



AGENDA COVER MEMO

Memorandum Date: March 15, 2020

Order Date: March 31, 2020

TO: Board of County Commissioners

DEPARTMENT: Public Works/County Administration

PRESENTED BY: Dan Hurley, Public Works Director
Mark Nystrom, Lane County Climate Strategist
Austin Ramirez, CED Manager
Josh Proudfoot, Good Company
Jeannine Parisi, EWEB Community & Government Outreach Coordinator
Scott Coe, EPUD General Manager

AGENDA ITEM TITLE: DISCUSSION/IN THE MATTER OF DEVELOPING ACTION INITIATIVES RELATED TO CLIMATE AND ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT

I. MOTION

None. Discussion only.

II. AGENDA ITEM SUMMARY

As part of the County’s Climate Action Plan efforts, the Board requested staff to develop action initiatives related to climate and economic development to support green jobs, clean energy projects, and climate-friendly industries in Lane County.

III. BACKGROUND/IMPLICATIONS OF ACTION

A. Board Action and Other History

August 20, 2019 – The Board directed staff to commence work on developing a Climate Action Plan and return with a Climate Action Resolution.

December 10, 2019 – Staff presented an update on the Climate Action Plan and presented options for a Climate Resolution. The Board directed staff to bring a Resolution forward as soon as possible and return in March with the County’s selected consultant, Good Company, for a discussion on action initiatives related to

climate and economic development

January 15, 2020 – During a Community and Economic Development (CED) Work Session, the Board expressed support of incorporating climate action efforts into the CED Work Plan.

February 4, 2020 – The Board adopted Order & Resolution 20-02-04-04, establishing a Climate Change Strategy for Lane County.

B. Policy Issues

Policy related to environmental impacts and best practices have, for the most part, been internal to Lane County as an organization and have been addressed as administrative functions. Individual divisions have pursued projects independent of overarching guidance or a specific climate policy. Previous actions have included best practices such as increasing the recovery of recycling, composting or energy recovery and replacing fossil fuel use for County fleet through the use of renewable fuels and electric vehicles.

Order & Resolution 20-02-04-04 will begin to shape County policy more comprehensively through the development of a Climate Action Plan. When complete, the first phase of the Climate Action Plan will guide internal County operations and policy. The second phase will guide County policy on larger community-wide issues. The third phase will develop a resiliency plan.

C. Board Goals

It has long been consistent with Board goals that the organization operate in accordance with environmental best management practices while supporting economic development. The County's 2018-2021 Strategic Plan included the following Key Strategic Initiative under the *Vibrant Communities* Strategic Priority:

Pursue programs and practices that reduce impacts to and leverage the natural environment to enhance livability and economic development.

On December 17th, the Board approved the revised 2018-2021 Lane County Strategic Plan. With this approval, the Board added Key Strategic Initiatives under the *Vibrant Communities* priority related to Economic Development and the Climate Action Plan:

2.a. *Invest in a resilient, diverse, and sustainable regional economy.*

2.b. *Protect and enhance our natural and built environments.*

D. Financial and/or Resource Considerations

The potential strategies to be discussed in this work session are conceptual at this point and have not been scoped for costs. Strategies currently underway by

regional utilities may have cost data that can be gathered at a later date if need.

E. Health Implications

One of the principal benefits of reducing local greenhouse gas emissions is the impact on local air quality. Use of clean fuels, greater use of public transit, cycling, alternative energy such as solar and wind, technology enhancements to reduce emissions, higher efficiency vehicles, and reduced energy consumption of Lane County facilities reduce the consumption of fossil fuels which will have positive impacts on community health by reduced particulate emissions.

Broader implications of climate change include predicted impacts on public health such as death and illness from extreme heat and storms, and indirect impacts from ecological change, environmental degradation, exacerbation of chronic respiratory diseases, spread of emergent infectious diseases, food insecurity, and displacement of populations by the effects of climate change and disasters.

Combining climate action initiatives with economic development efforts has the potential to create living-wage jobs and a more robust regional economy. High quality employment opportunities and increased economic resilience are keys to maintaining a high quality of life in Lane County.

F. Analysis

There are six action items providing a framework for a climate change strategy in Lane County. This discussion item is focused on number four:

1. Conduct a greenhouse gas emissions inventory and develop an internal plan (Climate Action Plan - Phase 1) for County operations to establish greenhouse gas reduction targets and implementation plans to meet County targets; and
2. Develop a comprehensive county-wide plan (Climate Action Plan - Phase 2) with community engagement to outline aggressive goals and strategies, aligned in partnership with city climate actions, to establish county-wide community targets and high priority areas of action; and
3. Develop a resiliency plan (Climate Action Plan - Phase 3) to identify adaptation strategies to mitigate the risks and impacts of climate change anticipated for Lane County; and
4. Develop Action Initiatives supporting green jobs, clean energy projects, and climate-friendly industries in Lane County; and
5. Provide open and transparent public communications to monitor and evaluate progress toward climate action goals; and

6. Establish a Climate Advisory Committee to provide recommendations and advise the Board of Commissioners on the County's ongoing climate action work.

Climate action initiatives related to economic development will be most applicable in Phases 2 and 3 of the Climate Action Plan. Staff are beginning to explore initiatives related to:

Energy Use and Storage

- Biogas development
- Mass weatherization for commercial and residential
- Electric vehicle charging infrastructure
- Solar incentives
- Micro-grid development

Industry Specific Applications

- Lean manufacturing
- Market development for value-added waste materials locally
- Leveraging low-carbon electricity
- Using Advanced Wood Products to replace high-carbon materials
- Adapting Food and Beverage industry to changing climate
- Mass weatherization and electrification

Financing

- Economic Development investments
- Local assistance programs
- Rebates/Tax Incentives

G. Alternatives/Options

The Board can give direction to staff to continue with the current approach or give direction to pursue other approaches.

IV. RECOMMENDATION

Staff recommends continuing to explore the Action Initiatives discussed above in alignment with emission reduction targets and mitigation/adaptation strategies to be developed through ongoing work on the Climate Action Plan.

V. TIMING/IMPLEMENTATION

Staff will begin engagement with the community on emission reduction goals and priorities in the spring of 2020. Action Initiatives discussed at this work session can be discussed with the community as a part of these conversations. Implementation timelines will need further discussion and analysis.

VI. FOLLOW-UP

Staff will bring regular updates on the Climate Action Plan to the Board as staff and consultants complete sections that are ready for review or adoption. The next scheduled update is on April 21st to brief the results of the internal Greenhouse Gas (GHG) Inventory. Staff will return on May 19th for a work session on setting internal GHG reduction targets.

VII. ATTACHMENTS

Presentation slides

Climate Action

Initiatives Discussion

- Introductions
- Climate Action Plan update
- City of Eugene CAP 2.0
- Energy Efficiency
- Industry Opportunities
- Financing

Lane County's Climate Strategist

Mark Nystrom

- Masters in Public Administration
- Masters in Natural Science & Environmental Education
 - Bachelors in Business Management & Chemistry
- U of O Instructor: quantitative methods, public and nonprofit financial management, research methods, lobbying
- Climate Recovery Ordinance Analyst – City of Eugene
 - Climate Action Plan 2.0, Sustainability Commission, Climate Action Equity Panel, Communications
- AOC – Energy, Environment & Land Use Policy Manager
- High School Science Teacher
- Co-author of the U of O Climate Action Plan

Good Company



Josh Proudfoot

Good Company has completed over 200 GHG inventories for public organizations in the Northwest and worked on dozens of climate mitigation studies and plans.

City Governments

- Ashland, OR
- Bend, OR
- Beaverton, OR
- Corvallis, OR
- Edmonds, WA
- Eugene, OR
- Gresham, OR
- Hillsboro, OR
- Lake Oswego, OR
- Milwaukie, OR
- Portland, OR
- Springfield, OR
- Tualatin Hills, OR
- Vancouver, WA

County Governments

- Clackamas County, OR
- Multnomah County, OR
- Tillamook County, OR
- Washington County, OR
- Alameda County, CA

Regional Governments

- Lane Council of Governments
- Portland Metro Regional Government
- Rogue Valley Council of Governments
- Lane Transit District
- Joint Water Commission of Hillsboro
- Metropolitan Wastewater Management Commission

Climate Action Plan

Update

- Consultant retained
- Climate Strategist hired
- Resolution passed
- Phase 1 (Internal) Plan – in progress
 - GHG Inventory – April 21st to BCC
- Website launched
- Future:
 - Climate Action Advisory Committee
 - Phase 2 (County-wide)
 - Phase 3 (Resiliency & Adaptation)

City of Eugene Status

Climate Action Plan 2.0

- Why 2.0?
 - Climate Recovery Ordinance (2014)
 - Initial Climate Action Plan
- Eugene's Approach
 - Eugene Climate Collaborative
 - Sector Based
 - Data Driven
 - Equity

JP2

Energy

Current programs

- Conservation programs, Smart metering (EWEB, SUB, Homes for Good)
- Manufactured Home Replacement Pilot (Energy Trust, St. VDP)
- Biogas development (NWN and MWMC, possibly Short Mountain)

Potential Initiatives

- Efficiency/weatherization mass scale up for commercial and residential– job programs
 - Heating and envelope
 - Water heating
- Solar incentives
- Onsite energy storage
- Electric vehicle financing and home and work charging access – Multifamily housing
- Electric vehicle and bicycle production

Slide 6

JP2 Should these incentive programs go to the financing page?
Joshua Proudfoot, 3/4/2020

EWEB Partnerships

2019 Energy Efficiency Stats

- \$2.5 M in incentives and \$2.0M in loans
- 11,000 MWh energy savings
- 8366 MT CO2 reduction

Partnership with LI Providers

- 62 DHP replacements @ Homes for Good
- Greenpower grant for 30 KW PV System @ Parkview Terrace Apts

5 Lane County EE Projects (2015 – 2019)

- Over 600,000 kWh savings

Smart Electrification

Transportation Electrification

- Education/outreach events
- Charging station incentives



Fuel-Switching Projects

- Incentives for replacing NGas with efficient electric equipment
- Saves overall energy, money and CO2 reduction

Resiliency Partnerships – Emergency Water Stations



Lane Events Center



Improved Well



Equipment and new parking

Industry

Current programs

- Oregon Manufacturer's Extension Program – Lean Manufacturing

Potential initiatives

- Market development for waste materials captured n LC upgraded for use in LC. Example – PakTek
- Leveraging our low-carbon electricity: processing, manufacturing
- Timber – replacing high-carbon building materials, choosing right species for tomorrow's conditions and choosing fire prevention, Higher and better use – MWMC Poplars into Plywood and Trim
- Food & Beverage – changing growing regions, new crops
- Re-growing repair and expanding highly skilled services
- Mass weatherization and electrification of buildings

Financing

Current programs

- Energy Trust of Oregon
- Craft3
- PACE (property assessed clean energy)
- Rebates/Tax Incentives

Potential initiatives

- Economic Development investments
- Local residential assistance programs
- Bike Ped infrastructure