



Sustainability Advisory Committee

Meeting Minutes

June 21, 2023

A. CALL TO ORDER 6:02 PM

B. ROLL CALL

Attendees: Mark, Catalina, Adelita, Robert, Liza, Rolf

Staff: Spencer

C. PUBLIC COMMENTS

Cool Davis representative:

Are hoping to branch out with the county working with the nonprofit Spear Influence especially with our regional transit partners. I'm here to plug our current programming in the pledge. There has been a lot of information around the California Climate Commitment Pledge from the governor. Our pledge is open to everyone in Yolo County. Asking folks to commit between now and next Earth Day for 6 items: energy, transportation, eating thoughtfully, resilience, and getting involved. We have lots of suggested actions in each category or people can choose other for whatever works for them. We have an easy to more difficult progression on the list to make it easy for everyone. We have an electrical moped as our grand prize as well as smaller prizes. We're hoping to partner and run this yearly. The key action is picking the menu that fit the community. I welcome the committee's interests in working with us to expand and to encourage folks to step up. We have a great way of tracking what people are doing and what appeals to others, we're asking questions and hosting gatherings to prove support. The flyer can be found digitally online: cooldavis.org/pledge. We also have specific programming for kids and are looking into making it a school program.

D. MEMBER REPORTS

Mark: We be hearing back from the Green Schoolyards grant by the end of June. The grant has real implications for the Woodland district. If it comes through, that's 5 campuses with \$2 million each plus to

increase tree canopy, create learning centers and many other improvements. 3 years of planning implementation and maintenance included. So, we'll see. I think the footprint of the district is large enough in Woodland that it'll be a significant benefit to Woodland.

Liza: The finalized updates to the integrated pest management policy at the school district. It goes above and beyond the minimum set by the state. So, some of the nuances are that if the district contacts someone with spray, then everyone will be notified. The district has committed to flagging areas in the spring that way people are aware and can be on the lookout. The district commits to cross-referencing on an annual basis and keeping tabs on the information from the European Union, such as pesticides that have been banned abroad, but not here. We are looking to do things beyond the letters of the law to the way the city deals with pesticides

Catalina: We're hopefully going to meet in July because we have not had the chance to. We'll have a report back in July and this is in regards to the Communications Committee.

Adelita: I announced last meeting that we were going to be having a first in-person community info-session. I just wanted to thank you for sending out the information. Thank you all for promoting it and securing that space for us. We had a mix of Woodland and Davis residents, we also had child care. It was good to see parents. We're still synthesizing the feedback given, but it felt very rich and diverse for decisions around county transportation and working heat conditions. It was a very strong start. I think it's a good temperature gate for us moving forward: what we can do better and what is working. There was an info session today and there will be one tomorrow. We strongly advise that you make these next ones. There will be more opportunities. Overall, I bet it went well because we have Supervisor Barajas and others there providing statements. I definitely think we are going to assess the outcomes and prepare for even stronger outreach next time. My next pivot would be to take them to locations where we are missing people from the population. We are open to any feedback or input from anyone.

Rolf: We have a CalFire grant to plant 150 trees, but we planted 160 and additionally we planted 27 trees at the transitional housing in late May. We had a lot of help from our two interns. We visited the more lower income parts of Woodland since that where was the grant required, we planted them. We planted 60 trees in this area and we need to put signs that show that the tree was planted with CalFire California Relief Grant. We put some trees by a development, and currently I'm watering the trees in the meantime. We are getting a couple more interns coming up.

E. STAFF REPORTS

Spencer: Last night on the consent calendar, council approved appointments starting July 1, 2023. Mark, Catalina, Adelita, Robert, Jake, and Liza are all coming back and then we have Richard Peterson here starting July 1 as well as Richard Bellows and Jennifer Greene to new four-year terms. We are looking forward to working with the new fleshed out committee. We had a little bit of a summer pause on our ongoing active transportation plan. My next meeting with those folks is in a week. Our meeting schedule, where we will discuss chair and vice chair appointment. We will need a vice chair to host a July meeting. We will be contacting new members to onboard them. We need to decide when our next meeting will be held and if we will be taking a summer break.

Adelita volunteered to be at least temporary vice-chair for the time being.

F. MINUTES

RECOMMENDATIONS FOR ACTION: Staff recommends that the Sustainability Advisory Committee Approve its meeting minutes from March 15, 2023

RECOMMENDATIONS FOR ACTION: Staff recommends that the Sustainability Advisory Committee Approve its meeting minutes from May 17, 2023

Move to approve both: Catalina, seconded by Rolf. Unanimous approval.

G. PRESENTATIONS

No presentations

H. BUSINESS ITEMS

1. SUBJECT: Bike Friendly Investments

SUMMARY: Committee has decided that the First and Third choices are their preferences

Spencer: At the May meeting, we narrowed in on bike stuff. We discussed timelines. The group largely landed on recommending on more immediate bike-friendly improvements in the general downtown-core area with any remainder of this rescue plan funding reserve target projects identified as part of the active transportation plan, which will be done in December to further bike-friendly improvements. I spoke with multiple people throughout the city including traffic and community development people, city manager, my team in sustainability. We identified these four general pass-forwards, we would love for this committee to coalesce around one of these four this evening so then staff could then actually prepare a recommendation to council to pursue that direction in the near term. The one thing I wanted to call out is this note at the bottom on bike parking. Something I discovered in the month in between meetings is that the outdoor-dining parklet program, which the city partially supports directly with money will include

bike parking at the Gallery location on first street. Both the coffee shop and the city staff preference would be to build that and see how it goes before we fund more. It would be like a pilot program. It will be able to hold at least a dozen bicycles. The owners have committed to checking in on it to see how it goes. There is regular communication between the business owners and the city.

The four would include:

1. Court Street Improvements: This one would basically be doing some signage, striping and stuff. The city has decided that Court Street is the main place for bikes. Instead of doing lanes down main street, you would go down Court Street. This would be continuing these improvements on court. Signs for cyclists such as parklet this way or education signs for drivers. We do not have a list yet, but the general ideas are making it more accessible and usable for bikes as well as increasing safety.
2. Lockers Pilot: Make bike lockers so bikes are safe from weather and theft. Some advantages are bike security and lockers tend to be utilized by employees. This would help get cars off of streets because they would feel safe leaving their bike. We do not know how many bike lockers we would have in this moment.
3. General Signage and Striping: This could include better signage on Main Street as to where to park your bike. A local road safety plan such as identifying unsafe bike/car exits. Signage such as “watch your bike” or “watch the road.” This would benefit bike and car drivers as well as increasing bike friendliness downtown. This could help increase awareness of bike parking downtown.
4. Bike-Friendly Grant Program: The city could help business owners implement bike friendliness such as bike racks, etc. This idea is still in the works and could help target employee-commuter works, educational sites that aren’t schools, apartment buildings, grocery stores, etc. This would be a longer process because there would be an application involved, so the immediate impact would not be as drastic. We would need to make sure that these kinds of things are public, and not restrictive to certain businesses.

Committee landed on the Court Street improvements as their priority and directed staff to keep them updated on its progress.

Committee discussed street options for the some of the potential bike infrastructure and beneficiaries. Also discussed the use of statistics when determining the most adverse situations in the community. This item will be continued in July.

2. SUBJECT: Climate Action Plan

SUMMARY: Committee recommends to continue this discussion in July with the new members

Spencer: We want to bring it back to city council to let them know we are thinking about this. In my perspective, we should be thinking about some things in the short term that we should revisit about next steps? That we want to bring to City Staff's attention.

Although this Climate Action Plan focuses specifically on climate action. Climate action also includes issues such as water and air quality.

Various comments from SAC:

- The only thing that I saw to hang our hats on is doing a new inventory. It would be a good opportunity.
- One of the recommendations is to rename the document that way it can include other issues, such as water and air quality and other broad sustainability issues.
- There needs to be some regular evaluation about progress that has been made and how things have reduced this category of emissions. Right now, there is nobody in charge of that.
- We are looking at the opportunity of hiring someone like that for the county. We will see.
- The final report looks good. I like the community outreach part of it. One of the things I Have a question about Is relating to air quality. Are fire related things considered emergency services? Or is it also considered an environmental issue? I do think we should have a well-formulated response to these kinds of issues.
- These issues are more at the state level in terms of responses.

The committee members discussed ways in which they can assist community members in times of emergency.

I. ADJOURN 7:54 PM