



**SUSTAINABILITY COMMITTEE
REGULAR MEETING
MINUTES**

**Albany Community Center
EOC Room (downstairs)
1249 Marin Avenue
January 20, 2010 – 7:30 p.m.**

1. CALL TO ORDER

The meeting was called to order by Chair Cooper at 7:35 p.m.

2. ROLL CALL

Members Present: Tom Cooper Dan Lieberman Janet Smith-Heimer
 Miya Kitahara Suzanne Schrift Caryl O'Keefe

Members Absent: April Yang

Others Present: EDAW

3. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

3-1. Approve minutes from December 10 meeting (attached)

Minutes unanimously approved.

4. PUBLIC COMMENT

None.

5. ANNOUNCEMENTS/COMMUNICATIONS

Kitahara announced Transition Albany's 10:10 campaign is collecting signatures.

6. REPORTS

6-1. Long Range Planning/Sustainable Development Subcommittee – update

Smith-Heimer reported that the subcommittee met and discussed wind energy. They will be developing a presentation to provide general outreach regarding renewable energy alternatives for Albany.

6-2. Urban Landscape Subcommittee – update

The subcommittee did not meet.

6-3. Education Subcommittee – update

Kitahara reported that they are working on details of the Arts & Green Festival, including the invitation list for booths.

7. DISCUSSIONS AND POSSIBLE ACTION ON MATTERS RELATED TO THE FOLLOWING ITEMS:

7-1. Draft Climate Action Plan – receive direction from City Council and formalize comments on draft

Almaguer gave an overview of the direction from City Council to the Committee to finalize the draft CAP.

Cooper outlined major areas for discussion following the written comments submitted by Smith-Heimer.

1. Quantifiable vs. unquantifiable measures:

Public comment - Preston Jordan – suggested clarification between unquantified measures that result in ghg reductions vs. those that do not have a potential for significant ghg reductions.

Clay Larson – noted that quantification of some measures is ambiguous, suggests adding an estimate of uncertainty to quantified measures.

Smith-Heimer, Kitahara and Lieberman support keeping the unquantifiable measures within the CAP, particularly since some of the items can eventually be quantified with more project specifics.

O'Keefe suggested they be included in an appendix as they are not measureable towards achieving the ghg reduction goal.

Cooper asked if additional unquantified measures can be quantified.

EDAW (Culley Thomas) replied that some measures may be able to be further refined, although some would require project-specific data or assumptions.

Smith-Heimer and O'Keefe offered to work with EDAW to get additional measures quantified.

Smith-Heimer moved that the measures should be refined, updated and quantified as much as possible, and that the unquantified measures be included within the CAP. Seconded by Schrift.

In favor: 5, Opposed: 1- O'Keefe, stated opposition due to concern that the unquantified measures dilute the effectiveness of the CAP. Liberman qualified his support to err on the side of inclusion in order to reach the ghg reduction goals.

2. Streamline Measures:

Smith-Heimer suggested streamlining the measures to eliminate redundancy and to move measures into action steps. Almaguer will work with Smith-Heimer to streamline.

3. Prioritization - Almaguer stated that prioritization would likely be based on opportunity including available funding, collaboration and ease of implementation. Prioritization can be adaptively managed as well.

4. Closing the Gap – the Committee agreed that the community choice section should be elaborated to address the gap issue, including potential opportunities to make strides towards the gap.

5. Adaptation – the Committee agreed that additional language should be included in the implementation section to acknowledge that adaptation will need to be addressed in future city planning.

Cooper requested the CAP account for city activities that have been recently conducted. Almaguer will provide an extended list of activities that are underway.

O’Keefe requested confirming whether the building code requirements are supposed to be more strict than what the State requires. Almaguer will confirm.

The Committee agreed that the complete streets measure should be broken down into small steps to help facilitate implementation.

The Committee agreed to include a measure to research opportunities to discourage vehicle use such as parking permit systems as a means to encourage complete streets.

Kitahara provided a list of edits to the Committee including adding a broad context of climate change. Kitahara moved the items be provided to EDAW to include in the final CAP, seconded by Smith-Heimer. In Favor: 5, Opposed: 1-

O’Keefe.

O’Keefe requested that costs for measures be clarified in the tables, and a range be included. The Committee agreed this change should be made.

O’Keefe cautioned that the emails sent prior to the meeting commenting on the CAP were deliberation and could be interpreted as a violation of the Brown Act.

8. FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS

(Commission/Committee/Board Member announcement of requests for future agenda items. No public comment will be taken on announcement of future agenda items).

8-1. Next meeting February 17, 2010 – 1000 San Pablo Avenue, Council Chambers

The next meeting will include review of the final CAP and Mitigated Negative Declaration, discussion of a bag ordinance and greening AUSD.

9. ADJOURNMENT

The meeting was adjourned at 10:00 p.m.