

**Baltimore Commission on Sustainability
June 26, 2012 Meeting Report**

Date: Tuesday June 26, 2012 from 6-8 pm

Location: Baltimore Medical Systems 3700 Fleet Street Baltimore, MD 21224

Subject: Commission on Sustainability June 2012 General Meeting “Climate Action Plan Town Hall”

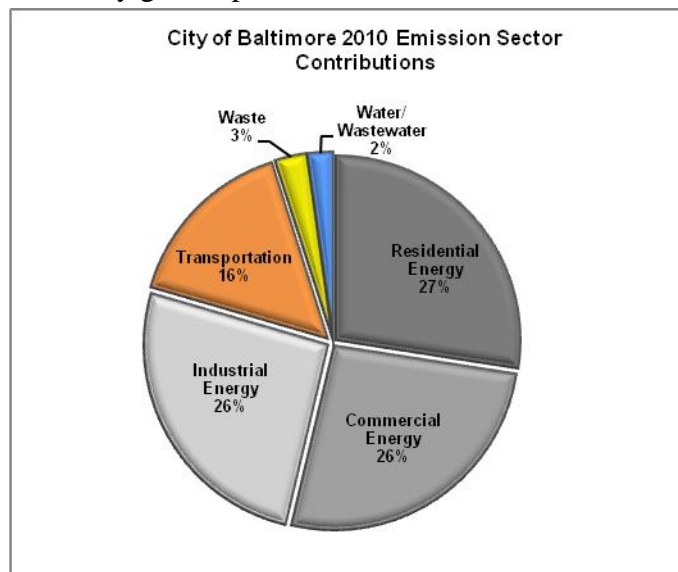
In Attendance: (*Commissioners*) – Davis Bookhart, Cheryl Casciani, John Ciekot, Peter Doo, Ray Ehrlich, Lynn Heller, Brian Knight, Sharon Middleton, John Quinn, Scot Spencer, Tom Stosur, Mary Washington, Ed Whalen
(*Staff*) - Beth Strommen, Alice Kennedy, Abby Cocke

Meeting called to order: 6:00 pm

Topics addressed:

- Minutes approved May 22, 2012 meeting. Sharon Middleton moves and Mary Washington seconds.
- Chair Report
 - Welcome everyone
 - Recognizes Councilman James Kraft
 - Introductions of Commissioners
 - Introduction of Lynn Heller
- Climate Action Plan Presentation (Lynn Heller, Beth Strommen, Alice Kennedy)
 - **Back ground to the Climate Action Plan**
 - Lynn Heller, Chair of the CAP Advisory Committee
 - **What is in the Climate Action Plan?**
 - Alice Kennedy, Office of Sustainability
 - **Why is the Climate Action Plan important?**
 - Saves taxpayer money
 - Saves residents and businesses money
 - Grows a healthy city
 - Promotes quality of life
 - Supports the popular Sustainability Plan
 - Makes commitments
 - City leading by example
 - **What is Climate Change?**
 - **Effects of Climate Change in the Mid-Atlantic**
 - Summers will be hotter and longer
 - Respiratory difficulties and eye irritations
 - Trees and gardens may wither (without additional irrigation)
 - Chesapeake’s crab and oyster species’ decline
 - More erosion and flooding in low lying areas
 - Increase in extreme weather events
 - **How will Climate Change effect Baltimore?**

- High daily temperatures without cooling off much at night
- More air conditioning and higher utility bills, more power outages
- Extended heat waves with a threefold increase in the number of days exceeding 90 degrees F, by 2050
- Increased incidence of asthma and other respiratory ailments
- Flooding from intense storms, water quality impacts
- Increase in extreme weather events
- **City of Baltimore GHG Emissions Inventory**
 - Peer review conducted to refine 2010 emissions inventory—called “the Baseline Inventory”
 - Energy-related emissions comprise 79% -- by far the largest sector
 - Emissions reductions will be measured against this baseline
 - Inventory guides priorities for the CAP



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- **What is a Climate Action Plan (CAP)?**
 - GHG Reduction Target – 15%
 - 4 Sectors
 - Energy Savings and Supply (ESS)
 - Land Use and Transportation (LUT)
 - Growing a Green City (GGC)
 - Climate Adaptation
- **What is a Climate Action Plan (CAP)?**
 - Each sector has three to six strategies that include actionable measures for the City to implement
- **Energy Savings & Supply**
 - 4 Strategies
 - **ESS Strategy 1:** Reduce energy consumption of existing buildings (8 measures)
 - **ESS Strategy 2:** Promote generation of renewable energy (3 measures)
 - **ESS Strategy 3:** Expand and upgrade Baltimore’s high performance building codes (2 measures)

- **ESS Strategy 4:** Promote efficient community energy districts (2 measures)
- **Energy Savings and Supply 1.A**
67,060 MT CO₂e*
 - **ESS 1.A :** Disclose residential energy bills at point of sale/rent
 - **Why:** raises awareness of energy costs as factor for rental/purchase; encourages no/low cost energy efficiency improvements
 - **Goal:** all homes/apts that turnover each year
 - **How:** Convene realtor association and utility reps to draft bill & Learn from Montgomery County's disclosure law
- **Energy Savings and Supply 1.B**
32,740 MT CO₂e*
 - **ESS 1.B :** Benchmark and disclose performance of City, commercial and institutional buildings
 - **Why:** Stimulates market for energy efficiency and enables comparisons
 - **How:** Draw from other Cities (NY, Seattle, etc) & Team with Building Owners and Managers Association (BOMA)
- **Energy Savings and Supply 1.C**
80,590 MT CO₂e*
 - **ESS 1.C :** Require energy audits and retro-commissioning for City, commercial and institutional buildings
 - **Why:** To identify low cost energy efficiency actions with significant energy efficiency outcomes
 - **Goal:** All city and commercial buildings over 10,000 ft²
 - **How:** Develop education and outreach & Celebrate and recognize early participants
- **Energy Savings and Supply 2.C**
482,815 MT CO₂e*
 - **ESS 2.C :** Lobby state to increase renewable portfolio standard (RPS) to 33% by 2022
 - **Why:** Large scale Renewable energy production is efficient/effective approach to combine with local generation; reduces GHGs and reduces energy supply risks
 - **Goal:** Increase RPS to 33% from 20%
 - **How:** Lobby state; work with other cities and utility companies
- **Energy Savings and Supply 3.A**
12,340 MT CO₂e*
 - **ESS 3.A :** Adopt green building standards for new residential, major renovation and commercial
 - **Why:** To ensure that new buildings reach a high standard of performance
 - **Goal:** 80% new homes and multi-family buildings
 - **How:** Adopt International Construction Code 700 for small residential & Consider International Green Construction Code for multi family and commercial.

- **Energy Savings and Supply 3.B**
7,870 MT CO₂e*
 - **ESS 3.B :** Modify existing Newly Constructed Dwelling Tax Credit to include energy efficiency standards
 - **Why:** Home rehab is a cost effective time for energy efficiency improvements and energy cost savings
 - **Goal:** 5% of homes to increase energy efficiency to 40% HERS rating
 - **How:** Raise awareness with realtors of energy cost savings; outreach to homeowners doing renovation
- **Land Use & Transportation (LUT)**
 - 6 Strategies
 - **LUT Strategy 1:** Promote mixed-use infill development near transit (2 measures)
 - **LUT Strategy 2:** Support alternative commutes (2 measures)
 - **LUT Strategy 3:** Explore parking strategy options (3 measures)
 - **LUT Strategy 4:** Increase walking and biking (3 measures)
 - **LUT Strategy 5:** Increase efficiency in City fleet (1 measure)
 - **LUT Strategy 6:** Support cleaner vehicles (3 measures)
- **Land Use & Transportation 3.A TBD**
 - **LUT 3.A:** Explore creation of a parking plan for city-owned spaces
 - **Why:** Balance of supply and demand can reduce circling and incentivize other modes of commuting
 - **Goal:** Discourage long term downtown parking /encourage short term parking
 - **How:** City spaces should match market prices & Priority locations for carpool and vanpool
- **Land Use & Transportation 5.A**
1,259 MT CO₂e*
 - **LUT 5.A:** Implement centralized fuel program and route optimization for City fleet
 - **Why:** Northeast Maryland Waste Disposal Authority saved \$6 million through new route planning tools
 - **Goal:** City-owned vehicles
 - **How:** Install fuel management software & Use route optimization software
- **Land Use & Transportation 6.B TBD**
 - **LUT 6.B:** Promote fuel efficient trucking in the Port of Baltimore
 - **Why:** Newer trucks emit fewer GHGs and air pollutants
 - **Goal:** phase out all older trucks within 2-3 years
 - **How:** Work with Port to set a compliance schedule
- **Growing a Green City**
 - 3 Strategies
 - **GGC Strategy 1:** Divert waste from landfills (3 measures)
 - **GGC Strategy 2:** Improve water efficiency (3 measures)
 - **GGC Strategy 3:** Enhance the urban forest (3 measures)

- **Growing a Green City 1.B**
4,590 MT CO₂e*
 - **GGC 1.B:** Reduce construction and demolition waste
 - **Why:** More recycling and diversion from landfills means fewer \$\$ spent on trash transport, storage and disposal
 - **Goal:** increase C&D diversion to 75%
 - **How:** Modify bid specs for City demo projects & Provide technical guidance to construction firms
- **Growing a Green City 2.A**
1,720 MT CO₂e*
 - **GGC 2.A:** Repair water supply system leaks
 - **Why:** Leaking water wastes water and energy
 - **Goal:** Reduce system's loss of water from leaks
 - **How:** Balt Water Works to repair high priority leaks & BWW to install water meters
- **Growing a Green City 2.C**
1,050 MT CO₂e*
 - **GGC 2.C:** Improve water efficiency for new construction and major renovations of small residential
 - **Why:** New construction/major renovation is key time for cost efficient implementation
 - **Goal:** 100% of all new construction
 - **How:** Change plumbing standards to EPA Water Sense specs & Provide assistance for homeowners regarding major renovations
- **Growing a Green City 3.A**
4,920 MT CO₂e*
 - **GGC 3.A:** Increase number and health of trees
 - **Why:** Trees cool local area, provide clean air and absorb carbon dioxide
 - **Goal:** 75,000 trees and healthy canopy
 - **How:** Strengthen tree protection ordinance & Provide assistance to homeowners to encourage tree planting
- **Questions and Answers**
- **Voting and Budget Exercises**
- **Voting for Measures**
 - Vote for the measures you like the most
- **Budget Exercise**
 - "Fund" the strategies you think the City should prioritize

\$ Budget Exercise

You decide

With a limited budget, where do you suggest the City spend money to create a more sustainable Baltimore?

Please place the monopoly money in the box or boxes to show where you would like the City to focus its efforts.

Each participant has a limited budget to allocate to strategies in any way he/she desires (e.g. all of the money can be allocated to one strategy or divided across multiple strategies).

A



Energy
efficiency
retrofits

B



Renewable
energy
installations

C



Pedestrian
and bicycle
infrastructure

D



Electric vehicle
infrastructure

E



Food waste
composting
facilities

F



Street
trees and
community
gardens



Baltimore City
Climate Action Plan

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- **Questions for Facilitated Discussion**
 - **Regarding the Measures;**
 - Of the measures presented tonight, which do you think will have the greatest impact?
 - What do you think would be the hardest to implement? Where do you see pushback?
 - Do you think we have missed any opportunities for other possible measures to consider?
- **General Closing Questions**
 - From a community perspective, who do you think needs to be involved to ensure success of CAP activities?
 - What commitments can we all make to help ensure the success of this CAP once adopted, and how would you like to be involved?
- **RESULTS - Voting and Budget Exercise**
- **Next Steps**
 - Capture feedback from today's meeting
 - Refine measure and develop Draft Climate Action Plan
 - Release CAP Video
 - Release Baltimore City CAP
- **Thank You!**
 - **Follow-up Questions / Comments?**
 - Please contact:
 - Alice Kennedy
 - Alice.Kennedy@baltimorecity.gov
 - Beth Strommen
 - Beth.Strommen@baltimorecity.gov
 - Lynn Heller
 - lynnheller@earthlink.net

- Questions
 - Commission Members
 - Cheryl – Am I reading this right that the RPS modification will dwarf everything else? Answer: Alice – yes, this is an area where the City, working with the State could yield significant benefits for the City
 - Peter Doo – I noticed that a number of these strategies are proposed to be mandatory, but given the current economic climate, wouldn't these require a City Council action? What timetable? Answer: Beth – We are starting to talk with Mayor's office and City council. First step is to talk with constituents before an ordinance is introduced. Some of the toughest things—like mandatory retro-commissioning—are not immediate. We're starting small—making utility bill disclosure mandatory. We have things distributed across a timescale to build on each success.
 - Scott Spencer – we talk about mixed use, but not mixed income. Data shows that lower income people may drive dirtier vehicles. Mixed use does not mean mixed income. We should acknowledge ways to support mixed income—by not including this in the text it may suggest that we may not encourage mixed income Answer: Beth – duly noted
 - Davis Bookhart – we should be mindful of not overselling the savings...if there are savings we should re-invest these savings (i.e Johnson puts money in and it wants to get money back). Natural gas is cleaner burning—are there efforts to promote fuel switch from heating oil? There is language on transition to EV, but won't more EV mean more cars using plug ins from the City? How will this piece be addressed? Answer: Alice – fuel switching—yes, this is one that we can add as this is a DRAFT – The City is looking to switch around 2,000 furnaces in the city from oil to natural gas which is part of a funding grant. This can be included in the CAP Alice – energy usage from increasing EV infrastructure – proximity of charging stations and solar arrays to street furniture—(i.e. solar on the street on bus shelters may be able to reduce electricity demand—also RPS from the state can make a huge difference)
 - Sharon Middleton – Congratulations on a wonderful effort. Garages around City hall are including plug-ins. There is a plan that will be implemented soon—Sharon is also a rep on the Parking Authority Board—The parking office will have a plan to address abuse of handicap tags. Actions should engage the parking authority. Also, an ordinance is underway to manage valet parking.
 - General Public
 - Rebecca from the medical building - Lobbying the state – is this the RPS value from Baltimore City alone? (YES) Would Baltimore City include waste to energy as a “renewable” energy source? Does smart meter installation alone truly provide a significant savings? (YES) Disclosing residential energy bills at point of sale—tie this in to walkability scoring—as well as residential energy bill disclosure at point of sale to promote TOD? Answer: Beth – No, the committee did not consider removing BRESKO (BRESKO is considered “renewable” in MD)—Beth – approximately 80% of Balt municipal solid waste ends up at BRESKO. 50mW of energy are annually produced. It keeps material out of landfill. Ash gets taken from burning and City gets paid. If committee agreed to remove that rule, then lots of the City's waste would now become landfill and then lead to higher methane release. Currently, Baltimore is not dealing with significant methane release from landfills.

- Daryl – Hamden Community Association. Why isn't recycling mandatory in city owned buildings? (i.e. first mariner building –lots of opportunity to recycle). What is being done to help small businesses recycle like bars/restaurants? Answer: CAP does call for comp recycling. Recycling coordinator notes that the office does have a business outreach program. Some bars/restaurants need 5-7 day/wk pickup which the city can't always afford. The City certainly needs to do more internal outreach. Recycling rate in MD is now 35%. City needs to kick up its efforts from 27%
- Sandy Sales – Bushy Hill neighborhood association – people who live in city and are using zipcar should receive some type of incentive? Changing plumbing standards—public needs to know what the changes are so these types of changes should be more widely disseminated and communicated Answer: Alice – education and outreach is a key principle of CAP
- Architect and sustainability coordinator – renovated home but didn't see reductions on bill based on billing methodology from Baltimore City. Advocates first for conservation, then renewables. Notes that 75% of energy we use goes to buildings and much of it goes to losses.
- Clean Water Action person – Growing a Green city question – we worked hard on the watershed protection act in Annapolis which is generating some funds for Baltimore city. Is this taken into account? Answer: Yes, this program is integrated within the CAP.
- Maryland sugar refining rep – Industrial—does this account for electricity usage of industrial buildings in the port? Answer: Alice and Beth – yes, yes, we spoke with the port's buildings
- Tree person – She is advocating for Trees—LA's aggressive CAP plan forecasts 3-5 times as many hot days as we have now by 2050. LA is looking at trees—million trees LA now, sidewalk surfaces will cool city, trees will affect crime, water quality for the Bay, the more comprehensive we can make our planting and nurturing of the tree canopy—put this at the top of the list.
- Sustainable food program manager for Balt hospitals – wants to encourage that climate change presents infectious disease rate increases – NRDC has stats by state of different impacts of climate change—MD has already had 41 cases of dengue fever. Encourages this information to be communicated and messaged. We also need to address the health impacts of climate change—this plan's focus on mitigation addresses health impacts, but adaptation is an area which can make a difference. Are there things that can be done prior to implementation of adaptation plan?? What can we start doing now? We had an earthquake and a hurricane in the same week last year! How can citizens become more prepared for emergency situations like earthquakes? Would like to see a Citywide earthquake drill in Baltimore.
- Bob – changing the residential green building standards would make a difference. Answer: Alice – for items that are below 10,000 sq ft, the CAP is seeking to advocate for green building standards for small homes For utility bills, it's not mandated and readily available.
- Frank Lee – energy auditor – why can't we have a utility bill that can provide clear, actionable feedback on energy performance and a 30 day instructional tool with information on what can be done based on performance.
- Libby Baker – has the City and state gov't bought into this? How much support do you have? I'm hoping you have a lot! Answer: Beth – yes, two council members are here. Mayor and Council have adopted the Sust Plan and the CAP is a recommendation of the Sust Plan. This is a goal that has the support of

Mayor, City Council. We're still debating what's in this plan. We are working out the budget details for this.

- Jay Decker – Initiatives towards cool roofs. Any initiative for green roof?
Answer: Alice – residential housing stock of the row home would make cool roofs easier than green roofs. We can look at green roofs for downtown buildings.
- Rep of children of Baltimore public schools – what will be done so kids can act as ambassadors for cleaner world? If you don't touch the children, then they won't appreciate the beauty of the water. She started a program called one seed which gets kids out in her neighborhood.
- Energy audits and retro-commissioning- does this include Balt schools? If so, then it should be a priority to start with Balt public schools to demonstrate leadership.
- Public transit rider- I don't see any mention of comprehensive transportation plan. Is it in the plan?

- Voting Exercise – Top 5 measures

1	78	GGC 3.A	Increase the number of trees planted
2	54	LUT 1.A	Create high-quality pedestrian- and transit-oriented neighborhoods
3	53	ESS 2.C	Lobby state to increase Renewable Portfolio Standard requirement to 33% by 2022
4	46	ESS 1.C	Require energy audits and retro-commissioning for City, commercial, industrial, and institutional buildings over 10,000 square feet
5	42	GGC 1.C	Compost organic material

- The budget exercise broke down as follows:
 - a. \$6600 – Street Trees & Community Gardens
 - b. \$6100 – Energy Efficiency Retrofits
 - c. \$4600 – Pedestrian & Bicycle Infrastructure
 - d. \$3400 – Renewable Energy Installations \$2800 – Food Waste Composting
 - e. \$500 – Electric Vehicle Infrastructure
- Meeting adjourned: 8:15 pm

Upcoming Events:

- Next Commission on Sustainability Meeting: Tuesday, July 24th 2012, 4 PM at 417 E. Fayette Street