

**Climate Change Advisory Committee
Meeting Minutes
February 15, 2023**

Meeting called to order at 5:31 PM by David.

Roll call: David McCaughey, Kevin Thomas, Mike Cox, Deb Rudnick, Julie Matthews, Steve Richards, Derik Broekhoff, John Kydd, Autumn Salamack, and Blair King

Agenda: No additions

Conflict of Interest: Deb indicated she does contract work for EcoAdapt.

Minutes: Minor change to minutes for January 18: James Rufo-Hill is a *former* member of the CCAC. Richard moved to approve. David seconded. Unanimously approved.

Public comments: John Gregoire (member of the public) indicated he would listen in; no comments.

Blair King (City Manager) addressed the Committee on the city's decision to terminate a contract with EcoAdapt, under which EcoAdapt would advise city staff on applying a tool (developed by EcoAdapt and offered free of charge) for evaluating city projects with respect to climate change mitigation and adaptation objectives, in line with the city's Climate Action Plan. Committee members expressed frustration with the decision and discussed alternatives for providing city staff with the support they need to use the tool, in ways that avoid perceived conflicts of interest.

Action items: Committee members Kevin Thomas, Mike Cox, Julie Matthews, and John Kydd agreed to form a subcommittee to explore whether CCAC members could provide needed support on an ongoing basis. The subcommittee will also look to identify other cities using the tool, who may also be able to provide either training or support on its application.

Note: CCAC member Deb Rudnick departed after the public comment session.

Climate Officer Updates:

Climate smart challenge update: Autumn indicated there will be a push through may to sign up more households, targeting 550 total (from a current number of 217). Current households have collectively reduced 96 tons of CO₂-equivalent emissions; the goal is to double this to 200 tons. The current campaign will include to get more schools signed up through climate smart youth.

Action item: Autumn solicited volunteers for doing outreach about the program on ferry runs (timing TBD). Committee members offered to help amplify other outreach efforts.

Carbon offsets for the police building: Autumn updated the committee on efforts to identify carbon offset options for the new police building. A consultant was hired to evaluate a short list of options. Committee members discussed several options, including expansion of a heat pump pilot program as well as solar farm options. The review is now being considered by the city manager who will decide next steps, which could include further consultation with the Committee and/or forwarding to City Council for consideration.

Sustainable transportation analyst position: Committee members were provided with a draft job description for a new sustainable transportation analyst position. Part of larger discussion around how to implement the city's sustainable transportation plan, including whether and how to form sustainable transportation committee (separately on as part of CCAC). Plan is to hire someone to start by June or July.

Action item: Autumn asked committee members for comments on the draft job description by the following week.

Key CCAC workplan items: Autumn identified 5 key areas where the Committee could assist the city to implement its Climate Action Plan, and asked for (confirmation of) volunteers to work on these items.

- Heat pump pilot project: volunteers include Steve, Kevin, and David
- ETIPP program: volunteers include Derik, Steve, and Jens
- Education outreach for climate smart challenge: volunteers include David, John
- Annual report on CAP implementation: TBD, but would like to start now
- Applying climate lens to city projects: TBD

ETIPP: Autumn updated the Committee on the progress of the ETIPP program. To inform the process, they have several questions / data requests: (1) whether marine energy should be within scope; (2) have there been any past studies of renewable energy potential on the island; (3) are Committee members aware of good candidate land areas for siting renewable energy capacity? Committee members brainstormed possible options for land areas.

Action item: Autumn seeking input on who to follow up with to identify options.

Fehr & Peers project: Autumn updated the Committee on the status of the Fehr & Peers project to evaluate greenhouse gas reduction potential of transportation options on the island and collect data for this purpose. A study session related to this is coming up on May 16. A study session specifically on impact fees will take place in March.

Resident question for CCAC regarding plans to help property owners in response to future king tides and flooding impacts: Autumn noted the city received an inquiry for the CCAC about plans for helping property owners with future flooding impacts. Expects these inquiries to continue. What should the city be doing and what are plans? Committee member discussed some initial ideas, including disaster preparedness plans.

Action item: Mike will reach out to Lara Hansen for input. Committee may continue to discuss.

2022 Progress report and 2023 workplan: Mike solicited input and feedback on the 2022 progress report and 2023 workplan for the Committee. Steve suggested there should be more included on transportation, including the Fehr & Peers project. Mike agreed to add this, along with mention of data gathering effort by previous intern. Julie noted that Autumn does progress report on CAP implementation; in future we could focus on supporting that effort (and avoid duplicating effort). Steve noted it would help to have list of who has signed up for what, for internal tracking.

Dave offered to send around a tracking list that he has maintained for this purpose. Autumn noted the city's top five priorities are the items identified above (key CCAC workplan items). She noted some ideas that the city would not be able to support (despite being good ideas), including:

- Dashboard – would love to think about for next year
- Island-wide weed management plan (not working on with city)
- Sustainable transportation plan / subcommittee – unknown & in flux (still hot topic, but up in air)

Steve noted that the workplan is still a bit of a laundry list; suggested making it a bit more goal oriented if presented to City Council (e.g., indicating what action items are intended to achieve in terms of the larger goals of the CAP). Kevin offered to review along these lines.

Action item: Committee members were encouraged to send further comments.

Other items:

- Mike gave a brief update on the upcoming study session with Puget Sound Energy (February 21)
- Autumn noted that she would invite anyone interested to join meeting to consider a waste-to-energy facility under the ETIPP program, occurring February 27 at 10 am
- Autumn noted that she will not be able to join the next CCAC meeting in March, but Hannah may join
- Upcoming EV fair: Mike asked folks who are interested to let him know
- John gave a brief preview of his doughnut economics talk

Election of a new vice chair: Mike indicated he would like to step down as Vice Chair of the Committee, and invited others to volunteer for the position. Kevin expressed interest. Others were tentative.

Steve moved to adjourn; Kevin seconded. Meeting was adjourned at 7:33 PM.


Co-Chair

03/13/23
Date