



CITY OF BEND

Meeting Minutes

Environment and Climate Committee Meeting

Location: Council Chambers, 710 NW Wall Street

Date: February 13, 2025

The meeting of the Environment and Climate Committee (ECC) was called to order at 11:04 a.m. on Thursday, February 13, 2025, in the City Council Chambers, 710 NW Wall Street, and online.

1. **Roll Call:** Andrew Calise, Kavi Chokshi, Kellie Jensen, Laura Tabor, Mark Buckley, Neil Baunsgard, Nick Millar, Ray Hartwell, Rory Isbell, Scott Nordquist, Smita Mehta

Absent: Mark Buckley, Rory Isbell, Jackie Mueller (ex officio), Sasha Sulia (ex officio)

New ex-officio at Bend La Pine schools, replacing Jackie Mueller.

2. Approval of Meeting Minutes

January 9, 2025, ECC Meeting Minutes

Approved with no additions or corrections.

3. Public Comment (2 minutes each)

Visitors can use "Raise Hand" feature when prompted to provide public comment

none

4. Staff Updates

Slides included:

- Electrification Joint Committee Summit – February 24, 2025, 2-4 p.m.
 - ECC delegates: Neil, Ray, Laura & Scott can join later
- Council Goal workshop last week
 - Supported ECC priorities as recommended at Council Goal summit
- Engagement update

- Planning on launching website in mid-March; ECC members will be able to review content and provide feedback the week of February 24
- Photo for website in March

Member Millar agreed to attend the Joint Committee Summit in addition to Members Baunsgard and Hartwell.

Mayor Kebler addressed the committee regarding Council Goals. Mayor Kebler stated that Council is interested in retaining Environment & Climate as a goal category and is considering adding wildfire resiliency under the Environment & Climate goal category. Mayor Kebler suggested ECC prioritize its recommendations and identify what can be accomplished in the upcoming biennium.

5. CCAP Action Review and Work Plan | All

Lacy shared the Community Climate Action Plan (CCAP) Strategies & Modeling & Community Survey Input matrix [**Attachment A**] on the screen and asked the committee to review strategies and actions in preparation for adopting the plan. Cassie summarized which strategies have the most impact on greenhouse gas emissions, which strategies were most highly rated by the community, and concerns and barriers voiced by the community regarding the strategies.

Strategies:

- Energy Supply
 - Provide 100% renewable electricity supply to the community
 - Reduce emissions associated with reliance on and usage of natural gas and other fossil fuels
 - Encourage solar and other renewable energy generation on residential and commercial buildings
 - Pursue local renewable energy generation
 - Lead by example by decarbonizing City facilities
- Energy Use in Buildings
 - Support policies that reduce greenhouse gas emissions in buildings
 - Encourage upgrades in residential and commercial buildings that promote energy efficiency and reduce greenhouse gas emissions
 - Implement benchmarking and disclosure programs and building performance standards
 - Promote smaller homes and denser housing options through incentives
- Waste & Materials
 - Improve waste recovery through recycling
 - Expand use of low-carbon concrete in City projects and new development
 - Improve food waste recovery
 - Encourage waste prevention and reducing consumption through outreach and education
 - Encourage food waste prevention through outreach and education

Energy Strategies Discussion

Member Hartwell expressed concern over the goal of achieving 100% renewable electricity supply to the community and felt that the final 10% would be very difficult and expensive to obtain. Member Hartwell felt that 90% renewable energy is a more pragmatic goal.

Member Hartwell raised the question of whether the City can support expenses of retrofitting, such as negotiated prices of certain appliances.

Member Millar suggested adding advocating to the public utility commission to help ensure stable rates, which would help encourage people to electrify. Vice Chair Tabor suggested adding this under ES-1A, and include a reference to affordability.

Member Hartwell stated that EB-3, “Implement benchmarking and disclosure programs and building performance standards”, is relatively easy to implement and suggested upvoting this strategy. Member Hartwell pointed out that incentives, which were rated more highly in the community survey, are more complicated to implement because of the financial impact, particularly if the funding is local.

Vice Chair Tabor pointed out that densification aligns with other city goals and suggested upvoting this strategy.

Waste & Materials Discussion

Member Chokshi pointed out that the methodology behind measuring the impact of recycling (W-1) versus the impact of improving food waste recovery (W-3) was not parallel. The report shows that recycling has a much higher impact, but if you considered local emissions only, Chokshi believed that the impact of food waste would be higher.

Member Chokshi pointed out that strategies W-5 and W-6 are difficult to quantify and felt that the impact of these categories should be higher, especially as compared to W-1, recycling.

Lacy agreed and suggested a follow-up discussion with the consultants.

Member Chokshi suggested taking out “through outreach and education” from W-5 to align with other strategies and capture actions.

Transportation Discussion

Lacy pointed out that the data on transit is the hardest to model, as we do not have high ridership in Bend, and adding routes will not reduce emissions unless more people are using transit.

Vice Chair Tabor asked if electrification of transit vehicles has been considered.

Lacy responded that transit recently did a fleet electrification study and found that it was not feasible at this time to electrify their fleet, but that this could be revisited in a future CCAP update.

The committee adjourned at 12:22 p.m. and reconvened at 12:28 p.m.

Overall Discussion

The committee agreed with the overall list of strategies, with refinements as discussed.

Member Baunsgard suggested including comments to help contextualize the rationale behind the strategies. Member Calise supported including comments.

Member Hartwell suggested including more specificity on cost benefits, both to the City and to community members.

Member Chokshi requested adding a future goal of moving the focus to a scope 3 emissions under Waste & Materials. Member Chokshi suggested changing “Waste & Materials” to “Materials & Waste” to shift the focus to upstream impacts, which accounts for about half of all consumption-based emissions.

The committee supported the change to “Materials & Waste”.

6. General CCAP / CCAP Implementation Recommendations | All

Slides included:

- Proposed FY25-27 CCAP Work Plan
 1. Develop and execute and outreach and education program
 2. Develop and launch an Energy Navigator program
 3. Develop electrification policies
 4. Expand public EV charging infrastructure
 5. Promote waste prevention and reuse
 6. Encourage VMT reduction
 7. Launch a community partner grant program
 8. Identify and secure a sustainable funding source for CCAP implementation
- CCAP Implementation Recommendations
 1. Establish a permanent and sustainable funding source: create a permanent funding source to support implementation of CCAP projects and programs. This may involve creating a new revenue source. The funds would be used for programmatic expenses for outreach and education and contracting out programs and initiatives.
 2. Create a Community Partner Grant Program: develop a grant program to facilitate community partner-led CCAP action implementation. This program will provide grants to community-based organizations running programs that help achieve CCAP actions.

Work Plan Discussion

Lacy suggested aligning ECC’s workplan with Council goals.

Member Millar suggested adding a commitment of the City adopting clean technologies.

Vice Chair Tabor suggested adding advocacy work.

Mayor Kebler encouraged ECC to focus on local action over advocacy work as it is Council's responsibility to take on advocacy.

Member Chokshi requested adding more specificity to W5A, such as "implement a waste prevention and reuse program". Lacy agreed to rewrite this item to make it more actionable.

Vice Chair Tabor expressed general support of the implementation recommendations.

7. Agenda Review

Slides included:

- March 2025
 - Finalize and vote of on CCAP update recommendation
 - Community Partner Grant Program feedback
 - Stewardship Subcommittee meeting: Share CCAP updated proposal
- April 2025
 - Community Partner Grant program follow up
 - Energy Navigator program feedback
 - Council meeting: CCAP update proposal
- May 2025
 - TBD

The committee supported voting on the CCAP updates at their upcoming March meeting.

Lacy outlined the next steps:

- Vote on the CCAP update actions and implementation recommendation
- Present the CCAP update to the Stewardship Subcommittee
- Bring to the full Council in April

8. Adjourned at 1:03 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,

Ashley Bontje
Deputy City Recorder



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