

Sustainability Advisory Board

Agenda

August 16, 2023

Louisville Public Library, Second Floor Board Room

951 Spruce Street

6:30 PM

Members of the public are welcome to attend and give comments remotely; however, the in-person meeting may continue even if technology issues prevent remote participation.

- You can call in to +1 408 638 0968 or 833 548 0282 (Toll Free)
Meeting ID #829 8194 5389
Meeting Password # 741017
- You can log in via your computer. Please visit the City's website here to link to the meeting: www.louisvilleco.gov/sustainabilityboard.

The Board will accommodate public comments during the meeting. Anyone may also email comments to the Board prior to the meeting at KBetzold@LouisvilleCO.gov.

- I. Call to Order
 - Josh is August secretary.
- II. Roll Call
- III. Approval of Agenda
- IV. Approval of Minutes
- V. Public Comments on Items Not on the Agenda – 10 minutes
 - 3 minutes per comment
- VI. Staff Updates – 10 minutes
- VII. Discussion Item: Home Electrification Overview – 30 minutes

Persons planning to attend the meeting who need sign language interpretation, translation services, assisted listening systems, Braille, taped material, or special transportation, should contact the City Clerk's Office at 303.335-4536 or MeredythM@LouisvilleCO.gov. A forty-eight-hour notice is requested.

Si requiere una copia en español de esta publicación o necesita un intérprete durante la reunión, por favor llame a la Ciudad al 303.335.4536 o 303.335.4574.

City of Louisville

City Manager's Office 749 Main Street Louisville CO 80027
303.335.4534 (phone) www.LouisvilleCO.gov

- Chair Presentation – Todd Budin
- Public Comment (3 minutes per comment)
- LSAB Discussion

VIII. Discussion Item: Outreach and Engagement (20 minutes)

- Staff Update
- Public Comment (3 minutes per comment)
- LSAB Discussion

IX. Sub-Committee and Board Member Updates

X. Administrative Tasks

- LSAB member (TBD) to write next Spotlight, due September 15.
- John is September secretary

XI. Discussion Items for Next Meeting

- Annual Sustainability Progress Update

XII. Adjourn

Sustainability Advisory Board

Meeting Minutes

July 19, 2023
Louisville Public Library, Second Floor Board Room
951 Spruce Street
6:30 PM

Call to Order – Chairperson Todd Budin called the meeting to order at 6:34 pm.

Roll Call was taken and the following members were present:

Board Members Present: Tiffany Boyd, Todd Budin, Josh Cooperman,
John Cowley, Dan Mellish and Megan Ottesen

Board Members Absent: Lev Szentkiralyi

Staff Members Present: Kayla Betzold

Approval of Agenda –

Tiffany moved to approve the agenda; Dan seconded the motion. The agenda was approved by all members.

Approval of Meeting Minutes –

Josh moved to approve last meeting's minutes; Tiffany seconded the motion. The minutes from the June 21, 2023 meeting were approved as written.

Public Comments –

RJ Harrington: RJ stated that he was not chosen for the Community Decarbonization Plan stakeholder group and asked how he will be able to engage with the project. He was not able to find information about the project on

the City website and did see the Engage Louisville website page for the project. He asked that the City make this information more readily available to the public.

Staff Update –

Kayla provided City updates to the board. She started by explaining that the Community Decarbonization Plan stakeholder meetings are not open to the public and that slides and notes from these meetings will be published on the project's Engage Louisville page after each workshop. Additionally, community members are able to engage with the project through a community survey in fall 2023, either through alignment with the Comprehensive Plan survey or available on the Engage Louisville page. There is also information about this project included in the fall Community Update, however the primary way to engage with the project is via Engage Louisville.

Kayla noted the compost contamination metrics included in the staff update, per Lev's suggestion at the June meeting. In June, there were no loads of compost landfilled due to contamination. The community diversion rate has increased from historical trends, with 2022 as an outlier due to Marshall Fire recovery and scrap metal diversion.

Todd asked about the Ice Box Challenge. Kayla explained that the project is led by the Passive House Network and was highlighted in the July Sustainability Spotlight. The goal of the project is to visualize how quickly one ton of ice melts in a passive-designed structure versus a code compliant structure. He asked how people can take action when they view the structures. Kayla answered that there is information about the Passive House Network on the structures. Todd replied that residents who are not building a new house may not have an action item after viewing the structures. Kayla will connect Tiffany and Todd with the Sustainability Specialist (Hannah) and the Passive House Network team to coordinate on next steps. Hannah is also scheduling social media posts for the project. Todd suggested we asked residents to reach out to EnergySmart to understand energy efficiency and electrification rebates available to them.

Tiffany asked about the bag tax funded waste diversion programs. Kayla replied that phase 1 will include businesses that are compliant with bag tax remittance. Hannah is working to develop and coordinate programs and they will be launched in mid October.

Josh asked if the commercial energy code meeting was staff driven or if it came from community member requests. Kayla responded that it was both a top down and bottom up topic. Staff will be going to Council in the fall with potential amendments to the code and the goal of the meeting is to clarify which amendments are necessary.

Tiffany asked about the Internal Decarbonization Plan implementation, including Energy Performance Contracting (EPC). Kayla responded that implementation is contingent on the Plan being adopted by Council on August 15. She has applied for \$7.5M in grants and if the Plan is adopted, the City is almost through phase 1 of EPC. The City would only need to complete final design and move into construction.

Josh asked about solar interconnection issues. Kayla responded that the issues have not been resolved, but there has been conversations between Xcel, cities, and solar developers and a process has been agreed upon. In regards to Solar United Neighbors, Xcel has offered suggestions about questions to include in the RFP to ensure the solar developer selected understands the interconnection process, to ensure program success.

Josh asked about the renewable energy portfolio and if there was a possibility to include other vendors for solar garden subscriptions. Kayla responded that US Solar is published in the renewable energy portfolio now, as the company was vetted through City Manager's Office and LSAB earlier this year and the portfolio will include a link to Xcel's website which lists other companies with current subscriptions available. Cara Hymphrey is able to attend as an agenda item for discussion in the future.

Discussion Item – Residential Energy Efficiency and Electrification Rebates

Todd Budin provided the board with information about proposed energy efficiency and electrification rebates that would be provided through Boulder County's EnergySmart program in conjunction with County and Xcel rebates. Program budget for 2023/2024 rebates is \$40,000. Residents interested in rebates would be required to enroll in EnergySmart. Then, they would be assigned a case manager to help advise about available rebates. For more information, view the July LSAB packet.

Public Comment

RJ Harrington: RJ went through this process in 2009 and received rebates available through EnergySmart. To receive Xcel rebates, the contractor must be on the Xcel list. He suggests the board not recommend full electrification because it would use the available budget quicker and recommends an emphasis on methane producing products.

LSAB Discussion

Kayla started the discussion by asking Todd how the rebates compare to the City of Boulder. Todd responded that they are similar, within \$100 of Boulder rebate amounts. She asked how the rebates compare to Boulder County and Todd responded that Boulder County rebates are smaller, but they don't require you to use an Xcel contractor.

Tiffany asked to see a comparison in CO2 emissions before and after upgrades. Todd responded that it's tough to determine with Xcel's energy mix.

Josh asked if some of the money should be used for advertising and suggested a direct mailer to every resident that lists rebates amounts and options. Kayla mentioned that it costs \$6,000 - \$8,000 to do a citywide mailer, but we could advertise in the water utility bill insert at no cost. The board recommended a robust sub-page on the sustainability website to explain this program and promote the rebates.

John added that cars are the largest source of residential emissions. He asked if there are rebates for electric vehicles. Kayla responded that [Drive Clean Colorado](#) is the best source of information about EV incentives and the City is a community partner, but does not offer our own EV rebates. John said that if a

resident drives 25 miles per day, they raise their home electric consumption by 50%. He wondered if Xcel has rebates for electrical panel upgrades and if they have capacity to accommodate a large increase in EVs. He also wondered how we set up a simple process to navigate resources. Todd responded that the EnergySmart case manager helps to navigate the process for residents. Kayla asked the board to make a recommendation to her, including a recommendation about utilizing some available funds for marketing. The board decided to recommend the City first advertise the program in the utility bill insert and promote it at Ecotoberfest. If there is low adoption with zero cost marketing strategies, the City should revisit marketing strategies and consider low cost marketing solutions, such as yard signs for homes that utilize the rebates with QR codes for their neighbors to learn more about available incentives.

Discussion Item – Internal Decarbonization Plan Draft Memo

Josh provided the board with a draft Internal Decarbonization Plan memo for review and approval.

Public Comment

None.

LSAB Discussion

The board agreed to support the draft memo as written. John emphasized the focus on Plan implementation accountability. Kayla said that it's important to make the point that decarbonization cannot happen until we electrify and remove fossil fuels from buildings and fleet. The City is currently purchasing renewable energy credits to claim 100% carbon-free electricity, but the fossil fuels are prohibiting the City from reaching decarbonization goals. Kayla reminded the board that the Internal Decarbonization Plan is going to City Council on August 15 and encouraged members to support the plan's adoption through public comment at the meeting. Megan made a motion to approve the memo. Tiffany seconded the motion. The memo was approved by all members in attendance.

Discussion Item – Lawn Equipment Electrification Memo

Kayla provided the board with an update on lawn equipment electrification policy and programs in the region. This item was included on the City of Boulder and Louisville City Council 2023 Work Plans and there is interest regionally for policy related to lawn equipment bans. PACE has found that companies are waiting for equipment to arrive, as availability cannot keep up with demand. Kayla asked the board if they'd like to draft a memo to Council encouraging them to include this item on the 2024 Work Plan.

Public Comment

None.

LSAB Discussion

Tiffany said there is benefit to keeping this topic on the forefront. Todd agreed and recommended that Council put this item on the 2024 Work Plan for focus in the second half of the year. Josh said he hoped Council would take on the topic this year, but didn't believe it was a priority to City leadership. The board discussed the financial impacts and agreed there are no hard costs to the lawn equipment ban, but that enforcement of the policy may cause a significant financial burden. The board agreed to draft a memo to reiterate their messaging from late 2023 that banning gas powered lawn equipment is important to residents and that it's a large health and EDI issue. They are going to recommend prioritization of this topic in the 2024 Work Plan, if it's not taken up in 2023.

Sub-Committee and Board Member Updates –

None

Administrative Tasks –

Megan will write the August Sustainability Spotlight. Lev is the August secretary.

Discussion Items for Next Meeting –

Kayla said that the August meeting would include a discussion about community and neighborhood engagement strategies. Kayla will talk to Hannah about presenting neighborhood engagement programs in August.

Adjourn –

Tiffany moved to adjourn the meeting and Dan seconded the motion. The meeting was adjourned at 8:26 p.m.

Memorandum

To: Louisville Sustainability Advisory Board

From: Kayla Betzold, Sustainability Manager

Date: August 16, 2023

Re: Staff Updates

Events

- The Solar United Neighbors program launch event will be held on Monday, September 18 from 6:00 – 8:00 p.m. at the Lafayette Public Library. Any residents interested in learning more about the solar co-op are welcome to attend.
 - Information about this event is included on the City website, calendar and fall Community Update.
- Ecotoberfest will be in Louisville at Community Park on Saturday, October 7 from 2-6 p.m. and will feature live music, sustainability-themed vendors, an EV and e-bike showcase, food trucks and kids activities.
 - Vendor recruitment is happening now. Reach out to Hannah Miller (hmillier@louisvilleco.gov) with names of organizations/companies that would be a good fit for the festival.

Projects and Programs

- The Green Business Program is now open to new businesses and re-certification for existing businesses. The applications will be open through September 30, 2023.
- The energy efficiency and electrification rebates are currently being developed with EnergySmart. Information about these rebates will be advertised in the October utility bill inserts.
- Resource Central has additional Louisville lawn replacement funds for 2023. Residents interested in removing 200+ square feet of turfgrass and installing xeric plants can register at ResourceCentral.org/lawn.
- The renewable energy portfolio is published and available on the City's Sustainability [Energy sub-page](#).
 - This portfolio is highlighted and linked in the fall Community Update and will also be included in the winter Community Update.

Council Work Plan Items

- The Community Decarbonization Plan (CDP) workshop 2 will be held in early September and will begin to evaluate decarbonization targets and strategies related to implementation.
 - Staff will be presenting a CDP update to City Council on 9/19.
- The Internal Decarbonization Plan final report went to Council on August 15 for adoption.
- The City's Comprehensive Plan project has begun. A community survey is available on the project's [Engage Louisville page](#). Please complete this survey by the end of August.
 - The goal of survey #1 is to provide broad input about challenges and opportunities for Louisville's future.
- The 2024 City Council Work Plan meeting was held on Tuesday, August 8. Council added "Sustainability Programs" to the latest draft of the 2024 Work Plan as a medium priority item, which will go back to Council for final adoption at a future date.

Grants

- The City has converted 13 string trimmers and 9 leaf blowers to battery-operated through the RAQC grant funding received earlier this year.
- The City applied for \$5M in DOLA Climate Resiliency funds for Recreation Center decarbonization.
- The City will soon be applying for \$1M in Colorado Energy Office funds for library decarbonization.
- The City will soon be applying for Colorado Energy Office Charge Ahead Colorado funding for publicly available EV charging at City facilities.
- The City will soon be applying for Colorado Energy Office FleetZero funding to transition internal combustion engine vehicles to EVs.
- The City was not selected for funding through Congressionally Directed Spending and will be applying again in early 2024 for Internal Decarbonization Plan funding through this federal source.

LSAB

- Lev Szentkiralyi stepped down from the Sustainability Advisory Board. His seat will be filled at the end of 2023 when board and commission applications open. Thank you to Lev for his service on the board!



Sustainability Advisory Board

August 2023

Kayla Betzold, Sustainability Manager

Discussion Item: Home Electrification Overview

Overview

- Todd Budin, LSAB Chair
 - Todd will provide an educational overview of home electrification to increase awareness and understanding before the board participates in outreach and engagement opportunities this fall to promote the new EE and electrification rebates.

Public Comment

- 3 minutes/comment

LSAB Discussion

Discussion Item: Outreach and Engagement

Staff Update

- Labor Day Parade – Ecotoberfest promotion
- Tabling opportunities – EE/electrification rebate promotion
 - Labor Day Harvest Festival, September 4, 9a-3p
 - Ecotoberfest, October 7, 2-6p
- Sustainability Spotlight – October, November, December
- Neighborhood engagement strategies update
 - City working on larger neighborhood engagement strategy
 - LSAB to consider neighborhood engagement strategies in alignment with 2025 budget process (Spring 2024)

Public Comment

- 3 minutes/comment

LSAB Discussion

LSAB August 2023 Meeting

Sub-Committee and Board Member Updates

Administrative Tasks

- LSAB member (TBD) to write next Sustainability Spotlight, due September 15
- John is September secretary

Discussion Items for Next Meeting

- Annual Sustainability Progress Update

Adjourn