

Climate Action Plan Update  
Steering Committee Meeting  
October, 29<sup>th</sup> 2013, 2:00-4:00 PM

**Committee Members Present:**

Angus Duncan	Guillermo Maciel
Jon Fink	Mary Moerlins for Holly Meyer
Laura Gephart	Linda Nettekoven
Brendon Haggerty	Jon Ostar
Carrie Hearne	Chris Smith
Mike Houck	Kent Snyder
John MacArthur	

**Committee Members Absent:**

Faduma Ali, John Carroll, Andrea Durbin, Ann Gravatt, Tom Kelly, Holly Meyer, Douglas Tsoi, and Amy Qiu

**Welcome:**

Kent Snyder, CAP Update Steering Committee Co-Chair, welcomed the group to the third CAP update Steering Committee meeting and introduced Brendon Haggerty, a new member of the Steering Committee. Brendon is an Epidemiologist for the Oregon Health Authority Climate Health Program.

**Announcements:**

Carrie Hearne shared information about an outreach project that she, Angus Duncan, Andrea Durbin, and Ann Gravatt (representing four non-profits, Climate Solutions, Oregon Environmental Council, Renewable Northwest Project, and Natural Resources Defense Council) are working on to encourage large utility customers to communicate with their utilities about their resource preference of clean energy over coal.

**Project Timeline and Equity Scan Presentation:**

Michele Crim, BPS Sustainability Manager, reviewed the updated project timeline, which was included with the agenda. She invited Steering Committee members to attend the upcoming Greg Schrock presentation of the Equity Scan. The primary goal of this review was to identify opportunities to integrate equity into the updated Climate Action Plan to maximize benefits and reduce barriers for communities of color and low-income populations. Together with Greg's document and the work of the CAP Equity Working Group, a plan is coming together to improve how the updated CAP integrates equity.

**Overview of Equity Findings:**

Desiree Williams-Rajee, Equity Specialist at BPS, presented a brief overview of the Equity Working Group's (EQWG) role in the CAP update process. The EQWG

met for two hours every week for past four months to go over the draft CAP actions. In addition to City and County staff, the participating community-based organizations are: Asian Pacific American Network of Oregon (APANO), Organizing People Activating Leaders (OPAL), Groundwork Portland, Coalition of Communities of Color, Wisdom Council of the Elders, and Upstream Public Health. Desiree thanked the EQWG members as well as Taren Evans, an intern at BPS, for their work on the committee.

The group worked to identify missed opportunities to decrease disparities as well as mitigate unintended consequences in the CAP update. Desiree distributed a handout titled, "CAP Equity Goals & Considerations" (which can be found here: <http://www.portlandoregon.gov/bps/article/473889>). Together with the feedback from the EQWG, City and County staff have used the nine considerations included on the handout to assess the proposed actions. The group also worked to ensure the actions did not unintentionally burden the most vulnerable and those in need. Some of this work is integrated into the initial set of draft actions shared with the Steering Committee. The EQWG provided additional feedback that has not yet been incorporated into the proposed actions, but will be woven into the narrative of the updated plan, as well as in the creation of an implementation guide for staff.

Two members of the EQWG, Amanda Kelley Lopez (Wisdom Council of the Elders) and Claudia Arana Colen (Upstream Public Health), shared some of their experience with the process and highlighted key ideas and feedback from the group. Notable points included:

- The EQWG included a range of levels of familiarity with climate issues. The group realized that local government and community organizations were working towards the same goals but approaching the goals from different perspectives.
- Many EQWG members came to the table because they believe that communities of color and low-income communities often bear the brunt of climate change impacts.
- It is important that climate action initiatives engage communities of color in the work. Many of the actions, such as reducing vehicle miles traveled, are especially relevant to people who live in East Portland.
- To make systemic change, everyone needs to be brought into the process.
- Climate change has been a part of the elders' stories for generations. Native Americans are not new to climate change but are new to the goals and policies specific to the Climate Action Plan.
- Native people have seen the effects of climate change and felt the effects of limited resources.
- Native people have almost always been brought to the table late on policy processes, and the EQWG process has provided an opportunity for the voice of the Native community to be present from the start.

- Urban Native Americans have an urban perspective and are interested in transportation and affordable housing issues. Unlike many other ethnic groups, Native people are not concentrated in one neighborhood or part of the city - the community is spread throughout the city.

#### **Introduction to the World Café Exercise:**

Kent Snyder explained that a key objective of the Steering Committee meeting was to provide feedback on the draft list of actions which was emailed to committee members prior to the meeting. He noted that the World Café exercise provided committee members the opportunity to discuss the proposed actions with staff. Participants were encouraged to ask questions about the draft list and provide initial feedback.

Michael Armstrong (BPS) described the process that led to the initial list of updated CAP actions. Most Steering Committee members have contributed to the draft list of actions through the Steering Committee “big ideas” discussions, and/or conversations and emails with City or County staff. Additionally, specific members of the Steering Committee have participated in technical advisory meetings (for example, on the Urban Form & Mobility and Buildings & Energy chapters), and/or attended Equity Working Group Meetings.

The purpose of the small group discussions is to provide Steering Committee members with an opportunity to engage with staff, to understand the approach when staff drafted the list of actions, and to receive initial feedback from the Steering Committee. Participants were encouraged to post comments on the board under the relevant chapter topic as well.

#### **Steering Committee Debrief of the World Café Exercise:**

- Strengthen the connection between the more specific language of each action and the more general language of the objectives.
- Similar to equity, natural system issues need to be integrated throughout the plan.

#### **Wrap-Up:**

Question: Will the plan include the names of responsible staff members or bureaus for each action? Michael Armstrong indicated that staff has discussed the possibility of identifying lead bureaus but had mixed opinions about whether to include that information in the plan itself, or separately. In the past, this information was captured in the annual CAP progress reports.

Question: How will staff use the criteria discussed at the previous Steering Committee meeting? Michele Crim indicated that staff will use the scores to help identify potential strengths and weaknesses of the actions, and will use the criteria to make adjustments in approaching the action to improve its

successful implementation. The criteria were updated based on the Steering Committee feedback and are posted on the project website.

Question: If the criteria won't be used as originally envisioned, how will bureaus/departments prioritize actions for implementation? Michele Crim indicated that if an action is in the plan, then City and County have every intention of moving it forward. It was suggested that staff should consider identifying actions that have the highest carbon reduction impact.

**Next Steps:**

Steering Committee members have until November 14<sup>th</sup>, 2013 to send initial feedback/input on the draft list of actions. Staff will then revise the actions and update the narrative. A draft document will be shared with the Steering Committee by the end of January. Steering Committee members will have an opportunity to give feedback on the draft document at the next Steering Committee meeting which will likely be in February. A public comment version of the proposed plan is scheduled to be released for public comment later in February.