

**Baltimore Commission on Sustainability
February 28, 2012 Meeting Report**

Date: Tuesday, February 28 2012 from 4-6 pm

Location: Department of Planning Boardroom, 417 E. Fayette St. 8th Floor

Subject: Commission on Sustainability February 2012 General Meeting

In Attendance: (*Commissioners*) – Davis Bookhart, John Ciekot, Dana Cooper, Peter Doo, Ray Ehrlich, Lynn Heller, Brian Knight, Sharon Middleton, John Quinn, Jake Ruppert, Ali Smith, Scot Spencer, Tom Stosur, Ed Whalen

(*Staff*) - Beth Strommen, Alice Kennedy, Abby Cocke, Holly Freishtat

Meeting called to order: 4:04 pm

Topics addressed:

- Minutes approved January 24, 2012 meeting. Ed moves and Davis seconds.
- Chair Report
 - Tom Stosur chairs this meeting. Cheryl Casciani was in Annapolis testifying on stormwater bill before a House subcommittee.
 - No formal chair report
- Staff Report
 - Applying for an Urban Sustainability Directors Network matching grant. More information to come.
 - City Schools Sustainability Challenge. 49 schools participating, raising money for the matching grant.
 - Holly presented the new food desert map for Baltimore.
 - Baltimore food Policy Initiative has submitted for \$250,000 in grants
 - Press Conference with Mayor for “Get Fresh Lexington”, healthy food carryouts. Hope to have local farmers in the markets.
 - New Food desert map:
 - 1 in 4 children in Baltimore 0-17 years old live in a food desert – 31,000 kids
 - 1 in 4 children 0-4 years of age live in a food desert
 - 1 in 4 African Americans in Baltimore live in a food desert
 - US Conference of Mayors Food Policy Task Force - -co-chaired by Mayor Rawlings-Blake.
- Port of Baltimore – Jim Dwyer Deputy Director of Planning for the MD Port Administration
 - Context of Port – Lynn Heller: emphasis on how important the Port is to the Maryland economy. The port has done a lot of sustainability initiatives. In particular, the Port has gained a national reputation for the sustainability of its dredging program.”
 - Port founded in 1706
 - Domestic traffic is steady and international cargo has boomed recently
 - Have exported more than imported due to increase in coal exports
 - MD Port Administration is not the Port of Baltimore. Other organizations make up the Port community. No regulatory authority over neighbors.
 - Coal exports =- 20,000,000 tons = #2 in nation for coal exports

- New generation of container ships building a berth 50' deep. Now receiving ships that can't go through the Panama canal.
- Cruises – 100 cruises a year
- Inland port problem – a lot of channels need to be dredged. Baltimore and Norfolk only 50' channels
- 5 million cubic yards per year dredged
- 2 dredge sites: Cox Creek and Masonville Cove
- Masonville Cove dredge site old brownfield, cleaned up significantly
- Received an award for work at Masonville Cove in terms of environmental clean up
- Brooklyn & Curtis Bay neighborhoods want access to the water, working with them to do this
- MD Port Administration is the State agency that has created more wetlands than any other agency
- Green Port features
 - Change culture of tenants to deal with trash. Make this an important issue.
 - Pepco installed solar on roof of cruise ship terminal
 - Schoolyard work – mitigation work offsite. 6-8n schoolyards per year where they pay to rip up asphalt and lay down grass to create green space.
- Questions
 - John Quinn: All of the coal – anticipate a demand decrease: What is port likely to export other than coal? Answer: 2 export coal terminal run by CSX and CNX and are privately owned.
 - Dredge material – very creative in green uses. Sediments coming in – see any trends in sediment decreasing? Answer: No – example August rains and the Google satellite images of brown sludge flowing from Susquehanna into Chesapeake.
 - Peter Doo: when you talk about the Port – the port what is that? Not all state? Answer: a complex mix of public and private terminals and companies. Federal agencies as well. There is no one Mayor or Executive Director
 - Peter Doo: is there a long-term strategy to deal with stormwater? Answer: yes, built a stormwater vault, and then also mitigation work offsite. Do some beneficial project somewhere else in the watershed.
 - Ed Whalen: are you working with CSX to increase rail capacity in and out of Port? Answer: working with CSX for suitable site. Evaluating 4 sites intermodal container transportation.
 - Lynn Heller – partner with Port on our initiatives (CAP) and hope Port thinks of Commission as an ally.
- Metrics – Alice Kennedy
 - Change in layout of Annual Report from 2009 and 2010. Feel like this new layout will offer flexibility in reporting, and delete unnecessary repetition.
 - Table of Contents
 - Executive Summary
 - Stories & Highlights
 - Data
 - Steps You Can Take
 - Sustainability Pledge
 - Partnerships
 - Stories & Highlights
 - Neighborhood Spotlight: Reservoir Hill
 - Partner Spotlight: Civic Works
 - City Schools Sustainability Day

- City Schools Sustainability Challenge
- Baltimore Green Map
- Recreation & Parks Playground Assessment
- Urban Waters Launch
- Blue Water Baltimore Clean Water Communities
- Community Greening Resource Network
- Virtual Supermarket & Neighborhood Food Advocates
- Transportation: Bikes
- HUD Sustainable Communities Grant
- Port of Baltimore
- Community Energy Savers Grant Program
- Baltimore Energy Challenge: Business Energy Challenge
- Baltimore Green Currency
- Data
 - Cleanliness
 - # Service Calls for Dirty Streets
 - Tonnage Collected from Street Sweeping
 - Miles of Streets Swept
 - \$ Spent on Mechanical Street Sweeping
 - # Trash Related Citations issued by HCD
 - Perception of Cleanliness (Citizen Survey)
 - Number of Adopted Lots in City
 - Pollution Prevention
 - Greenhouse Gas Inventory
 - Baltimore City Government renewable energy usage
 - Baltimore City Government renewable energy generation
 - Poor Air Quality Days: Clean-Air Partners
 - Code Orange & Red Days: City of Baltimore Health Department
 - Bay Health Index Scores: Eco-Check Report Card
 - City Harbor Water Quality Testing
 - Coalition to End Childhood Lead Poisoning Programs
 - Baltimore City Health Department Healthy Home
 - Baltimore City Housing Department Lead Abatement
 - Resource Conservation
 - Total City Energy Usage Relative to 2007 Baseline (BGE)
 - Baltimore City Government Energy Usage (DGS)
 - Baltimore City Public Schools Energy Usage (DGS)
 - Billed Water Consumption Residential & Commercial
 - Quarantine Road Landfill Tonnage
 - Total Recycling Tonnage Collected by DPW
 - Total BRESKO Tonnage
 - Greening
 - # Street Tree Pits Opened
 - # Street Trees Planted
 - Tree Baltimore Trees Planted Private Property
 - Tree Baltimore Trees Planted Public Property
 - Tree Maintenance Metric (still developing with R&P)
 - # EBT Transactions at Farmers Markets
 - EBT Sales at Farmers Markets

- Number of Public Market Vendors with Healthy Carryout Menus
 - Water Quality and Biodiversity Metric from City of Baltimore (still developing)
 - Miles of Streams Restored
 - Transportation
 - MTA Total Ridership
 - Lane Miles of new on-street bike facilities
 - % increase in bike ridership *Avg. of Falls, Guilford, & Aliceanna Averages*
 - # of Circulator riders
 - # of Zipcars available in the Baltimore region
 - Number of pedestrian countdown signals added each
 - City car-pooling rideshare information
 - Education & Awareness
 - # of Maryland Association for Environmental and Outdoor education (MAEOE) Certified Green Schools in City of Baltimore
 - Baltimore City Youth Participation in Environmental Programs
 - Baltimore Conservation & Leadership Corps
 - Masonville Cove
 - Living Classrooms BUGS Program
 - Civic Justice Corps
 - Baltimore City Schools Sustainability Challenge
 - Parks & People Foundation
 - Holistic Life Foundation
 - Office of Sustainability Website Metric (confirming)
 - Website, Facebook, & Twitter
 - Green Economy
 - # of Registered Buildings under Baltimore City Green Building Standards
 - # of Buildings Registered in City under LEED
 - # of Buildings in City Certified LEED
 - Workforce Development
 - Baltimore City Public School Graduation Rate
 - Baltimore City YouthWorks Green Jobs Corps
 - Baltimore City Community College Degrees & Certificates Awarded
 - Civic Works Green Job Training
 - Maryland Green Registry – city businesses
 - Davis Bookhart: suggest adding composting number from Keith and Waste Neutral
 - Peter Doo: suggest adding metric about LEED Schools
- Priority Goals Discussion
 - Green Infrastructure
 - Philly trip 22 people
 - Not just City agencies
 - Philly dealing on many levels for a lot longer
 - Striking about Philly, small group Office of Watersheds now has 85 people
 - Dedicated stormwater fee
 - Look at what they are doing for stormwater and vacant lots
 - Nice to have multi city agencies and NGOs seeing examples at same time

- Still figuring a way to scale in Philly
- Legislation
 - Council Bill 12-0022 Sale of Properties 1801 East Oliver Street and 1731 Llewelyn Avenue
 - Redevelop site for Baltimore Food Collaborative
 - TOD site
 - Historic buildings being retained
 - Sharon Middleton Motion to support
 - Second by Scot Spencer
 - Council Bill 12-0028 **Commercial Energy Efficiency - Lighting Systems**
 - **International green building code compliance**
 - **Larger than 5,000 square feet – threshold is smaller than the Baltimore Green Building Standards**
 - **Also similar bills at the State level**
 - **Lynn moves to support**
 - **Peter seconds**
 - **Tom abstains**
- Meeting adjourned: 6:15 pm

Upcoming Events:

- Next Commission on Sustainability Meeting: Tuesday, March 27, 2012, 4 PM at 417 East Fayette Street, 8th Floor