

City of Lawrence
Mayor's Climate Protection Task Force
 December 15, 2008 (4:00 PM) Meeting notes

MEMBERS PRESENT:	Mike Dever, David Dunfield, John Geist, Charles Gruber, Steve Hughes, Chad Luce, Carey Maynard-Moody, Susan Rodgers, Simran Sethi, Jeff Severin,
MEMBERS ABSENT:	Jeff Novorr, Bridgett Chapin, Note: Dan Simons withdrew from group
STAFF PRESENT:	Cynthia Boecker, Tammy Bennett, Kathy Richardson, Roger Zalneratis
PUBLIC PRESENT:	Charlie Sedlock
GUESTS:	

DISCUSSION OF ECONOMIC INDICATORS (Roger Zalneratis / Charlie Sedlock)

Roger Zalneratis and Charlie Sedlock discussed the advantage of taking economic conditions into account when analyzing green house gas emissions data, or any other level of data (waste, transportation, etc.).

One of the measures considered was Sales Tax, but there was concern the measure did not capture true economic activity in a community. Another measure to consider is the Gross Domestic Product (GDP) for the Lawrence area, which is county-wide. The GDP is a figure calculated by the Kansas Department of Revenue, Bureau of Economic Analysis. The data is somewhat lagging in time, but would be very helpful for periodic reviews (e.g., every 3 – 5 years).

Economic indicators, such as the GDP for the Lawrence area, provide **context** for understanding the greenhouse gas emissions and other data. For instance, decreases in waste generated or miles travelled may be related to overall economic conditions (less available dollars for consumption) rather than being related to the outcomes of the Climate Protection Task Force recommendations. If GDP is used, the measure should be adjusted for inflation. Another contextual indicator mentioned as a possibility was the Human Development Indicator. The information is intended to provide **context and understanding**.

REVIEW OF DRAFTED STRATEGY REPORTS (chairs of work groups)

Susan Rodgers presented the draft report for the Waste Management Workgroup, in the Norman format. After general discussion of the format and information, the group had few recommended changes. Several task force members liked the addition of the Measurement Section at the end of the report, which the Waste Management group listed as optional. Additional data will be gathered on pounds of waste per person for state of Kansas and city of Lawrence to match data years. Any other comments on this chapter are requested to be submitted to Susan by Thursday.

Carey Maynard-Moody discussed the Transportation Workgroup report. Most data and information has been updated on the website in the workgroup's notes. It will be difficult to meet the 2-page target. There was agreement that the chapters may need to be longer as the percent contribution to GHG in the community are higher (e.g., waste is 2% but transportation is 19%).

Steve Hughes discussed the Energy Workgroup work to date. They also have their most recent information on the web page on their meeting notes. The energy group has broken down their recommendations into four general areas – community, regulatory, enhanced city facilities, and education / outreach. There was good discussion about ensuring the items and recommendations in the final report are rational and achievable ... or are stated as future possibilities when

conditions are appropriate. Workgroup members accentuated the risk of de-valuing a quality report with things or recommendations that are not attainable.

Simran Sethi is the chair of the Policy, Education, and Outreach group. The preponderance of their work and recommendations will be completed when the reports from the other groups are submitted.

Other issues and topics of discussion included:

- Methane capture at Hamm’s landfill (feasibility, timing, options)
- Bus specifications and comments on recommendations (possible compressed natural gas, bio-diesel, sizing)

DATES AND DEADLINES – (Cynthia Boecker)

- December 31, 2008: Workgroup reports -- e-mailed to Cynthia Boecker and Tammy Bennett.
- January 2, 2009: All information received will be transmitted to Simran Sethi and copied to all other task force members.
- January 21, 2009: Policy workgroup will e-mail draft of Climate Action Plan report to city staff.
- January 22, 2009: City staff will transmit draft report to all task force members.
- January 26, 2009: 4:00, Task Force Meeting
Agenda items:
- Review draft report
 - Next steps
 - Future meeting date schedule

FUTURE MEETINGS:

January 26, 2009	4:00 p.m.	City Hall
February 2009	To be determined	
March 2009	To be determined	