

Meeting Minutes

City Council

Monday, May 20, 2019 5:00 PM	Work Session	Conference Room 1A/1B
		Columbia City Hall
		701 E. Broadway

I. CALL TO ORDER

The meeting was called to order at approximately 5:07 p.m. Mayor Treece arrived at approximately 5:11 p.m.

- Present: 5 Ruffin, Trapp, Treece, Skala, and Pltzer
- Absent: 2 Thomas, and Peters

CityView Overview

Attachments: Instructions for CityView

Dashboard Help

Hyperlink: CoMoGov Data Portal

Taylor Bowen, GIS Manager for IT/GIS, stated that he will be overviewing the GIS resources available on our website. Everything presented can be found under the "Maps" section on the City's home page.

Mr. Bowen stated that the Data Portal includes updated data the day after changes occur in the system. This includes updates on new annexations, etc. The data portal main page also includes an explanation of what GIS data is among other things like popular maps and featured applications. He walked through how to navigate the data layers on the portal. Data is also featured by category such as historical, transit, environmental, etc. The bottom of the page also provides a link and brief explanation about the GovQA record request portal.

Mr. Bowen provided an overview about the community dashboard which released in spring 2014. There have been updates and increased data on this feature since it launched. The update did include a search function which was a frequent user request. The dashboard is also mobile friendly. Mr. Bowen walked through each tab on the dashboard which includes planning cases (from current fiscal year or cases still open), planned districts, special events, city projects, development, and active code enforcement cases. He added that staff is working on a historical data tab which will be rolled out at some point in the future.

Mr. Bowen overviewed the CityView map feature that has been out for several years. This map is geared toward the general citizen to help them see information based around a specific address. It will display information about what ward an address is in, the owner, the council person, year of annexation, school information, nearest fire station, etc. He reviewed the map widgets that allow changes to the base map imagery, buffer and distance tools, printing options, measurement tools, legend, and a report tool.

Councilperson Skala asked what the estimated cost is for these upgrades. Mr. Bowen stated that most features were built from off-the-shelf products that are highly customizable or from data transferred from other systems. He estimated around 200-220 hours of staff time for the items previewed today with an average staff cost of \$26/hour.

Councilperson Pitzer asked if there was any data in these processes that was found to be unusable. Mr. Bowen stated that they have found all of the data to be useful and if they have data, they try to add a layer or feature to display it in order to be transparent and give people the tools needed to find answers to their questions.

Final Review of Draft Climate Action and Adaptation Plan

Attachments: CAAP Presentation

Jay Hasheider stated that tonight will be a discussion of the plan so that questions may be addressed before finalization. Mr. Hasheider stated that the Task Force was formed just about a year ago and they have put in a lot of work in during that time. Task Force members in attendance stood to be recognized.

Barbara Buffaloe, Manager of the Office of Sustainability, stated that community engagement has been a large focus for the Task Force over the past 18 months. After initial community feedback was collected, staff approached Council to set reduction goals for the community and for municipal emission reductions. She reviewed the criteria that the Task Force Sub-Committees used to evaluate the ideas posed. Criteria included effectiveness, affordability, feasibility, equity, co-benefits, and community support. Community support was evaluated through a survey to the community. This validated items to include or remove on the action plan. A community workshop was held to further prioritize these actions. Ms. Buffaloe presented a wedge analysis to show the impact of an action from the plan on areas such as commercial and residential energy, transportation, solid waste, etc. Another survey closed May 10th with majority supporting the plan as is and a few supporting the plan, but with minor changes. A few respondents were against the plan, but also did not believe in climate change. Feedback themes were reviewed, much of which came down to a need for clarification or suggested changes in priority for some action items.

Carolyn Amparan explained that there are six main sectors the Climate Action Plan is divided into as focus areas: transportation; housing, buildings and development; energy; waste; health; and natural resources. She reviewed the main strategies for each focus area. Ms. Buffaloe reviewed the implementation strategy goals: 1) Establish climate action as a priority for the City Council and community, 2) Establish CAAP goals as priorities in the activities of the City of Columbia as an organization, and 3) Strengthen City capacity to support community climate action. Ms. Buffaloe reviewed a draft matrix that will help track progress and accountability for each action item and key next steps and measures. A community dashboard will be rolled out in the future. A Policy Resolution will be brought forth for approval by Council at the June 17th meeting.

Councilperson Trapp asked if there are adequate resources to implement the plan. Ms. Buffaloe stated that some items are lacking funding and others lack capacity for staff that it already stretched thin. A restructuring of the Sustainability Division or review of staff job descriptions may be beneficial.

Mayor Treece asked how this philosophy will permeate into all City departments and adaptation by City employees. He also asked what the outreach component will look like to community members on actions they may take to reduce in areas. Lastly, he would like to know - in 2035 or 2050, what we would be spending if we did do this compared to if we did not. That might help make the investments decisions up front. Ms. Buffaloe stated

that they are starting to work on a financial analysis, some of which will be included in the plan to Council in June. Some community and education outreach will also be included in the plan coming in June.

Councilperson Skala understood that this is a large problem but felt that even little actions can make an impact. Starting with our own utility is a great starting point. This will require a progressive look at how the utility can be a driving force on this issue. Councilperson Pitzer added that a big part internally will be a culture change. The enthusiasm shown by the Task Force has been encouraging and will hopefully carry forward through implementation. A series of actions will need community support and leadership. Having a cost benefit of doing those actions would be helpful in decision making and implementation. Mr. Hasheider added that if we as a society don't do anything, it's game over. The City of Columbia taking an aggressive move in the right direction, we will be financially better off than if we wait until there's a huge carbon tax that has to be paid. He felt that it is financially prudent to be as aggressive as possible and hope that others will do the same. Councilperson Ruffin asked if state or federal funds will be required. Ms. Buffaloe replied that it's not required, but they will certainly be looking for grant funding opportunities.

II. ALL OTHER ITEMS THE COUNCIL MAY WISH TO DISCUSS

No other items were discussed.

III. ADJOURNMENT

The meeting adjourned at approximately 6:45 p.m.