

ESAC Meeting Notes 07-18-23

Next meeting is on 8-15-23!!

Elizabeth's items:

- Aggregation - EE provided the first draft of her presentation deck and walked attendees through the process and definition. The group offered feedback and identified generic questions which others attending a presentation are likely to have.
- Sustainable September
- Plastic Free July
- Waste at events - low sign-up for events in general. Several have offered to sign up. Question from LG - are there others in our network who might be interested? Could everyone send the sign-up Genius link to a few potential participants? Link is here: <https://www.signupgenius.com/go/904084aada72ba4fe3-waste#/>
- CDP Reporting
- Universal Recycling - begins January 1st. Steve Grossman asked if can share this info throughout the county (also was mentioned during a productive MORPC meeting later in the week)
- BCF grants: 1. 'Freedge' (free pantry but with refrigeration) possibly near north community garden; 2. lawn mower exchange program to support exchange of gas powered mowers for EVs; 3. Fixit Cafe for bikes, clothing, and computers
- Farmers' Market

Note re foreverware - reusable take-out containers - Addison researching this and will revert with her findings.

Note re fireworks - EE - suggestion to evaluate drone shows to replace actual fireworks. Note from Lisa G who had left this meeting - China has done this for several years. Would love to learn if other cities in the US are doing this.

Community Stakeholder Updates:

- City Counsel - Updates from Lori Feibel - 3 pieces of legislation in August: 1- to prevent 'mulch volcanoes' on medians. These are unhealthy for trees; 2 - an ordinance against noise - this is to incentivise landscapers to consider low impact machinery; 3 - Idling

- because of the negative impact to air quality there is interest in putting this into legislation.
- CSG - (notes from Corey Baker) We formally moved from SWACO to Rumpke for our waste and recycling collection. We've only been able to collect cardboard for the last two years and we're moving to fully commingled recycling. There's a lot of work to do but we're doing it. We're going to start strong in the fall - We're continuing with our all-school compost. Corey also expressed interest in connecting with the right team at Capital to advance the sustainability in schools initiative.
- Chamber of Commerce - note - Lisa G would love feedback from current ESAC group - is it appropriate / worthwhile to invite a member from the chamber to be part of ESAC? If there are no objections Lisa will connect with Bryan Drewry for his thoughts.
- Saint Charles - no update
- Bexley Schools - no update
- Capital University

Subcommittee Updates:

- Education / Outreach / Calendar and Activities - Sustainable September engagement with the library planned with Elizabeth. Elizabeth's strategy is to support engagement where sustainability is built into programming, rather than stand up specific, hosted events. EE asked if others might be interested in partnering on Sustainable September activities going forward. Proposal is to start strategizing in March.
- Race to 0 / Measure and Track - GHG inventory in progress. Jon Paul D'aversa working on tool for the city. Mayor would like for the committee to create a larger sustainability plan which connects four sectors (residential, transportation, commercial, municipal) - looking at energy, waste, water, etc for each sector. Ashley and EE have been working on a carbon disclosure project which they will share on 7/19. Absent climate goals the city can not obtain higher than a C rating.
- Transformation and Infrastructure - no update for this week.
- Biodiversity - There was discussion around the fact the city does not presently allow for a vegetable garden to be planted in the front yard of a resident. This is part of a larger goal for aesthetic

consistency, but is at odds with modern thinking around biodiversity.

- Biodiversity update from Rebecca - The next phase of the mosquito pilot program started this summer. It is a 4 year, \$750,000 study. The first two years are devoted to determining how urban green space and the concentration of local flowers affects bee health and mosquito abundance. This project is in collaboration with Franklin County community backyards with approximately 39 sites/residences that are distributed throughout the county. A few of these sites are located within Bexley.