

## **Minneapolis Climate Action Plan**

Environmental Justice Working Group

Meeting 2 (October 30th, 2012)

### **Meeting notes**

1. Cecilia gave an overview of climate change, climate action and the connection to environmental justice and social equity issues. Cecilia will distribute the powerpoint to those who are interested, and it can go up on the City's website once sources are added.
2. Cecilia and Brendon gave an overview of the climate action plan process to date and there was discussion about how the results of the EJ Working Group would be received by the Steering Committee.
  - Steering Committee will receive all output of the EJ Working Group
  - There is no guarantee that the Steering Committee will accept all the changes or suggestions of the EJ Working Group, but in general the support at the Steering Committee level has been positive to date.
  - All output of the EJ Working Group will be included in the text of the plan, even if it's not official adopted by the Steering Committee. It may be included as an appendix.
3. Lea and Sam gave a brief overview of the work they have done on reviewing the existing Working Group strategies and developing comments and additional strategies.
  - Lea's comments:
    - There are currently no strategies that deal with increasing the urban tree canopy.
    - There are no specific strategies around water conservation. Large water supplies are very important for the continued functioning of power plants.
    - There hasn't been an end-use analysis done as part of the greenhouse gas inventory.
    - Lea has additional comments, which will be emailed to the group and subcommittee.
  - Sam's comments:
    - The concept of addressing climate justice should be explicitly called out in the document.
    - As part of the buildings group of strategies, a recommendation to develop a building energy efficiency retrofit corps should be developed specifically to serve neighborhoods with older or poorly maintained housing stock.

- Sam has additional comments, which will be emailed to the group and subcommittee.
- Additional discussion/comments:
  - The idling emissions from school buses and other transit during rush hour in certain neighborhoods should be addressed.
  - There may be greater impacts from pollution in higher density areas.
  - There is more traffic and therefore pollution in different communities and this should be addressed.
  - Ozone may be created at different rates at different times of day depending on the position and angle of the sun.
  - Our whole society is dependent on fossil fuels. There may not be technical solutions to all these problems. We may need to re-localize.
  - Health issues should not be separated from these topics, the two should be treated together.
  - The final report should include some sort of disclaimer that people at this table have been bringing forward similar concerns for many years. These aren't new issues.
- 4. Working Group members decided which subcommittee they would like to participate in (Bldgs & Energy, Transportation & Land Use, Waste, or Other issues that may not be in the existing strategies). Brendon said he would circulate a list with the names of individuals who had volunteered so the groups could self-organize.
- 5. Brendon will also circulate notes from the meeting and do a Doodle poll to find the best time for the next meeting in mid- or late-November.