

Minutes

Environment & Climate Committee Meeting



CITY OF BEND

Location: City Council Chambers, 710 NW Wall Street, and online

Date: Thursday, December 12, 2024

The meeting of the Environment and Climate Committee (ECC) was called to order at 11:07 a.m. on Thursday, December 12, 2024, in the City Council Chambers, 710 NW Wall Street, and online.

- 1. Roll Call:** Andrew Calise, Kavi Chokshi, Laura Tabor, Lauren Fraser, Mark Buckley, Neil Baunsgard, Rory Isbell, Serena Dietrich

Absent: Kellie Jensen, Smita Mehta, Jackie Mueller (ex officio), Sasha Sulia (ex officio)

2. Approval of Meeting Minutes

- a. 10/10/24 Environment and Climate Committee Meeting
- b. 10/28/24 Electrification Working Group Meeting
- c. 11/4/24 Electrification Working Group Meeting
- d. 11/14/24 Environment and Climate Committee Meeting

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.

Cassie Lacy, Senior Management Analyst, presented the following updates

Slides included:

- Staff Updates
 - Final committee meeting of the year
 - Thank you Lauren and Serena for your ECC service!
 - Thank you to Lauren and Neil for your service as Chair and Vice-Chair
 - Committee Recruitment
 - Committee members reappointed: Kellie, Kavi, Mark, and Rory

- New committee members appointed: Scott Nordquist, Ray Hartwell, Nick Millar
- January: Chair/Vice-Chair Elections
 - Send your self-nomination to me by 1/3 and a few sentences explaining your interest
- Electrification
 - Work Session delivering recommendation on 12/4
 - Council direction to:
 - Move ahead with education/outreach, navigator program, and state level advocacy as short term actions
 - Want engagement with other boards and commissions on incentives, regulations and fees
 - February electrification joint committee meeting with AHAC and BEDAB
- Community Climate Action Plan (CCAP) Update
 - Received direction from Council to create a pilot community partner grant program and to investigate revenue sources for sustainable CCAP funding
- Council Goal Setting
 - Council Goal Summit for advisory bodies planned for 1/14/25. All Committee members encouraged to attend.

4. CCAP Strategy Greenhouse Gas Evaluation Results | Parametrix Informational

Presentation by Parametrix Project Manager Claudia Denton, Parametrix Analyst Maddie Cheek, and Parametrix Planner & Analyst Stephen Greenslade

Slides included:

- Bend CCAP Update: Environment & Climate Committee Meeting
- Agenda
 - 1. Mitigation scaling results
 - GHGs and costs
 - Co-benefits
 - Community survey results
- 2021 Community GHG Emissions [graph]
- GHGs and costs
 - GHGs (MT CO₂e)
 - Projected annual reductions in 2030 (compared to forecast)
 - Projected annual reductions in 2050 (compared to forecast)
 - Cumulative reductions 2025-2050
 - Costs
 - Cost per 1 MT Co₂e of reduction
- 2030 Fossil Fuel Goal [graph]
- 2050 Fossil Fuel Goal [graph]
- Energy supply – GHGs and costs [chart]
- Energy use in buildings - GHGs and costs [chart]
- Waste & Materials - GHGs and costs [chart]

- Transportation – GHGs and costs [chart]
- Emissions over time [graph]

Chokshi asked what year is considered for CCAP implementation to get the numbers in the 2030/2050 Fossil Fuel Goal charts.

Greenslade responded that the implementation dates were based on realistic targets discussed with Lacy, and that everything is planned to come online by 2030.

Lacy clarified that all modeling is for the updated CCAP.

Greenslade clarified that transportation is one of the main contributors to the remaining emissions, post proposed CCAP implementation. It is more difficult to implement changes in transportation and the sector has more uncertainty in modeling.

Buckley asked for details on the EV modeling.

Greenslade response that the modeling includes 95% of cars on the road be EV by 2050.

Greenslade provided detail on the modeling around transit, stating the modeling was based on 60% increase in transit service and a 2% increase in ridership by 2040.

Buckey asked what the lowest cost strategies are.

Greenslade identified waste reduction and home density as relatively low-cost strategies. Examples of long-term cost savings include solar power, which requires upfront investment but saves money over lifecycle.

The Committee recessed at 12:19 p.m. and reconvened at 12:24 p.m.

5. CCAP Community Survey Results | Parametrix Informational

Slides included:

- Community Survey results
- Energy Supply [graphs]
 - The top 3 most popular strategies in the Energy Supply sector included:
 - Encouraging solar and other renewable energy generation on residential and commercial buildings (29%)
 - The City leading by example by installing solar on all City facilities (22%)
 - Pursuing local renewable energy generation (19%)
 - The top 3 barriers to community members using more renewable energy at their homes or businesses were:
 - It is too expensive (43%)
 - I do not have control over the energy sources at my home or business (13%)
 - It is not important to me (9%)

- Key themes from the Energy Supply sector
 - Concerns about:
 - All-electric buildings
 - The resources needed to construct and/or generate renewable energy
 - Challenges related to:
 - The affordability of solar
 - The environmental factors that impair local solar installs
 - Comments about natural gas were varied
 - Comments about not believing in climate change and/or not wanting the City to spend time on climate change.
 - Comments about what community members are already doing to generate renewable energy locally.
- Energy Use in buildings [graphs]
 - The top 3 most popular strategies in Buildings and Energy Use sector included:
 - Encourage upgrades in residential and commercial buildings that promote energy efficiency (44%)
 - Support policies that reduce GHG emissions in buildings (25%)
 - Promote smaller homes and denser housing options through incentives (19%)
 - The top 3 upgrades respondents would consider making to their home or business if there was an incentive included:
 - Upgrading my insulation (17%)
 - Installing an electric heat pump (15%)
 - Installing an electric water heater (15%)
 - The top 3 barriers to community members making energy efficiency upgrades in their homes or businesses were:
 - It's too expensive (47%)
 - I do not have control over the energy sources at my home or business (14%)
 - I don't know how to make energy efficiency upgrades (8%)
- Key themes from the Energy Use in Building sector
 - Support for
 - Replacing appliances or making upgrades at the end of useful life
 - Incentive programs that are available to both homeowners and landlords
 - Education about efficiency upgrades and funding options
 - Voluntary efficiency measures
 - Concerns about
 - Affordability
 - Mandatory efficiency measures
 - Densification
- Transportation [graphs]
 - The top 3 most popular strategies in the Transportation sector included:
 - Expand support for bike and pedestrian travel (20%)
 - Encourage development and transportation planning to encourage a reduction in vehicle use (19%)
 - Lead by example by converting fleet vehicles to electric and alternative fuel vehicles (17%)

- For respondents who would like to drive an EV, but do not currently drive an EV, the top 3 reasons for being unable to drive an EV included:
 - It's too expensive (31%)
 - There is not enough charging infrastructure throughout the City (17%)
 - I do not have a place to charge my car (13%)
- The top 3 reasons for not taking public transportation included:
 - It is not easy and convenient (64%)
 - I do not feel safe (14%)
 - I do not know how to ride (6%)
- Top 2 changes that would make respondents consider using alternative modes of transportation (other than a car) include:
 - More bike lanes, trails, sidewalks and crosswalks (23%)
 - A free local shuttle program to key destinations (22%)
 - More stores and services within walking or biking distance from my home (20%)
- Key themes from the Transportation sector
 - Support for:
 - A free/low-cost shuttle to key destinations
 - Upgrading and maintaining bicycle infrastructure
 - Making neighborhoods more walkable
 - Hybrid vehicles
 - Concerns about:
 - Transportation mode shift for people who cannot easily get around
 - The reliability of the public transportation system
 - The impact of winter weather and extreme heat on the ability of people to comfortably and safely use alternative or active modes
 - Bicycle and pedestrian safety
 - Raw materials needed to produce batteries for EVs
 - Being able to charge an EV during longer-range trips
- Waste & Materials [graphs]
 - The top 3 most popular strategies in the Waste and Materials sector included:
 - Improve and expand recycling (23%)
 - Improve recovery of construction and demolition waste (22%)
 - Improve food waste recover (16%)
 - Respondents were asked about what might encourage them and their families to buy fewer new items. The top 3 responses were:
 - Having access to high quality used goods (29%)
 - Having access to repair services near home (24%)
 - Saving money by buying used goods (19%)
- Key themes from the Waste & Materials sector
 - Support for
 - Providing education
 - Expanding and improving recycling options and services
 - Advocating for retailers and manufacturers to be responsible for waste
 - Expanding and improving composting services
 - Expanding access to repair services and sharing of materials
 - Concerns about

- Individual choice and the City's role in managing waste and materials
 - The role of consumerism in society
 - The volume of construction and demolition waste that goes to the landfill
- Concerns about
 - Individual choice and the City's role in managing waste and materials
 - The role of consumerism in society
 - The volume of construction and demolition waste that goes to the landfill
- General/overarching feedback
 - A focus on practical and affordable solutions.
 - The importance of education and individual action.
 - Gratitude that the City is taking action.
 - Skepticism about climate change and government intervention.
 - The importance of prioritizing essential City services.
 - Opposition to urban sprawl and a desire to preserve Bend's character.

6. Council Goal Input | All Discussion and Decision

Discussion led by Cassie Lacy.

Slides included:

- Council Goal Input
 - Council Goal Setting for FY25-27 biennium occurring between January-March 2025
 - All members of advisory committees are invited to the City Council and Advisory Body Summit on January 14, 4:30-6:30 pm (includes dinner)
 - This is the Committee's opportunity to share your biggest accomplishments of the previous year and priorities for FY25-27
 - Everyone is encouraged to attend
 - Must submit Council Goal Input form by January 9
- Proposed FY25-27 Priorities (for discussion) *Italics indicates added during discussion*
 - Develop and execute outreach and education/engagement program
 - Develop and launch an energy navigator program
 - Develop electrification policies
 - Install public EV charging stations
 - Promote waste prevention and re-use
 - Launch a community partner grant program *to support CCAP implementation*
 - Identify and secure a sustainable funding source for CCAP implementation
 - *Encourage VMT reduction through land use policy and improving transportation options*

Calise felt most community engagement was around the electrification policy and would move that to the top of the prioritization order, and agreed with the top three priorities listed.

Fraser commented that installing EV charging stations is a long-term goal and suggested changing it to "Develop an EV readiness plan."

Lacy believed that specificity around EV charging stations would be helpful.

Isbell suggested adding an action around the transit system such as sidewalk infill, wayfinding, and increasing transit ridership.

Baunsgard asked if the priorities section is to focus on things that aren't being worked on elsewhere.

City Attorney Mary Winters responded that that depends on if ECC wants to have input on existing processes and would like to be education on the topic.

Lacy considered the priorities to be part of the ECC workplan but they do not necessarily need to be.

Isbell suggested a broader priority of reducing vehicle miles traveled (VMT), which would capture increasing transit use, bike/pedestrian, and funding to support those initiatives.

Buckley responded that broad categories make it more difficult for Council to act on.

Lacy supported including "reducing VMT" as a priority.

Buckley asked what authority the City has over reducing VMT.

Winters responded that Transit system, including routes, is run by COIC, but the City can support VMT reduction by building mobility hubs.

Lacy added "Encourage VMT reduction through land use policy and improving transportation options" to the proposed priorities list.

Tabor suggested adding state-level advocacy to the priorities.

Lacy responded the Council Goals typically involve multiple departments and is not an exhaustive list of all the ECC will do. Lacy did not think state level advocacy fits into Council goals.

Isbell moved to approve the priorities list. Buckley seconded the motion.

Voice Vote – Andrew Calise, Kavi Chokshi, Laura Tabor, Lauren Fraser, Mark Buckley, Neil Baunsgard, Rory Isbell. Yes 7 No 0. Dietrich left the meeting prior to the vote.

7. Agenda Review

Slides included:

- Agenda Review
 - January 2025
 - Welcome new members
 - Chair/Vice-Chair elections
 - Outreach and education strategy update
 - CCAP Discussion – next steps and recommendations
 - February 2025
 - *Potential* No full ECC meeting (unless specific agenda items identified)
 - ECC/BEDAB/AHAC joint electrification meeting
 - March 2025

- Community Partner Grant Program
- Finalize CCAP recommendations

8. Adjourned at 1:00 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,

Ashley Bontje
Deputy City Recorder



Accommodation Information for People with Disabilities

To obtain this information in an alternate format such as Braille, large print, electronic formats, etc., please contact Ashley Bontje at abontje@bendoregon.gov or 541-323-7164. Relay Users Dial 7-1-1.