

Climate Action Plan for the Eagle County Community Stakeholders' Meeting Notes

December 10th, 2018

Miller Ranch Community Center

Agenda

- 8:45 am Gather and refreshments
- 9:00 am Welcome and meeting goals!
- 9:10 am Session 1: Climate Action Collaborative Governance Update
- 9:30 am Session 2: Sector Working Group Updates
- 10:10 am Session 3: Behavior Change Campaign Update
- 10:30 am Break
- 10:45 am Session 4: Eagle River Water & Sanitation District Presentation
- 11:50 am Select dates for 2019 quarterly meetings
- 12:00 pm Thank and adjourn!

Welcome and Climate News

- 67% chance of limiting warming to 1.5 degrees C if we can keep a carbon budget of 57 degrees CO2 globally
- Peak emissions by 2030
- Net zero emissions within 25 years
- Need to be removing carbon from atmosphere
- 2014 inventory: 1, 405, 856 mt CO2 in 2014
- 0.0000024% of world's CO2 emissions

Session 1: Climate Action Collaborative Governance Update

Update on income for 2019

- \$141,008.00 confirmed contributions
- Gap: \$2,040.00

Annual Report 2018

- Should be complete by Q1 meeting 2019
- Included will be: 2018 working group accomplishments, working group priorities 2019, programmatic highlights
- Behavior change suggestions/updates
- CAP survey results

- Collaborative partner highlights

Session 2: Sector Working Group Updates

Energy Supply

- Reduction updates from Holy Cross, Xcel, Vail Resorts zero impact by 2030
 - Xcel – 80% carbon reduction by 2030 and 100% by 2050
 - Renewable Purchasing Program – anyone can opt in
 - Offset calculator created by Kim
- John Gitchell from County and some from town have established a list of how the municipalities can reduce their own non-renewable energy use
- Town of Vail and Avon support
- Jared Polis reduction goals for the state
- Goals are to continue to engage the public and not let them feel like all the work is already done

Residential & Commercial Buildings

- 2019 Priorities
 - LED swaps quarterly
 - USBC events quarterly
 - Better synergize ESC and AG programs
 - Generate case studies to tell the stories
 - CLEER energy navigator
 - Sustainable Building Code Task force
- LED swaps – 8 in 2018
 - 30,000 lbs of CO2 reduced annually
 - \$2,004 saved each year
- AG and ESC – creating new synergies between the two for energy efficiency in business
 - Direct installs from CDPHE grant
 - Energy audit tool
- ESC – well above 2018 numbers
 - Funding is the biggest barrier
 - 3x number of solar rebates this year than past
 - TOV program (double rebates) have been very successful
 - 146 residential energy efficiency retrofits have been conducted
 - 32 commercial – 1.5 million kwh saved
 - WalMart \$300,000 energy retrofit
- CARE program
 - Structure changed for 2019
 - 12 ready to go next year
 - \$40,000 spent on capital improvements in 18 homes this year
- Wed Dec 12th, 4:30-6:30 at WMSC - Benchmarking & Energy Management Training

M /kTransportation & Mobility

- First/Last Mile study underway to understand user opinion about our public transportation system
- Go EV – city/county program to commit to electrifying transportation fleets
- Bike Share Pilot with ECO in Spring 2019 – do not have funding but still want to pursue
- Set goals for bus ridership for ECO, Avon, Vail routes
 - ECO updates – new payment system, new info portal, first/last mile recommended improvements, Avon Comet, etc.
- 2020 bus replacement cycle for TOV – all will be replaced with electric buses
- Holy Cross partners with the EV charging station companies
- Behavior Change Campaign – carpool or “Leave car behind”

What about school buses? Can we electrify those? → Yes down the road, new research and development being done

Materials Management

- Waste Wizard app launched
- Vail Honeywagon compost facility up and running
 - Residential drop sites
 - Commercial compost for businesses
- Access audits done throughout the valley to determine where we can increase recycling participation
- Landfill – construction and demolition recycling facility
 - Over 3,000 tons diverted (majority is concrete)
 - Clothing recycling (USagain) & textiles
- Town of Eagle talking with USagain as well
- 2019 goals
 - Continue to increase recycling throughout the valley
 - Access – which of our local communities have recycling and which do not? How can we partner with them to increase recycling participation?
 - Honeywagon residential dropsites – individuals pay for access to service and dropsite; they also receive vouchers to receive completed compost in the spring/summer for their yards
 - TOV is established
 - TOA and TOM drop sites are underway
 - Discussion happening with TOEagle
 - Town of Edwards discussion hasn't happened yet, need to find correct contact
 - Eagle Vail? Not pursuing at this time
 - How can we incorporate yard waste into this? (Spring and fall events)
 - Discussion of relocating the Edwards recycling dropsite
 - Running numbers for 2018 diversion rate and recycling rate for Eagle County; should be ready by April

- This year was a massive year for construction – recycling and diversion rate may decrease again; if we can't match our recycling with the increase to the landfill from construction, our diversion rate will continue to fall
 - Asphalt – can actually readily be recycled, not an issue for the landfill
- Materials being looked at: cardboard
- County discussion: user fee/tipping fee for landfill
- Post-Holiday recycling event January 5th
 - At old Town Hall building
 - TOA, WMSC, Vail Honeywagon
 - E-waste, paper shredding, Christmas light recycling, textiles

Education and Outreach Committee

- Monthly themes for next year's editorials mapped out
- Quarterly newsletters rather than monthly for 2019
 - Holiday recycling event ad in Daily
- 2 for 1 ad space in Vail Daily
- Radio, social, print outreach
- Budget planning to include behavior change campaign, will update at Q1 meeting
- Remaining priorities for 2018
 - Waste Wizard
 - REPP Calculator (Renewable Energy Purchasing Program)

Soil & carbon sequestration - update on happenings

- Eagle County Conservation District
- More prioritization on soil health studies
 - Soil health testing
 - Joining forces to get more studies to share scientific evidence of the importance of soil health and carbon sequestration
- Working with Farmers Union, Young Farmers Coalition, Roaring Fork farmers, Colorado compost council

Session 3: Behavior Change Campaign Update

Review of BCC Meeting

- Example: carpooling
 - Carpooling to work twice a week with one other person
 - GHG impact per day 38.9 pounds CO₂
 - Probability of adoption – 1.7 (1-4 probability, 4 being high)
 - Penetration – 94%
 - Opportunity rate – 94% of people in the county are not yet carpooling
 - Applicability 47%
- #1 ranked behavior – Renewable Purchasing Program
 - Risk – if we buy RECs it won't necessarily show up in our GHG inventory as emissions reductions

- ICLEI protocol doesn't take RECs into account
- Not the most community-centric behavior
 - Not everyone can participate
 - It's a one-time action; how far will this action go?
- 1. REPP 2. Carpool to work 3. Rooftop Solar
 - Can interact with youth more, reach more potential behaviors (bike to work) by going with carpooling
- Did not prioritize RNEPP since it will not show up in our GHG inventory
 - We can "claim" 100% renewable, but until our grid here in Eagle County is renewably powered it won't show up in our inventory

Update on behavior chosen

- Kim to send out finalized matrix, meeting notes, methodology
- Set date for next meeting to brainstorm campaign ideas
- Work with marketing to set budget

Session 4: Eagle River Water & Sanitation District Presentation

Diane Johnson & Amy Vogt, Drought/Water Management

- ERWSD – special government district
 - Elected board of directors
 - East Vail – Cordillera, including Minturn
 - Wolcott will be included if/when Wolcott is developed
- Upper Eagle Regional Water Authority
 - Agreement among 6 local governments
 - BC, TOA, Arrowhead, etc.
- 2nd largest water utility on the western slope (when two entities are combined)
- SNOTEL – snow telemetry
 - Around the chair 2 site
 - 30 year median (1981-2010) used for comparison (water quantity/availability)
 - 2012 lowest water year on record
 - Used for comparison on how and when to communicate with the community about water scarcity
 - Also monitor Copper Mountain and Fremont Pass
- May 15, 2018
 - 80% of Colorado was in some level of drought
 - 31% D1 or D2
 - August 13, 2018 46% of the state in D3 level drought (extreme drought)
- Biggest season of water use/serving is summer
 - Due to landscaping/irrigation
- In stream waterways held by the CO Environmental (Water?) Conservation Board
 - 1973 environmental flows became a part of CO water law/regulations

- Most of these water rights are junior to the others in the state (that take water for beneficial use)
- ERWSD water rights are senior to the environmental flows
 - Because of this, ERWSD tries to be environmental stewards to maintain stream flows
- Water year runs October 1st – September 30th
- 2018 – Colorado’s second driest year
- Least precipitation in the US (compared to record and average rainfalls)
 - Utah worst year on record
- Rainfall in summer is crucial, even in great snow years
 - Winter stream flows are not enough
- Priorities
 - 1. Fire Suppression
 - Enough water to put out fires
 - 2. Public Health
 - Essential indoor uses – toilets, sinks, washing
 - 3. Local economy
 - Stream flows, aquatic health, tourism, recreation
 - 4. Reliability
 - Hugely redundant system that protects water supply and potential risk mitigation
- Aesthetic water rights for black lake to provide stream flow under covered bridge in Vail
 - Rare water right

Outdoor Water Efficiency

- Water efficiency – wasting less water, not necessarily using less water
 - Especially concerned with outdoor water use
- Step 1. Withdraw water from supply – aquifer or stream
 - Wells along Gore Creek
- Step 2. Treat in drinking water facility (Avon, Vail, Edwards locations)
- Step 3. Send water out to homes and businesses
 - Showers, laundry, dishes, drinking etc.
- Step 4. Indoor water down drain
 - Recycled back into the stream once treated again (95% of this)
- Step 5. Only 15-40% of outdoor water makes it back into the streams
- Outdoor water use schedule is one of our biggest drought fighting rules
 - Always in effect, whether or not we are in drought
 - Many municipalities do have their own water rights
 - Roundabout watering, etc.
 - For residential and commercial customers
 - Water before 10 am and after 4 pm, no watering on Mondays

Water Management

- Advanced Metering Infrastructure – AMI

- Immediate notifications for possible system leaks, analysis for water use patterns, etc.
- Interactive tool to allow customer to better understand their use and for ERWSD to better understand challenges and opportunities for customers, as well as water use violations
- Offer irrigation system consultations
 - Irrigation installers/landscaping
 - Workshop each spring through Restore the Gore
 - Preventative action

Media Coverage

- “Welcome to CO, water is an issue”
 - So many new residents each year
- Establishing the connection between our outdoor water use and our local stream flows
- Drought – hotter, people want to water more but there is less available
 - How do we tackle/prevent this?
- Vail Daily and KZYR – great educational resources
- EC alert subscription

Financial Incentive

- 5 billing tiers
- 600+ accounts in the 4th or 5th billing tier from July 2018
 - “excessive water use”
 - Direct messages to these users
 - Weekly meter readings
 - All but 2 got in compliance by September, other 2 fined
- 10,000 gallons per tier
- Single family equivalent 3,000 sq ft = 1 SFE
 - 10,000 gallon equivalent
 - 0-10,000 tier 1 for homes with 1 SFE
 - 11,000-20,000 tier 2 for homes with 1 SFE ; tier 1 for homes with 2 SFEs

Raw Water Users

- Work with all raw water users as well (untreated)
 - Golf Courses – Vail Golf Course opts into a voluntary drought management plan created by ERWSD
 - Have own water rights; have no obligation to participate
 - Town of Vail – cut over 50% of water from June to August due to drought
- What about pool and spa evaporative use? Is this worth investigating and establishing an energy-water partnership?
 - Unlikely a comparable use
- How you can help
 - Choose the right plants ahead of time
 - Upgrade to more efficiency equipment

- Sign up for a free irrigation system consultation
- Jan 8th Lunch with the Locals macroinvertebrate testing; health of our streams

11:50 am Select dates for 2019 quarterly meetings

All on Mondays 8:45 am – 12:00 pm

March 11, 2019

June 17, 2019

September 30, 2019

December 9, 2019