

EUGENE CITY COUNCIL AGENDA ITEM SUMMARY



Work Session: Sustainability Commission Work Plan and Annual Report

Meeting Date: November 28, 2012
Department: Central Services
www.eugene-or.gov

Agenda Item Number: B
Staff Contact: Babe O'Sullivan
Contact Telephone Number: 541-682-5017

ISSUE STATEMENT

The Sustainability Commission reports annually to the council on its progress, accomplishments and challenges – and obtains direction for its pending work plan.

BACKGROUND

The Sustainability Commission is charged with advising on policy matters related to sustainable practices, businesses that produce sustainable products and services, City building design and infrastructure, and related issues that directly affect sustainability efforts considered by the City Council.

The commission first met in November 2007, and it meets as an entire commission 10-11 times a year. Its 13 members include eight who are appointed by each individual councilor; a council liaison; and four at-large members. Monthly meetings typically include public comment, reports from commissioners, and discussion of a wide range of topics – with emphasis this last year on climate change, and land use and transportation policies.

Challenges in developing an achievable work plan are to:

- Ensure integration of social, economic and environmental considerations into any action proposed;
- Establish priorities, given the enormous scope of potential work;
- Link effectively with related efforts of other advisory groups, other agencies, City staff, community groups and elected officials; and,
- Respond strategically to time-sensitive issues.

During the last year, the commission has received direct staff support from Sustainability Liaison Babe O'Sullivan and Climate and Energy Analyst Matt McRae. Staff's key responsibilities also include coordinating continued progress on the Community Climate and Energy Action Plan, Internal Climate Plan, and education and analysis using a triple bottom line framework that incorporates social equity, economic and environmental impacts. While all City departments contribute significantly to sustainable policies and practices, the commission does not have dedicated staff resources for all in-depth research and special projects.

RELATED CITY POLICIES

- Resolution No. 4618 (February 2000) outlined a definition and statement of intent regarding the application of sustainability principles to the City of Eugene, and affirmed the commitment of City elected officials and staff to uphold these principles.
- Resolution Nos. 4884 and 4887 (summer 2006) established a sustainable buildings policy for City-owned and -occupied buildings.
- Resolution No. 4893 (November 2006) committed the City to sustainable practices and to businesses that produce sustainable products and services.
- Ordinance No. 20379 (February 2007) created the Sustainability Commission.

TRIPLE BOTTOM LINE IMPACTS

Work plan focus areas include the Transportation System Plan/Pedestrian/Bicycle Master Plan, regional planning, sustainable business practices, carbon fee and the triple bottom line framework. The outcomes of these planning efforts have significant implications for social equity and human rights, economic prosperity and fiscal stewardship, and environmental health. Although the work plan does not explicitly describe how the commission will address the triple bottom line, those considerations will be part of the group's ongoing work.

COUNCIL OPTIONS

The council could:

1. Approve the proposed work plan framework.
2. Approve the work plan with changes.
3. Request changes to the work plan before approval.

CITY MANAGER'S RECOMMENDATION

The City Manager recommends acceptance of the work plan.

SUGGESTED MOTION

Move to approve the Sustainability Commission FY13 work plan.

ATTACHMENTS

- A. Sustainability Commission FY 13 Work Plan
- B. Sustainability Commission FY 12 Annual Report

FOR MORE INFORMATION

Staff Contact: Babe O'Sullivan
Telephone: 541-682-5017
Staff E-Mail: Babe.osullivan@ci.eugene.or.us

EUGENE SUSTAINABILITY COMMISSION FY 13 WORK PLAN

November 2012

Introduction

The FY 13 work plan for the commission reflects several continuing priorities from previous years. The link between land use and transportation planning remains an important theme this year, particularly as the City continues to work on major initiatives like Envision Eugene, the Transportation System Plan and expansion of the bus rapid transit system (EmX). The commission is also focused on championing the use of the Triple Bottom Line, implementing climate action planning and generally monitoring progress toward the significant sustainability goals City Council has adopted in the last five years.

In formulating this year's priorities and activities, the commission identified several overarching goals that will inform their work and define success, including:

- Promote aspects of sustainability within the three areas of the Triple Bottom Line.
- Provide relevant, timely information to City Council.
- Have more organizations within the community working on sustainability in an intentional way.
- Have a mechanism for climate adaptation/mitigation work at County and regional levels.
- Maintain alignment with commitments City of Eugene has made around sustainability.

While the commission will continue to direct its feedback and recommendations to City Council and the City Manager, it will also plans to engage the community at large through such communication channels as op-ed pieces, public speaking engagements and other forums. This will allow them to connect with a wider array of stakeholders and partners.

The work plan covers a broad range of topics and planned activities but the first five items including 1) Triple Bottom Line, 2) Transportation System Plan, 3) sustainable business practices, 4) carbon fee and 5) regional collaboration and planning are expected to have the highest intensity of effort. Many of the additional work plan items will require less effort and fit more of a monitoring approach.

Finally, planning for climate change continues as a prominent theme for the commission. The discussions and planned work activities incorporate a longer range view on climate and the need to address both reduction of greenhouse gas emissions as well as building resilience and adaptive capacity for the climate change that is already in process.

Matrix

The matrix on the next page(s) includes the primary topics the commission plans to address in the coming year along with specific activities for advancing the commission's goals in these areas.

Sustainability Commission FY 13 Work Plan

Topic	Topic description	Outcomes	Planned activities	Timeline
Triple Bottom Line	Participate in Lane Livability Consortium analysis of TBL and evaluate ways to improve use of the tool. Advise Council on which projects need TBL analysis, including an appropriate set of criteria.	Effective, timely and appropriate use of the tool. Evaluate and improve tool.	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> Engage in the Lane Livability Consortium (LLC) analysis of TBL. Determine if this analysis will provide a way to flag decisions where a TBL should be performed. If not, come up with a list of indicators and questions to walk through to determine if a TBL evaluation is needed. Review Council's Tentative Working Agenda and highlight items that should include a TBL evaluation. Communicate to the Mayor, City Council and the City Manager which decisions should include a TBL evaluation. Track the decisions to see if a TBL is performed. Evaluate how the TBL was used well and how it could be improved. Focus on each of the three components to a TBL to determine what level of treatment each received. Present the findings (of whether a TBL was used) to the Mayor, City Council and the City Manager's office at the end of their work-plan cycle. Also track decisions that come up throughout the year that were not included on the Tentative Working Agenda and determine if a TBL should be performed. 	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> Engage in the LLC as soon as possible. Generate list of indicators/questions if the LLC is not the appropriate venue as soon as possible (by end of year – Dec 2012). Determine when to review Tentative Working Agenda and determine what should have a TBL evaluation (by February 2013). Communicate findings to the Mayor, City Council and the City Manager along with list of criteria generated (by March 2013). Continue to track Council decisions throughout the year. Create a report that shows which decisions used a TBL evaluation and send to the Mayor, Council and City Manager at the end of the year (Dec 2013). Continuous.
Transportation System Plan and Pedestrian/Bicycle Master Plan	Participate in development and adoption of TSP and implementation of PBMP.	TSP is designed to meet fossil fuel reduction goal, Projects in the PBMP are implemented and get a mode shift toward active transportation.	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> Participate in public input opportunities in developing the TSP's list of prioritized projects. Participate in the public hearing process regarding STIP grants for the EastWest Amazon and the Jessen bike paths. Draft letter of support for the city's application to ODOT to fund the NE Livable Streets project. Provide ongoing support/public comment regarding South Willamette Street improvements. Street Repair Bond Measure: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> Urge BPAC and staff to prioritize projects that are most important for changing the mode split. Ask staff to incorporate bike/ped considerations in ALL roads that are repaired. Recommend to City Council that it adopt a policy that major street reconstruction and re-pavement projects should proceed in tandem with implementation of projects recommended in the BPMP and other Eugene transportation plans. Recommend to City Council that it adopt a policy where transportation funds available to the City, which are not constitutionally dedicated to the 	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> TSP: Project list should be set by spring, 2013, so we will engage through the end of the process. STIP Grants: Dec. 13 and Jan 9 are key dates for public hearings on STIP grants. Livable Streets: ODOT application due Dec. 15. S. Willamette: Public forums on Nov. 13, March 2013, and June/July, 2013. Public meeting re: land use on Oct. 30, 2012. Draft plan to be finished by Aug. 2013. Final plan to Council by Oct. 2013. Bond Measure: Mode-split project recommendations and letter to staff should be completed before 2013. PBMP Coordination: Discuss as a Commission and make policy recommendation to Council in Dec/Jan. Meet with city staff for

Sustainability Commission FY 13 Work Plan

Topic	Topic description	Outcomes	Planned activities	Timeline
			<p>automobile, be expended preferentially for active transportation modes.</p> <p>8. Provide support for a Sidewalk Infill Plan.</p>	<p>more info.</p> <p>7. <u>Active Transportation Funding</u>: Discuss as a Commission and make policy recommendation to Council in Dec/Jan.</p> <p>8. <u>Sidewalk Infill Plan</u>: Ongoing</p>
Sustainable practices	<p>Investigate and develop a Commission report around how current City policy encourages or discourages sustainable practices within private businesses. Recommend changes in City policy that will encourage sustainable business practices.</p>	<p>Complete and submit to staff and council a report and recommendations about how to improve policy support for green business practices.</p>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Interview eight visible Green Businesses in Eugene (e.g., from Green Business Network and/or Green Lane): <ol style="list-style-type: none"> a. What are their sustainable practices? b. What has been easy or hard about dealing with the City? c. What changes would they suggest? 2. Interview Sustainability staff in Boulder, CO, Portland, OR, Chicago, NYC, Santa Monica, CA, Chattanooga, San Francisco for ideas about what they've done or are planning to do in this arena 3. Craft report and recommendations 	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. By January 31st, 2013 2. By March 30th, 2013 3. Draft by April 30th, final by May 31st.
Carbon fee	<p>Investigate revenue neutral fee on greenhouse gas emissions, and bring back a recommendation on what effective action can be taken to advance.</p>	<p>Potential policy recommendation to bring forward to Council.</p>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Research means and examples of implementing a plan to send a price signal around greenhouse gas emissions. <ol style="list-style-type: none"> a. Structure b. Geographic scope 2. Provide outline to and check in with sustainability commission re recommendations 3. Provide draft recommendations to sustainability commission 	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Late November 2. January 3. March
Regional collaboration and planning	<p>Work towards regional coordination for decision making around sustainability/climate change. (With Lane Livability Consortium and scenario planning aligned to achieve a sustainable future).</p>	<p>Recommendation to Council that city participates in regional collaboration for climate mitigation and resilience.</p>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Develop a summary description of existing local mechanisms, especially intergovernmental mechanisms, for regional collaboration around sustainability/climate change. <ol style="list-style-type: none"> a. Within the region: Lane Livability Consortium, MPO and scenario planning, WV compact, Regional Prosperity Plan, Willamette River Basin, LCOG. b. Potential models from other regions (e.g. King Co, WA). 2. Interview elected officials and executive staff (mayors/chairs/directors) including above organizations and other key stakeholders (e.g. schools, utilities serving Eugene) regarding which mechanisms have greatest potential to be effective toward this goal, opportunities and barriers to address. 3. Develop and share recommendations with commission and City Council/Mayor. 	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. By mid-December 2. By end of April 3. By end of May (Sustainability Commission) and June (City Council)

Sustainability Commission FY 13 Work Plan

Topic	Topic description	Outcomes	Planned activities	Timeline
20 minute neighborhoods	Track progress of the pilot 20 minute neighborhoods; identify and flag opportunities for policy recommendations based on pilot programs and creating neighborhood engagement.	Monitor and champion outcomes from pilot, including practical steps and best practices to implement 20 minute neighborhoods.	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> Attend several public input opportunities for the pilot projects to evaluate amount/effectiveness of public input. Meet with City staff and neighborhood leaders to discuss progress of 20 minute neighborhood projects. Compile list of recommendations concerning implementation of 20 minute neighborhood and submit to Sustainability Commission for review. 	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> South Willamette Pilot: public input sessions planned Oct. 2012-July 2013 with final plans for (1) street and (2) land use to City Council by Fall 2013. Next Public Forums Oct. 30 and Nov. 13 Northeast: project expected to begin in January and continue for 9 months (i.e. September)
Internal Climate Action Plan	Monitor and advise, explore possibility of doing internal climate planning in each city department.	Correspond with Council about progress and pace of implementation and make recommendation for further action.	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> Prepare for interviews with department heads and City Manager. <ol style="list-style-type: none"> Develop proposals on incentives for making changes. Review ICAP and progress report and department level trends. Determine whether staff or Sustainability Commission should conduct interviews. Conduct interviews (if commission is doing so). Make recommendation to Sustainability Commission for vetting prior to moving to council. 	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> By January January February
EmX	Monitor and advocate for the development and impact evaluation of an integrated EmX system and build partnerships with other entities to advocate and educate.	Liaison will monitor and recommend action on part of commission.	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> Participate in BEST (Better Eugene Springfield Transit) meetings and deliberations. Maintain regular contact with LTD officials regarding status of all EmX routes, funding and information. Monitor EmX opposition information. Work with BEST and LTD to craft advocacy messaging. Inform Sustainability Commission monthly on EmX status. Develop recommendations for City Council as appropriate. 	Ongoing
Sustainable energy policy	Agenda items for joint EWEB/City Council meeting	Provide recommendations for items on the agenda	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> Conduct interviews with EWEB and City staff as needed. Develop recommendations for agenda items and submit to Sustainability Commission for vetting 	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 2 months prior to deadline for submitting agenda items 1-2 months prior to deadline for submitting agenda items
Work requests	Current outstanding requests include 1) sweat-free purchasing policy, 2) environmental justice initiative, and 3) 4-J schools.	Determine process to effectively deal with requests. Place items on agenda and develop response within 60 days.	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> Identify and adopt a process. Determine if value added by Sustainability Commission for current outstanding items. Be responsive to any new incoming requests. 	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> Nov. 2012 Nov. 2012: respond to request for Environmental Justice training. Jan. 2013 respond to request for sweat-free purchasing policy. Ongoing.

Eugene Sustainability Commission: FY 12 Annual Report

	EmX	20 Minute Neighborhoods	Pedestrian/Bicycle Master Plan (PBMP)	Regional Planning	Integrated Electricity Resource Plan (IERP)/ Climate and Energy Action Plan (CEAP)	Food Security	Triple Bottom Line framework	Coal Trains ("new item on work plan)	Capstone ("new item on work plan)
Policy Advice & Communication (City Council)	Review proposed West 11 th EmX corridor plan and synthesize recommendations to City Council. Coordinate with Coordinated Land Use and Transportation Action Committee (CLUTAC).	Input to Planning Commission and Council on how to enhance 20 Minute Neighborhoods. Allocation of Planning, Transportation, Economic Development and Parks resources.	Review PBMP and develop recommendations for improvement. Input to Council: bike/pedestrian modes in Transportation System Plan, regional plans. Input to Council: PBMP supports Envision Eugene, Climate and Energy Action Plan. <i>Memo sent to Council 2/7/12.</i>	Transportation System Plan (TSP): consider regional relevance to local decisions. TSP: include CEAP goals and metrics. Sustainability Commissioners and CLUTAC members participate in STARS training.	Develop policy level guidance for CEAP implementation. Review and comment on Draft IERP.	Propose a new Food Security Policy for Eugene based on Food Security Scoping Plan.	Meet with city staff to monitor application. Pursue Creative Commons license and disseminate TBL tool to municipalities.	Develop recommendations for City Council on trains transporting coal through City of Eugene.	Develop feedback to City Council on alignment of Capstone housing project with sustainability goals and other relevant policies.
Status	<i>Report on Triple Bottom Line analysis of West Eugene EmX submitted to Planning Commission and Sustainability Commission. Report submitted with joint letter of support to Council on 9/24/12.</i>	<i>20 minute neighborhoods addressed in letter to Council on Envision Eugene recommendation (5/14/12).</i>		<i>Commissioner attended STARS training.</i>	<i>Memo to Council on 10/4/11 with feedback on CEAP Progress Report. Commissioner served on IERP advisory committee.</i>	<i>Subcommittee conducted scan of local initiatives. Letter with recommendations submitted to Council on 5/29/12.</i>	<i>No action to date.</i>	<i>Letter delivered 4/15/12. Councilor Zelenka proposed a resolution which included commissions recommendations. Council adopted Resolution 5065 on Oct. 22.</i>	<i>Letter delivered 4/25/12. Input informed revision of MUJPE resolution.</i>
Outreach, Education & Collaboration	Review current outreach efforts and make recommendations, including partners to endorse/collaborate.	Neighborhood Leaders Council (NLC)/Neighborhood Leaders Council Sustainability (NLCCOS) collaboration. "Roadshow" to interested groups. Meet with businesses and developers to assess feasibility/barriers. Op-Ed to local newspapers/publications.	Bicycle Pedestrian Advisory Committee (BPAC)-Sustainability Commission communication. NLC/NLCCOS collaboration – recommendations to Council. Coordinate support with local bicycle and pedestrian groups.	Input on relationship of Eugene TSP to regional TSP. Recommendation to Council: message to LCOG on importance of regional sustainability.	Support Energy Performance Score (EPS) summit. Develop position/talking points for Automatic Metering Infrastructure (AMI).	Participate in the Local Food Connection conference (co-sponsor or co-facilitate).	Develop list of opportunities to publicize TBL program in Eugene. Explain TBL decision process to neighborhood groups.	N/A	N/A
Status	<i>Some outreach to Yes on EmX campaign organizers.</i>	<i>No action to date.</i>	<i>Commissioner liaison with BPAC and Street Repair Review Committee.</i>	<i>No action to date.</i>	<i>Presentation from EWEB staff on AMI. No further action to date.</i>	<i>Commission members and staff participated in conference panels.</i>	<i>No action to date.</i>	N/A	N/A
Equity	Joint statement with Human Rights Commission (HRC) on transportation equity.	Develop joint statement/talking points with HRC. Showcase diversity, community participation.	Work with advocates to improve equity/access in PBMP, provide related data to Council. Support safe facilities for those with mobility	Identify and advocate for equity considerations in regional planning criteria. Identify equity aspects	Encourage energy efficiency when addressing health and safety issues in the rental housing program.	Assessment of food needs/shortages working with Food for Lane County, others.	Work with HRC to get input on TBL	See below.	N/A

Eugene Sustainability Commission: FY 12 Annual Report

	EmX	20 Minute Neighborhoods	Pedestrian/Bicycle Master Plan (PBMP)	Regional Planning	Integrated Electricity Resource Plan (IERP)/ Climate and Energy Action Plan (CEAP)	Food Security	Triple Bottom Line framework	Coal Trains ("new item on work plan)	Capstone ("new item on work plan)
Status	Joint subcommittee met 5/11/12. No joint statement was adopted but HRC reviewed project and human rights/equity implications.	No action to date. HRC and Sustainability Commission leadership have met to explore collaboration generally.	Issues. No action to date	of the TSP. Commissioner attending STARS training where equity considerations were included.	No action to date.	Subcommittee conducted scan of local initiatives and prepared recommendations for city action in letter submitted on 5/29/12.	No action to date.	Health concerns addressed in letter (4/15/12).	N/A
Articulate economic impacts	Review economic impacts. Articulate those in human terms. Testify at key hearings.	Recruit business organizations to promote.	Obtain data on costs/benefits of active transportation. Communicate impacts to Council, community and media. Some discussion of funding infrastructure for alternative modes in memo to Council (2/7/12).	Identify economic impacts from concurrent local and regional planning.	TBL analysis: AMI (to be completed by EWFB).	TBL analysis: promoting local organic food production/processing/distribution. TBL analysis: proposed Food Security Policy.	Create committee to determine economic impacts from TBL analyses.	See below.	N/A
Status	Economic impacts included in report from CLUTAC submitted on 9/24/12.	No action to date.		No action to date.	N/A	No action to date.	No action to date.	Economic impacts addressed in letter (4/15/12).	N/A