

## Citizens Committee on U.S. Mayors Climate Protection Agreement

### **Mission:**

1. Encourage citizens to be a part of the solution
2. Encourage City staff and citizens to conserve current resources
3. Work with the City Council to implement ideas
4. Effectively address the future impacts of climate change



### **Committee Members:**

- Members:** Richard Bisbee, Jeannie Blair, Carolyn Chapel, Howard Chermak, Bob, Freeman, Wes Gallagher, Hank Landau, Todd Cloutier, Linda Lyshall, Cynthia Pruitt, Laura Spehar, Rebecca Wolfe
- City Staff:** Mayor Dave Earling, Rob Chave, Stephen Clifton, Steve Fisher, Carolyn LaFave, Sally Lider, Jen Machuga, Strom Peterson, Jim Stevens, Phil Williams

### **Meeting Agenda**

**March 1, 2012**

1. Review of Climate Action Plan Priorities & Work Plan	
2. Old Business	
3. Next meeting date – 9 a.m., April 5, 2012	

### **Meeting Minutes February 2, 2012**

#### **1. City of Edmonds Municipal Energy Plan**

Jim Stevens made a PowerPoint presentation regarding the City's Municipal Energy Plan, which was recently developed with Cascadia Consulting Group. The Plan documents energy use, efficiencies, and accomplishments for the City, and provides recommendations for energy efficiency actions and initiatives that the City should take. The City's energy use is categorized within the Plan in the following sectors: Facilities, Fleets, Outdoor Lighting, Water Delivery, and Wastewater. The Plan looks at energy use by sector and energy cost by sector, which was helpful with determining the City's priorities for action.

Jim overviewed some of the City's accomplishments that are discussed within the Plan, including that there was a 15% reduction in energy use between 1999 and 2010 and that the City has realized over \$400,000 in reduced municipal government energy costs since 2006. It was found that electricity is the largest portion of the City's energy expenditures. The Plan identifies 30 opportunities for reducing energy use. The top recommendations address fuel efficiency for fleet, building energy use, and outdoor lighting.

The Municipal Energy Plan will be presented to the City Council, and the committee will be notified when the Plan is available online.

#### **2. City of Seattle's Building Energy Benchmarking and Reporting Program**

Jayson Antonoff, Energy and Climate Change Policy Advisor of Seattle's Office of Sustainability and Environment, made a guest presentation regarding the City of Seattle's Building Energy Benchmarking and Reporting Program. Mr. Antonoff noted that Seattle has had a Climate Action Plan for several years,

which includes goals for very large reductions in greenhouse gas emissions in the near future. The Green Building Capital Initiative was initiated to look into ways of improving energy efficiency of residential and commercial buildings. It was determined that one of the major considerations needs to be retrofits of existing buildings. This resulted in the establishment of Seattle's Building Energy Benchmarking and Reporting Program ([www.seattle.gov/dpd/EnergyBenchmarking](http://www.seattle.gov/dpd/EnergyBenchmarking)).

As part of the Benchmarking Program, "Portfolio Manager" is utilized to track how a building is performing in respect to energy usage. Building owners of affected properties are required to enter their information into "Portfolio Manager", which provides annual reporting to the city. The ordinance was passed in February of 2010, but it has a long roll-out timeline in order to give building owners time to adapt to the requirements.

The City of Seattle does not share a specific building's profile data; however, the ordinance includes a requirement for building owners to disclose their energy performance data to affected parties (i.e. current or future tenants, buyers, lenders, etc.). This information can then be utilized by affected parties to help guide them in making purchasing, leasing, and/or financing decisions.

One of the main purposes of the Benchmarking Program is to give the City of Seattle information on how existing buildings within the city are doing and how they compare to other buildings. This will help guide Seattle in seeing if they are on track towards achieving their goals for greenhouse gas reduction set forth in the Climate Action Plan. Additionally, Seattle can use this information to guide development of future policies and incentive programs (i.e. they will be able to target specific areas, uses, demographics, etc.).

Mr. Antonoff stated that the Benchmarking Program impacts approximately 9,000 buildings in Seattle. He explained that they started with non-residential buildings over 50,000 square feet, but that they are now moving on to include non-residential buildings over 10,000 square feet as well as multi-family buildings containing five or more units. He noted that the educational and outreach process is important for smaller buildings because owners of smaller buildings do not typically see the importance of monitoring energy usage as much as owners of larger buildings do. Additionally, owners of smaller buildings may be less likely to have the technical knowledge or computer capabilities to report their building's energy usage.

Mr. Antonoff also discussed the 2030 District, which is a group of larger building owners in downtown Seattle. Members of the 2030 District share their energy usage data with one another and collaborate together on ways of achieving energy efficiency. They also formed a non-profit, which gives them opportunities to apply for grants.

One of the lessons learned from the process that Mr. Antonoff discussed with the committee is that they should have included wastewater in the Benchmarking Program instead of only energy usage.

### **3. Miscellaneous**

The committee discussed the feasibility of doing a similar program as Seattle's benchmarking program in Edmonds. We would need to start with City buildings. It was noted, however, that it would be difficult to find comparisons for most of the city's buildings other than City Hall, which could be compared to other office buildings as benchmarks. Groups to start with could include schools, churches, and/or the hospital. Hank Landau pointed out that if this can be seen as a health-related issue, there may be funding available through the hospital.

Richard Bisbee provided an update on the coal train issue. He provided a recap of the meeting that was held on February 1, 2012. Also, he suggested that the committee members visit the new website: [www.coalfreenorthwest.org/Edmonds](http://www.coalfreenorthwest.org/Edmonds). Richard said that Sustainable Edmonds plans to submit comments and participate in the hearings related to the coal train issue along with the Sierra Club, and he wondered if the City would be submitting comments and participating in the hearings as well.