

Advisory Committee on Sustainability and Innovation (ACSI)



Meeting Minutes

Wednesday, 7/13/22, 9am-11am

Remote Access Only

Next Meeting

Wednesday, October 12, 2022, 9am - 11am

Remote Access Only

ACSI MEMBERS PRESENT / PHONE

Lukas Angus, Derron Coles, Jona Davis, Mara Gross, Rick Hodges, Tammy Lee, Sasha Pollack, Amanda Zuniga

MULTNOMAH COUNTY LEADERSHIP / STAFF / PUBLIC MEMBERS PRESENT

Tim Lynch, Knowledge Murphy, Sara Mihm, John Wasiutynski (Office of Sustainability), Olivia Cleaveland (Commissioner Jessica Vega Pederson), Roy Iwai (Department of Community Services)

ACTION ITEMS

- **Office of Sustainability:**
 - **Knowledge Murphy** will: Contact individual ACSI members to alert them as to whose term is coming to a close.
 - **Tim Lynch** will: Provide summary of feedback received from ACSI members re: Climate Justice Plan.
- **ACSI members:**
 - Should contact the Office of Sustainability with thoughts, feedback, advice, or criticism about what was shared about the Climate Justice Plan.
- ACSI Co-Chairs and Staff will decide if there should be a September meeting focused on Board of County Commissioner Recommendations Letter.

DECISIONS MADE

- None.

CLIMATE JUSTICE PLAN

- **John Wasiutynski** shared that the Climate Justice Plan (CJP) will be led by Multnomah County, and will appreciate the collaboration of and expertise of ACSI members on moving forward on CJP.
- **Tim Lynch** presented on Climate Justice by Design, which focuses less on outcomes, but rather how government and community can come together as equals and address the power imbalance that exists between the two. The **Office of Sustainability** was awarded a grant that enables us to work on the CJP, as well as some funding from the **Multnomah County Board of Commissioners**. This work will center community injustice, as well as developing a shared

2030 vision with the community. Value statements will be created, followed by a priority setting that the community and government can approach and implement together. Once adopted, CJP will have continuity to allow us to evolve and be responsive to the changes that happen over time.

- **Jona Davis** asked about current community partners, avenues for engagement, and current Multnomah County partners, especially as it relates to those who haven't traditionally operated in these spaces. **Tim Lynch** and **John Wasiutynski** discussed the ongoing conversations to understanding existing social networks, and the need to find community members who are both interested and have capacity to participate. They also shared that the Multnomah County Health Department, the REACH Program, and various levels of the organization have been engaged. **Tim Lynch** shared that a possible avenue for engagement is a Climate Justice Summit, in popular education style, which would be an entry point for people who may not have expertise in planning and climate. **Jona Davis** said that if we enlarge and make space at the table, people will step up.
- **Mara Gross** observed that the timeline to develop the CJP looked fast, but inquired about the scale and specificity so that the proposed timeline would work. **John Wasiutynski** said the timeline is ambitious but we believe it to be possible. The most important part of this planning process will be working together with the community and government to identify the universal vision, and the categories that need to be included.
- **Amanda Zuniga** asked how partners have been selected and **Tim Lynch** shared that Coalition for Communities of Color (CCC) is a committed partner, and their expertise will shape who can be part of the steering committee. Now that the Partners for Places grant has been awarded, we are currently developing a stakeholder list and drawing on the resource mapping created during the CJxD process. Three additional organizations will be part of a funded steering committee. Understanding the pathways to participate in the Climate Justice Summit will be another opportunity and is currently being worked on.
- **ACSI members** are strongly encouraged to provide input in the CJP, leveraging networks to ensure that people have what they need to shape this climate justice planning.
- **Amanda Zuniga** shared that a stakeholder assessment should include the level of influence of the entity or stakeholder, and their level of buy-in. She also suggested developing ways to ensure continuity, accountability, and transparency, like how we are measuring success at each phase, agreeing upon how to know it's time to progress to the next phase, and what level of authority folks have on signing off so that it is clear how decision making can be brought back to the community. Amanda recommended having a toolkit including what it took to do onboarding, like preparing words to include in a Memorandum of Understanding.
- **Amanda Zuniga** asked about risks that the Office of Sustainability is thinking about, in addition to the timeline. **John Wasiutynski** discussed the traditional seats in decision making and authority held by powerful folks/institutions, and said this will require awareness and will need to be managed as we're shifting that power to groups who haven't traditionally held power in the planning process.
- **Lukas Angus** shared appreciation for the timeline of the CJP, and that there was flexibility if more time is needed.

- **Tim Lynch** shared that **ACSI members** can play a role in the CJP by having one or two members on the steering committee. Additional ideas include **ACSI** serving in an advisory workgroup where ideas are generated or tested, or participating as community participants.

ANNUAL LETTER UPDATE

- **Knowledge Murphy** asked that subcommittee members think about what should be included in the annual letter to the **Multnomah County Board of Commissioners**. He also inquired about which speakers subcommittee members would like to invite for a presentation.

SUBCOMMITTEE UPDATE

TRANSPORTATION

- **Emma Sagor** had a baby! Congratulations, Emma!
- **Mara Gross** shared is still working to identify what will be in their portion of the annual letter.
- **Tim Lynch** shared that Multnomah County's regional transportation plan process plan is soon to begin, and a staff member may be able to present to the subcommittee.

FOOD AND WATER

- **John Wasiutynski** shared that the subcommittee visited Beaver Creek, a tributary of the Sandy River, and home to salmon, viewing the old failing culverts from the 1950s. A future field trip will be to Troutdale to visit the CROPS Farm, which is an incubator farm managed by Mudbone Grown.
- **Mara Gross** shared a brief history of the name Sauvie, and reminded the group that the Sauvie Island name change is a place to show support in the annual letter.

CLIMATE AND ENERGY

- **Amanda Zuniga** shared that the subcommittee has been discussing communities and climate, and thinking about working with Multnomah County to provide recommendations about community change rather than individual solutions. They acknowledged the policy work the **Silvia Tanner** champions in the Office of Sustainability, and the slow pace of some of the changes that must be continually pushed forward.

AIR TOXICS

- **Derron Coles** shared that at **Blueprint Foundation**, Black high school and college students are working on air sensors and coding visualization, and will set out air sensors to collect data that the students will use for advocacy, as well as training a new cohort, in February. **Neighbors for Clean Air** has an Air Quality Camp this summer. **Derron** has been developing curriculum for community engagement, with a mentor attending the Air Quality camp to talk about the tech side with the students. **Blueprint Foundation**, **Earth Advantage** and **Energy Trust of Oregon** are looking at indoor air quality and energy efficiency, with two weeks of the curriculum at **Constructing Hope** this summer, enrolling students from **Constructing Hope** in a program to learn more about indoor air quality and job shadowing folks working on that and

weatherization. The idea is for those students to get excited about the science aspect and help them to expand the Change Is In the Air program to indoor spaces.

- **Sasha Pollack** said that **Oregon Physicians for Social Responsibility** could be a potential partner for **Blueprint Foundation**.

OTHER ANNOUNCEMENTS

- **John Wasiutynski** announced that:
 - The **Office of Sustainability** will soon hire a Climate Resilience Coordinator, and will work to develop a Climate Resilience Hub in East County.
 - \$500,000 was received from the state to replace wood stoves with heat pumps. The protocol for the program is currently in the works, like eligibility. When two positions have been posted, **John Wasiutynski** will share them with the group.
 - **Verde, Neighbors for Clean Air**, and **Earth Justice** have been focused on Owens Brockaway, the glass manufacturer at Killingsworth and 205, which is the single largest source of particulate matter in Multnomah County. The facility has agreed to install a particulate filter device – a huge win!
- **Mara Gross** shared that the City of Portland is having a major transportation hearing today, followed by another hearing at Metro tomorrow.
- **Derron Coles** shared that **The Kijani Collective** received a grant, and is looking for more trainers who can train community members, specifically young people and adults, in policy advocacy for their community. Places where trained community members can advocate include on committees like ACSI, and comment periods. If **ACSI members** know of folks in policy work, particularly those who are Black, please let **Derron Coles** or **Knowledge Murphy** so they can share information about **The Kijani Collective**.
- **Sasha Pollack** shared a recently released report from **Oregon Health Authority** about [youth mental health and climate change](#).

REVIEW ACTIONS AND ADJOURN