

Hillsboro Sustainability Task Force Meeting

October 10, 2019, 11:00 AM - 2:00 PM

Hillsboro Public Works Facility

4415 NE 30th Ave, Hillsboro, OR 97124

Attendees: Heather Robinson, Dorian Russell, Amy Meaut, Cristian Salgado, Laura Trunk, Fawn Bergen, Brad Choi, Carol Brown, Emily McBroom, Jeff Pazdalski, Mac Martin, Anthony Martin, Linda Everett, Tom Arnold, Mia Hocking, David McInay, Hillary Harris, Troy Gagliano, Makena Krause, Kya Dillon, Karl Dinger, Justin Jensen, Peter Brandom, Jason Robertson, Dacia Bakkum
Absent: Steve Callaway, Nina Carlson, Kristel Griffith, Bob Grover, Adam Haslam, Laura Schaefer, Ryan Stee

Check-In/Welcome

Heather Robinson welcomed the group and asked for a round of introductions.

Bee City USA Designation

On June 18, 2019, the Hillsboro City Council adopted a resolution that designated Hillsboro as a Bee City USA Affiliate. The Bee City USA program includes a set of commitments for cities to create and maintain sustainable, healthy environments for pollinators. Bee City USA commitments include:

- Celebrate Pollinator Week
- Provide community information and outreach
- Create a pest management plan
- Establish a policy to reduce pesticide use and expand non-chemical pest management
- Create a webpage with pollinator information

Read more about the City's Bee City USA commitment at Hillsboro-Oregon.gov.

Public Works Facility Presentation + Tour

Tom Arnold, Hillsboro Public Works Director, Karl Dinger, Senior Project Manager, and Justin Jensen, Maintenance & Operations Superintendent, shared sustainability practices incorporated into the Public Works campus and operations and provided a tour of the facilities. They noted that the Public Works campus serves as a living example of many building and development goals the City asks other public and private developers to pursue. The campus houses the City's storm water, transportation, development, and fleet units on a 15-acre site in 26,000 sf of building structures. Highlights include:

Building and Campus Features

- Extensive use of windows and daylighting to minimize electricity use
- High efficiency VRF HVAC system

- LED lighting throughout the campus
- Low flow water fixtures throughout the campus
- Super-insulated roof
- Polished concrete floors
- Exterior stairwells to facilitate extrusion of the City needs to add on to the facility
- Hydraulic workstations and sustainable furniture/carpet
- 1,000 KVA diesel generator that can run campus/emergency operations during power outage
- Underground utilities
- Roof mounted 34.1 KW solar system on fleet shop building
- Storm retention gallery with sediment filtration (prior to water entering Glencoe Creek)
- Glencoe Creek restoration projects to enhance water quality/habitat

Offices & Fleet Shop

- Heated floor pad
- Purchase recycled content copy paper
- Recycling bins at desks, workspaces and throughout the campus
- Bulk purchasing of supplies when possible
- Cardboard, printer ink cartridge, and battery recycling

Program Specific Recycling

- Fleet shop is EcoBiz certified
- Fleet shop recycles and donates used motor oil to the Oregon Heat Program
- Spray paints cans used for utility locates are depressurized and recycled
- Scrap metal is recycled at Far West Recycling
- Traffic signs are refaced and reused whenever possible
- Bark chips created from tree trimmings are used in parks trails and on playgrounds
- Downed trees are cut-up and donated to Sonrise Church for firewood for those in need

Hillsboro Transportation System Plan

Brad Choi, Senior Planner with the City of Hillsboro shared information about the City's Transportation System Plan (TSP). The TSP guides transportation investments over the next twenty years. The last TSP was adopted in 1999, partially updated in 2004, and includes amendments from 2008 to present.

Key components of the TSP include:

- Road master plan
 - 39 intersections studied
 - 80% of roadways and about 65% of signals are City owned
 - Busiest roadways are state and county facilities such as US 26, TV Hwy, and Cornelius Pass
- Vehicle lanes and right-of-way plan
 - Currently 280 centerline miles of public roadways and about 150 signalized intersections

- Pedestrian plan
 - There are about 400 miles of existing sidewalks and City is working to fill remaining gaps
- - There are approximately 100 miles of missing sidewalks including 45 miles on arterials, collectors and neighborhood routes and 55 miles on local streets
- Bicycle plan
 - In 1990 there were 15 miles of bike lanes
 - In 2000 there were 48 miles of bike lanes
 - Today there are 135 miles and about 20% of those facilities are enhances (buffered/cycle track)
- “Sharrows” are coming – which help drivers understand where lanes are shared with bikes
- Transit plan
 - Planned and proposed services include MAX Redline extension, new bus lines, AmberGlen street car, Sunset Highway Express Bus (currently, Max and bus #57 cover just 7% of the City’s geography and 12% of housing area).
- Freight plan
- Air, rail, pipeline plan
- Project list
 - Over 150 projects including new roads & extensions, through lanes, turn lanes & medians, bicycle & sidewalk projects, pedestrian and bicycle crossings, local connectivity, automated puzzle parking and others
- Financing plan

Commuter trips in Hillsboro are primarily reliant on single-occupancy vehicles. Seventy-five percent of jobs in Hillsboro are filled by workers who live outside of the city while two-thirds of Hillsboro’s workforce travel to jobs outside of the city.

For more information visit Hillsboro-Oregon.gov/TSP.

Annual Report and Plan Update

Jason Robertson provided an update on the Annual Progress Report. Of the 20 sustainability indicators, 15 are trending positive, 3 remain status quo and 2 are trending negative (energy consumption and solid waste recovery). The Annual Report will be presented to City Council in November. Jason added that the Task Force would be reviewing indicators and updating the Action Plan in 2020.

As a starting point, the Task Force receive an initial set of inputs to consider from the Hillsboro 2035 Community Plan update process. Jason provide a handout with detailed community ideas. The feedback falls under the following categories:

- General “more sustainability/better environment” (60 ideas)
- Recycling/composting (169)
- Trees and green spaces (95)
- Energy/carbon reduction (83)
- Water conservation (18)

There were also quite a few sustainability-related ideas covered in the other Vision focus area updates, including building and development standards, alternative transportation and other areas.

Member Updates

- The Hillsboro Water Department is offering free, residential home water audits and have completed 50 to date. Audits help identify leaks, check for inefficient plumbing fixtures as well as leaking toilets and faucets; provide information on how to read a meter, check for broken sprinkler heads and excessive runoff and more. For more information visit Hillsboro-Oregon.gov.
- The Westside Transportation Alliance is cohosting a public summit with Washington County Land Use and Transportation to discuss first/last mile transit service. WTA is also hosting a business summit at Beaverton City Hall to discuss transit to business connections and a community summit to discuss residential to transit connections.
- The City is implementing a residential food waste collection program which will begin February 1, 2020.
- Washington County and Hillsboro Chamber are co-hosting the 2nd annual Washington County Green Business Symposium Thursday, November 14 from 7:30 – 10am at Washington County Fair Complex, 873 NE 34th Avenue. Visit HillsboroChamberOr.com for more information.
- Green Schools Conference & Expo will be in Portland this year. The conference will take place March 2-4 at Downtown Portland Hilton. Visit GreenSchoolsConference.org for more information.
- Westside Master Recyclers will host another PlanetCon recycling and swap event on January 11, 2020 from 11am – 2pm at Quatama Elementary School, 6905 NE Campus Way, Hillsboro. The event is free to Washington County residents – donations of warm winter clothing for those in need are suggested. More information can be found at WestsideRecyclers.Weebly.com.
- PGE is launching a multi-year, smart grid test bed program in South Hillsboro, Milwaukie, and in North Portland. Test neighborhoods will receive info about energy saving programs including smart thermostats, electric vehicles, energy efficient appliances and rebates, peak time rebates, and more.
- Hillsboro participates in a voluntary green power purchasing program and has been number one in nation for 10 years with about 11,000 (20%) of Hillsboro customers participating.
- The City is now off-setting 100% of electricity use with Clean Wind and will participate in PGE's Green Future Impact program when available. Green Future Impact offers large customers the opportunity to source up to 100% of electricity from a new wind or solar facility in Oregon.
- The City will soon launch a new residential composting program. Stay tuned for details.

Public Comment

None.

Next Meeting

- Joint Hillsboro Sustainability Task Force + Hillsboro 2035 Oversight Committee Meeting, January 9, 3:00–5:00pm, Hillsboro Civic Center, Rooms 113 B/C