

EUGENE CITY COUNCIL AGENDA ITEM SUMMARY



Work Session: Sustainability Commission Work Plan and Annual Report

Meeting Date: October 21, 2013
Department: Central Services
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Agenda Item Number: B
Staff Contact: Babe O'Sullivan
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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 core elements of the FY 14 Work Plan were developed in a commission retreat in August during which the commission reviewed its accomplishments from the previous year and identified priorities for the coming year. Further refinements were made after consultation with the City Manager. An important consideration was to focus on actionable items where the commission could add value. The commission is also intent on pursuing strategic local partners to leverage their efforts and expand the base of their outreach and public engagement.

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.

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.

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 FY14 work plan.

ATTACHMENTS

- A. Sustainability Commission FY 14 Work Plan
- B. Sustainability Commission FY 13 Annual Report

FOR MORE INFORMATION

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