

Date of meeting: September 4, 2008

location: Planning Dept conference room, City Hall

Time 4:00-5:30 PM

Attended: Carey Maynard-Moody, Marian Hukle, Todd Girdler, Bart Rudolph, Lisa Poole, Steve Stewart

Absent: Charles Gruber, Kyle Schneweis, Marc Epard

Change of course

As a result of the report at last meeting submitted by Captain Dan Ward, Lawrence Police Department, that the Work Group agreed that our chapter emphasis would be on the reduction of fuel burned rather than vehicle miles traveled. The police department regularly burns fuel (idling) without traveling.

Discussion of reports

1. **Report on City Fleet Fuel Use submitted by Steve Stewart**, fleet manager, Public Works Dept, City of Lawrence

The group focused discussion on the fleet in the Dept of Public Works as this fleet is the heavy user of fuel due to the size of the trucks and other heavy equipment. Steve pointed out that the data is reported both at beginning and end of the year because the fleet is fluid in number as some vehicles come on line and others are retired. Steve made a point of the departments' trend to sell heavy equipment while it still has market value (7-8 years) rather than holding on to old equipment and sinking funds into costly repairs. This action affords more up to date and more fuel efficient machinery for the department use.

Steve explained that although the engines are larger now, they are more fuel efficient and result in burning less fuel than running equipment with smaller, less fuel-efficient engines.

A promising front-load refuse truck is coming on line that is a hydraulic hybrid (as opposed to electric hybrid). This vehicle generates pressure during breaking which is converted into energy (Hydraulic) used to resume lost momentum (start up). Costly brake repairs are reduced in these trucks. Steve is hopeful that several of these very efficient trucks will be purchased in the next few years.

Beyond this, Mr. Stewart is hopeful that liquid and compressed natural gas smaller trucks will come on line along with the infrastructure (pump stations) necessary to supply and service them. We were reminded that the way KC funded the buses at MCI (airport) was through CMAQ (Congestion Mitigation & Air Quality) funding because Kansas City was out of air quality compliance. Lawrence and Douglas County is (barely) in compliance at this time.

Finally KDOT is assisting Steve with an EPA grant application that would provide for diesel oxidation catalysts for heavy trucks allowing for some of the more polluting heavy equipment to be retired. He is hopeful this grant will be awarded to the City/County by January 2009.

Another fuel saving measure in the department is route optimization for the vehicles. This is ongoing.

2. Report on Public Transit submitted by Marian Hukle

Report accepted as submitted. Work Group expressed appreciation for Marian's timely submission.

3. Report on Land Use Planning submitted by Lisa Poole and Karen Clawson

Report was reviewed by the group, group discussion was lively, thorough, and cheerfully received by Lisa who will further revise her draft according to input and resubmit prior to the next meeting.

4. Missing Reports were duly noted by the group

- i. Commuting and Car/Vanpooling (Kyle Schnewis)
- ii. Bicycle/Pedestrian (Mark Epard)
- iii. Fuel Type and Technology (Todd Girdler)
- iv. Other, Traffic Signal/Flow Coordination (Todd Girdler)
- v. Fuel Efficiency (Charles Gruber)

Ethanol

Group agreed that it would not endorse the use of ethanol as a fuel due to the excessive amount of energy required in its production which, in turn, amounts to increasing green house gas emissions

Tasks and timeline

In order to begin her task of writing the chapter on transportation for the draft of the Green House Reduction Master Plan,

Carey needs all work group members' approved reports by September 17th .

Next meeting is scheduled for Tuesday September 30th at 4:30 PM in the conference of the Public Works office located in the basement of City Hall.

Respectfully submitted,

Carey Maynard-Moody