

Energy Council TECHNICAL ADVISORY GROUP (TAG)

Tuesday, March 17 2015 – 1:00 pm to 3:00 pm

Attendance:

City of Berkeley: Sarah Moore, Alice LaPierre

City of Dublin: Kathy Southern

City of Emeryville: Amber Evans

City of Fremont: Rachel DiFranco

City of Hayward: Erik Pearson

City of Livermore: Judy Erlandson (phone), Frank Guido (phone)

City of Newark: Myvan Khuu-Seeman (phone)

City of Oakland: Daniel Hamilton

City of Piedmont: Kevin Jackson

County of Alameda: Bruce Jensen

StopWaste: Karen Kho, Heather Larson, Stephanie Stern, Wendy Sommer, Candis Mary-Dauphin,

Teresa Eade

Guest: Carl Morrison, consultant

MEETING NOTES

Board Updates

- March 25 Board Agenda items:
- BayREN contract amendment that includes funding to support Berkeley's BESO and a regional voluntary Home Energy Score program. This new pilot was approved by the Codes and Standards Committee; the Board will approve this additional funding.
- Update on formation of Alameda County CCA Steering Committee

CCA Updates

- The County received feedback that a single steering committee would be best, and on March 12, the Board Transportation Planning committee approved a new structure.
- The committee will include three groups:
 - Group 1: Appointees from the five Supervisorial Districts.
 - Group 2: includes representatives from each city, including someone from City of Alameda and Unincorporated Alameda County. These participants will be selected by the municipality; they can be staff or elected officials, but do not need to. They should have the authority to vote without bringing the issue back to their jurisdiction.
 - Group 3: "At large" representatives, energy expertise or county-wide or regional interests (e.g. StopWaste, LBNL, Port of Oakland etc.).
- There is an application out for applying for membership on this committee; due April 7. Committee members should expect to serve for a couple of years.

- First meeting will be in late May, and the first task will be to finalize the scope of a technical study. Will likely hire in July or August for a consultant to complete the technical study; ideally with a deadline of the end of the year.
- CCA Steering Committee will make recommendations for next steps in CCA formation with the goal of launching a potential CCA in early-2017.
- The cities should ideally have their committee appointees by April 7, but there will be placeholders on the committee if they need more time. A short letter from a city official naming the committee member suffices for an application/evidence of appointment.
- Alameda County CCA website is online, available at: <http://www.acgov.org/cda/planning/cca/index.htm>; steering committee information will be there, also a survey on logo design.
- RFP for technical proposals is nearly complete, and will be reviewed by the steering committee in May or June.

Program Updates

- See Handout
- Multifamily BayREN program is requesting more funding from PG&E in order to open up pipeline for new projects. PG&E has indicated that they are supportive of the ask, so BayREN can start additional outreach. Candis will focus on Alameda County outreach and will be following up with jurisdictions.
- Codes and Standards: the regional plan check pilot description is on Basecamp and is likely to be approved in Contra Costa as the pilot lead.

2016 Program Planning

- Bay REN 2016 concepts; one page write-ups are due March 20.
- Energy Council is bringing forward two concepts:
 - Modifications for the Multifamily Program: add a longer term investment plan for Zero Net Energy to technical assistance, and a new hot water sub-metering measure and followup evaluation.
 - Green Labeling: these activities were already approved in the 2013-14 BayREN PIP but never funded, so this will be carried over.
 - Heather is in communication with Energy Division staff about the prospects for multifamily EV policies, fuel switching and expanding EnergyPro Lite.
- Idea of a shared resource program can really help smaller businesses and multifamily property owners, like CESC's Your Energy Manager program.
- There might be potential to add energy into current water conservation education programs that the water agencies already run.
- Daniel was looking at emissions from Oakland, and though electricity related emissions are declining, natural gas has not. He would be interested in fuel switching pilots in municipal buildings or non-residential; or potentially solar thermal.
- Other potential program concepts: ABAG has mentioned a municipal program, San Francisco has discussed Residential PACE.
- TAG did not have any new program concepts to propose. There is interest in low-interest municipal loans, like CEC's oversubscribed program.

Landscape Program Coordination & Joint Discussion

Water funding grant applications in Summer 2015:

- StopWaste and Alameda County jurisdictions have already done quite a bit around sustainable landscaping.
- New sources of water are very energy intensive (e.g. desalination and recycled water).
- Carl presented on updates to funding from Propositions 84 and 1 (see presentation). Most funding will not go through the Integrated Regional Water Management Plan (IRWMP), so it will be more competitive.
 - Regional Water Reliability category might have the most potential, includes water conservation and water use efficiency (\$23 million in FY 15-16). This will be a statewide competition.
 - There is a way to petition for status as a DAC (Pescadero did this successfully in San Mateo County)
 - Schedule: July/August will start workshops and scoping.
 - Prop 84, the 2015 round draft guidelines released this month. Project descriptions are due locally on April 20, and due to DWR in August.

Member Agency Services- ACWMA Technical Assistance (see handout):

- StopWaste has assisted member agencies with sustainable landscape policies. All jurisdictions have adopted Bay-Friendly landscape policies for civic landscapes, and most for private sector (permitted) landscapes as well.
- StopWaste also offers Bay Friendly training for professionals; the Bay Friendly Coalition now conducts the training, sponsored by StopWaste. About 40 member agency staff participated at the most recent training. Over 300 staff have been trained in total.
- Over 50 projects in Alameda County have become rated landscapes, accounting for over 200 acres. StopWaste has stipends available (\$3,000) to help pay for a rater and registration fees, and also provides free technical assistance for projects. StopWaste also has lawn conversion assistance, \$10,000 for 10,000 sf minimum.
 - If anyone knows of any civic landscape projects for this fiscal year or next, contact Teresa about this.
- StopWaste also offers mini-grants for non-profits for sheet mulching lawns (this is in addition to water agency rebates, we coordinate with them).
- Discussion: how to make landscapes more sustainable/ any other types of projects that could use funding:
 - Some irrigation projects will just be irrigation (not converting lawn).
 - Places without heavy use are good candidates for lawn conversion.
 - Marin Carbon Project is documenting GHG benefits of returning carbon to the soil as carbon sink.
 - Municipal projects around lawn conversion, medians etc.; Heather and Teresa will develop a way to collect this information.
 - Recycled water could be a good topic for the Alameda County Water Suppliers Council.
 - StopWate/Energy Council will track the potential grant funding for water conservation and water use efficiency.

NEXT TAG MEETING: Tuesday, April 21 2015 from 1pm-3pm