

MINUTES

Oregon Sustainability Board



DAS DEPARTMENT OF ADMINISTRATIVE SERVICES
SUSTAINABILITY PROGRAM

Meeting Date: Friday, June 12, 2020

Time: 9am – 3:30pm

Location: ZOOM

Attendees:

Guest presenters: Adam Helvey (DAS), Jordan Palmeri and Jonathan Rivin (DEQ), Blake Shelide and Kaci Radcliffe (ODOE)

ITEM	DISCUSSION
Call to Order, approval of minutes – John Miller, chair	John called the meeting to order at 9:10am and introductions were made. Rex moved to approve the minutes and Lori seconded. Minutes were approved.
<p>DAS Sustainable Procurement Program (SPP) Presented</p> <p>Adam Helvey (DAS), Jordan Palmeri and Jonthan Rivin (DEQ)</p>	<p>Adam Helvey shared the DAS-SPP objectives and plans. Adam was pulled into Emergency Service due to COVID-19, so some things have been pushed back to other quarters.</p> <p><u>Objective 1:</u> A new/revised sustainable procurement policy will be developed to more accurately reflect current times.</p> <p><u>Objective 2:</u> Committee meetings will be moving forward and ensuring that departments are fulfilling their goals in reference to sustainability. There will be meetings with suppliers to train and request specific sustainable products. They will also make sure to include local and small businesses in these discussions.</p> <p><u>Objective 3:</u> This is for the new Executive Order 20-04 and it is in progress. It is a good opportunity for DAS and DEQ to work on greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions in procurement. Jordan and Jonathan will be identifying strategic product standards and will be working with DAS to meet and complete a report to the Governor.</p> <p><u>Objective 4:</u> Implementing this executive order in the first quarter has been pushed back due to COVID-19. Drafts and links to resources and tools will be inserted into the Oregon Procurement Manual.</p> <p><u>Objective 5:</u> This addresses tracking and reporting using data and metrics. This is in progress and the Oregon Buys program will help with this. This system will be able to track all the spending, not just big purchases, but also small purchases for a more accurate accounting of spending.</p> <p><u>Objective 6:</u> This is the crux of the work plan to inject sustainability into price agreements. This helps to put in a stopgap to help evaluate and analyze purchases and see if they take sustainability into account for each purchase.</p> <p><u>Objective 7:</u> This revolves around training. A class has already been created and has been implemented over the past year. There will be revisions and additions to make improvements. One of the additional components to the SPP is outreach into the community. This work will be continued by Adam, Jordan, Jonathan, Dave, and perhaps other staff as they come on in the future.</p> <p><u>Questions:</u></p> <p>Rex – How do you see people following through on this plan, especially with respect to training? Adam: Since these are driven by Executive Order, there is a lot of “must” language that will make this more enforceable. It is adding a step to the purchasing process that makes people stop and think about making this a sustainable purchase. It’s also training people to make this a habit of thinking of sustainability. This will also include ways to make the companies who are on price agreements show the sustainable options for purchases.</p>

	<p>Lori - Impressed with how well thought out the plan is, and asked about rolling it out across the state. Adam answered that is the goal, but every county and city can't implement it at the same level as the state.</p> <p>Mark – Lane County does not have anything like the SPP, and would like to know if there was a way to simplify this or give the “top 10 things you need to do to make things more sustainable”. Adam responded that that is the goal, and will share as soon as possible.</p> <p>Jordan Palmeri presented the Low-Carbon Concrete Project Update. This project started with the OSB and the Environmental Footprinting project in 2014. Food footprinting profiles were the next step.</p> <p>Now they are working on concrete. There are Environmental Product Declarations (EPDs), which are like a nutrition fact label to show how each mix impacts the environment. There have been at least 8 companies who have followed through with EPDs. An example of how EPDs are being used is the Treasury building. Some of the substitute materials replacing concrete are less expensive. There have also been learning moments for manufacturers where they can see how they can remain competitive in the market. The Concrete Procurement Policy that was created for the City of Portland moved companies to creating EPDs. The California “Buy Clean” project has also helped to guide this effort.</p> <p>Jonathan Rivin shared about the Supply Chain Analysis being conducted by DEQ, evaluating procurement spending and environmental impact. He is doing a case study on how spending impacts greenhouse gasses and other environmental impacts. These analyses will be used as evaluation criteria for DAS procurement. They have looked at 10 categories of highest spend, including goods and services. Some language has been put in RFPs around sustainability for services. The case study will be part of the DAS EO 20-04 report.</p> <p>Rex – What are “professional services”? Jonathan – This is in reference to the people who run laboratories, repair equipment, use computers, provide transportation, etc. It is what it costs the business to run its operations. John would also like to look at water impacts in the future as we move forward with materials and supply chain.</p>
<p>ODOE Biennial Energy Report</p> <p>Blake Shelide, Kaci Radcliffe, ODOE</p>	<p>Kaci started with a slide show presentation. ODOE has updated their strategic plan to include more sustainability goals even though their focus is energy. The Biennial Energy Report (BER) was updated in 2018. A report overview:</p> <p><u>Chapter 1</u>: Energy by the numbers looks at the data from energy resources and consumption, production and generations, trends and end-use sectors, and understanding energy bills and state expenditures.</p> <p><u>Chapter 2</u>: Overview of literature and strategies for deep de-carbonization, considerations in policy design, overview of GHG emissions mitigation options and opportunities across Oregon.</p> <p><u>Chapter 3</u>: Understanding the growth of renewable energy capacity in Oregon, review policies, growing demand and reductions in cost, challenges and opportunities as Oregon integrates more variable renewable electricity onto the grid, and a case study on solar energy.</p> <p><u>Chapter 4</u>: Transportation – focus on fuels used and emissions from vehicles.</p> <p><u>Chapter 5</u>: Resiliency – Discusses how Oregon is working to prepare for extreme or disrupting events, focus on community energy resilience, and includes how energy resilience factors into climate change.</p> <p><u>Chapter 6</u>: Energy efficiency – Discusses energy efficiency as a cornerstone of Oregon energy policy, explains policies that promote energy efficiencies and looks at how Oregon can make improvements.</p> <p><u>Chapter 7</u>: Protecting Consumers – Explores energy burden, consumer protection and equity. Discusses the effects of and uncertainties from a rapidly changing energy sector, notes increasing interest and need for securing more outcomes that are equitable for all Oregonians.</p> <p><u>Chapter 8</u>: Recommendations – Data gaps, addressing equity and energy burden, planning for the future, assessing the need for state engagement and investment. They are currently working on the 2020 BER and would like OSB feedback.</p>

	<p>Rex asked about the energy burden for certain communities. Kaci was also very surprised about the disparity and it is a focus that they will be working to improve this. Mark asked if she is working with the Department of Community Services and getting more in-depth data taking into consideration with demographics and transportation costs.</p> <p>2020 BER Framework: Energy by the numbers, energy resources and technologies, energy 101/key questions, policy briefings, history and policy landscape. Are there any data sets or visuals that would be useful to the OSB?</p> <p>John – As a business owner who uses solar panels, how can he and other business owners do more? Perhaps policy changes, and if that, who will take control of that?</p> <p>Rex – A chart where it shows how cost effective solar and other renewable resources are so that businesses can't use the excuse that it's too expensive to invest in.</p> <p>Mark – Lane county has a hard time implementing solar due to budget constraints, so can the state be a resource to help with this? Kaci – There is a new staff member who will be looking into cash incentives to get businesses to invest in solar.</p> <p>Lori – Is there any data about how COVID has affected energy? Kaci – There hasn't been an absence of activity, but rather a shift of activity and data is limited as information on COVID changes frequently. They will be looking for more data to delve into this question.</p> <p>Rex – I would be interested in seeing a list of outreach organizations focused on peoples of color that ODOE works with. Reaching out to disenfranchised people in the community (homeless, immigrants, people of color), should be another group we look to help. Kaci will get the information to OSB offline. It is something that is imperative that they will be working on moving forward, especially in the current climate.</p> <p>Blake shared about ODOE's work with the most recent EO 20-04, working with building codes in relation to energy. It gives directives to reduce energy use by 60% by 2030. In EO 17-20 there were directives in relation to appliances, which include showers, toilets, and others. They will be drafting rules to make appliances more energy efficient and then see about legislation to make them more permanent. The standards apply to any product purchased by the general public, and they will be rolled out by 2022.</p>
<p>Transportation Roadmap</p> <p>Rex Burkholder, OSB</p>	<p>There are two letters, one John sent to the ODOT director and the ODOT director's response. They have a new director and two new offices to help with sustainable transportation in Oregon. One is a Climate Office, which will be leading the efforts to implement the Statewide Transportation Strategy. There is another office that directly focuses on the Portland area in relation to road construction. ODOT has a huge task ahead of them when it comes to climate change and sustainability.</p> <p>Dave asked if Rex had joined the conference call that introduced the Climate Office group. There were a lot of people and a lot of great questions were asked of the Climate Office. John would like to look at the recording of the meeting, if there is one. It has been difficult to meet with the OTC and OSB and making meetings happen; however, it could be due to COVID and other, more pressing, issues due to the impact of COVID. Rex will be reaching out to see if he can get a direct connection to Orlando and see if there is a way to work with ODOT; to see if there's a way OSB can help ODOT with sustainability.</p>
<p>Recap of Climate Equity Workshops</p> <p>Lisa Gaines, Dave Wortman</p>	<p>Dave and Lisa gave a recap of the climate equity workshops convened for the Climate Adaptation Framework. Workshops covered Equity 101, included breakout groups to discuss current agency equity work and opportunities, and what elements the consultant should include in a decision support tool. The consultant is working on the equity tool deliverable. It should be helpful not only for climate equity, but other agency equity work. It should complement the equity work the OSB has conducted for the guidelines.</p>
<p>Updates from Governor's offices</p> <p>Kristen Sheeran, Director, Carbon Policy Office</p>	<p>Kristen gave updates on EO 20-04 and on the OSB's revised proposal to measure and manage GHG emissions in agency operations. Kristen reviewed the original (sent in April) and revised proposal (sent in May). She noted that EO 20-04 does three things:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1 – establishes new scientifically based GHG goals. 2 – directs state agencies to broadly pursue the GHG goals 3 – creates targeted, specific directives for state agencies

	<p>It also addresses climate equity and impacts on marginalized communities.</p> <p>Agency reports for EO 20-04 are online. The Carbon Policy Office is reviewing the reports and helping agencies to narrow down the scope and sequence of their plans so that they have specific and attainable goals. Kristen sees the OSB's proposal as help to all the agencies to meet their broader goals. With the help of the OSB and these guidelines, agencies could start seeing sustainability as a cost saving as well as environmental savings. Reducing carbon emissions saves agencies money over the course of time.</p> <p>John stated that he appreciates Kristen's acknowledgement of the OSB's work over the years. He also mentioned how much he appreciates Dave and the work he does not just for DAS, but also the OSB, and the state in general. Dave added that he also works as a liaison between agencies and the OSB, as well as being a resource to the agencies as they write their plans.</p> <p>Mark expressed the importance of agency and director support. Has HR taken a look at equity and sustainability and how it is being addressed during annual reviews to engage agency and department managers? Offering an accountability piece to help get sustainability closer to the top of importance for agencies and departments?</p> <p>Lori stated that OSB wants to be a useful tool and she appreciates the guidelines of how to help agencies meet GHG goals.</p> <p>DAS was suggested as a place to pilot. Other considerations would be departments that have plans already in place.</p>
<p>Open Discussion: Sustainability and COVID: opportunities and challenges</p> <p>Dave Wortman, DAS</p>	<p>There is a group called the Public Sector Sustainability Group and they had their quarterly meeting last week. They discussed how COVID is impacting the public sector and sustainability. In DAS, there has been a reduction in fleet mileage, savings in energy consumption in buildings. There has been discussion about space utilization. DAS has worked on keeping people closer to keep down energy costs, but now due to COVID the DAS real estate section has to re-evaluate space because of distancing issues. It has brought a new discussion to how the COVID crisis could create ways to be more sustainable.</p> <p>Serena- Seen some very positive things about this crisis as communities have opened spaces dedicated to pedestrians, businesses can do with less space. On the other hand, single use items are more safe and prevalent, but it reverses the "reduce, reuse, and recycle" momentum we had.</p> <p>Lori- Impressed at how quickly we were able to move on the COVID crisis, but it has brought difficulties.</p> <p>Rory- There is so much to unpack with the whole COVID crisis. His company has been remote since March 15th. It hasn't impacted meetings, but it has affected on-site visits. While it has improved some things, it has also been a strain. On a larger scale, determining where to make investments to have a more sustainable impact rather than returning to "the way it was" as we restart and rebuild the economy.</p> <p>John- At the state level, will big buildings be necessary if more people work from home? Can those buildings be used for something else? What will the future look like? How can we add equity to our own plans? How do we see around the corner of this crisis? How do we help others see around the corner?</p> <p>Dave- Due to the COVID crisis, agencies (particularly within DAS) are looking at smaller spaces as people can telecommute. The Department of Justice was going to build a new building, and since so many people can telecommute, they reduced the size of the building by a large percentage because they realized they don't need as much space as they thought before the outbreak.</p> <p>Serena- Many businesses are just hanging on by a thread which makes sustainability practices not a top priority, but that there are other businesses that are doing okay and keep sustainability as an important topic.</p> <p>Mark- From a local government perspective, there will be a push to reopen because they rely on the tax dollars for mental health support and other social service support. The poor population has been losing jobs and needing support from city, county and state offices, which may or may not have the funds to reopen social services. If we are going to talk about equity, we need to keep our impoverished/migrant population in mind.</p>

Recap of actions, next steps, and adjourn	<p>Discussion about programs and agencies that have been hit hard by COVID closures. Many programs haven't been able to continue due to lack of employees and lack of funding. Some agencies, even though they have been cut back, are still making sustainability a priority.</p> <p>John- We should move forward with this in mind. There has been a lot of good work that has been done, and we don't want to lose momentum.</p> <p>Meeting adjourned at 3pm.</p>
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Next Meeting: September, 11, 2020
9:00am – 3:30pm
Zoom

Summary of Board/DAS Action Items

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Dave will reach out to the ODOT communications team to see about getting a recording of the Q&A session with the ODOT Climate Change group.
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Dave to get a list of outreach organizations focused on peoples of color that ODOE works with
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Rex will reach out to Orlando to see about making better connections with ODOT.
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • John and Dave reach out to Kristen and Amira offline and review plans to roll out the agency climate proposal.
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Dave to send condolences to Amira as she lost her grandmother to COVID-19. (E-card)
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Dave will revise the presentation schedule as some agencies need more time to work their plans due to COVID closures and budget cuts due to COVID.

