

Climate Change Advisory Committee

2022 Progress Report Summary and 2023 Workplan (March 14th, 2023)

2022 Progress Report

2022 was a transition year for the CCAC with the hiring of two staff to implement the Climate Action Plan (CAP). The CCAC was in the process of trying to better define our role and that will continue in 2023.

The progress in implementing the CAP would not have happened without the outstanding work of Autumn Salamack (Climate Mitigation and Adaptation Officer), and Hannan Ljunggren (Climate Action Outreach Coordinator). Without the two of them, and other City staff, the implementation of the Climate Action Plan (CAP) would be much further behind.

The Climate Officer did an excellent job of summarizing the achievements of 2022 of implementing the CAP in her 2022 Annual Progress Report. Hence, we will not duplicate that report but try to highlight those areas where we were the most involved.

Communication/Outreach/Implementation

- Participated in several farmers markets and other Community events with the Climate Officer to help inform the community about the Climate Smart Challenge and ways to reduce individual greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions.
- Participated in meetings with the School District and Parks Boards to explore them developing Climate Action Plans.
- Initiated a relationship with REAC to discuss opportunities to exchange information and collaborate.

Energy

- Provided input into COBI's successful Energy Transitions Initiative Partnership Project (ETIPP) grant application and participated in the ETIPP workgroup.
- Provided input into the PSE Partnership Agreement.
- Convened a Clean Energy and Building subgroup to work on developing a Clean Energy and Building Fund.

Transportation

- Participated in Sustainable Transportation Technical Workgroup.
- Worked with an intern to develop a catalog of potential grants for sustainable transportation projects and performance metrics for sustainable transportation.

Waste

- A waste subgroup was formed, and they had several meetings with Impact Bioenergy, CCAC members, Council, and City Manager on potential biodigester. They sent a memo to the City Council and City on the need to develop a comprehensive waste management plan.

Environment/Natural Resources

- Participated in the Groundwater Management working group.

2023 Workplan

The CCAC 2023 work plan attempts to identify those areas where the CCAC can support the activities of the Climate Officer and Climate Action Outreach Coordinator and City staff. As with 2022, most of the work will be accomplished by Autumn and Hannah. The activities below are those we believe we can have the largest impact in supporting the implementation of the CAP.

Activities with an asterisk (*) are those indicated by the Climate Officer that may be a good fit for CCAC input or assistance.

Energy

Goal: Reduce greenhouse gas emissions by decreasing energy demand and increasing supply of renewable energy.

- * CCAC will provide advice and support for the Pilot Home Energy Heat Pump Program.
- * CCAC will provide advice and input on potential ordinance and incentive programs for zero emission hand tools.
- * CCAC will support the City on the Energy Transitions Initiative Partnership Project (ETIPP) by attending meetings and providing any support needed to help scope out the project, develop options, and review reports.
- * CCAC will help Identify code updates for buildings recommended in the CAP.
- * CCAC will help complete research on best practices and current state law related to recommended updates to building codes.

CCAC will participate in a City Council Study Session with PSE.

CCAC will provide input into the PSE Partnership Agreement as requested by the City.

CCAC will work with City staff and elected officials to better understand opportunities for the City related to the Inflation Reduction Act.

Transportation

Goal: Reduce greenhouse gas emissions by increasing electric vehicle and bike infrastructure, increasing use of public transportation, and decreasing vehicle miles traveled per capita.

- * CCAC will work to help implement the Sustainable Transportation Plan.
- * CCAC will review the Fehr and Peers report.
- * CCAC Subgroup will provide assistance and support for the City Thread Program.
- * CCAC will help support the launch of the EV car share program.

Waste

Goal: Assist in developing a comprehensive waste management program for Bainbridge Island and potentially develop a waste to energy project for the Island (e.g., biodigester).

CCAC will provide support to the City, as requested, to explore the possibility of establishing a comprehensive waste management system for the Island.

Adaptation/Natural Environment

Goal: Assist to help the Island become more prepared from the impacts of climate change.

* CAC will continue to work with the City on the Shoreline Management Program and sea level rise evaluation.

CCAC will continue to serve on the groundwater management plan working group.

CCAC will support development of an Island-Wide weed management plan.

CCAC will assist Drue Morris on her plans to address climate-ready plants as needed, following up on the webinar given last fall.

Education and Outreach

Goal: Provide forums for people to learn about what they can do to reduce their greenhouse gas emissions and prepare our Community from the impacts of climate change.

* CCAC members will work with Climate Officer and other organizations to develop Community events to reduce GHG emissions and prepare our Island for climate change (e.g., Kitsap Electric Vehicle and Bike Expo).

* CCAC will provide support to the Climate Smart Challenge.

* CCAC will provide support to the Climate Officer to develop the 2023 Annual Progress Report.

CCAC will support the Climate Officer and City staff when requested to provide information and support in implementation of specific CAP actions.

CCAC will provide support as requested on developing a climate/equity lens for the Island.

CCAC will respond to City Council requests for advice and support.

CCAC will continue to serve on City lead teams (e.g., Ground Water Management Program; PSE Franchise/Partnership Agreement; Solid Waste Management; Sustainable Transportation; and issues related to sea level rise).

If you have questions, please contact David McCaughey (David.McCaughey@cobicommittee.email).