

Climate Equity TWG Meeting #3 Summary

Monday, May 21, 2018

5:00 PM-7:00 PM

1400 S. Flores Main Conference Room

Facilitators: Nils Frenkel (Navigant), Eloisa Portillo-Morales (City of San Antonio)

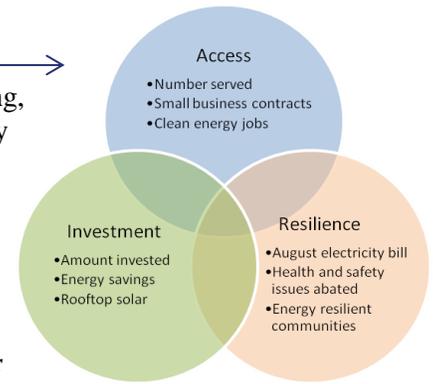
Introduction Presentation

- Status of CAAP: GHG baseline is mostly completed with some minor refining to do, future scenarios being developed, and the remaining timeline is unchanged
- Goal of the meeting: draft climate equity definition and draft equity framework
- Discussed NYC 1.5 degree plan as an example of how to include equity in the process
- Reviewed Urban Institute's study on inclusion as one measure of equity. Looked at poverty level statistical comparisons with other U.S. cities.

Climate Equity Definitions

- Shared sample definitions of equity. TWG discussed what they liked/disliked or thought was missing from each definition.
 - ICLEI definition: *Climate equity ensures that all people have the opportunity to benefit equally from climate solutions, while not taking on an un-equal burden of climate impacts.*
 - Likes: "benefit equally"; acknowledges burden and that it is not shared equally by all people; "opportunity"; plain English and easy to understand; inclusive terminology
 - Missing: "and equitably"
 - Portland definition: *Climate equity ensures the just distribution of the benefits of climate protection efforts and alleviates unequal burdens created by climate change. This requires intentional policies and projects that simultaneously address the effects of and the systems that perpetuate both climate change and inequity.*
 - Likes: addresses "intentional policies and projects"; links "climate change and inequity"; makes disparities clear; very powerful in terms of what we are seeing globally
 - Missing: Who takes part in creating the solution? Solutions should also be created by those most affected
 - Boston definition: *Equity means all people have full and equal access to opportunities that enable them to attain their full potential.*
 - Likes: "equal access"; "all people"; positive language; simplicity
 - Missing: correcting what is wrong with the system and how the system perpetuates the problem
 - Water Alliance definition: *The term equity refers to just and fair inclusion—a condition in which everyone has an opportunity to participate and prosper. At the U.S. Water Alliance we believe that water equity occurs when all communities: 1) Have access to safe, clean, affordable drinking water and wastewater services; 2) Share in the economic, social, and environmental benefits of water systems; and 3) Are resilient in the face of floods, drought, and other climate risks.*
 - Likes: "opportunity to participate and prosper"; "resilience"; "share," and "economic, social, and environmental," "communities"
 - Dislikes: a bit long, expansive; people could get lost in the weeds--but bullets are nice

- California definition: —————→
 - Likes: “health and safety issues abated”; visually appealing, concrete; metrics are easy to find; simple way to show key areas;
 - Missing: could go further; metrics of disparity could be included



Building the SA Definition

- TWG members wrote their own definitions on Post-it notes, discussed their submissions, and summarized trends (see Post-it notes at the end of the summary)
- Attendees’ quoting of words, phrases and themes to include
 - fair, equitable, transparent, inclusive of all
 - all people, opportunity, equally benefit and access
 - full and just access by all communities for development and solutions to unequal burdens caused by climate change
 - All people have access to benefit equally from climate solutions
 - more than a set of recommendations, has teeth through policies, informed by history of this place,
 - systematic and institutional barriers,
 - all people from every community, benefit equally, not taking on unequal burden
 - inform the process, an integral part of process and solution, access and affordability, health and safety, most vulnerable communities, fair and just
 - human right, go beyond simply surviving, thriving, communities, neighborhoods, quality of life, life with dignity, active participation by people most impacted, self-determination, respect for Mother Earth, equal is not always fair
- TWG preferred that the definition be used for “climate equity” and not just “equity”
- City of San Antonio’s Interim Chief Equity Officer, Alex Lopez, provided the Office of Equity’s definition.
- Thematic clusters from responses:
 - Access
 - Fair, just, equity, affordability
 - All people, all communities
 - Outliers: health and safety, history of this place, resiliency, directed by the community, policies and “teeth”
- Summary Points: Climate equity in San Antonio...
 - All people / communities
 - Equitable access to benefits / burdens
 - Resilience (outcome/informed by most impacted)
 - Policies
 - Evaluation / community driven metrics
- Summary points to be shared with the other TWGs
- TWG will continue to refine the climate equity definition.

Climate Equity Framework

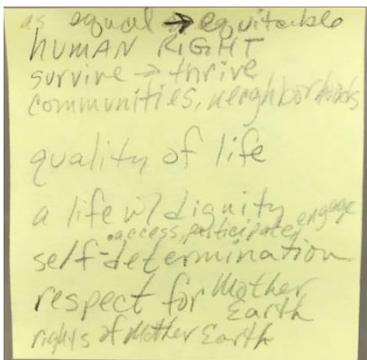
- TWG identified where they wanted to take ownership of the equity framework and determined what is missing and how to fill in the gaps. (see slide 22 for items in red and in bold font to serve as the work plan for the TWG)
- Suggestions from the TWG:
 - Move #6 “CAAP climate equity metrics” to become 1e
 - 2d needs to be a main focus. It should be embedded in the process.
 - We need to communicate that policies will back up what this group is saying
 - Mutual learning
 - Continue to build relationships and collaborate with community through implementation

Meeting Wrap-Up

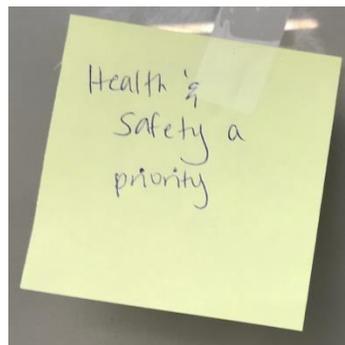
- Homework for next meeting due on Monday, June 18th:
 - Work on the draft equity definition, i.e. wordsmithing
 - Provide ideas on how we can implement the equity framework
- Feedback to be sent to eloisa.portillo-morales@sanantonio.gov or danielle.vitoff@navigant.com
- Next meeting is online and will be on Monday, June 25th from 5:00-6:00pm. The 1400 S. Flores Main Conference Room will be reserved at that time if you would like to watch it as a group.

Comments/Q&A:

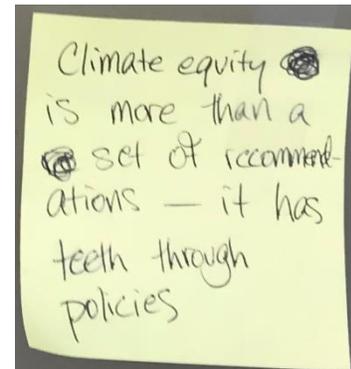
- Q: What will be shared with the community? This month or June?/A: Within the next 4-5 weeks. What we will be sharing are parts of the engagement package, so it will not be a completed document but ideas that the TWG has generated.
- Suggestion that online meetings should be discussion-based and not passive. Maybe we could watch a video first so that we are ready to discuss--or see a powerpoint/webinar that we can review ahead of time so we can discuss
- Q: How can students be involved?/A: There are many ways to get involved, including engaging online directly, providing feedback directly; hosting a meeting amongst your peers; or attending additional community meetings.



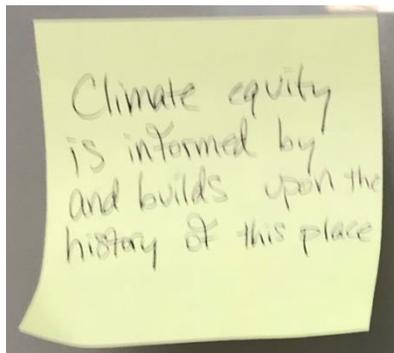
as equal → equitables
HUMAN RIGHT
survive → thrive
communities, neighborhoods
quality of life
a life w/ dignity engage
self-determination
respect for Mother Earth
rights of Mother Earth



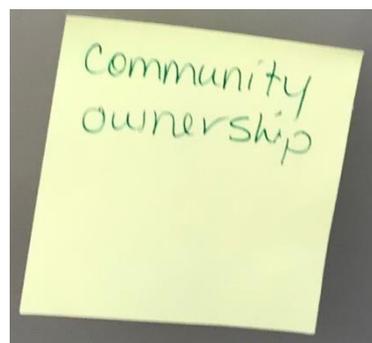
Health &
Safety a
priority



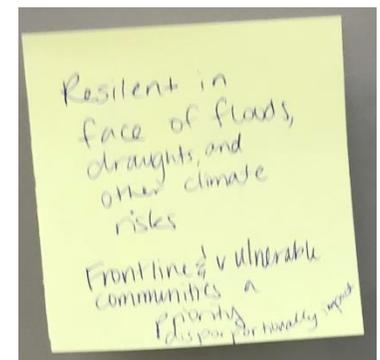
Climate equity
is more than a
set of recommend-
ations — it has
teeth through
policies



Climate equity
is informed by
and builds upon the
history of this place



Community
ownership



Resilient in
face of floods,
droughts, and
other climate
risks
Frontline & vulnerable
communities a
priority

Climate Equity:

All people have the opportunity to equally benefit from solutions caused by the effects of climate change.

- All people, from every community...
- to benefit equally
- while not taking on an unequal burden
- (idea of having metrics)

All people



All communities

- Inform the process, integral part of process & solutions

Climate Equity ensures that all people have access to benefit equally from climate solutions while sharing equitably in the burden of climate impacts

Access



Affordability for property

Climate equity is full + just access by all communities for the development of solutions to reducing the unequal + inequitable burdens

Equity recognizes systemic + institutional barriers to resources + opportunities while acting to dismantle barriers that lead the playing field + expand opportunities

equal → equity
human right
survive → thrive
communities, people
quality of life
a life with dignity
self-determination
respect for each other

- Fair
- equitable
- transparent
- inclusive of all others

Fair



just

Climate equity is owned and directed by the communities of SA, especially cities most harmed by climate change