenge. The information can be found here: <https://werenew.net/westernor/eugene>

Some questions included:

- Does the website remind you when you have made a commitment to an action? No, send a question.
- Does every neighborhood have a group page? No, if you are the first just create the group and allow other people to join.
- Can the City post it on the website and push it more: yes, it will be on the Sustainability page soon.
- The project is funded through December. The website use has been paid for through June 2020.
- Councilor Semple suggested that the City may be able to fund this program into the future.
- Howard Saxion suggested the Sustainability Commission create a group.

Work Plan Review

- Howard Saxion moved to approve as amended (see attached Work Plan).
- Zach Mulholland seconded
- Vote—All in Favor

Committee Discussion

Mobile Commission pilot

Kelsey Zlevor stated that the purpose is to:

- Provide residents in underserved communities with an understanding of sustainability commission process and their role in it.

- Identify opportunities or concerns residents have regarding sustainability policy in Eugene.
- Identify policies/amenities/services residents would like to see added or improved.
- Bolster Sustainability Commission's role as "trusted advisor" to council by strengthening relationships with residents to inform/adjust work plan.

Laura Allen moved to create the Committee

Zach Mulholland seconded to create the Committee

Vote—All in favor

Members: Kelsey*, Kevin, Laura, Julia, Art

Committee Duration: 4 months

Number of meetings: 3 meetings max

Transportation policy (active transit/EV) Committee

Howard explained that purpose of the committee is to collaboratively work with staff in reviewing the TSP implementation strategy when prepared, the EV adoption strategy, and other initiatives to be identified. The Committee will provide recommendations and identify deficiencies as it relates how these strategies and plans will meet CRO goals and address CAP2 GHG gaps.

Zach Mulholland asked the Committee to ask City Staff what a 25,000/50,000/75,000 EV adoption plan would look like.

Zach moved approval of the Committee

Ralph McDonald seconded the motion

Vote—All in favor

Members: Howard*, Zach, Doug

Committee Duration: 6 months

Number of meetings: 4 meetings max

Air Quality Committee

The purpose of the committee is to explore opportunities for the City of Eugene to give support to LRAPA and other agencies as they implement the new state rules. Other opportunities may be found in extending wood smoke programs and identifying gaps in monitoring and reporting of air hazards, among other opportunities.

Howard spoke in favor of creating the committee. He pointed out that for most of the state DEQ is responsible but in Eugene the local group LRPA is monitoring the airshed.

Councilor Semple spoke in favor as well.

Ralph also agreed with Howard and spoke in favor of the committee.

Zach moved to approval.

Doug seconded.

Vote—All in favor

Members: Louisa*, Ralph, Howard

Committee Duration: 4 months

Number of meetings: 4 meetings max

Food Waste Committee

The purpose of the committee is to look at myriad food and food waste issues more narrowly focused on issues greatly impacting climate change – impacting greenhouse gas emissions and carbon sequestration, for example -- with food health and safety, food salvage and composting economies, and other issues noted only as secondary to the climate change issues.

There was a discussion about expanding the scope of the committee into plastics and other durables. Models used is Berkeley and Portland were mentioned. Councilor Semple discussed how festivals have used reusable durables. It was decided to keep the focus of the committee on food waste only.

Howard moved approval of the committee

Councilor Semple seconded the motion

Vote—All in favor

Members: Ralph*, Art, Greg

Committee Duration: 4 months

Number of meetings: 4 meetings max

CAP2.0 GAP Energy Used in Buildings Committee

Proposal is to review the Climate Action Plan Gap Strategies for the building sector and help ensure the Gap Strategies document has the information necessary for decision making by Council. Committee will research and validate cost estimates and make recommendations on ways to improve the document for easy comparison of options.

Zach moved approval of the committee

Howard seconded the motion

Vote—All in favor

Members: Zach*, Laura, Howard

Committee Duration: 2 months

Number of meetings: 4 meetings max

Council communications and upcoming items (10 minutes)

Councilor Semple gave a brief update:

- October 28—Sustainability Commission Annual Update
- November 18—polystyrene and plastic bags public hearing
- November 25—Work session on polystyrene and plastic bags

Chelsea noted that there are four work sessions and a public hearing related to the CAP2.0 before the end of the year.

Howard asked a question about ADUs and the City Manager. Councilor Semple stated that the City Manager search is going slow right now because of the trust that the Council and staff have in Sarah Medary. She stated that ADU discussion is complicated and noted that there will be more public input.

Items from commissioners and staff

Staff Updates—Chelsea already made her update above.

Commissioner Updates

- Doug asked about liaison assignments. Commission agreed to discuss in September.
- Kelsey briefed the Commission on the Chair and Vice Chair meeting with Jon Ruiz. The conversation centered around communication and outreach and being a trusted advisor to Council.

Meeting Adjourned

Work Plan-Fiscal Year 2020

Overview

The Commission serves as an advisory body to the City Council and City Manager in the development or initiation of programs or actions that will enhance and create sustainable practices within the City and the community. The Commission focuses on the Triple Bottom Line aspects of sustainability - social equity, environmental health and economic prosperity, and advises on policy matters related to:

- a) sustainable practices
- b) businesses that produce sustainable products and services
- c) City building design and infrastructure
- d) related issues that directly affect sustainability efforts considered by the council

Core Priorities/Work Items

This Fiscal Year 2020 (FY20) work plan emphasizes core priorities, flexibility, and engagement. The core priorities guide the Commissions focal areas for on-going policy discussion, analysis, and ultimately recommendations to the City Council.

The proposed core priorities and specific policy issues for the Commission in FY20 are the following.

1. Outreach

- a. **Outreach/Engagement Pilot.** Develop a strategy to increase engagement with traditionally underrepresented populations in Eugene. The development of the strategy should include planning for meetings outside of the Atrium building and engaging with community partners to develop an effective outreach program.
- b. **Business Outreach.** Search for opportunities to collaborate with Eugene's business community to facilitate better understanding of sustainable business practices. Help promote and share actions successfully implemented by Eugene businesses.

2. **CAP2.0/Climate Mitigation Policy Input.** Plan and carry out strategies to educate the community, including neighborhood associations, about the CAP 2.0 Project and solicit community input and involvement around a variety of topics including consumption. Coordinate with Lane County's emerging sustainability efforts and review other climate action plans. Review the content of the CAP 2.0 process, policies, actions and projected outcomes, and provide feedback to Sustainability staff and/or City Council.

- a. **Transportation System Plan (TSP) Implementation (Active Transit and EVs).** Proactively seek opportunities to collaboratively assist City staff as it develops implementation strategies for the TSP that will align proposed projects with the Climate Recovery Ordinance.
- b. **Energy Used in Building Policies.** Investigate best practices for equitably reducing carbon emissions associated with building energy use in the commercial, industrial, and residential sectors. This work will include natural gas use and the City's franchise agreement/other avenues. Look for triple bottom-line solutions that are most cost effective.
- c. **Waste Reduction Policy.** Research policy options to continue to further restrict non-reusable fast food packaging such as straws, cups, clamshell packaging, Styrofoam packaging; prohibit some items or require surcharge, encourage re-usable service ware, packaging. Review Eugene's food waste initiatives and explore ways to extend and enhance them.

- d. Urban Forestry/HB2001.** Investigate the interactions between urban forestry and the new requirements for housing density spelled out in Oregon House Bill 2001 (2019). Research how increasing density can be done in a way that complements increasing canopy cover proposed by the urban forestry program.
- 3. Climate Resiliency.** Review Eugene wildfire and smoke inundation preparedness and mitigation measures. Review City action to foster general neighborhood disaster preparedness, neighborhood organization and communication and collaborate with staff to further these actions.
- 4. FY19 Follow-Up of Proposals Sent to City Council**
- a. Single Use Plastics.** Monitor City Council actions to ensure that the polystyrene ban goes into effect. Look at other avenues to reduce single use plastics through the Waste Reduction Policy Committee.
 - b. Northwest Natural Franchise Agreement.** Continue to monitor and advise on the Northwest Natural Franchise Agreement City Council Discussion. Respond to updates through the CAP2.0 Buildings and Energy Committee.
 - c. Electric Vehicle Ready Homes.** Monitor Action at State Level to ensure appropriate progress is made to address the issue.
 - d. Home Energy Scoring Requirement for Home Sales and Rentals.** Work with staff to identify a work session date.
 - e. Tiny and small houses.** Monitor Council action to address housing issues including the need for tiny and small houses.
 - f. Riverfront Property.** Continue to monitor the Riverfront property development.
- 5. Areas for further research**
- a. Air Quality.** Research factors impacting air quality problems in Eugene. Look for solutions that the City can implement and that are sustainable which would improve air quality.
 - b. Envision Eugene and Urban Reserves.** As the City continues to identify areas for urban reserves research how this can be done keeping sustainability in mind.
 - c. Track and Field events policy.** The City of Eugene will be hosting two major track and field events over the next two years. Research how these events can be sustainable as possible and provide input.
 - d. Aerial spraying.** Research if the City has any regulatory authority to regulate aerial spraying within the City's watershed.
 - e. Dietary Choices and Climate Change.** Investigate the impacts of dietary choices on climate change and how to best communicate these findings.
- 6. Emerging Issues.** Address unforeseen, but important sustainability-related items presented by the Mayor, City Council, City Manager, Commissioners, or the public, in accordance with the Commission's adopted operating procedures.

Outcomes

- Provide policy recommendations to Eugene City Council.
- Provide a forum for addressing public concerns related to sustainable policies and practices.
- Provide input to City Council and City Manager on sustainability policies and practices that reflect community values.