

# EUGENE CITY COUNCIL AGENDA ITEM SUMMARY



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## Action: Approval of Sustainability Commission Amended Work Plan

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Meeting Date: November 28, 2011  
Department: Central Services  
*www.eugene-or.gov*

Agenda Item Number: 5  
Staff Contact: Babe O'Sullivan  
Contact Telephone Number: 541-682-5017

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### **ISSUE STATEMENT**

This is an action item to approve the Sustainability Commission Amended Work Plan. The Sustainability Commission submitted a work plan to the City Council on October 19, 2011. The council requested changes to the work plan prior to approval.

### **BACKGROUND**

The Sustainability Commission submitted its FY 12 work plan to the council in a work session on October 19, 2011. The work plan included an item that stated "support rental housing code revisions for energy efficiency." In addition, the work plan directed the commission to "articulate economic benefits and implications."

After some discussion, the council passed a motion "to request changes to the work plan before approval, specifically the item referencing the Rental Housing Code."

The work plan has been amended to reflect the changes discussed in the council work session. The first item regarding energy efficiency has been changed to read "encourage energy efficiency when addressing health and safety issues in the rental housing program." The second item substitutes the phrase "economic impacts" in place of "economic benefits and implications."

### **COUNCIL OPTIONS**

The council may:

1. Approve the work plan as amended
2. Request changes to the work plan before approval

### **CITY MANAGER'S RECOMMENDATION**

The City Manager recommends approval of the amended work plan.

### **SUGGESTED MOTION**

Move to approve the Sustainability Commission FY12 work plan as amended.

**ATTACHMENTS**

A. Sustainability Commission Amended Work Plan

**FOR MORE INFORMATION**

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**SUSTAINABILITY COMMISSION FY 12 WORK PLAN**

Nov. 18, 2011

**Introduction**

The work of the Eugene Sustainability Commission for FY 12 reflects a renewed focus on important themes carried forward from recent years. With major land use and transportation initiatives still taking shape, the commission will be looking at how to integrate these initiatives to meet the sustainability goals adopted by Council. Those goals specific to reducing greenhouse gas emissions and fossil fuel use as well as adaptation to changing climate and rising energy prices are embodied in the Community Climate and Energy Action Plan (CEAP) approved by Council in 2010. Effective planning for the impacts of climate change and energy volatility provides a unifying framework for the commission and this will guide its oversight of implementation efforts.

Priority will be given to the decisions Council must make on such high-level initiatives as Envision Eugene, the Transportation System Plan and EmX. The commission's role in the coming year will be to reinforce the importance of goals Council has set and the need to be faithful to those goals in the policy decisions that are made. The commission can assist by highlighting the connections between policy decisions and the implications for reaching sustainability goals.

There are also important building blocks that may not involve Council decisions but deserve commission attention such as:

- Implementation of 20 minute neighborhoods
- Role of bike/pedestrian travel in land use and transportation decisions and policies
- Regional planning issues and sustainability initiatives
- Integrated Electric Resource Plan (IERP)

Communication efforts are vital to the success of the commission's work, both in advising Council and city staff and informing the Eugene community. The commission aims to align its communication efforts to the work plan themes for FY 12. New assignments will be made for commission liaisons with attention to community groups related to work plan activities. The commission also plans to provide more frequent feedback to Council by offering comments during public hearings and forums.

The commission also recognizes the importance of collaboration with other commissions, community organizations and partners. Stronger working relationships will be sought with the following groups:

- Human Rights Commission (HRC)
- Transportation Community Resource Group (TCRG)
- Coordinated Land Use and Transportation Action Committee (CLUTAC)
- Neighborhood Leaders Council (NLC)
- EWEB
- Metropolitan Policy Committee

The matrix on the next page calls out the intersection of primary commission activities and the focus areas for the coming year. Activities include providing policy advice and communication, engaging in outreach, education and collaboration, focusing on equity considerations, and articulating the economic benefits and implications of major policy decisions.

**Work Plan Matrix: Focus Areas and Activities**

Types of activities in the rows

Topic areas in the columns

	EmX	20 min Neighborhoods	Pedestrian/Bicycle Master Plan	Regional Planning	IERP / CEAP	Food Security	Triple Bottom Line framework
<b>Policy Advice &amp; Communication (CC)</b>	Review proposed West 11 <sup>th</sup> EmX corridor plan and synthesize recommendations to City Council.  Coordinate with CLUTAC.	Input to Planning Commission and Council on how to enhance 20 min. Neighborhoods  Allocation of Planning, Transportation, Economic Development and Parks resources	Review PBMP and develop recommendations for improvement  Input to Council: importance of bike/pedestrian modes in TSP, regional plans  Input to Council: PBMP supports Envision Eugene, CEAP	TSP: consider regional relevance to local decisions  TSP: include CEAP goals and metrics  SC/CLUTAC participation 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
<b>Outreach, Education &amp; Collaboration</b>	Review current outreach efforts and make recommendations, including partners to endorse/collaborate	NLC/NLCCS collaboration  "Roadshow" to interested groups  Meet with businesses and developers to assess feasibility/barriers  Op-Ed to local newspapers/publications	BPAC-SC communication  NLC/NLCCS 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
<b>Equity</b>	Joint statement with 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 issues	Identify and advocate for equity considerations in regional planning criteria  Identify equity aspects of the TSP	Support rental housing code revisions for energy efficiency <u>Encourage energy efficiency when addressing health and safety issues in the rental housing program</u>	Assessment of food needs/shortages working with Food for Lane County, others	Work with HRC to get input on TBL
<b>Articulate economic benefit &amp; implications impacts</b>	Review economic benefits <u>impacts</u> . Articulate those in human terms. Testify at key hearings	Recruit business organizations to promote	Obtain data on costs/benefits of active transportation  Communicate <u>benefits impacts</u> to Council, community and media	Identify economic <u>benefits impacts</u> from concurrent local and regional planning	TBL analysis: AMI (to be completed by EWEB)	TBL analysis: promoting local organic food production/processing/distribution  TBL analysis: proposed Food Security Policy	Create committee to determine economic <u>benefits and implications of impacts from TBL analyses</u>

## Key to Acronyms

CEAP – Community Climate and Energy Action Plan

CLUTAC – Coordinated Land Use and Transportation Action Committee – a joint committee of the Planning Commission and the Sustainability Commission

IERP – Integrated Electric Resource Plan – EWEB's periodic planning and stakeholder process (every five years or so) to plan how to meet 20-year electricity needs  
Info at EWEB's site: <http://www.eweb.org/2011ierp>

LCOG – Lane Council of Governments

NLC – Neighborhood Leaders Council

NLCCS – Neighborhood Leaders Council Committee on Sustainability

PBMP – Pedestrian/Bicycle Master Plan

SC – Sustainability Commission

STARS – Strategic Transportation Analysis Rating System

TBL – Triple Bottom Line

TSP – Transportation System Plan