



Energy & Buildings TWG Meeting #1 Summary

March 20, 2018

11:30 AM-1:30 PM

1400 S. Flores - Main Conference Room

Introductions

- Doug Melnick, Chief Sustainability Officer, introduced representatives from the City of San Antonio's Office of Sustainability, CPS Energy, UTSA, and Navigant Consulting. Nils Frenkel from Navigant served as facilitator for the meeting. Attendees from the technical working group introduced themselves.

Review of Process & Timeline

- Due to the short timeline, the group might have to meet more often than once a quarter. Meeting frequency will be determined after all technical working groups have met.
- The goal is to have a Paris-compliant GHG target by June 29, 2018 and a draft climate action and adaptation plan by the end of the year.
- Liaisons from the Steering Committee (SC) will be selected by the Mayor to help with communication between the Technical Working Group (TWG) and SC.
- TWG helps bring perspective of the community but also helps with engagement by communicating to respective organizations or companies about SA Climate Ready. TWG helps amplify the message and process.
- Equity is not just the responsibility of the Climate Equity TWG but a shared responsibility across TWGs and SC. The process should be transparent and fair and engage the most vulnerable communities. Be cognizant that climate impacts differ across demographic groups and understand vulnerabilities that exist in the community. Identify solutions that do not exacerbate equity issues.

SA Climate Ready Vision + Priorities Activity & Feedback Review

- Vision
 - Reduce emissions in new construction and existing buildings
 - Focus on denser development and removing impervious cover
 - Address water issues and consider strategies, like green roofs, to manage stormwater
 - Include education around behavior modification to teach how individual choices make a difference; similar to how there is a community awareness about water, this should be the case for energy as well; figure out how to incentivize these behavior changes
 - Outreach to multi-family sector about incentives
 - Improved quality of life to increase equity throughout the community
 - Focus on CPS Energy's programs and generation resources now and into the future; look at energy efficiency and transitioning to renewables; make CPS data accessible for current and future scenarios
- Priorities
 - Create a clear process and identify categories and sectors. Identify what is cost effective
 - Need all options on the table; prioritize strategies and look at co-benefits
 - Consider health impacts
 - Do not just set a goal and stop there
 - San Antonio being a leader and attracting businesses, tourists, millennials who are environmentally aware.

2014 GHG Inventory Overview & 2016 GHG Inventory Update

- From the 2014 GHG Inventory, buildings account for the largest portion of emissions.
- This data provides a benchmark and will help identify what strategies to employ.
- Comments:
 - How are buildings separated out between commercial, residential, etc.?
 - It would be helpful to include CPS's generation in a pie chart
 - Need to understand what per capita emissions will need to be in order to be Paris Compliant
 - Need to better understand landfill sector emissions (i.e. methane leaks) and fugitive emissions should be included for 2016 GHG inventory
 - Confirm emissions factor for methane
 - Consider the Energy/Water nexus and look at GHG emissions from SAWS water production, Vista Ridge, sewage, and pumping as well as the water demands related to energy production
 - Look at the GIS map and inventory of housing stock with old refrigeration units using old refrigerants; Is this part of the Global Protocol for Community-Scale Greenhouse Gas Emission Inventories (GPC) and will this be included in the 2016 GHG inventory? Overlap this with UTSA's research

GHG Mitigation Strategies: Best Practices

- TWG was asked to think about what mitigation and adaptation looks like in San Antonio. The next meeting will be a discussion about potential strategies and impacts to the community.

Future Meeting Schedule & Next Steps

- Thursday morning meetings tend to work well for the TWG members.
- Additional topics to discuss at the next meeting:
 - engagement and how the TWG can help
 - emissions factors that are being used for the 2016 GHG Inventory and will demographic and/or geographic sub-areas be included in the 2016 GHG Inventory
 - More presentations from CPS Energy regarding programs, current generation, and future projections

Additional Comments

- To ensure an equity lens is used throughout the process, consider using EPA's EJSCREEN (<https://www.epa.gov/ejscreen>) or Community Commons (<https://www.communitycommons.org/>) and think about incorporating a geospatial analysis to gauge impact.
- Where will the money come from to provide incentives?
- Coordinate with the other TWGs more in order to develop a more cohesive plan that includes solutions that provide synergy or follow the Pareto Principle
- Does the plan need to look beyond typical strategies and consider how the local government is structured and see if additional staff capacity is needed?
- Documents should be translated in Spanish
- Can meetings be publicly posted and a Facebook event be created for each meeting?
- Look at the potential of data sharing, collaboration and visualization platforms, such as communitycommons.org

Public Comment

- Concern that there is no clear consensus about a vision or real goals. Need to work to define that vision (via Survey Monkey).

