MINUTES

ENERGY AND RESOURCE MANAGEMENT SUB-COMMITTEE

STUDY SESSION – U.S. MAYORS' CLIMATE PROTECTION AGREEMENT

FEBRUARY 27, 2008 3:30 P.M.

CALL TO ORDER: Chair Mitchell called the meeting to order at 3:45 p.m.

MEMBERS PRESENT: Sub-Committee Members Mitchell, Petrella, Lucero

MEMBERS ABSENT: Sub-Committee Member McCormack

PUBLIC PRESENT: Frances Mathews, Mr. Bean, Mr. Denny, Chuck Buck, Bob

Siebert, Bernard Lipman, and Marion Sussman

STAFF PRESENT: Senior Planner Allen, Clerical Support Norton

APPROVAL OF MINUTES: January 23, 2008 - Approved as written

INTRODUCTIONS/ROLL CALL:

All guests were acknowledged

DISCUSSION ITEMS

New Business:

Review City Programs in comparison to U.S. Mayors' Climate Protection Agreement elements

Petrella – Presented an article published by CSU Fullerton called "Campus Focuses on Sustainability" urging the campus to increase sustainability efforts. It is making the rounds of college campuses. What the campus is doing is similar to what this sub-committee is doing with the U.S. Mayors' Agreement. Maybe it would be good to have a joint meeting with members of the campus committee.

Another article presented from The League of Women Voters provides an action plan and a survey of different cities. This might be of interest 72% of responding cities have vehicles in their fleets that run on alternative fuels and/or use hybrid-electric technology.

In speaking to the City of Santa Ana she found that they have signed the agreement but did not follow a process. There will be some information on their web site in June for their residents.

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Lucero – spoke to the City of Long Beach and learned their mayor attended the meeting in Seattle. He said this is a good thing and signed the agreement. Then justified signing by looking for what the City is doing to go green.

Mitchell – spoke with the City of Huntington Beach. Their Mayor is environmentally involved and on an environmental committee with the League of Cities. He brought the information back to the City Council in the form of a proposal and recommendation along with a description of what should be done and the reasons why. The City Council voted to sign the Agreement. Huntington Beach plans to hire a Project Manager who will be in charge.

Allen - presented the 12 points of recommendations of the U.S. Major's Agreement and what Fullerton has done in those specific areas.

Item 2 – Adopt and enforce land-use policies that reduce sprawl, etc. This information is not available and will be presented at the next meeting.

Item 3 – The City does have a Bike Committee that oversees bike routes and trails. The Orange County Transportation District offers some incentives for both riding the bus and Metrolink.

Item 4 – Use of clean alternative energy – the City has looked at solar alternatives and also a co-generation facility for the pool at Independence Park but the technologies are not cost effective.

Item 5 – Make energy efficiency a priority through Building Code improvements, etc. - staff will speak with the Building Official about any changes in the Building Code and get a copy of the energy audit. The City has replaced lighting at City Hall and the main library; replaced A/C/boilers at with more efficient units and installed duct work and digital controls at City Hall. Replaced the roof top A/C with a more efficient unit at the Senior Center; and the Hunt Branch Library, replaced the compressor and pool heaters at Independence Park and replaced the traffic signals.

Item 6 – Purchase only energy Star equipment and appliances. This is a must for the City.

Item 7 – Practice and promote sustainable building practices using the U.S. green building Council's LEED Program. The Building Code should be changed to address sustainability.

Item 8 - In terms of the fleet - one of the options is reducing vehicles. Fullerton is not a City that buys things that we do not need so reduction would not be an option. Fleet fuel efficiency -- the majority of the fleet cars are heavy duty pieces of equipment therefore the City is limited in what the fuel efficient options are. In regard to Police patrol vehicles - they have looked a rear wheel drive and the available option is a V-8. The City does have three hybrids in the fleet. No other alternative fuel vehicles.

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Item 9 – Evaluate opportunities to increase pump efficiency in water systems - the City has looked at a variable frequency drive but there is really little down time in the water pump system and increasing efficiency would not be a feasible option. According to Water Engineering Edison conducts annual audits on the efficiency and lets the City know when adjustments are necessary.

Item 11 – Maintaining healthy urban forests - our urban forests are maintained by a firm who practices standards set forth by the International Society of Horticulture. The City has three certified arborists on staff. In 2007 it was the 27th year that Fullerton was named the tree city USA. The City recycles its green waste in the form of mulch and the mulch minimizes energy and helps with dust control. The City chooses appropriate tree species based on available space and conditions for better tree survival and to absorb CO2. The City has an approved list of street trees. We plant trees in 24" boxes annually and all tree removals are only done as a last resort. Last year the City completed a street tree inventory enabling staff to view overall population, species, diversity and vacant tree sites. The City sponsors an annual Arbor Day celebration.

Allen - What is left to do is pull the information from the General Plan on the related areas. The City currently does not have incentives for car pooling and public transit but there has been some discussion of possibly putting some in place and is waiting to hear if the City is going to move forward with this.

Mitchell - Is there any more information from the State about AB32. Allen - stated the Attorney General has scheduled several workshops, one in LA this spring and she will be attending.

Mitchell – She is interested in seeing the audit done by Edison on water pump efficiency, and to know when the hybrids were purchased.

Allen – The hybrids are leased and have been doing this for about four or five years.

Lucero – Asked what the return on investment is and the pay back period. It may not be worth doing if the City breaks even or there is no savings. The question was not answered at this meeting.

Lucero – suggested that the committee call and talk to a city that did not sign the agreement and if not, why not.

Mitchell– it would be good to know the objections so that the committee is prepared to answer any questions.

Open to Public Comment

Mr. Lipman – Addressed Item 11. He noted an opportunity for the City to realize a significant savings in maintenance. He feels that it is unnecessary to over prune bushes. Trees and bushes should only be drastically trimmed when there is a danger involved. The City is not well

served by pruning extensively. Using native plants along slopes instead of Ice plants would reduce erosion and slippage.

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Mr. Buck commented that a number of the cities contacted are not charter cities and have an elected mayor who has all of the power. Laguna Beach approved the agreement. They formed a committee made up of citizens which they found to be helpful.

Closed to Public Comments

Mitchell – asked Committee Members to call Brea, Santa Monica, Yorba Linda, Placentia, Buena Park and La Mirada to ask if they have heard of the Agreement, if they have considered signing and if they decided against it why and what arguments were presented in order to get both sides for and against.

ADJOURNMENT:

With no further business the meeting was ADJOURNED AT: 4:30 p.m.

Beverly Norton, Clerical Support