



Department Source: Sustainability

To: City Council

From: City Manager & Staff

Council Meeting Date: March 16, 2020

Re: Report from Climate & Environment Commission regarding 2020 priorities

Executive Summary

The Climate & Environment Commission (CEC) was appointed in November 2019 and have had three meetings. The purpose of the CEC is to advise city staff in the preparation of an annual Climate Adaptation and Action Plan (CAAP) progress report and recommendations for city council, review annual greenhouse gas emissions inventory for progress on meeting greenhouse gas emissions reduction goals, and to educate and engage the public on Commission priorities. This report contains the intended priorities focus areas for the Commission for the remainder of 2020 and was voted on, and agreed to, at their February 25, 2020 meeting. The CEC will also engage other citizen boards and commissions to adopt leadership of CAAP actions relevant to their respective missions. The commission recognizes a sense of urgency to move forward rapidly with key priority actions in order to achieve greater GHG emissions reductions as quickly as possible.

Discussion

The Climate & Environment Commission hopes to see progress in each area of the Climate Action & Adaptation Plan and will work with the City's internal teams to align efforts. The following sector areas, priority strategies /actions, and preferred deliverables are what the commission hopes to address and accomplish in 2020.

- Implementation
 - I-2.1.4 - Develop a process for requiring mitigation, adaptation and climate-equity impact assessments for all new policies and projects that meet threshold criteria, such as cost burden, vulnerability or increase to net emissions.
 - CEC recommends a threshold criteria to city staff.
 - I-3.3 – Develop community leadership capacity and involvement in climate action.
 - Significant community outreach completed to raise awareness and support for CAAP efforts.
 - CAAPtain ambassador program created for neighborhoods.
 - I-3.4 – Secure organizational and staff implementation capacity
 - Proposed funding options for CAAP priorities – including alternative financing / funding opportunities.
- Energy
 - E-1.3.2 – Codify through ordinance Columbia Water & Light's responsibility to meet 100% renewable energy generation or purchase by 2035.
 - Ordinance to City Council adopted



- E-1.2.1 – Include CAAP priorities in Columbia Water & Light's long-range electric and water resource planning goals.
 - CEC liaison participates on Integrated Electric Resource and Master Plan Task Force. CEC will ensure priorities are delivered in final plan.
- Housing, Buildings, and Development
 - H-1.1.3 – Establish a date by which all rental housing will be required to meet basic energy efficiency standards at license renewal.
 - CEC works with stakeholders to review similar programs in other cities and propose a program and implementation timeline for Columbia. A CEC liaison participates with the Safe, Healthy and Affordable Housing Action Team from the Community Healthy Improvement Plan.
 - H-1.1.4 – Develop and test an energy performance rating / labeling program for homes listed for sale or upon rental license renewal.
 - CEC works with stakeholders to review similar programs in other cities and develop program for Columbia with local data metrics for evaluation of potential impacts.
 - H-1.3.3 – Introduce a policy to require all new and existing municipal buildings to meet and maintain energy and resource efficiency standards.
 - CEC works with stakeholders to review current standards and develops a proposal with timeline for increased efficiency standards.
- Transportation
 - T-1.1.2 – Revise street design standards to prioritize people walking, biking and riding transit while also accommodating vehicles.
 - Street standards updated to meet CAAP Action goal.
 - T-2.1 – Encourage use of low- to zero-emission vehicles
 - Policies and programs developed for replacing municipal fleet with electric and hybrid options, increasing electric vehicle charging infrastructure, and incentives for the purchase of electric vehicles.
- Waste
 - W-2.1.1 – Restructure all solid waste rates to reduce the amount of waste sent to the landfill.
 - CEC works with stakeholders to review similar programs in other cities and develop program for Columbia with local data metrics for evaluation of potential impacts.
- Health
 - HS-1.3.1 – Create anti-idling policies and enforcement plans
 - CEC works with stakeholders to review similar programs in other cities and develop program for Columbia with local data metrics for evaluation of potential impacts.

This report is not intended to represent the only actions that the Climate and Environment Commission will address in 2020. It represents the areas of focus for the CEC and serves to communicate to stakeholders.



Fiscal Impact

Short-Term Impact: N/A

Long-Term Impact: N/A

Strategic & Comprehensive Plan Impact

[Strategic Plan Impacts:](#)

Primary Impact: Operational Excellence, Secondary Impact: Secondary, Tertiary Impact: Tertiary

[Comprehensive Plan Impacts:](#)

Primary Impact: Livable & Sustainable Communities, Secondary Impact: Secondary, Tertiary Impact: Tertiary

Legislative History

Date	Action
10/7/19	Ordinance establishing the Climate and Environment Commission.

Suggested Council Action

Information only