

# Eugene Climate Action Plan 2.0

## Land Use and Transportation Planning Chapter Meeting

Tuesday, July 10, 2018 • 2-5pm  
Lane Community College Downtown Center  
101 W 10th Ave, Eugene, OR 97401

**Present:** Jennifer Hayward, Luis Maggiori, and Carl Yeh, Lane Community College; Carol Schirmer, Business Representative/Local Government Affairs Council; Rob Zako, Business Representative/Better Eugene-Springfield Transportation; Terri Harding, Chelsea Hartman, Kevin Holman, Rob Inerfeld, and Heather O'Donnell, City of Eugene; Kelly Clarke and Ellen Currier, Lane Council of Governments; Monica Witzig, Lane County; Andrew Martin, Lane Transit District; Emily Eng, University of Oregon.

Climate Action Plan 2.0 Project Team: Chelsea Clinton, Brittany Judson, Jessica Lisiewski, Ethan Nelson, City of Eugene; Joshua Proudfoot, Good Company

### Opening Remarks

Chelsea Clinton gave an overview of the project vision including a review of the core project commitments (Triple Bottom Line, Strategic Doing and Adding Value) and an overview of the project equity initiatives.

### Introductions

Participants and community members introduced themselves and provided what they hoped to get out of the meeting or process. Common themes included connecting with each other and across organizations, learning about other endeavors and new ideas, sharing, looking to the future, partnership, best practices for reducing single occupancy vehicle travel, and mapping out our community investments.

### CAP 2.0 project goals and process

Chelsea Clinton provided a more detailed overview of the CAP2.0 project including the CRO Goals, 2017 Mayor's CRO Ad Hoc Work Group, core project commitments, equity initiatives, Large Lever Shareholders, CAP2.0 project timeline, and project team.

### Equity Discussion

Chelsea Clinton facilitated the discussion. The group discussed the difference between equality and equity. Then the group reviewed the project equity lens. Last, the larger group broke out into smaller groups to share their organization's equity framework.

### Discussion of Best Management Practices

Josh Proudfoot presented some Best Management practices (page 3 of agenda).

- Definition of **mitigation vs. adaptation** discussion: Mitigation is reducing greenhouse gas emissions, including buying offsets. Ideally, it's addressing emissions at the source. Adaptation is anticipating changes to come and preparing accordingly.
- Ethan Nelson, project team defined **high impact practices vs. important triple bottom line practices**: High impact practices have system level impacts that usually involve millions of dollars of investment, and have a very high impact on greenhouse gas emissions. An example would be

the Transportation System Plan. Important triple bottom line practices are climate related actions that have a variety of benefits across our community, but have a smaller impact on total greenhouse gas emissions or climate adaptation. Many programs fall under this category – for example Safe Routes to School.

#### *Additional high impact adaptation best management practices*

The group brainstormed other best management practices that might fit under high impact mitigation and adaptation practices:

- Additional mitigation action: Drastically increase funding for active transportation and requirements for employers to implement TDM.
- Additional adaptation action: Expand on land use zoning challenges – building codes.

#### *Equity Discussion of Best Management Practices*

Josh Proudfoot, project team led an equity discussion of best management practices and climate impacts. The group talked through who might be impacted most by increased fires as an example. Ideas included those in rural/urban divide; those that don't have an air filter; low income, elderly, and people with disabilities can't afford an air conditioner, car, and are therefore more vulnerable to heat.

Examples of additional equity implications were provided by the group related to their work including increased in housing density, potable water issues from mudslides (silt in the water) and algal blooms – equity implications in who is most affected.

#### **Mitigation Actions of Each Organization**

The group shared their high impact and important Triple Bottom Line (TBL) mitigation actions that their organizations are working on or that could be implemented in the future depending on resources and other factors:

##### **LTD: Andrew Martin**

- We're evaluating what's working and what's not and changing our routes around town.
- Anytime we invest in service there are huge equity implications - frequency and coverage tradeoffs. There are those that rely on service as a lifeline; we want to provide more service to the low income citizens.
- We're working on partial electrification the fleet. We're mixing fuel types and have more hybrids. As a result we've saved 39,000 gallons of gasoline.
- We're working with City of Eugene on Moving Ahead on capital investments and high frequency services.

##### **LCC: Jennifer Hayward**

###### *Actions*

- We're working on better bike pedestrian access to main campus. We're working on getting grants to fund these efforts, but most recent was rejected. We will keep advocating and trying.
- We're looking at the option of charging for parking. The equity implications of this is tough – some low income people don't have access to biking and transit.

LCC: Luis Maggiori

*Actions*

- Increase the use of satellite centers and online offerings so people don't have to travel. The satellite campuses include Florence, Cottage Grove, Downtown, and the Airport. We will offer the main program online at satellite locations.

LCOG: Kelly Clarke

*Actions:*

- We're working on an update to regional transportation plan
- Start the project off with a strategic assessment - modeling and testing of different routes.
- Support Safe routes to schools.
- Maintain region traffic and land use models.

*Equity Discussion:*

- Regarding social equity - we're working on an overlay modeling of where the investments are made alongside where the communities of concern are with the underlying question: are those communities receiving investments?
- We comply with Title 6 program – present and discuss communities of concern.
- Selected but not yet adopted plan for reducing GHGs

Chamber Member representative – Local Government Affairs Committee & Schirmer-Satre Group – Carol Schirmer

*Role*

- Landscape architecture and planning firm.
- Action and Advocacy – we work with land use code. We advocate at city council for land use code changes for density, more housing so more people don't have to live outside of Eugene and commute.

Chamber Member representative – BEST and Better Housing Together – Rob Zako

*Role*

- We work on placing people where they don't have to drive as much.
- More people are moving to Eugene, so more housing within Eugene is needed.

University of Oregon – Emily Eng

*Actions:*

- We are promoting bicycling above other modes.
- We still need to have a long range transportation plan.
- Specific strategies for TDM. We do it, but not in a focused way.
- New transportation director David Reesor was just hired.
- We have excellent mode splits for students and staff when compared with city average.
- We are planning on increased student housing on campus, which keeps student residents from driving.
- We've got a conceptual design for 13<sup>th</sup> ave improvements – it'll include more walking and more open space.

### *Equity Discussion:*

- We need a wide range of options getting people to campus since not everyone can get to campus the same way.
- Increased housing on campus may be more expensive if it's new housing, which low income students might not be able to afford.

### Lane County – Monica Witzig

#### *Actions:*

- Lane County focuses on the boundary between rural and urban.
- Lane County includes outright access to agricultural uses in our codes making it easily achievable.
- We encourage open space outside urban growth boundary.
- First active transportation plan. We have traditionally focused on pavement preservation and maintenance.
- Support safe routes to school.
- Considering accessory dwelling units.
- Capital improvement – 5 year CIP adopted this year. Includes program dedicated funds for bike infrastructure.

### *Equity Discussion:*

- We need more outreach in other languages and modes.
- Target grant applications to allocate more resources for equity implications – we use data to back that up.
- Technology use in the rural area needs to be done in a considerate way because of a lot of tech illiteracy in rural areas.
- Working with LCOG on projects
  - Redesign of Beaver and Hunsaker – 3 years funding.
  - Transportation and Growth Management – state hired consultants for management.

### City of Eugene – Terri Harding

#### *Actions:*

- Partnership with LTD on Moving Ahead.
- Create Housing tools and strategies. The City Council has been discussing removing barriers to housing. We analyzed what actions most impactful. We're applying for money from state to audit land use code.
- Corridor redevelopment incentives – transportation development key corridors with high transit - lower cost of development along transit.
- Clear Lake – expanded urban growth boundary. Planning infrastructure investments out in clear lake. Added to envision Eugene but not yet funded.

### *Equity Discussion:*

- Working on housing has impacts on homelessness, low income, housing cost burdened (if you're paying 30% or more on housing and utilities).

- Unintended consequence of corridor redevelopment incentives: Displacement naturally occurring affordable housing. New ones are more expensive than previous.

## City of Eugene - Chelsea Hartman

### *Actions:*

- Implementing the pillars of Envision Eugene.
- Comprehensive plan – Working on housing, community livability, and resiliency. There are goals and policies to get us to these actions.
- Livability piece- mitigating for gentrification. We're focusing on how we develop the housing we need on existing footprint. Compact development is a chapter.

### *Equity Discussion:*

- Equity considerations – environmental quality and community resources. Is that built around taller buildings, ADUs, or a combination? The plan promotes infill and redevelopment.
- Barriers: A lot of density is allowed, but not built due to barriers. We need more data and modeling to determine what works.

## City of Eugene - Heather O'Donnell

### *Actions:*

- Increased minimum density required in medium density zones.
- Urban reserves planning – currently 20 year land supply. Urban reserves modeling will analyze land needs over a longer period of time. We've identified enough land for jobs and housing for 20 years but what about beyond that? This program will identify the area to grow into in the next 30-50 years. The equity benefits of this planning are in economies of scale - plan for those areas, makes it more affordable when developed.
  - There's a general fear/negative perception of utilizing urban reserve areas
  - A negative consequence of planning in advance is that once identified as an urban reserve area, it can have an impact to the cost of that land because of speculations. There's the possibility of building it out quicker than we thought.
- Growth monitoring program - track those key indicators to determine if we're growing faster or slower than planned.

### *Equity Discussion:*

- Cost of housing
- Amount of time it takes to develop land.

## City of Eugene - Rob Inerfeld:

- Investments in active transportation infrastructure. Projects planned:
  - Bethel, Beltline to western edge of city.
  - South and Central Eugene - Protected bikeways.
  - Parks Bond funds - lighting for shared use paths – help in the winter when dark.
  - Safe routes to school.
  - HWY 99 transferred from state to city – sidewalk between prairie and Maxwell.
  - River road and Bethel connections.

- We've received MPO funding for Transportation System Plan management policy and code updates:
  - Currently there are light TDM requirements for developers. We plan to make TDM stronger, especially multifamily, to incentivize no cars in first place. Example Echo apartments. We will work with developers upfront.
- Urbanism Next project - Initiative with U of O National Institute to develop policies around autonomous vehicles to ensure they are used in a way that reduces overall driving. The policies will promote electric and shared autonomous vehicles when they come to town.

## Future Climate Conditions in Eugene – presented by Josh Proudfoot

Josh presented on the Future Climate Conditions whitepaper - what we can expect the future conditions in Eugene to be in the next 30 – 100 years from climate change. Some key anticipated changes included:

- Increase population - Increased economic activity in Oregon with decrease in the South and Midwest.
- Hotter and drier summers 10-12 degrees Fahrenheit warmer by 2100.
- Warmer winters with the same amount of precipitation, but less snow/more rain. Snowpack in Cascades nearly gone by 2040.
- Increased wildfires – 500-600 percent more surface area by 2040.
- Halved summer stream flows by 2040.
- Turnover of vegetation to a different vegetation regime by 2080.

## Adaptation Actions of Each Organization – Facilitated by Josh Proudfoot

City of Eugene – Kevin Holman

### *Actions:*

- Zoning around wild land and the urban interface
- Access routes - larger roads.
- We need to plan for potable water. Algae blooms will increase if using our dams for flood control. Silt and mud in water systems. Mudslides will increase.

### *Equity Discussion:*

- Land owners vs renters – we need fairness around zoning.
- Not everyone can relocate temporarily when water becomes undrinkable.

Lane County - Monica Witzig

### *Impacts and Actions:*

- Defensible space – fire concern. We've had success in the past with the fire wise incentive program. It provides incentives for property owners above and beyond forest zones with roof shingles to change from wood to a different kind. First come first serve. Eventually the firewise incentive program ran out of funding. Wants to do more education around this.
- Water availability is an issue – developers should show that they can provide that resource prior to development.

- Transportation – active transportation plan.
- Road system is not connected – deferring to the city’s transportation requirements for all roads.
- Better streamline process for developers.
- Improve protections for agriculture, forest, and water. Code update – includes outright allowing forest management practices and watershed floodplain restoration.

## Eugene Chamber of Commerce Representative – Rob Zako – Better Eugene Springfield Transportation

### *Discussion of Impacts:*

- Increase in population – double in the next 50 years, which means we need to fit more people on our roads and fit more housing, building in a compact way without expanding our urban growth boundary.
- Example – if we expand our roads, for example expanding Willamette = removing important structures, which might not be feasible. We need to provide different options for getting around.
- No plans for population growth.
- Dedicated bus lanes – are we looking at them enough? River Rd and MLK might be options.
- It’s difficult to get a housing project approved.

## City of Eugene - Heather O’Donnell

### *Actions:*

- Population projections every 3 years. Keep an eye on things that are happening and right the ship when things are happening.

## LCOG - Kelly Clarke

### *Actions:*

- LCOG maintains GIS data for the county. We are a resource – provide technical analytics for adaptation efforts. For example, moving housing away from fire zones or flood zones – we have tree layers. GIS – forest canopy – can make connections of how land use practices impact the canopy.
- Coordinate where emergency routes cross boundaries.
- Make sure our projects are aligned with other projects and plans.
- Do you take into account population change from climate?
  - We forecast population. We get it from Portland State University.

## LCC – Luis Maggiori

### *Actions:*

- We’d like to be a partner in teaching people of adaptation strategies.
- We have a water conservation program.

## U of O – Emily Eng

### *Discussion*

We aren’t doing adaptation planning.

- U of O is defined by its open space.

- We are planning to house more students.
- We're not currently planning much development near the flood plain. The riverfront development is above. Athletics might be in it – but not sure what athletics is planning.

## LTD – Andrew Martin

### *Discussion of impacts:*

- Josh Proudfoot – flooding on north end and fire on south end.
- Andrew Martin, LTD - Active transportation modes don't work when there's smoke due to fires.
- Heather O'Donnell, City of Eugene – Need growth management. Increased jobs and population both take land. It's a higher growth rate – increase in costs more than we anticipate. Integrating housing affordability and 20 minute neighborhoods.

## Key Takeaways and Next Steps – Facilitated by Chelsea Clinton

Everyone shared what they learned or took away from the meeting today.

Themes: Appreciated social equity focus, liked hearing what everyone is doing, collaboration opportunities around funding opportunities, learning more, incorporate youth, model moving forward, mitigation more of a focus than adaptation, build the table – glad there is a lot of sharing. Unique process.

Next steps: The City of Eugene will follow up on information you gave today.