

Climate and Environment Commission

CAAP Teams Update

January 9, 2024



Good Stewards - Natural Resources



Submitted project ideas for Climate Pollution Reduction Grant planning with DNR

- Project ideas under Land Use category determined by DNR (afforestation, urban greening, etc.). Project idea scopes:
 - Acquiring mobile LiDAR technology for inventory of City trees, to monitor changes over time, and make better management decisions
 - Update the Urban Forest Master plan to include canopy goals and public input with an emphasis on engaging environmental justice communities
- Working toward and discussing how to prevent and better understand the loss of ecologically sensitive land/features
 - Coming up with a definition for ecologically sensitive areas
 - EPA Green Score Card - guides local government staff through a review of relevant local plans, ordinances, and regulations to identify barriers to or opportunities for promoting and implementing green infrastructure practices
 - Environmental assessment questions added to OpenGov and potential pilot program for further environmental review of Capital Improvement projects

Clean Transportation



Submitted ideas for Climate Pollution Reduction Grant planning with DNR

- Project ideas under Electric Conversions category
 - Expansion and installation of EV charging infrastructure in the lower level of the 5th and Walnut garage
- Both Solid Waste and Electric Distribution have ordered more Ford Lightnings that will come with level II chargers provided by Ford - brings total of EVs purchased for fleet up to 7 - ready around late Feb./early March
- WWTP and Electric utility are working on installing charging infrastructure
- Plans are being made around training staff for mechanical and software applications
- The team is looking ahead at developing a streamlined process for integrating the Fleet Electrification Policy into the current vehicle purchasing/replacement process across departments - some changes have already been made

Healthy Housing



Submitted Project Ideas for Climate Pollution Reduction Grant planning with DNR

- Project idea submissions fall under Energy Efficiency category
 - Hire staff to manage program that provides energy efficiency upgrades to rental homes
- Healthy Housing team has been working with OS staff on an application for technical assistance from the American Council for an Energy Efficient Economy (ACEEE)
- This technical assistance will assist efforts in getting the Healthy Housing team's Rental Home Energy Score pilot program off the ground, using the data collected, and combining it with efforts to assess Columbia's rental housing stock
- The goal of this project is to be able to identify rental energy burden and disparity, educate tenants and landlords on the benefits of energy efficiency and ultimately meet the CAAP goals of
 - Establishing a date by which all rental housing will be required to meet basic energy efficiency standards at license renewal, and
 - Reduce housing-, building-, and development-related energy consumption and improve resiliency
- Still working on getting the rental energy efficiency map off the ground - need a way of accurately presenting electricity use data - GIS currently working through some staffing issues

Clean Energy



Submitted Project Ideas for Climate Pollution Reduction Grant planning with DNR

- Project idea submissions fall under Electric Conversions and Renewable Energy categories
 - Electrification of gas HVAC systems to either dual fuel systems or all electric heat pump systems
 - Construction of City owned solar field for low to moderate income customers
- Solar For All grant in holding pattern while the State awaits further notice from EPA about grant awards
- Currently wrapping up conversations between EnergySage and the team (online comparison marketplace for clean energy products such as solar, energy storage and heat pumps)
- Next project idea while waiting for more information on grant opportunities: Continue planning public education and outreach program that teaches residents the fundamentals of solar energy and other clean energy products and empowers them to explore how it can fit their needs

Good Stewards Buildings and Resource Stewardship



- Teams last meeting in November
- Municipal benchmarking efforts still underway
- Discussion around next team project and what is in the team's purview
- Planning to propose a project that focuses on supporting recycling and sustainability at City events. Food waste management may also play a part in this and fill a needed gap within the City



Questions?