



# *Town of Brighton*

MONROE COUNTY, NEW YORK

## SUSTAINABILITY OVERSIGHT COMMITTEE, SOC

2300 ELMWOOD AVE. \* ROCHESTER, NEW YORK 14618 \* PHONE (585) 784-5250 \* FAX (585) 784-5368

### ***Sustainability Oversight Committee February 3, 2016***

#### ***Meeting Minutes***

#### **Attendance:**

Ron Wexler, Eric Williams, Steve Kittelberger, Chris Werner, Erinn Ryen, Paul Tankel, Shubhangi Gandhi, Margy Peet, Cassidy Putney, Mike Guyon, Evert Garcia

#### **Minutes:**

The approval of the January 6, 2016 minutes was deferred pending corrections. The revised January 6, 2016 minutes will be reviewed at the next SOC meeting for approval.

#### **Open Forum:**

#### **Announcements:**

#### **Old Business**

- Green House Gas Inventory
  - Cassidy presented an update on the status of the GHG for Town Operations. In addition, Cassidy presented a matrix of CSC Climate Action Plans that provides a comparison of plans developed by similar communities in the area.
  - The GHG inventory for Town Operations indicated that the total greenhouse gas emissions for Town Operations in 2014 was 1,467 MT CO<sub>2e</sub>. The largest source of emissions for Town Operations was Mobile Combustion, with 68% of Town Operations emissions, followed by Electricity, with 40% of Town Operations emissions.
  - In the Electricity category, Street Lights accounted for 47% of consumption and 70% of total energy costs.
  - A few takeaways from the review of CSC climate action plans from neighboring communities include the following:
    - None of the CSC plans that were reviewed included a clear funding strategy for the proposed improvements. Funding appears to be a concern in implementing proposed goals. Some communities are searching for Empire State Development grants.
    - Many of the CSC plans discussed and the CSC goals were developed before New York State's REV initiative. Should the Town consider REV when developing the Climate Action Plan?



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- Many of the plans reviewed lacked transparency and follow-up. It was difficult to determine how many of the proposed initiatives have been implemented.
- Further discussion is warranted on the selection of an eGRID emission factor which is used to calculate local government emissions throughout the CSC tool. The Upstate New York emission factor, currently selected in the CSC tool, takes into account energy generated by nuclear and hydro sources in the Upstate New York region and therefore results in smaller emissions numbers than if a New York State Average emissions factor is used in the calculations.
- Cassidy suggested that the SOC review Binghamton's Climate Action Plan by the next SOC meeting as she would like to model the Town of Brighton's CAP after Binghamton's outline. Cassidy indicated that she would like to have an outline for the Town's CAP by May. Evert will send out Binghamton's GHG Report and Climate Action Plan to the SOC for review.
- Greg is working on finishing up the data collection for the Community Level greenhouse gas inventory.
  - A brief discussion occurred on the availability of community vehicle miles traveled and travel zone models that can be included with the Community GHG inventory. Mike will look into this matter and distribute information to Eric and Erinn.
  - Eric indicated that Schools should be a part of the Community level GHG inventory. Additionally, Eric indicated that there are funding opportunities for schools to implement CSC projects through a BOCES Energy Development grant.
- Interior Lighting Follow Up, Eric
  - Eric is investigating the feasibility of replacing interior fluorescent lighting at the Town Hall complex with LED lighting. Eric has provided a scenario which seems to indicate that the energy savings resulting from the installation of LED fixtures at the Town Hall could equal the anticipated costs associated with the upgrades, making the proposed project budget neutral. Mike and Eric will review this proposal and this topic will be discussed in greater detail at the next SOC meeting.
- Climate Smart Communities
  - Focus Subgroup Reports
    - The SOC continued to discuss the role of focus subgroups with regards to the Climate Action Plan. Reports and deliverables



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generated from CSC focus subgroups will be sent to Cassidy so that they may be included in the Town's Climate Action Plan.

- Comprehensive Plan Update
  - The next Public Informational meeting for the Comprehensive Plan Update is scheduled for Thursday, February 11 at 5:30 PM. The SOC is highly encouraged to attend and provide feedback to the consultants on the material to be presented.
- SOC Member and Comprehensive Plan Liaison
  - A new liaison will need to be established between the SOC and the Comprehensive Plan Update Committee due to Rochelle's resignation from the SOC. Members of the SOC will brainstorm on possible replacement candidates for Rochelle and forward their contact information to Ron for review and consideration.
- SOC and Town Board Meeting
  - The SOC and Town Board meeting has been scheduled for February 24 and will be held from 6:00 PM to 7:00 PM.
  - The SOC discussed the draft PowerPoint presentation for the meeting with the Town Board.
    - The SOC will approach the first slide of the presentation as an overview of what it means to be a Climate Smart Community and a status update on CSC items that have been completed and/or are in progress.
    - Members of the SOC felt that some of the slides provide too much detail on certain pledge items, while others not enough. The message throughout the presentation should be consistent.
    - Ron will re-format the presentation to include one slide that will list one example for every pledge item and will also include a few slides which will provide more detailed examples of selected pledge items.
    - Mike will re-format the stormwater slides and consolidate the information to one slide.
- Educational Program
  - The SOC indicated that they would like to defer on making a decision as to whether or not they can assist the Town in developing an educational/informational program until they obtain more details on the nature of the request.



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- Development Updates
  - Updates for development projects throughout the Town were briefly discussed.

### **Adjournment**

### **Next Meeting**

The next meeting will be April 6, 2016 at 7:00 PM.

DRAFT