



# Steering Committee Meeting #3 Summary

Wednesday, June 6, 2018

5:00 - 7:00 PM

1400 S. Flores Main Conference Room

**Facilitators:** Danielle Vitoff (Navigant)

Anita Ledbetter, Steering Committee Chair, provided opening remarks, encouraged members to attend the TWG meetings, and reviewed agenda items. Doug Melnick, City of San Antonio's Chief Sustainability Officer, introduced a new Steering Committee member, Belarmino Castellanos from Whataburger, who will take the place of Richard McDonald from HEB who had to step down from the Steering Committee. Mr. Melnick also introduced the Office of Sustainability's newest employee, Wendell Hardin, who will focus on municipal sustainability initiatives.

## 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)
- Summarized high level outcomes of the TWG meetings
  - Climate Equity
    - Climate equity in San Antonio...
      - All people / communities
      - Equitable access / burdens
      - Resilience (outcome/informed by most impacted)
      - Policies
      - Evaluation / community driven metrics
  - Energy & Buildings
    - Phase out the use of fossil fuels for electricity use
    - Grow STEP program, adopt an ambitious goal
    - Advanced green building codes, passive house standards
    - Commercial building benchmarking ordinance
  - Waste & Consumption
    - Commercial recycling and organics diversion ordinance
    - Reward those already practicing good waste through local PR
    - Localize composting, organics collection throughout the city
    - Circular economy, how can SATX reduce packaging coming into SA?
  - Water & Natural Resources
    - Increase tree canopy in SA
    - Overcome language barrier, to educated underserved communities
    - Reduce energy need through use of appropriate plantings, including shading and green roofs
    - Solar/wind power and treatment and desalination plants
  - Transportation & Land Use
    - Densify while limiting car transportation
    - Adopt comprehensive land use & high frequency transit investment corridor
    - Incentivize dense, mixed-use, walkable development; penalize suburban sprawl
- Discussion of Potential Implementation Measures
  - By December, the plan is to chart the path and the goal, but the entire problem will not be solved.
  - Comments:

- Begin with the end in mind and think about implementation while developing the CAAP
  - Prioritize community conversations
  - Important for CAAP to be high-level enough to transcend changing administrations/political climates
  - Outreach is critical to build and sustain capacity and political will to ensure that this plan doesn't "sit on a shelf"
  - Regarding timing of regular updates, it is important to understand that some KPIs will take time, so staggered evaluation timeframes might be needed
- Roles & Responsibilities
  - SC should be trying to bring everyone into the conversation and make sure those conversations are happening in the community
  - Comments:
    - It should say "ensure that diverse stakeholder interests are well-represented throughout the *process, plan, and implementation*"
    - City council must be engaged on status of CAAP (Doug Melnick clarified that Office of Sustainability has regularly presented to the Community Health and Equity meetings and that all city council offices are notified about all SA Climate Ready meetings. No B session has been scheduled.)
    - Q: What city departments will be involved in the CAAP?/A: We are currently interviewing departments about what they are doing.

### Vision & Priorities Survey Overview

- Analyzed 476 responses; 99% offered vision and priorities; 82% answered all demographic questions
- Overrepresented demographic groups in the survey thus far are White/Caucasian, Female, \$50k-\$100k household income; the focus will be to increase responses from the 18-24, Hispanic/Latino, <\$50k household income demographic areas.
- Top-ranked Vision elements tended to be more tangible: more green space and trees, more renewable energy, and more sidewalks
- Bottom-ranked elements: better educational opportunities, more electric vehicles and charging stations, more equity for all citizens
- Vision-by-age revealed that younger respondents cared about jobs, clean rivers/streams, green spaces/trees, food and water access/security, safe streets & equity while the older respondents cared about improved air quality.
- Top-ranked Priorities: Education and outreach throughout the process, a plan that is implementable, a plan that is fair and equitable, and reduced GHGs
- Bottom-ranked Priorities: Increased community resilience and cross-sector buy-in
- The Vision & Priorities survey is still open as the Phase 2 survey is being developed.
- Comments/Q&A:
  - Q: How are making sure we are gathering representative data?/A: Holding events in all 10 council districts and at other special events
  - Q: How can we make results statistically significant? Has anyone done a power analysis?/A: We need to make strategic use of resources and focus on the next survey.

### Co-benefits Activity

- Co-benefits are positive benefits related to the reduction of GHGs
- Reviewed examples from the World Bank, NYC's 1.5 Degree Plan, and C40 Cities
- Prompt: *What elements should be in our co-benefits discussion?*
  - SC members wrote their top 3 co-benefit idea on Post-it notes and put them on easel pads
  - Top themes: jobs/job security/workforce, affordability, health benefits, equity, quality of life/mental health benefits, resiliency, decreased flood risk,

- attractiveness/recreation/destination, exemplary leadership among cities, transportation/commute time reduction
- Discussion of metric: What is our metric for jobs/job security?
  - Maximizing/growing small, local business, creation, retention and attraction, green jobs, quality of jobs vs quantity
- Additional thoughts: consider including culture, family, historical identity, military, improving lives for those around us, talent development vs. talent acquisitions, transition “lead by example” to “pride in your city”
- SC will have a chance to confirm priorities

## GHG Projections Discussion

- Reviewed potential GHG projection scenarios to 2040
- Comments/Q&A:
  - Q: Why 2040?/A: Because the City's Sustainability Plan and CPS's Flex Path Plan go out to 2040. Paris Agreement goes to 2050.
  - Q: How do we quantify costs borne by future generations?/A: We have climate projections to 2100, so we can look at worst-case-scenario flooding, temperature, etc. Cost is part 1, willingness to pay is part 2.
  - Q: How do we measure the community's willingness to pay?/A: Willingness to pay is embedded in the second survey instrument.
  - Q: Do most plans establish interim goals?/A: Yes, in most cases local plans set a 2050 goal and an interim goal in the next decade. The numbers are pathways. In some cases there are multiple pathways.
  - We need public, near-term, attainable goals to keep us accountable to the plan. Otherwise it is too easy to kick the can down the road.
  - We need plain language that engages people outside our own jargon bubbles (e.g., when it comes to water quality, people won't understand “fecal coliform units per deciliter,” but they will understand wanting to swim and fish in the SA River).

## Meeting Wrap-Up

- Homework for next meeting:
  - Provide feedback on implementation plan
- Feedback to be sent to [lisa.lin@sanantonio.gov](mailto:lisa.lin@sanantonio.gov) or [danielle.vitoff@navigant.com](mailto:danielle.vitoff@navigant.com)
- Next meeting is in-person and will be on Wednesday, July 11<sup>th</sup> from 5:00-8:00pm at 145 Navarro St. 9<sup>th</sup> floor, Guenther Conference Room.

## Public Comments/Q&A:

- RE: economic co-benefits, we need to remember that the jobs and economy of the future may look completely different from those today, so economic co-benefits may look different
- “There is no such thing as doing the right thing too fast.” As we set goals, we can think beyond Paris.
  - Response from SC member: Yes, but we need to be realistic about our capacity to reach a goal beyond Paris.
- JBSA rep: JBSA is the Department of Defense's biggest energy consumer, and we are in EPA non-attainment. We are trying to reduce our energy footprint, and we want to be engaged. Please make the message understandable and relatable, and I will encourage JBSA members to attend TWGs
- SC member requested to distribute Paris Agreement to SC Members.