



Annual Report-Fiscal Year 2019

Introduction

On November 19, 2018, the Sustainability Commission presented its fiscal year 2019 (FY19) Work Plan to City Council. The FY19 Work Plan reflected the Commission's intent to work on issues in five specific areas, while also allowing for flexibility to address issues as they came up.

The priority topics included:

- City Council Engagement
- CAP2.0 Outreach and Policy Input
- Waste Reduction Policy
- Transportation System Plan (TSP) Implementation
- Biophilic Design
- Neighborhood Preparedness
- Natural Gas

FY19 Work Plan Progress

Progress on the six priority topic areas presented in the FY19 Work Plan was significant. A detailed accounting on each item on the Work Plan is included at the end of this document. A summary of accomplishments is included here.

- **Commission sent five proposals to City Council.** The Commission sent five proposals to City Council in FY19 and provided public comment in support of those proposals. The topic of each proposal is listed below. City Council approved work sessions for the proposals regarding single use plastics and the polystyrene ban. Council took action that aligned with the Commission requests on the following items: single use plastics and on polystyrene products and has deliberated the Northwest Natural Gas franchise agreement. In addition, the City has seen major programmatic advances in the area of food waste with the roll out of curbside composting.
 - Single use plastics letter (*October 2018*)
 - Northwest Natural Gas franchise agreement recommendations (*November 2018*)
 - Recommended process for determining how to regulate natural gas (*April 2019*)
 - Food waste committee recommendations (*May 2019*)
 - Follow up letter on single use plastics urging action on polystyrene (*June 2019*)
- **Engagement in the Climate Action Plan 2.0 Process.** The Commission is tracking the CAP2.0 project, looking for ways to contribute through review of the gap strategies. Members of the Commission attended many of the second round of Large Lever Shareholder Meetings in the fall of 2018. The Commission formed a Committee to review the gaps strategies. This work is in progress.
- **Building Capacity.** In June 2019, the Commission adopted new Working Agreements that address how to deliberate time-sensitive topics. The previous Working Agreements had improved the efficiency of the Commission but left little flexibility when time-sensitive issues arose. These improvements will provide the Commission more flexibility in the future.

FY19 Work Plan Detailed Review

The following table includes an update on progress on each item included in the FY19 Work Plan.

1. City Council Engagement	
City Council Engagement	The Commission set a goal of developing a strategy to increase engagement with City Council. Individual members conducted interviews with selected City Councilors to determine what strategies worked best with them. The Commission is attempting to implement these best practices.
2. Climate Change Policy	
CAP2.0 Outreach and Policy Input	Several members of the Commission attended the Fall 2018 Large Lever Shareholder meetings. The Commission formed a CAP2.0 review committee that reviewed the Gaps Strategies document. This work is ongoing, and feedback is expected in the coming months.
Waste Reduction Policy	The Commission penned two letters for the City Council urging them to enact a single-use plastic ban and a polystyrene ban. The single-use ban was enacted, and the polystyrene ban will be in front of the Council in November. The Commission also discussed food waste reduction and supported the Waste Prevention and Green Building's curb side composting program. The food waste work is ongoing.
Transportation System Plan (TSP) Implementation	The Commission created a TSP Review Committee and met with City staff to discuss the progress. This work is ongoing.
Biophilic Design	This work was tabled and remains so at this time.
Neighborhood Preparedness	The Commission received a presentation from the Emergency Management team staff and were impressed with the City's efforts on this topic.
Natural Gas	The Natural Gas Committee of the Sustainability Commission provided two letters to the City Council with recommendations on updating the Northwest Natural Gas Franchise agreement and how to regulate natural gas use in Eugene. This work is ongoing as part of the CAP2.0 review.
3. 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.	The Commission addressed many emerging issues, all noted in the sections above.