

Advisory Committee on Sustainability and Innovation (ACSI)

Meeting Minutes

Monday, 9/24/18, 1:30 - 4:30pm

Tonkon Torp, 888 SW 5th Avenue, Portland



Next Meeting

Wednesday, 10/10/18, 9am - 11am

Multnomah Building, 6th floor, Room 635

ACSI MEMBERS PRESENT / PHONE

Ryan Vanden Brink, Rick Hodges, Mary Peveto, Melissa Powers, Khanh Pham, Sasha Pollack, Melissa Powers, Kari Schlosshauer, Kimberlee Stafford

MULTNOMAH COUNTY LEADERSHIP / STAFF / PUBLIC MEMBERS PRESENT

John Wasiutynski, Tim Lynch, Sam Baraso, Sara Mihm (Office of Sustainability), Kim Melton (Office of Chair Kafoury), Hayden Miller (Office of Commissioner Jessica Vega Pederson)

ACTION ITEMS

- **Office of Sustainability**
 - Share a Google doc with ACSI members that includes a bullet point list of the first draft of the ACSI letter. Send by 9/28/18.
 - Invite Jeston Black of Government Relations to the next ACSI meeting, which takes place on 10/10/18.

DECISIONS MADE

- None

WELCOME / ICE BREAKER

- The group shared fun stories that others did not know, would believe, or imagine.

REVIEW OF 2018 SUCCESSES & AREAS IN NEED OF ADDITIONAL SUPPORT

- **John Wasiutynski** reviewed some of the successes of ACSI in the past year, including work on air quality (diesel particulate matter, wood smoke, and industrial sources), energy and climate (CPACE and the Climate Action Plan), transportation, and organizational work of the County. He shared that the work that ACSI has focused on has become a priority for the Multnomah County leadership and has garnered more political support.
- Areas identified that need of additional support, like dedicating the remaining VW settlement proceeds for particulate matter reduction, developing new or revised state renewable and energy incentive structures prioritizing low-income communities, and engaging the state, Metro, Trimet, and other local governments to shape transportation investments in the County that further the Climate Action Plan and the 100% Renewable by 2050 (100x50) resolution.
- Transportation is of special interest to **Commissioner Vega Pederson**, and more specifics on what ACSI wants in this area would be helpful.
- **Melissa Powers** expressed curiosity on whether an outcomes broker focused on partial outcomes could be enacted.
- **Kimberlee Stafford** and **Sasha Pollack** suggested that ACSI voice that Trimet weighs both electrification and service routes simultaneously, rather than selecting one or the other.
- **Sasha** suggested that ACSI's annual letter to the Board include next steps for the Portland Clean Energy Fund, should it pass in November. **Some ACSI members** agreed that a brief paragraph be drafted and ready to include in the annual letter, should the measure pass.

WORK AREA DISCUSSION FOR 2019

- **Climate Action Plan (CAP) Update 2020**

- **John** shared that Office of Sustainability is beginning work on the 2020 update of the CAP. In a future update putting community priorities in a carbon context, like housing, will be given more thought and resources, and will align with other goals, like 100x50.
- **ACSI** will play an important role in the CAP update. A Climate Action workgroup will likely convene to take a deeper dive.
- Forest conservation and smoke management are areas that we haven't touched on yet, however, **ACSI** expertise in these areas will be helpful in the CAP update.

ACSI RECRUITMENT

- **Mary Peveto** is the only **ACSI** member with a term ending this year.
- Additional areas where **ACSI** may want to seek expertise in future members include transportation, tribal governance, energy, and the renewable energy sector economy.

LEADERSHIP PRIORITIES

- **Kim Melton**, Chief of Staff to **Chair Kafoury**, shared that the Chair's priorities include:
 - Finding the nexus of housing, criminal justice, and mental health.
 - Internal and external equity-related efforts, like working with employees and supporting an inclusive organizational culture.
 - How Multnomah County spends funds and creates the budget, including embedding equity principles.
 - How they build policy and engage with partners.
 - Supporting workforce development, like creating apprenticeship programs to help ensure there's more equity in the way projects are bid and paid for
 - Working on air quality, including the recently adopted Clean Air Construction Procurement Standard.
 - Convening as the Board of Public Health to establish a health policy agenda. This November, a data-driven presentation will overview the status of public health in Multnomah County and will help to provide guidance to the Board on what they can do to create influence and advocacy throughout the region and state.
- **Hayden Miller**, Policy Advisor to **Commissioner Vega Pederson**, shared that environmental areas of focus include:
 - Supporting the **Office of Sustainability** and the **Chair's Office** in the execution of the Clean Air Construction Procurement Standard and the CAP.
 - Bringing the Board of Commissioners an Environmental Justice resolution in November.
 - Legislative issues, including:
 - Advocating that some of the VW settlement money be set aside for the Clean Diesel Procurement Standard and to support MWESB businesses to become compliant with the standard, as well as additional actions that mitigate diesel pollution.
 - Supporting Green Banks (Clean Energy Investment Fund) that would direct the state to create a public-private partnership program to spur investment in clean energy technology.
 - Clean Energy Jobs, transportation, early learning, and affordable housing
 - **Hayden** said that ACSI can support this work by testifying before committees, offering written or in person comment, and speaking with legislators on topics.

2018 ANNUAL LETTER TO THE BOARD

- The group reviewed the 2017 letter to the Board as a starting point for this year's letter.
- Regarding cap and invest:
 - **Melissa's** suggestions include:
 - Alternatives to the issuances of free allowances for industrial entities.
 - A constraint on the lifespan of the carbon credits and/or a restraint on banking of the carbon credits.
 - An express provision embedded in the law that makes it clear that the legislature and/or DEQ have the ability to adjust the cap as appropriate throughout the duration without having it deemed to be an impact on property rights.
 - **Sasha's** suggestions include:

- Incorporating language that restates the desire for a policy that is as equitable as possible within the parameters we have set for ourselves, and to invest in disproportionately impacted and frontline workers.
- Advocacy to not weaken other state environmental laws.
- **Melissa** expressed concern that the County's new Clean Air Construction Procurement Standard may not apply to non-County and City entities and there is a risk of leakage to private sites. She said that Multnomah County could advocate for more private sector protections and be regulated by DEQ. Additionally, she suggested that the contractors who the County does business with provide proof that they do not use opposing practices on jobs that are outside of County-City work.

MINGLE!