

Sustainability Advisory Board

Agenda

September 18, 2024

Second Floor Board Room Louisville Library

951 Spruce. St

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 HMiller@LouisvilleCO.gov.

- I. Call to Order
 - a. Tiffany is the secretary for September.
- II. Roll Call
- III. Approval of Agenda
- IV. Approval of Minutes
- V. Public Comments on Items Not on the Agenda
 - a. 3 minutes per comment.
- VI. Administrative Tasks
 - a. No meeting in October. Staff will be attending the Mountain Towns 2030 Conference in Jackson Hole.
- VII. Staff Updates – 15 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*

- VIII. Discussion Item: Parks, Recreation, and Open Space Electrification Update
 - 30 minutes
 - a. Abby McNeal, Parks Superintendent
 - b. LSAB Questions
- IX. Discussion Item: Campaign Rules for Boards and Commissions – 15 minutes
 - a. Meredyth Muth, Interim Deputy City Manager
 - b. LSAB Questions
- X. Discussion Item: LSAB Legislative Agenda to Inform City Council Workplan – 20 minutes
 - a. Allison Kay, LSAB Member
 - b. Public Comment (3 minutes per comment)
 - c. LSAB Discussion/Direction
- XI. Discussion Item: LSAB Legislative Agenda Memo – 10 minutes
 - a. Allison Kay, LSAB Member
 - b. Public Comment (3 minutes per comment)
 - c. LSAB Discussion/Direction/Decision
- XII. Discussion Items for Next Meeting
 - a. Jeff Hirt, Planning Director: Comprehensive Plan Update
 - b. Logan Johnson, Sustainability Specialist: Communications Cohort Update and Outcome
- XIII. Adjourn

Memorandum

To: Louisville Sustainability Advisory Board
From: Hannah Miller, Sustainability Manager
Date: September 11, 2024
Re: Staff Updates

Projects and Programs

Waste:

- Spring Cleaning vouchers are now live. Staff are exploring the option of using this system in future years instead of the annual standing event.

Nature-Based Solutions:

- Staff submitted a statement of support for a county-level grant application to fund future iterations of the Community Forest Corps.

Commercial Sustainability:

- Commercial rebates administered through PACE are now publicly available, and businesses have shown interest.

Community Decarbonization Plan:

- Partners in Energy (PIE) and staff are progressing into the next phase of the CDP implementation. The focus is on multi-family engagement and collaborating with Boulder County to create a strategy. Staff and PIE are also working with Xcel Energy to produce a door hanger for Parco Dello Zingaro residents.
- Following the 1-2-3 Electrify series, staff and PIE are creating 'evergreen' communications to continuously direct residents to the 1-2-3 Electrify webpage and resources. They are also updating the webpage to ensure it remains relevant and showcases valuable resources for residents.

Denver Regional Council of Governments (DRCOG) Climate Pollution Reduction Grant (CPRG):

- Staff met with the DRCOG CPRG team to begin discussions on program creation, design, and coordination. Staff are directly involved in communications and marketing, energy incentives and rebates, and building policy groups for CPRG implementation.
- The planned timeline for program launch is summer 2025. This is part of a \$197 million EPA award to the DRCOG region. Municipalities are expected to be sub-awardees of these funds.

Events:



City of Louisville

City Manager's Office

- Ecotoberfest is scheduled for Saturday, October 5th, from 2-6 p.m. at Louisville's Community Park. [\[Volunteer sign-up link\]](#).

Other:

- The City of Louisville has been named a Regional Air Quality Council (RAQC) Clean Air Champion! Each year, RAQC awards communities and individuals who contribute to cleaner air within the EPA's Denver Metro/Front Range non-attainment area. Louisville is being recognized for its leadership in air quality improvement, including the electrification of lawn and garden equipment and its trash truck fleet. Congratulations on your efforts for a cleaner air future!
- Colorado Energy Office grant contracts are under staff review.
- Staff have contracted with ICLEI-USA to complete the input and review of the 2016 and 2021 greenhouse gas inventories in the ClearPath emissions software. This is the preliminary step toward modeling emissions reductions.
- Staff are participating in a Communications Cohort through ICLEI-USA and will produce a communications plan. Logan will present an update on this in November.
- Staff have been accepted into the ClearPath 2.0 pilot program. Hannah will share more information about this in November.
- Staff are attending the 2024 Mountain Towns 2030 Conference in Jackson Hole, WY, this year.



Sustainability Advisory Board

September 2024

Hannah Miller, Sustainability Manager

Administrative Items

- I. Call to Order
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 - a. 3 minutes per comment.
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Discussion Item: Parks, Recreation, and Open Space Electrification Update – 30 minutes

- Abby McNeal, Parks Superintendent presentation
- LSAB Questions



Parks Electrification

Regulation 29

- In February 2024, the Air Quality Control Commission adopted a rule to reduce air pollution from gasoline-powered lawn and garden equipment.
- The rule restricts the use of handheld and push gasoline-powered lawn and garden equipment for local, state, and federal governments only during summer months. Summer is the season when ground-level ozone pollution formation is highest.

Regulation 29

- Starting in the summer of 2025, all public entities to use only non-gas powered equipment during the summer months (June – August on the front range).
- The new rules apply to local governments and school districts along the Front Range and all state-owned properties.
- The rule does not include restrictions on commercial use aside from government contracts or residential use. The rule does not restrict personal lawn mower use.

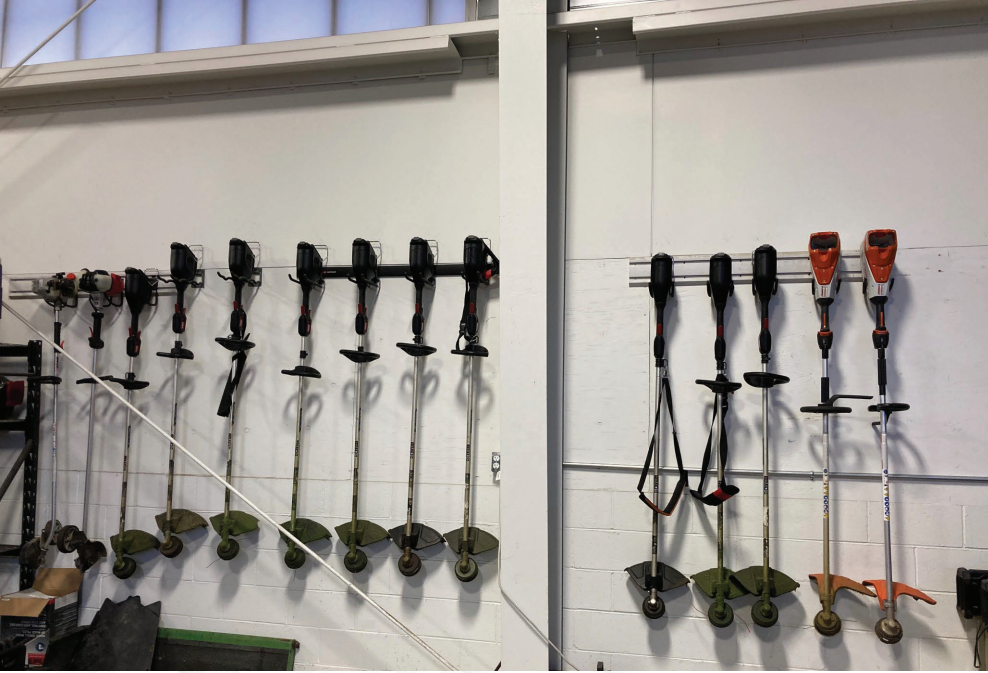
What does this mean.....

- Only in the ozone nonattainment area.
- Only to equipment below 10 horsepower.
- The rule includes exemptions for:
 - Emergency services.
 - Public safety.
 - Wildfire mitigation.
 - Riparian/forest/grassland management (including noxious weed management)

Parks

The City of Louisville adopted Sustainability Action Plan and Climate Action Goals that set carbon-free electricity and greenhouse gas emission reduction goals for both the community and the municipality.

2023 The Regional Air Quality Council's (RAQC) award for \$10,000, with matching funds from the Sustainability Department for a total of \$20,000 that provides a conversion of 31 small hand equipment- blowers, trimmers, and chain saw used to support Parks, Forestry, and Cemetery Operations.



Other Small tools



Hedge Trimmers and Chain Saws



Battery Snow Blower



Electric Mower



Model 18560 shown with 52" deck

Future Considerations



Thank You

Abby McNeal, Parks Superintendent

Discussion Item: Campaign Rules for Boards and Commissions – 15 minutes

- Meredyth Muth, Interim Deputy City Manager
- LSAB Questions

Discussion Item: LSAB Legislative Agenda to Inform City Council- 20 minutes

- Allison Kay, LSAB Member
- Public Comment (3 minutes per comment)
- Engagement Activity
- LSAB Discussion and Direction

Discussion Item: LSAB Legislative Agenda Memo -10 minutes

- Allison Kay, LSAB Member
- Public Comment (3 minutes per comment)
- LSAB Discussion/Direction/Decision

LSAB November 2024 Meeting

Discussion Items for Next Meeting

- Jeff Hirt, Planning Director: Comprehensive Plan Update
- Logan Johnson, Sustainability Specialist: Communications Cohort Update and Outcome

Adjourn

DRAFT Memorandum

To: Louisville City Council Members

From: Louisville Sustainability Advisory Board

Date: September 18, 2024

Re: Louisville Sustainability Advisory Board Legislative Agenda for 2025

Dear Louisville City Councilors,

As the City Council begins to prioritize legislative tasks for 2025, the Louisville Sustainability Advisory Board would like to present our legislative agenda for the upcoming year. By openly sharing our priorities, we believe we can better coordinate efforts with the City Council and more effectively and expeditiously achieve the environmental goals laid out in our Climate Action Plan.

Acknowledgment of Recent Accomplishment:

First, we want to congratulate both the City Council and the city at large for the recent milestone of adopting a fully electric residential collection fleet. This groundbreaking achievement not only underscores our city's commitment to sustainability but also positions us as a leader in environmental stewardship. We believe this accomplishment presents an ideal opportunity to further build on this momentum and set an ambitious environmental agenda for the future.

Inspiration from Other Cities:

We have observed that several small cities across the United States have set bold targets to cut greenhouse gas emissions and achieve carbon neutrality by 2030. These cities have demonstrated that ambitious environmental goals can drive improvements in public health, create job opportunities, and stimulate economic growth. We believe Louisville can similarly benefit by adopting a forward-thinking legislative agenda in 2025.

Recommended Legislative Tasks for 2025:

The Sustainability Board has been diligently working over the past few months to identify key areas where legislative action can significantly contribute to our city's sustainability efforts. Our recommendations reflect a thorough analysis of current environmental challenges, best practices, and the need for actionable policies to combat this existential crisis and foster a sustainable future.

1. Renegotiate Franchise Agreement with Xcel Energy

- **Objective:** Renegotiate the contract terms with Xcel Energy to better align the agreement with the current environmental needs and priorities of Louisville, which will financially strengthen and improve our sustainability programs.
- **Revenue Allocation:** Funds generated from the new franchise agreement will be allocated to:
 - Sustainability Projects: Invest in renewable energy projects, energy efficiency upgrades, and green infrastructure.
 - Public Education: Fund programs to educate residents and businesses about sustainability practices and energy conservation.
 - Economic Support: Provide incentives and subsidies to help businesses transition to greener and more energy efficient technologies and practices.
- **Benefits:**
 - Environmental Impact: Reduce overall carbon emissions and promote the adoption of clean energy and renewable technologies.
 - Public Health: Improve air quality and reduce health risks associated with pollution and climate change, ultimately decreasing overall healthcare costs.
 - Long-Term Savings: Lower energy costs and reduce the financial burden of climate-related disasters by investing in proactive measures and climate resilience.

2. Establish a Climate Tax

- **Objective:** Create a climate tax that provides economic incentives for reducing greenhouse gas emissions, generates revenue for environmental projects, and supports the city's climate action goals.
- **Revenue Allocation:** Funds generated from the climate tax will be allocated to:
 - Sustainability Projects: Invest in renewable energy projects, energy efficiency upgrades, and green infrastructure.
 - Public Education: Fund programs to educate residents and businesses about sustainability practices and energy conservation.
 - Economic Support: Provide incentives and subsidies to help businesses transition to greener and more energy efficient technologies and practices.
- **Benefits:**
 - Environmental Impact: Reduce overall carbon emissions and promote the adoption of clean technologies.
 - Public Health: Improve air quality and reduce health risks associated with pollution and climate change, ultimately decreasing overall healthcare costs.
 - Long-Term Savings: Lower energy costs and reduce the financial burden of climate-related disasters by investing in proactive measures and climate resilience.

3. Phase in All-Electric Lawn Equipment

- **Objective:** Create a policy that phases out gas-powered lawn equipment and incentivizes the phasing in of all-electric lawn equipment in Louisville.

- **Revenue Allocation:** Funds generated from the fines associated with using gas-powered lawn equipment will be allocated to:
 - Sustainability Projects: Invest in renewable energy projects, energy efficiency upgrades, and green infrastructure.
 - Public Education: Fund programs to educate residents and businesses about sustainability practices and energy conservation.
 - Economic Support: Provide incentives and subsidies to help businesses transition to greener and more energy efficient technologies and practices.
- **Benefits:**
 - Environmental Impact: Reduce overall carbon emissions and promote the adoption of clean technologies.
 - Public Health: Improve air quality and reduce health risks associated with pollution and climate change, ultimately decreasing overall healthcare costs.
 - Long-Term Savings: Lower energy costs and reduce the financial burden of climate-related disasters by investing in proactive measures and climate resilience.

4. Increase Electric Vehicle (EV) Chargers at Apartment Complexes

- **Objective:** Create a program to incentivize the installation of additional EV charging stations at apartment complexes and multi-family housing.
- **Funding for Program:** Potential ideas to fund this project include:
 - Using funds generated from the bag tax program, climate tax, and/or renegotiated franchise agreement with Xcel Energy to support this program.
- **Benefits:**
 - Environmental Impact: Reduce overall carbon emissions and promote the adoption of electric vehicles, while addressing one of the biggest barriers to EV adoption.
 - Public Health: Improve air quality and reduce health risks associated with pollution and climate change, ultimately decreasing overall healthcare costs.
 - Long-Term Savings: Reduce the upfront costs associated with EV adoption and decrease energy costs while increasing property values and tenant satisfaction.

5. Waved Permit Fees for Residential Electrification Upgrades

- **Objective:** Create a program that streamlines and incentivizes the permitting process for electrical upgrades at residential properties.
- **Funding for Program:** Potential ideas to fund this project include:
 - Using funds generated from the bag tax program, climate tax, and/or renegotiated franchise agreement with Xcel Energy to support this program and account for the reduction in funding from permitting fees.
- **Benefits:**
 - Environmental Impact: Reduce overall carbon emissions and promote the adoption of more energy efficient technology and home upgrades.

- Public Health: Improve air quality and reduce health risks associated with pollution and climate change, ultimately decreasing overall healthcare costs.
- Long-Term Savings: Reduce the upfront costs associated with green technology adoption while decreasing energy costs and increasing property values.

6. Adopt Nature Based Solutions Goals of Boulder County

- **Objective:** Align the environmental goals of Louisville with the Nature Based Solutions Goals of Boulder County.
- **Funding for Program:** Potential ideas to fund this project include:
 - Using funds generated from the bag tax program, climate tax, and/or renegotiated franchise agreement with Xcel Energy to support this program and account for the reduction in funding from permitting fees.
- **Benefits:**
 - Environmental Impact: Reduce overall carbon emissions and promote the conservation of natural resources.
 - Public Health: Improve air quality and reduce health risks associated with pollution and climate change, ultimately decreasing overall healthcare costs.
 - Long-Term Savings: Reduce the overall costs of maintaining human-made structures and increase the natural beauty of Louisville.

7. Formalized and Equitable Policy to Engage Relevant Advisory Boards on Issues

- **Objective:** Establish a city policy that ensures advisory boards are actively engaged on relevant issues and are given formal opportunities to present their findings and recommendations to the City Council in a fair and structured manner.
- **Revenue Allocation / Funding:** This proposed item does not require funding or create revenue.
- **Benefits:**
 - Environmental Impact: Potential to encourage policies that will reduce overall carbon emissions.
 - Public Health: No direct public health impact.
 - Long-Term Savings: Allow for better coordination on issues that saves both time and money for the city council.

Conclusion:

The Sustainability Advisory Board is enthusiastic about collaborating with the City Council to achieve these important legislative tasks. By supporting and implementing these recommendations, we will continue to position Louisville as a leader in sustainability, drive positive environmental and economic outcomes, and enhance the overall well-being of our community.

Thank you for your dedication and commitment to these important issues.

Sincerely,

The Louisville Sustainability Advisory Board

Sustainability Advisory Board Meeting Minutes

August 21, 2024

Virtual Meeting Online (Zoom)

6:30 PM

Call to Order – Todd Budin, LSAB Chair called the meeting to order at 6:33 pm.

Roll Call was taken and the following members were present:

Board Members: Tiffany Boyd, Todd Budin, Josh Cooperman, John Cowley, Allison Kay, Kevin Lombardo

Staff Members Present: Hannah Miller (Sustainability Manager), Logan Johnson (Sustainability Specialist)

Approval of Agenda –

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

Approval of Meeting Minutes –

Allison moved to approve the meeting minutes; Kevin seconded the motion. The meeting minutes were approved by all members.

Public Comments for Items Not On the Agenda –

There were no public comments.

Mnemonics referenced during this meeting –

DRCOG – “The Denver Regional Council of Governments (DRCOG) includes representation from Boulder County. DRCOG distributes federal transportation funding through a Transportation Improvement Program (TIP), which identifies all current federally funded transportation projects to be completed in the Denver region over a four-year period. The local governments that comprise DRCOG decide on a process and criteria for including projects in the TIP and awarding DRCOG-controlled federal funds, which allows the region to set and agree upon its transportation priorities.”

(<https://bouldercounty.gov/transportation/plans-and-projects/drcog-subregional-transportation-improvement-program/>)

CEO – Colorado Energy Office

CFC – Community Forestry Youth Corps is the City of Boulder and Boulder Play Foundation’s urban forestry youth outreach program. Started in June of 2024, Boulder Play Foundation has worked with youth local to Boulder County to offer them the opportunity to learn about urban forestry, Nature-based Solutions, and other related initiatives, and gain experience working in the community by helping to provide basic tree maintenance and watering for local tree plantings. This program has started out as a pilot program in coordination with the cities of Lafayette and Louisville, but it is projected to continue next year.

NBS – Nature-based Solutions is a wholistic method to encouraging resilient natural resources and landscapes in a given area. It is an approach to viewing ecosystems and ecosystem health in a manner that is inclusive many different ways ecosystem health and carbon sequestration.

NFTS –Non-functional Turf

DOLA – “The Department of Local Affairs (DOLA) serves as the primary interface between the State and local communities. DOLA provides financial support to local communities and professional and technical services to community leaders in the areas of governance, housing, and property tax administration.”
(<https://cdola.colorado.gov/>)

PACE – Partners for a Clean Environment (PACE) is Boulder County’s business sustainability program. PACE provides free advising, financial incentives, and certifications to help county businesses decrease emissions and environmental impact, save money, and gain recognition for their work.
(<https://bouldercounty.gov/climate/partners-for-a-clean-environment/>)

1. Staff Updates from Sustainability Manager–

a. Update on discussions around building codes

Rob Zuccaro is planning to introduce a discussion item at the City Council meeting of September 17 regarding the City’s building codes. This is motivated by complaints by some constituents that the current codes are excessively burdensome, particularly around restrictions on natural-gas appliances.

LSAB discussed writing a second memo to City Council stating the Board’s consensus opinion regarding the disadvantages of potential weakening of the codes. Also, individual members could write letters to Council and prepare public comments to make at the meeting, to advocate for retaining the current net-zero requirements.

Tiffany asked to learn more about the motivation of the update to the City’s building codes, if known, and mentioned that the State (CO) is expected to become more aggressive with the energy aspects of the state’s building codes.

Josh mentioned that this was briefly discussed at last evening’s Council meeting (Aug, 20).

John suggested it would be a mistake to let commercial interests dominate the discussion about the urgency of fighting climate change, adding that we need to get the message across that reducing our carbon footprint is a very important goal adopted by the City Council, in its leadership role for the community.

Tiffany noted that the business community presently has a stronger voice in getting Council’s attention – perhaps Sustainability interests should develop a similarly loud voice to protest against weakening of the codes.

Tiffany also mentioned that there are a lot of financial incentives available now to help businesses adopt low-emissions equipment.

Hannah will provide a list of financial incentives for businesses to adopt low-emissions equipment. She also noted that it will be important to remind Council that they have already committed to the new climate action goals that are science-based targets. Relaxing the energy codes would violate that commitment.

John suggested that emphasizing the rebates is a positive, but the bigger picture that could foster acceptance would be to show empathy with the business community – communicating that we recognize they may face some burdens in reducing emissions, but we in the sustainability community want to help them overcome those by presenting long-term cost savings and low-interest loans that could supplement the presently-available rebates.

b. Update on progress of Internal Decarbonization Planning

Josh asked Hannah to update the Board on the present status of implementation of the Internal Decarbonization Plan (which was approved by City Council on Oct. 10, 2023). He had been told there may be some delay in top-priority items such as solar installations at the Rec Center, the Police building, and the Wastewater Treatment Plant.

Hannah began by explaining that Council approval did not provide a budget at that time to implement the plan. Fortunately, Kayla (the previous Sustainability Manager) was able to obtain significant grants to support the project early on. Starting with that partial support, the Sustainability Division is moving into the budget process for 2025 and 2026 to fill remaining financial gaps.

For some grants, the City needs to move forward and break ground later this year (2024) to meet goals that the grants require. This includes some updated HVAC installations. Other goals, particularly for solar-array installations, will be delayed until later because of the contracting processes.

Also, the recommended new position for a Project Manager for these Internal Decarbonization installations has been put on hold until the budget for this position can be clarified.

John asked if the parts of the Plan for Electric-Vehicle (EV) charging stations was moving ahead.

Hannah explained that the EV charging stations listed in the Plan will be installed by about June of 2026, as required by grants the City has received for this. She mentioned additional considerations for EVs in the Internal Decarbonization Plan, such as exploring the Enterprise EV Fleet Management program that would provide a lease arrangement for new electric vehicles for the City.

Josh asked if there has been any activity resulting from the CU/Anschutz review of the carbon footprints of a selected group of commercial facilities in Louisville. Hannah explained that the information from the CU/Anschutz study of large buildings is helping the City identify how to work with building owners and occupants to begin to electrify their facilities. One or two entities have already been discussing rebates with PACE.

c. Introduction of new Sustainability Specialist, Logan Johnson

The new Sustainability Specialist, Logan Johnson, introduced himself to the members of LSAB. Logan's background is in Forestry and Arboriculture, as well as a deep understanding of urban resilience and sustainability. He was an undergraduate at Charleston (SC) and continued to get his master's degree from CU/Boulder. He has been merging that background with climate action planning, including orientation is toward Nature-based Solutions.

d. Public Comment (3 minutes per comment)

There were no public comments.

e. LSAB Discussion/Questions

John asked Logan what he sees as his personally most urgent sustainability issue and what he would like to see LSAB focus more on.

Logan explained that he's still learning about the present needs of Louisville and the community. He would like to see some gaps filled within climate action planning, including implementing nature-based solutions where practical. He also wants to continue working well with the County and their initiatives, and their working with DRCOG (including participating in advisory boards) to better support our ongoing electrification and decarbonization programs.

2. Discussion Item: Continued: LSAB Legislative Agenda to Inform City Council Work Plan- 60 minutes

a. Staff Direction: Hannah Miller, Sustainability Manager

Hannah introduced discussion of the content for the LSAB Legislative Agenda document. This document informs City Council about issues LSAB recommends for inclusion in their Work Plan. This discussion has been carried over from previous LSAB meetings.

In order to outline what LSAB would like to see included in the City Council's Work Plan for the upcoming year, Hannah moderated this brainstorming session to collect ideas from the Sustainability Advisory Board that could be included in LSAB's upcoming Legislative Agenda document.

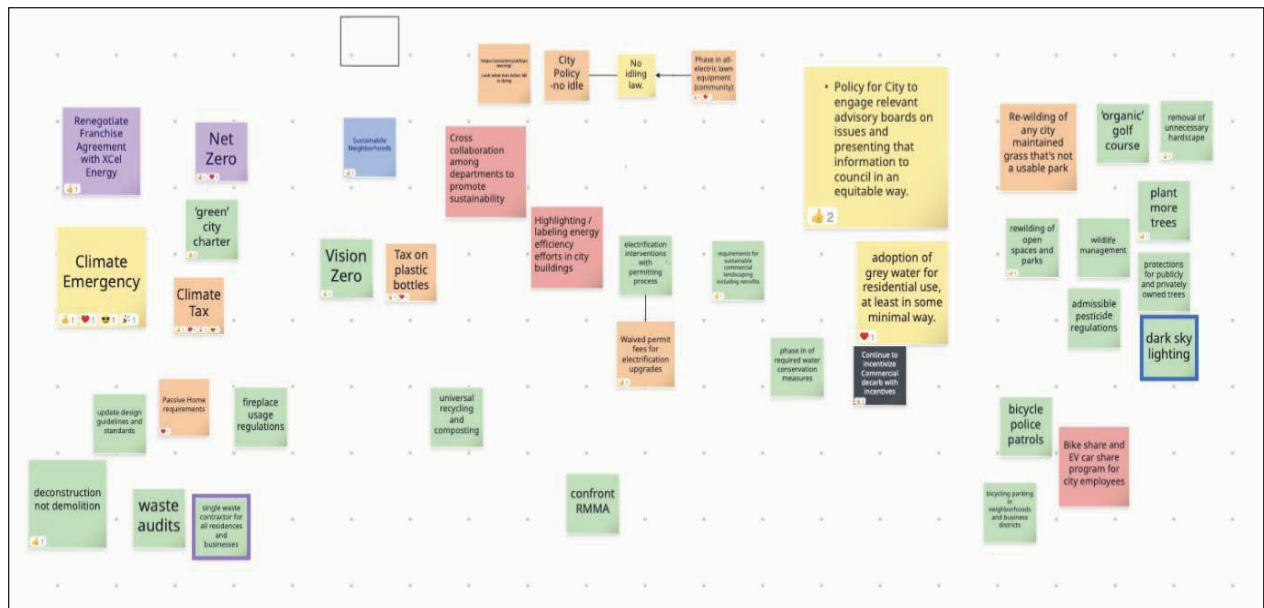
The ideas, below, from LSAB members were inserted into a Whiteboard App shared online.

As part of next month's Agenda, an updated version of the most workable of these ideas will be put into LSAB's Legislative Agenda to be forwarded to the City Council.

b. Public Comment (3 minutes per comment)

i. There were no public comments.

c. Engagement Activity via Zoom Whiteboard



The image above is of the Whiteboard resulting from this brainstorming session.

A summary of the ideas suggested for presentation to the City Council for consideration are listed below. These are in no particular order. They will be refined and consolidated at September's LSAB meeting:

- Collaborating among City departments to promote sustainability
 - Renegotiating Franchise Agreement with Xcel Energy
 - Reducing or waving Permit Fees for electrification upgrades
 - Imposing a tax on plastic bottles
 - Declaring a “Climate Emergency”, which unlocks some financial benefits
- References:
- <https://www.declareemergency.org/>
 - <https://icma.org/blog-posts/climate-emergency-preparedness-local-governments>
- Establishing “Bike Share” and “EV Car Share” programs for city employees
 - Establishing Bicycle Patrols by police and open-space rangers.
 - Imposing “No Idling” laws for gas/diesel vehicles within city limits
 - Facilitating “Waste audits” (e.g., for construction) and a unified waste contractor for businesses/residences
 - Updating building design guidelines and standards to increase efficiency and reduce emissions
 - Promoting “sustainable neighborhoods”
 - Phasing in of all-electric lawn equipment community-wide
 - Instituting “Re-wilding” of City-maintained properties that are not designated parks.
 - Creating protection for trees, both public and private, including subsidies for new trees
 - Tightening pesticide regulations, including reporting-requirement responses that are available publicly
 - Exploring adopting a “Green City” charter
 - Considering a “Dark Sky” regulation

- Phasing in of water conservation measures, including using “gray water” where possible
- Requiring installing EV chargers at large apartment complexes, in appropriate minimum numbers

d. LSAB Discussion/Direction/Decision

Discussions included various aspects of declaring a “Climate Emergency”, considering pros and cons. Such a declaration would make additional funds available for sustainability goals as well as help the City be more competitive when applying for grants. This could be facilitated by preparatory outreach to the business community to assure them that it would not result in businesses in Louisville becoming less competitive. A declaration would also help make the community more aware of all the associated sustainability undertakings.

There are organizations around the country that advocate for municipalities to declare climate emergencies and presumably are able to recommend the proper language to use in such a declaration. LSAB could look into other communities that have done this and learn from their experiences, including supporting evidence that such a declaration would have minimal impact on businesses.

An important aspect of some of the ideas listed here is that the community would need to be motivated to accept enthusiastically what might otherwise be considered burdensome restrictions. This would necessitate focused public-relations campaigns to explain the benefits for the whole community.

It would also help if the goals could be made as easy and low-cost as possible. One example is that swapping one landscaping company for another that uses only electrified equipment should not incur a large cost increase – and it should be easy to find vetted lists of such electricity-based landscapers.

Encouraging “sustainable neighborhoods” has a number of benefits, including that neighbors can learn from each other, such as from one who has successfully installed heat-pump equipment.

Programs in schools, including at back-to-school night, could reach parents who otherwise would not know about all the benefits of the environmentally friendly actions that the city would be undertaking.

Part of the challenge in getting more people to adopt sustainability actions is reducing “friction” in the process. For example, one friction in the decision to buy an electric vehicle is that there may be no EV chargers provided at the apartments where potential buyers live.

Some of the sustainability issues being considered are also being considered by Boulder County or are already in the process of being implemented. LSAB should adopt their legislative language.

As of now, the above list doesn’t include anything about climate-resiliency undertakings, such as preparing schools to serve as emergency sites, which seem like pretty important things for a city to have in place. Such resiliency planning could be considered at our next meeting, for possible inclusion among the other issues for the Legislative Agenda.

In all cases, acceptance of the actions being promoted for sustainability may depend on minimizing costs imposed on the city and community, and on minimizing impacts to the business community.

3. Discussion Item: Legislative Agenda Memo- 15 minutes

This item was postponed until the next meeting.

Allison will consolidate the above sustainability issues in preparation for the Legislative Agenda Memo.

4. Discussion Items for Next Meeting

- a. PROS Electrification Update
- b. Legislative Agenda Memo

5. Adjourn

Allison moved to adjourn the meeting. Tiffany seconded the motion.