



Routt County Climate Action Plan Collaborative Board Meeting Agenda

February 24, 10 a.m. - 12 p.m.

Routt County Commissioners' Hearing Room, Steamboat Springs
Hybrid option below

AGENDA

Join Zoom Meeting

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/86969661981?pwd=WVV4VWtpN0NwVkFkMW1YQjBvZXpvdz09>

Meeting ID: 869 6966 1981

Passcode: 554218

10:00 -10:15 am

1. Roll Call
2. Minutes to Approve
 - a. January 27, 2023
3. Host Partner Updates - Routt County

10:15-10:40 am

4. Board Administration Updates
 - a. Community Collaborative Board Member update
 - b. Update on City Partner Engagement meeting - scheduled 3/21/23, 30min
 - c. Review and finalize 2023 Board Goals

10:40 - 11:10 am

5. Board Direction to Working Groups
 - a. Summary of special Board working session

- b. Review updated criteria
- c. Review proposed recommendations timeline

11:10-11:35 am

- 6. Working Group Updates/Requests to Board - Energy, Transportation, Waste, Land Use and Economy
 - a. Updates
 - b. Process for sending letters

11:35-11:45 am

- 7. Communications/Outreach
 - a. Communications Updates
 - b. Website
 - i. Newsletter subscription process
 - c. Social media - Facebook and Instagram
 - i. Share and invite friends to follow
- 8. Other, as time allows
 - a. Next meeting - March 31, 2023 10 - 12 p.m. - Routt County Commissioners' Hearing Room

Collaborative Board 2023 Goals

Please add your 2023 Collaborative Board Goals below.

24 Jan 2023

Retrospective summary:

5 Participants

34 Cards - 0 Comments

1 Voted - 1 Votes

AS1. Ensure Adequate Funding for the CAP

- A1: Identify and develop funding sources for climate action work, e.g. carbon offsets, REMP, grants, endowment.
- A2: Develop collaborative programs to share resources and jointly fund projects.
 - T1: Identify partners, collaborative framework and ground rules
 - T2: Develop and prioritize a targeted project list (WG)
 - T3: Secure funding commitments and outside funding
 - T4: Carry out joint projects and measure outcomes
- A3: Partners allocate annual funding to implement their priority strategies in the CAP.
- Encourage and support the City of Steamboat Springs to repurpose the 1986 accommodations tax to include funding for acquisition of open space. Last City acquisition was 2010.
- A1, T2: Investigate the use of REMP funding. Start the conversation in 2023 with an eye towards adopting this or some other funding mechanism in 2023-4 :-)

AS2: Establish Accountability Mechanisms for the CAP

- A1: Carry out community surveys to collect data relevant to the CAP.
 - T1: Incorporate CAP questions into surveys, including support for CAP strategies and support for various actions.
 - T2: Measure success of ed/outreach efforts.
- A2: Update GHG Inventory every 5 years (identify what this would take in terms of budget/RFP, etc.). Convene stakeholders; Issue RFP; select vendor; perform and publicize results.
- A3: Update the CAP every five years or as triggers are met.
 - T1: Convene stakeholders to identify/assess potential metrics
 - T2: Establish a set of "triggers" for when a new CAP should be developed.

- A4: Establish CAP metrics (based on recommendations) and report annually on these metrics.
- Prepare annual report
- A5: Create a mechanism to report CAP progress and outcomes. (2023 Communications Plan per YVSC SOW)
- A6: Establish a transparent process for adjusting strategies and targets, as necessary.
 - T1: Convene oversight Committee to identify process options.
 - T2 - Select/implement process.
- A7: Create a collaborative partnership to coordinate CAP implementation efforts.
 - T1-T7 include developing Collaborative and WGs and meetings.
- Seek opportunities regionally through meetings with other Collaborative Boards or groups working on climate action
- Accountability S4A3: Analyze the social or actual carbon cost of all climate action and decarbonization opportunities, and clearly communicate the cost of inaction to residents and visitors.
- CAP Board annual retreat - budget, policy and process discussions, presentations (CDPHE, academia, etc...)

AS3: Align with other Community Plans.

- A1: Ensure that new and updated community plans integrate the strategies and actions from the CAP.
- Engage with CDPHE on incorporating State environmental justice efforts and explore EJ funding opportunities that connect with STA's in the CAP (Joel Minor, <https://cdphe.colorado.gov/environmental-justice>, EnviroScreen - https://teeo-cdphe.shinyapps.io/COEnviroScreen_English/)
- Designate CDPHE liason

AS4: Carry out educational programs in support of the CAP

- A1: Work with diverse stakeholders across the County to promote the CAP.
- Community engagement: Host x number of open houses/input sessions and/or "X number of talks."
- Community engagement: Grow newsletter to x subscribers
- Community Engagement: Identify barriers to success in each community and strategize how to address them.

- Public/Private Partner Engagement: Continue partner outreach meetings - annually or biannually
 - Public/Private Partner Engagement: Explore how to leverage YVSC Yampa Valley Green Business Program to increase business engagement. Timing?
 - A2: Work with diverse stakeholders across the County to implement strategies to educate visitors. (*Lower priority - lodging/tourists/Destination Management)
 - A3: Analyze the social or actual carbon cost of all climate action and decarbonization opportunities, and clearly communicate the cost of inaction to residents and visitors.
- *Keep in accountability section re: policy influence?
- A4: Ensure that CAP education and outreach are accessible to diverse populations across the County.
 - T1: outreach campaign in diverse languages, reading levels, etc.
 - A5: Develop and/or support educational programs as needed to support SATs.
 - T1 - explore and leverage existing ed/outreach programs to empower them to take action
 - T2: Leverage events/partnerships
 - T3/4: Identify education gaps and develop materials
 - T5: Create an ed plan to engage community

Community Engagement and Communication Goals

Public and Private Partner Engagement Goals

- Promote and assist municipalities to develop sustainability policy
- Seek ways to share framework, policies, agreements and other CAP related items to entities outside the County to broaden impact

Goals pertaining to supporting and/or implementing Working Group recommendations

- Identify approach for advancing Working Group recommendations re: policy/government action
- Make sure all IGA members are aware of Working Groups' expertise that can support decision-making/processes pertaining to the CAP (1 votes)
- Finalize processes for information or making recommendations to elected officials



Collaborative Board Special Work Session Summary

February 6, 2023 12 - 1 p.m. - Virtual Meeting

Roll Call

The meeting of the Collaborative Board was called to order at approximately 12:01 p.m. on Monday, February 6, 2023 as a virtual meeting.

Collaborative voting members in attendance:

- Steamboat Springs: Gail Garey (Chair)
- Routt County: Sonya Macys
- Routt County: Scott Cowman
- Yampa: Sheila Symons
- Community: Steve Johnson
- Community: Tim Wohlgenant
- Community: Geoff Blakeslee
- Community: Sarah Jones
- Hayden: Mathew Mendisco
- Oak Creek: David Torgler

Quorum is present. YVSC's Michelle Stewart, Paul Bony, Tim Sullivan, Winn Cowman and Ashley Dean were present supporting Program Management for the Collaborative Board.

Clarification of Working Session Goals

The goal of the meeting is to provide direction from the Board that YVSC as facilitators can bring back to the Working Group regarding CAP recommendations.

Review of questions for the Board (with a focus on the top 5 below):

- How many recommendations? 300 different tactics in the CAP
- Criteria - For Working Groups to prioritize and rank recommendations according to
- Timeframe - 1-3, 5-10 years?
- Implementers - just recommendations government partners can do? Local NGOs?
- Challenges and opportunities as recommendations relate to policies - Should Working Groups include recommendations for policies that should be implemented by local governments?

- Structure and format of recommendations

Overview of Where Working Group are in CAP Recommendation Process

High level review of what the process has been:

- What has been done to date to implement the Climate Action Plan? (Completed)
- What isn't being done or existing, but needs further support? (Completed)
- Ranking initiatives/recommendations according to criteria (In Process)

Criteria are currently rough to rank, sort and prioritize. Don't want Working Groups to be doing detailed assessments of all identified recommendations (too many for that). Using current criteria to focus on the recommendations likely to have the highest impact.

Energy Working Group:

- Currently has a list of 18 recommendations connected to CAP Energy Strategies
- Footing each of the recommendations to actions and tactics in the CAP

Land Use Working Group:

- Still brainstorming and getting expert opinion on most impactful and feasible strategies (currently 40 ideas)
- Challenge: Land Use has less clear emissions profiles and sources - more about doing new, impactful things. Impact may depend on how much is done.
- Clarification needed to help refine what kinds of recommendations, how feasible do they need to be, how quickly do we need to be able to do them, where does the money come from. These answers will help the WG determine which actions and tactics need to be deployed to achieve those outcomes and further refine recommendations.

Discussion: Develop Direction to Working Groups Based on Questions

Timeline:

- If CAP needs to be revisited every 5 years, maybe look at what can be implemented during that same time frame
- Don't want to limit impactful, important ideas just because they fall outside of a timeline, but 5 years is still a good guideline
- Need two tracks for this - don't want to miss the opportunity to address important issues that are happening now (e.g., conversation about snow melt) while still coming up with recommendations for the future
- Timeliness of funding opportunities also important
- Milestones - are there different tactics we need to put in place to reach those later (e.g., 7 year) milestones?
- Renewable offsets is a baby step toward a renewable energy mitigation program
- Value in looking at recommendations that are dovetailing into existing efforts (e.g., adoption of building and land use codes, implementation of Master Plans)
- For many of these recommendations, may need a year of education before recommendation can even be implemented

Number of recommendations:

- 5-7 as a guideline, but keep a list of things that were discussed to revisit annually
- Focus on criteria, with funding being particularly important, to determine the number of recommendations to bring to the Board - not limit by number
- For the Working Groups, this becomes a workload question if they are writing detailed plans (e.g. 5-page white papers) for each of the recommendations.

Criteria

- Impact - Greenhouse Gas Reduction Potential
- Impact - Co-Benefits
- Cost - Implementation Costs (upfront, ongoing)
 - Is there outside funding? Lots of funding opportunities currently available. Need to take advantage of those.
 - Prioritize based on funding opportunities. Recommendations should not come forward without some identified funding plan.
- Cost - Barriers (e.g., feasibility, political, implementers to do it)
 - Political will? If already an adopted plan (e.g., codes) political will is there.
- Don't separate by Impact and Cost
- Possible category for synergies/opportunities - Example: Reforestation program is keeping the City from putting in a really expensive cooling tower at the wastewater treatment plant and helping to mitigate potential CDPHE violations (avoids future costs and litigations), showing/messaging to the public relevance in their world
- Criteria could use more description to help the Working Groups and to help with messaging and communication
- Revisit the Priority and Complexity categories of the original CAP spreadsheet

Implementers

- Shouldn't restrict who the implementers are, especially given that different municipalities are going to choose different recommendations
- Include a lead and support in the recommendations when appropriate (e.g., City/County leading implementation of codes)
- In language of recommendations avoid use of 'should'
- How do we frame recommendations in a compelling way while still balancing prescriptive recommendations?
- Board's role is to be gatekeepers of the recommendations and determine what gets forwarded on to policy decision makers. Working Groups, as the experts, should feel free to bring the most important recommendations to the Board.
- Build buy-in and relevancy of these issues. YVSC and Working Group members can still be advocates.

Discussion to continue at the next CAP Board meeting on February 24. Meeting adjourned at 1pm.

Proposed Criteria for Ranking Recommended Actions

(H/M/L compares actions within sector-weighting of categories assigned by Board will be applied later to determine final ranking)

- **GHG Reduction Potential** (includes avoided emissions) compared to baseline. These rankings should be measured against other potential actions in the CAP sector. Presume reasonable implementation of the proposed action and assess reductions through 2050 in line with CAP. Where possible, use modeling assumptions developed for the CAP and estimate projected reductions from baseline. If the action is a necessary step before other action, rank the impact of the ultimate outcome, but note this.
 - High
 - Medium
 - Low
- **Co-benefits:** Assess benefits such as improvements to public health, environmental quality, wildlife and other public values. Rank against other potential actions in the CAP sector
 - High
 - Medium
 - Low
- **Implementation Cost** Include upfront and on-going (which can be cost savings); consider avoided costs (e.g. planting riparian trees for shade avoid upgrades to wastewater treatment). Evaluate both costs for government action and end costs to consumers/public.
 - High
 - Medium
 - Low
- **Political Barriers:** Includes public opposition, vested interest groups, job impacts
 - High
 - Medium
 - Low
- **Ease of implementation:** Is action already planned (e.g. building code updates), clear lead agency willing to proceed, funding in place or clearly identified; synergy with other government actions making adoption more likely (e.g. avoiding other new needed investments such as road improvements if reduce VMT)
 - High
 - Medium
 - Low



Energy Sector Working Group
Meeting #6
February 1, 2023
YVEA Conference Room, 2211 Elk Road

MEETING SUMMARY

1. Call to order and roll call
 - a. Present
 - i. Dan LeBlanc (Chair)
 - ii. Todd C. (Co-Chair)
 - iii. Brian Adams
 - iv. Jeff Milius
 - v. Scott Conner
 - vi. Hedda Flage Kukla
 - vii. Ken Fogle
 - viii. Norm Weaver
 - ix. Bob Major
 - x. Paul Bony (YVSC technical assistant)
 - b. Not Present
 - i. Steve Johnson
 - ii. Mark Lyman
 - iii. Paul Komor
 - iv. Clay Schrader
 - c. Member updates
 - i. Matt Piva needed to step off the Energy Sector Working Group.
 - ii. Todd Carr has scheduled two Public Forums to discuss the new proposed Energy Codes and Outdoor Energy Recommendations. Please email Todd to RSVP (tcarr@co.routt.co.us). Space is filling quickly. A third meeting may be scheduled if needed.
 1. March 2, 8am-2pm (Routt County Courthouse - BCC Room)
 2. March 23, 8am-2pm (Routt County Courthouse - BCC Room)
2. Update from the Board meeting
 - a. City Hall/Fire Station Complex letter
 - i. Based on Board input, the Energy Working Group will write two different letters. The first, in line with the current draft, will be directed to City Council requesting that City of Steamboat Springs staff utilize the Energy Working Group to assess and consider best practice energy use design

- solutions and building envelope concepts for decisions related to the new Steamboat Springs City Hall Complex.
- ii. With the City facing an overstretched budget for the new complex, the Working Group still sees an important opportunity to revise snowmelt plans for both economic and carbon reduction reasons.
 - iii. The second will be addressed to all the municipalities letting them know the Energy Working Group is available as a resource for technical expertise and advice.
 - iv. A sub-committee will draft these letters with the hope of getting the letter to the City out as soon as possible.
- b. YVEA net-metering technical memorandum
- i. YVEA's new net-metering policy relevant to CAP Energy goals. Working Group believes bigger and faster PV systems could account for as much as 4% of CAP identified carbon, particularly with an adoption rate of 20% by residences
 - ii. While the typical PV sizing for an average residential customer is currently below the 10kw allowance, as homes get more electrified PV sizing over 10kw is likely.
 - iii. Net metering limits could pose a barrier to a small business that wants to put in a 30-40kw system and other mid-large commercial customers. Special contracts may need to be drafted to reduce barrier.
 - iv. Technical memorandum to the Board did not include an economic analysis. Board open to possibility of spending money for a deeper net-metering analysis.
 - v. Sub-committee will take another look at the summary and provide additional commentary to bring back to the Board
 - vi. Group agreed working session attention should be on recommendations to the Board moving forward.
- c. CAP Board work session on Working Group recommendations
- i. Board to meet Monday to come up with filters for recommendations. Need to develop a rubric to frame recommendations.
 - ii. Working Group hopeful they can come up with recommendations that might actually reduce costs.
- d. CAP website/newsletter subscription
- i. Working Group encouraged to share new CAP website and newsletter subscription with their network.
- e. 2023 CAP Board Communication Plan
- i. Communication goals include increasing broader understanding of what's in the CAP, who's on the Board and Working Groups, updates on CAP progress and opportunities for public involvement
 - ii. In addition to the website and newsletter, this includes outreach/press releases to local media outlets, hopefully a monthly column in local papers, monthly outreach and communications with our municipal communications managers (in process), Facebook/Instagram/website blog for more frequent updates (in development) and plans to host a public community event in April or May.

3. Continue to identify and review wording of current “big wins” and recommendations
 - a. Use Building Department adopted codes to address outdoor energy use unless it is offset by 100% renewable as part of the 2021 code adoption process (January 2024)
 - i. Write code that limits BTU use - sensor controls, hot tub/outdoor fireplace timers
 - b. Implement an aggressive energy and carbon reduction program targeting existing buildings that fail an established energy use profile
 - i. Educate home owners, provide information not mandates and programs to fund it
 - ii. YVEA has qualified solar installers they work with, develop a list of chosen contractors for these jobs
 - c. Require all municipal/government funded construction and key facility replacements to be carbon free/low carbon using best practice, Life Cycle Cost decision making (with social cost of carbon) cost tools and professional peer reviews
 - d. Establish a Permanent Funding Source for a dedicated sustainability position or team to focus on renewable energy, energy efficiency and carbon emission reduction
 - i. Include IRA in funding source options
 - e. In line with Utility Industry practice, have YVEA add 1% to rates to build an "Energy Smart" Investment Fund amounting to approximately \$600,000/year (~\$20/year to a typical residential electric bill) - Including, for example:
 - i. Continue to grow YVEA's existing program of Energy Hero
 - ii. Support local training of energy efficiency trades and EE best practice “continuing education opportunities”
 - iii. Support community “get Energy Smart” outreach
 - iv. Support energy residential and commercial energy benchmarking
 - f. Require all government built/owned housing to be net zero carbon by no later than 2030
 - g. Engage with Atmos Energy to make sure Routt County is a full participant in their pending Demand Side Management Program
 - h. Implement Funding to provide County Wide Annual Trainings for or skilled contractors focused on Energy Efficient and Carbon Emissions Reductions
 - i. Reduce barriers to deployment of renewables (solar, wind, other)
 - j. Adopt, fund and implement a strategic action plan to improve the energy efficiency and electrification of existing residential and commercial buildings and industrial process in Routt County
 - k. Plan for future electrification of all buildings
4. Next meeting and proposed work plan for recommendation development:
 - a. Wednesday, March 1 1:30-3:00pm
 - b. Get through Big Win list next meeting. Think about things in the CAP not addressed in our list (orphaned actions and tactics)



Economy Sector Working Group
February 9, 2023
Virtual Meeting - 10:00-11:30 a.m.

Meeting Summary

- 1) Welcome and roll call
 - a) Present:
 - i) Sheila Symons
 - ii) Gail Garey
 - iii) Christine Rambo
 - iv) Tegan Ebbert (Co-chair)
 - v) David Torgler
 - vi) Sarah Jones
 - vii) Lisa Popavich
 - viii) Sarah Leonard
 - ix) Michelle Stewart (YVSC technical assistant)
 - b) Not present:
 - i) Jeff Trip
 - ii) Rachel Tuyn
 - iii) John Bristol
 - c) Note on schedule change - this month's meeting needed to be moved up a week from its originally scheduled time which impacted attendance

- 2) Working Group member updates
 - a) Gail - keeping her eye on Extended Producer Responsibility state-passed legislation and life cycle recycling, sits on State advisory board.
 - b) David - Worker housing under development in Oak Creek, received applications to build two four-unit buildings in Sierra View. YVEA and South Routt school district, county commissioners to bring broadband to Oak Creek (Zierkel and Luminare); daycare programs in development.
 - c) Sarah J. - About to kick off Regional Transit Authority (RTA) feasibility study next week. How can we be thoughtful about regional and public transportation? As a resort moving toward emissions reduction goals (March program) - electricity, fleet.
 - d) Sheila - Working on a comprehensive plan on land use and business development and retention in Yampa; organizing rain barrel opportunities to help save water

- e) Christine - NWCO development council interested in value-added agriculture, developing feasibility study to support producers to diversify operations and look at waste streams (hides, offal for pet food) and more meat processing capacity regionally
 - i) Clean energy - transition from coal to clean energy - technical assistance and peer to peer networking grants with other coal regions - building resilient economies
 - ii) JOLT and CNCC conference coming up to look at renewable energy, keeping an eye on federal grants
 - iii) Interested in how to take fiber and paper out of our waste streams to create biomass production - need to get the energy sector to develop
 - f) Tegan - Modified Community Assessment - talking about potential of untapped recreational economy, localizing ability to recreate (e.g., river, snowmobile tours), how to make businesses more aware of local impacts?
 - g) Lisa - Mainstreet actively participating in implementation of commercial recycling. How to encourage partnerships to reduce costs to make it a positive experience rather than something businesses have to do? Bottle filling systems, QR code sticker - scan and know where you can fill.
 - h) Sarah L - Steamboat Chamber's Marketing director is participating in the global sustainable tourism council (working toward a certificate) - 4 criteria to certify a destination as sustainable.
 - i) Sarah is sitting on NW CO broadband Board - how do we get more connected with construction projects already slated to happen to tag team and lay fiber at the same time as road improvements (e.g., put down fiber at the same time as the Anglers housing project)
 - i) Michelle - promoting Yampascamping, using treated water for outdoors conserves water and reduces climate impact
- 3) Update from the Board meeting
- a) CAP Board work session on Working Group recommendations
 - i) Discussion on what output would look like, how to regionally implement CAP recommendations. Board doing work to build readiness for moving WG recommendations forward (criteria and ranking to prioritize projects)
 - ii) Agreement of Board to do 5-year revisits, but no strong restriction on any given recommendation, okay to have 5-7 year time frames
 - b) Website/newsletter subscription - please share with your network
 - i) Looking to Working Groups to help spread the word about the CAP website and encourage networks to subscribe to newsletter.
 - c) 2023 CAP Board Communication Plan
 - i) Communication goals include increasing broader understanding of what's in the CAP, who's on the Board and Working Groups, updates on CAP progress and opportunities for public involvement
 - ii) In addition to the website and newsletter, this includes outreach/press releases to local media outlets, hopefully a monthly column in local papers, monthly outreach and communications with our municipal communications managers (in process), Facebook/Instagram/website

blog for more frequent updates (in development) and plans to host a public community event in April or May.

- 4) Follow up on Working Group requests from previous meeting
 - a) Emailed invitation to Christine Oxley
 - b) Inquiry re: UCHealth contact
 - c) Inquiry re: Legacy Vacation Resorts contact

- 5) Looking forward: Discussion of sample output (Yampa Integrated Water Management Plan - p.6)
 - a) Revisited 6-month timeline for the Economy working group
 - b) Think about leads/budgets for proposed recommendations
 - c) How to help stand up Yampa Valley Green Business Network
 - d) Get our projects shovel ready to take advantage of current funding opportunities.
 - e) Aiming to have a working group session at the end of March for all CAP Working Groups to share recommendations

- 6) Discuss connections between EasyRetro platform and recommendations spreadsheet
 - a) Focus on reducing emissions in built environment, reduce carbon in waste
 - b) Support collaboration building and communicate identified recommendation crossovers with Waste, Energy and Transportation
 - c) **ECS1: Green purchasing programs**
 - i) Developing green purchasing programs at government, commercial and residential level a unique Economy Working Group recommendation
 - (1) Hire local, buy local/contract local for gov't (Chamber already has a buy local program, but could expand it to cover food)
 - (2) Costs low to implement, carbon reduction potential high
 - (3) When we bring in industry partners - conduct LCAs of goods used frequently in these places (e.g., cleaning materials, shampoo for hotels and lodging)
 - ii) Green products
 - (1) Structures that support business that buy compostables or reuse in the Valley
 - (2) Increase education and access of local farmers markets
 - (3) Sorocco school a great example of investing in students, connecting training and workforce development - Students provide a lot of things locally used - future farmers of America programs, plantings for all the downtown planters, cut metal from high school getting put into signs. They sell Oak Creek their products to put back into their program. Inspires entrepreneurialism, develops job skills. How to scale this up for other school districts and connect with the S3 program?
 - (a) Sorocco may be providing 120-140 plantings for baskets in downtown Steamboat by 2024.

(4) Lots of state interest to invest in student job training/internships/apprenticeships (CMC, CNCC)

- d) **ECS2: Develop green markets**
 - i) No recycling in Moffat County - provide access to the Waste feasibility when it is done
 - ii) Support local hay production for ranchers, increase agricultural stewardship training opportunities to promote benefits of land stewardship for the community (grazing, leasing, water rights)
 - iii) Waste stream feasibility study – add Xcel interest in biomass, get them to use diseased, felled trees for biomass - what are other feed stocks being underutilized that could attract new clean energy to our region
 - e) **ECS3: Expand base industries for regional self-reliance**
 - i) Yampa Valley Green Business program working with RCEDP Entrepreneurship Center - educate on ROI, business plan development, maintaining successful businesses, increased awareness for education and support for green businesses
 - ii) Hayden Industrial Park - how to be landscaped and detailed for carbon sequestration, drought tolerant landscaping, still researching if going to be full electrification or natural gas (lots of cost questions there), soft surface trails instead of sidewalks, enhance riparian area surrounding for wildlife habitat - trying to green as much as possible
 - (1) DOE just launched a program to support micro-grids (possible solar funding source?)
 - (2) Connect with Brown Ranch Energy Plan contact to explore cost savings of geothermal over the longer-term.
- 7) Next meeting and proposed work plan for recommendation development
- a) March 16, 2023 - 10-11:30 am (virtual)
 - b) Homework - Continue to populate the CAP Economy Current Initiatives and Recommendations and Funding spreadsheet



Land Use Sector Working Group
Meeting #6
February 13, 2023
1 - 2:30 p.m.

MEETING SUMMARY

1. Welcome and roll call
 - a. Present
 - i. Geoff Blakeslee (Chair)
 - ii. Carolina Manriquez (Co-chair)
 - iii. Tim Wohlgenant
 - iv. Michelle Meyer
 - v. Kristy Winser
 - vi. Todd Hagenbuch
 - vii. Julie Baxter
 - viii. Ann Raiho
 - ix. Nathan Stewart
 - x. Tim Sullivan (YVSC technical assistant)
 - b. Not present
 - i. Michael Woodbridge
2. Update from the Board meetings
 - a. CAP Board work session on Working Group recommendations
 - i. Board looking for 5-10 recommendations. Preference on more near term actions, but long-term still should be included. Include immediate opportunities, work going on that could use input. If funding is available, make sure we are taking advantage of that (e.g., NRCS and IRA). Criteria important for thinking about ranking/recommendations.
 - ii. Criteria - Board wants to talk about weighting impact and cost. Co-benefits are particularly important for Land Use Working Group. Cost related to ease of implementation. Political barriers are important, but that will be on the Board to figure out.
 - iii. Board will review recommendations and decide how to present them, but they want to see full list of recommendations even those with lower priority rankings.
 - b. Website/newsletter subscription - please share with your network
 - i. Looking to Working Groups to help spread the word about the CAP website and encourage networks to subscribe to newsletter.
 - c. 2023 CAP Board Communication Plan

- i. Communication goals include increasing broader understanding of what's in the CAP, who's on the Board and Working Groups, updates on CAP progress and opportunities for public involvement
 - ii. In addition to the website and newsletter, this includes outreach/press releases to local media outlets, hopefully a monthly column in local papers, monthly outreach and communications with our municipal communications managers (in process), Facebook/Instagram/website blog for more frequent updates (in development) and plans to host a public community event in April or May.
- 3. Review strawpoll vote on recommendations (EasyRetro) and agree on which ideas we want to further detail
 - a. Anything that got two or more votes included in the list of 19
 - b. How can we fund green infrastructure is a big part of what we are looking at
 - c. From a prioritization standpoint, some of these efforts are going to naturally be discussed through code updates. County has started that process and identified areas it is going to move forward on sooner rather than later. Particularly design criteria - landscaping, land clearing permit process, already have wetlands regulations and permits, but going to be re-evaluated during 11-month process
 - d. Pay attention to language of recommendations - e.g., with land clearing guidelines, here are the benefits of doing it (why rather than should)
- 4. Agree on wording for recommendations and share ideas on how they meet criteria
 - a. Develop program to capture current increased funding for climate-smart agriculture projects through NRCS
 - i. How do we capture current bump in funding?
 - ii. Define top 3 climate smart ag practices - seems pretty broad right now - what's applicable to our County
 - iii. We have primarily perennial grasslands in our County ag land - dollars are probably spent in other places that can capture more carbon
 - 1. Tree planting is still good - riparian areas still important, urban and upland also applicable
 - iv. Focus on current funding and develop projects that are climate-smart. Co-benefits are good. Funding in hard. Need landowners willing to do these projects. Scores high on opportunity, but low for impact.
 - v. Need a strategy to help support outreach
 - vi. Wetland restoration on ag properties could easily be folded into this one
 - vii. Tighten this up to identify opportunity
 - b. Promote wide-spread, small scale high elevation wetland restoration (not on main stem of Yampa)
 - i. Need to think about different jurisdictions and how to link - does NRCS have funds that would go toward just wetlands restoration? Mostly USFS at higher elevations - could California Park be a project that could be replicated?
 - ii. Cal Park - submitting project to Secure Rural Schools, needs to be used on forest service lands) for wet meadow restoration - recommendation would be to develop a pilot program that could be replicated, scaled and practices cataloged
 - iii. Talk to Pat O'Toole - interested in bringing funding to low-tech projects
 - iv. Model this and where it would apply. High opportunity (Walton, National Forest Foundation) - how to capitalize on getting more of this done?

- v. Explore ways to tie this to fire risk reduction through more wetted areas in key locations.
- c. Increase USFS reforestation particularly on prior burn areas - incorporate private lands as needed
 - i. High potential impact, but need Michael W's help to see if there are things we should be doing and keeping in mind.
 - ii. Would be good to keep this flexible/broad - not just talking about prior burn areas - forests aren't coming back the same way they came back 10 years ago
 - iii. From a carbon sequestration perspective, good to get trees out there when you have lost them, including non-federal lands
- d. Increase the rate of tree planting in urban areas by X
 - i. City has limited budget for trees that they supplement with grants.
 - ii. Still a year or two out from making big moves here, need smarter, centralized irrigation controls first, need to educate the public about benefit of turning parks into urban forests. Link this with overall water conservation goals. Follow up with Parks and Rec.
 - iii. Funding availability and timing could make this a good recommendation.
- e. Plant canopy trees on all eligible acres of Yampa (sufficient acres to meet water quality standards for temperature)
 - i. NRCS has prioritized this for climate smart ag funding. High carbon sequestration potential. Where do we find sustained funding and willing private landowners? Maybe include Trout Creek and other tributaries.
 - ii. City will be applying for large grants for developing a Water Quality Credit Trading Program from the EPA this year. Should include funding to pay landowners. High priority for the city to get this going, but projects themselves would be outside of city limits
- f. Develop and adopt code for wetlands and riparian corridor protection for City of Steamboat Springs and the County
 - i. Waterbody setback regulations different from City and County - Would help the City for this to be a recommendation. Matter of getting staff and funding working on this and match up better with County.
 - ii. Wetlands part of evaluation of County code (in process).
 - iii. Would be important to strengthen beyond current federal 404 permit standards which allow offsite mitigation in areas of less value for water quality and flood control.
- g. Develop/consider smart siting/mitigation rules/guidelines for large-scale solar development
 - i. Concern there is about to be a rush on large-scale (2000-4000 acre) solar development (at least 3 large projects) - drive away from native habitat and do it on disturbed lands
 - ii. If on native sagebrush habitat that could be a lot of carbon lost
 - iii. Need to work on the outreach and education component of this
 - iv. Timely. County is exploring regulations, but at present focused on wildlife habitat. Identify carbon sequestration elements to this, particularly when they can overlap with habitat protection.
- h. Develop criteria for PDR awards that incentivize restoration and protection of carbon rich resources
 - i. PDR committee plans to rewrite criteria - put in language about climate value? Opportunistic. Lower priority, but not a heavy lift.

- i. Develop land clearing regulations and permitting associated with new developments
 - i. County to address this issue this summer/fall. Don't expect changes with milling, continue to allow and support. Expect to see a permit for land clearing and what that looks like.
 - j. Strengthen water conservation requirements in new City of Steamboat Springs landscaping standards
 - i. City stakeholder meeting in March to consider what able to consider to require. Maybe commercial and multi-family new developments first
5. Quick review due to time constraints of remaining recommendations for feasibility and likely importance.
- a. Capture carbon from wood waste - discuss with Waste Working Group to understand current ability to compost wood chips
 - b. Increase efficiency of forest management through incentivizing local mills-not likely to significantly change rate of forest management
 - c. Increase outreach to landowners to encourage new conservation easements, particularly on lands of value for climate mitigation and adaptation - combine with recommendation to add carbon considerations to PDR criteria
 - d. Aggressive water conservation requirements in new City of Steamboat Springs landscaping standards - Feasible and likely important to meet water conservation standards (City hiring consultant to develop options).
 - e. County land purchase for open space - not considered a high priority carbon strategy due to costs compared to PDR program
 - f. Adopt water conservation/saving codes as part of County Building Codes with a focus on outdoor water conservation/efficiency - Likely not feasible as building codes don't cover outdoor watering currently
 - g. Household water metering and reporting by County and City zone - Might be feasible, though seems unlikely to be as effective in reducing use as new landscaping codes and other water conservation strategies
 - h. Encourage cluster development and use of Land Preservation Subdivision (LPS) Exemptions to discourage and reduce the desirability of 35-acre subdivisions - Important, yet already incorporated in County Masterplan and ongoing regulations so may not increase carbon savings.
6. Next meeting and proposed agenda:
- a. Doodle poll to be sent for March meeting
 - b. Prioritize recommendations. Have recommendations done by May - with quarterly check-ins after that



Transportation Sector Working Group
Meeting #6
February 8, 2023
9-10:30 a.m.

MEETING SUMMARY

1. Welcome and roll call
 - a. Present
 - i. Sarah Jones (Co-chair)
 - ii. Matt Rochon
 - iii. Jonathan Flint
 - iv. John Spezia
 - v. Winnie DelliQuadri
 - vi. Mike Beyer
 - vii. Mike Mordi
 - viii. Paul Bony (YVSC technical assistant)
 - b. Not present
 - i. Tom Erps
 - ii. Kevin Booth
 - iii. Ralph Eppard Jr.
 - c. CAP Transportation Chair Diane Mitsch Bush needs to step off Transportation Working Group due to health reasons.
2. Update from the Board meeting
 - a. CAP Board work session (2/3/23) on Working Group recommendations
 - i. Discussion on what output would look like, how to regionally implement CAP recommendations. Board doing work to build readiness for moving WG recommendations forward (criteria and ranking to prioritize projects)
 - ii. Agreement of Board to do 5-year revisits, but no strong restriction on any given recommendation, okay to have 5-7 year time frames
 - b. Website/newsletter subscription - please share with your network
 - i. Looking to Working Groups to help spread the word about the CAP website and encourage networks to subscribe to newsletter.
 - c. 2023 CAP Board Communication Plan
 - i. Communication goals include increasing broader understanding of what's in the CAP, who's on the Board and Working Groups, updates on CAP progress and opportunities for public involvement
 - ii. In addition to the website and newsletter, this includes outreach/press releases to local media outlets, hopefully a monthly column in local papers, monthly outreach and communications with our municipal

communications managers (in process), Facebook/Instagram/website blog for more frequent updates (in development) and plans to host a public community event in April or May.

3. Revise and refine CAP Transportation “Big Win”/Recommendation Tracker
 - a. Develop, adopt and implement an EV Readiness Plan County-wide
 - i. Levers the work the city has already done
 - ii. YVEA looking at grid infrastructure and distribution challenges
 - iii. What can be done along Moffat/40 corridor as well as Stagecoach/Oak Creek area
 - iv. Funding is a tactic
 - b. Develop and implement a County-wide vehicle miles traveled (VMT) reduction plan (goals, benchmarks)
 - i. Need something beyond education and outreach, more specific (% reduction, timeframe)
 - ii. Need tactics to give riders good choices for alternative
 - iii. Improve commuter bikeability of county and state roads, ‘last-mile’ campaign, advertise public parking areas (e.g., Chuck Lewis, Walton Creek, Haymaker, Bob Adams Airport, Justice Center, Bear Park parking lots) south, west, and north of town - ride bike into town from lot
 1. Useful to have survey data on this. CDOT may have highway 40 info - number of vehicles, highway capacity
 - c. Develop dedicated funding sources for transit adequate to increase route availability, timing and service area
 - d. Develop and implement a bike-commuter readiness plan for Routt County
 - i. Current bike trails aren’t able to accommodate peds, animals, bikes, e-bikes, overcapacity. Safety and conflict a barrier to using trails.
 - ii. Would be nice to have trail lanes separating commuter bike traffic from jogging, walking - need a dedicated commuter bike lane on Core Trail
 - iii. Going to be a struggle to get funding for a road that is only going to be used 6-months out of the year - need a place for people to get bike parts/service (bricks and mortar location)
 1. Boulder and Fort Collins have community resources to support biking - trained mechanics, used parts - high demand for it
 2. Hayden has Iron Wheel bikes providing that service - gap in Oak Creek and Steamboat
 - e. Encourage YVEA to prepare and share a EV infrastructure study in support of CAP EV goals
 - i. YVEA has created general guidelines for a beneficial electrification plan - some motivation from this Working Group could help push that along
 - ii. EV could double current demand - going to be a large increase in needed capacity
 - iii. More about managed charging, charging certain times of day so grid can meet capacity
4. CAP Transportation recommendations to discuss at next meeting
 - a. Develop an incubator program for privatized EV charging open to the public
 - b. Fund and implement the 2021 Steamboat Springs Transportation and Mobility study
 - c. Implement a voluntary carbon offset plan for the Yampa Valley Regional Airport (YVRA)

- d. Obtain Brown Ranch commitment to meet or exceed the City of Steamboat Springs EV Readiness Plan goals
 - e. Develop a regional approach to employee and visitor shuttles and transportation services
 - f. Increase regional transit services throughout the area
5. Next meeting and proposed agenda:
- a. Wednesday, March 8 - 9:00-10:30 a.m. - Virtual only
 - b. Get through Big Win list next meeting. Think about things in the CAP not addressed in our list (orphaned actions and tactics)



Waste Sector Working Group
Meeting #6
February 14, 2023
9-10:30 a.m.

MEETING SUMMARY

- 1) Welcome and roll call
 - a) Present
 - i) Meredith Rose (Chair)
 - ii) Grant McCannon
 - iii) Gail Garey
 - iv) Alicia Archibald
 - v) Scott Cowman
 - vi) Jim Cook
 - vii) Brian Ashley
 - viii) Mark Berkley
 - ix) Nathan Burns
 - x) Autum Sloop
 - xi) Winn Cowman (YVSC technical assistant)
 - b) Not present
 - i) Victoria Cook
 - ii) Kathy Hastings
- 2) Update from the Board meeting
 - a) CAP Board work session (2/3/23) on Working Group recommendations
 - i) Discussion on what output would look like, how to regionally implement CAP recommendations. Board doing work to build readiness for moving WG recommendations forward (criteria and ranking to prioritize projects)
 - ii) Agreement of Board to do 5-year revisits, but no strong restriction on any given recommendation, okay to have 5-7 year time frames. Milestones to achieve long-term goals.
 - b) Website/newsletter subscription - please share with your network
 - i) Looking to Working Groups to help spread the word about the CAP website and encourage networks to subscribe to the newsletter.
 - c) CAP 2023 Board Communication Plan

- i) Communication goals include increasing broader understanding of what's in the CAP, who's on the Board and Working Groups, updates on CAP progress and opportunities for public involvement
 - ii) In addition to the website and newsletter, this includes outreach/press releases to local media outlets, hopefully a monthly column in local papers, monthly outreach and communications with our municipal communications managers (in process), Facebook/Instagram/website blog for more frequent updates (in development) and plans to host a public community event in April or May.
- 3) C&D letter update
 - a) Board provided comments to latest draft which was accepted by the Working Group. An approved draft of the letter has been sent back to the Board.
- 4) Briefly discuss potential criteria for prioritizing recommendations
 - a) Important to think about co-benefits (e.g., improves water quality)
 - b) Every recommendation should be rated by criteria
- 5) Review results of initial strawpoll and refine and revise recommendations in CAP Waste 'Big Win'/Recommendations spreadsheet

WS1 - Reduce solid waste in landfill

- a) Pass ordinances to transition to ban on single use plastics (water bottles, straws, lids and utensils) in municipalities and County. (see Telluride ordinance)
 - i) May tie into Green Business program, think about incentives
- b) Pass a Pay as you Throw (PAYT) ordinance in municipalities and County.
- c) Create a reuse program that incentivizes businesses to innovate. (i.e. reverse vending machines)
- d) Create ordinance that requires takeout materials be either reusable (durable), recyclable or compostable
- e) Revise codes/design standards to include hydration stations
- f) Pass ordinances to collect and share recycling data in Hayden, Yampa, Oak Creek (City/Routt County underway)
- g) Create or revise local ordinances to add produce bags to local plastic bag bans. (Will need to review state preemption language.)

WS2 - Increase diversion

- h) Establish a Community Recycling Center to collect traditional recyclables, hard to recycle materials, household hazardous waste, C&D materials (bricks, dimensional lumber, windows, fixtures, doors, etc.), and organics (food and yard waste). Include satellite drop sites for recyclables.
 - i) Consideration of staffing for contamination for satellite drop
- i) Create yard waste drop-off programs to ensure yard waste is not landfilled.
 - i) Concern that yard waste is intermingled with trash, how to ensure separation
 - ii) Twin Enviro to start collecting yard waste this spring with food/compost waste, able to handle current amount of wood chips
 - iii) After big storms, landscapers loading trucks with larger yard waste
- j) Consider development of a regional materials recovery facility (MRF) or transfer station to handle single-stream recycling.
 - i) Currently there is a MRF, but cost of operation an issue

- k) Encourage accessible compost programs to ensure composting is available to all municipalities and County residents. Work to increase participation.
- l) Require that all permitted events be zero waste, with minimum standards and verification.
- m) Reduce recycling contamination
- n) Pass ordinances to require commercial and multi-family recycling. (City of SS underway)
- o) Figure out a way to separate glass from single-stream recycling.
- p) Revise code to require C&D recycling at construction sites. (Must also focus on building infrastructure to support this.)
- q) Perform a regional recyclables composition study.

WS3 - Support waste reduction initiatives at the state level

- r) Support state legislation like Pollution Prevention Reduction Act (PPRA) and Extended Producer Responsibility (EPR). (YVSC, City of SS, SSRC, & Routt County already doing this.)

Other

- s) Encourage municipalities, HOAs and County to create single hauler contracts for areas in order to: 1. Negotiate competitive rates, 2. Reduce trash truck vehicle miles traveled (VMT), 3. Reduce wear and tear on local roads, 4. Reduce traffic on roads and in neighborhoods
 - i) Municipalities could then manage rates, recyclable material list and impose fines for contamination, etc.
 - ii) Create contracts in different sized areas and haulers bid to drive down prices for consumers
 - iii) Cost concerns for local haulers, risk of losing business; taking choice away from consumers
 - iv) Weigh concerns against the benefits
 - t) Create a framework to take advantage of funding opportunities (e.g, Extended Producer Responsibility (EPR))
 - i) Are we missing funding opportunities? Look to City/County grant writers. Have projects in place before applying for grants
 - ii) Other municipalities might not have the grant writing capacity that the City and County has
 - u) Support local food producers to get local food into grocery stores. (Underway through Ag Alliance.)
 - i) Food hub underway - 5 other food hubs around the state
- 6) Next meeting and proposed work plan for recommendation development
- a. Tuesday, March 14 - 9:00-10:30 a.m.
 - b. Get through Big Wins list next meeting. Think about things in the CAP not addressed in our list (orphaned actions and tactics)