

City of Lawrence
Mayor's Climate Protection Task Force
 October 20, 2008 (4:00 PM) Meeting notes

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

HOUSEKEEPING NOTES:

Staff provided information on the Energy Fair and related events from the previous week.

GHG EMISSION REDUCTION TARGETS

Goal: 80% reduction of greenhouse gas emissions by 2050 (baseline year 2005)

Intermediate steps / benchmarks:

- 30% reduction of greenhouse gas emissions by 2020
- 50% reduction of greenhouse gas emissions by 2030
- 70% reduction of greenhouse gas emissions by 2040
- 80% reduction of greenhouse gas emissions by 2050

Targets for GHG emissions were confirmed. Primary discussion focused on how to achieve. Various work groups related specific recommendations they were compiling and topics they were discussing (e.g., parasitic power use, embedded energy, carbon taxes, tax credits).

Resources discussed included the July 2008 Kansas City, Missouri Climate Action Plan (<http://www.kcmo.org/manager/OEQ/cpp.pdf>) and the Climate Communities Blueprint for the new president and the 111th Congress (<http://www.climatecommunities.us/documents/blueprint.pdf>) .

There was a general discussion that the philosophical approach should be to provide community members and businesses with incentives, motivation, and strategies to reduce greenhouse gas emissions. Punitive actions would be the second phase.

Discussion of legislative priorities:

There was general discussion of the process for setting legislative priorities for the city, and if / how the Climate Protection Task Force could affect that process yet this year, even if the overall plan is not completed. Cynthia Boecker will e-mail the legislative statement to the task force members for review (http://www.lawrenceks.org/legislative_policy_2008). Comments should be submitted as soon as possible, as the legislative statement will be finalized in November and December. Mayor Dever agreed to draft some language changes, if deemed appropriate by group consensus.

Prioritization exercise:

Task force members agreed they would like to review general progress, program and policy ideas from the work groups to begin to prioritize the overall recommendations of the Climate Action Plan. This exercise is particularly important and timely if the group wishes to submit substantive

changes to the legislative statement for 2009. Work groups agreed to submit to Cynthia Boecker the overall list of possible priorities to be sent to task force members for individual ranking and compilation for discussion at the November 17 meeting.

Calendar and process:

The following calendar was developed to assist the task force in moving forward with formulation of the plan through the end of the year and plan completion process.

Monday, October 27	Deadline for work group chairs to submit brainstorming lists to Cynthia
Tuesday, October 28	Task force will receive a combined list of brainstorming ideas along with directions for ranking
Friday, November 7	Deadline for task force members to submit their ranking / prioritization to Cynthia
Wednesday, November 12	Task force will receive November 17 th agenda and tabulated rankings
Monday, November 17	Task force meeting. Review tabulations, ensure consensus regarding priorities and determine final recommendations to provide direction to work groups, as needed
Monday, December 15	Task force meeting
Wednesday, December 31	Deadline for work groups to submit reports to Policy, Outreach, and Education work group for syntheses and development of recommended document
January (date tbd)	Task force meeting, preliminary discussion of document
February (date tbd)	Task force meeting, draft report completed for review by task force
March (date tbd)	Task force meeting, report finalized and prepared for presentation to the City Commission

Economic "normalizers":

There was general group discussion of the need to establish some type of normalizing data to be included in the final report and / or periodic updates that might help explain changes in ghg emissions. For example, a temporary decline in the economy may result in lower ghg due to less industrial activity, less commercial activity, fewer miles travelled, less consumption, and so forth. Economic and population changes will be an important normalizing factor in understanding emission information.

REPORTS FROM WORKGROUPS – Chairperson Michael Dever

No time was available for additional work group reports.

FUTURE MEETINGS:

November 17, 2008	4:00 p.m.	City Hall
December 15, 2008	4:00 p.m.	City Hall
January		
February		
March		