

Agenda DATE 4 13/16 TIME 10:00 AND SERVEU BY MOREW POR

# SUSTAINABLE SANTA FE COMMISSION

Wednesday, April 20, 2016, 4:00 p.m.
Councilors' Conference Room, City Hall (200 Lincoln Avenue)

- A. CALL TO ORDER
- B. ROLL CALL
- C. APPROVAL OF AGENDA
- D. APPROVAL OF MINUTES: March 16, 2016
- E. COMMUNICATIONS FROM THE FLOOR
- F. REPORT FROM, AND ASSIGNMENT OF, ACTIONEER
- G. DISCUSSION/ACTION ITEMS
  - 1. Presentation: ECOPONEX, Benjamin Brant, CEO
  - 2. 25-year Sustainability Plan: committee updates
- H. ITEMS FROM THE CHAIR & CO-CHAIR
- I. ITEMS FROM THE COMMISSION
- J. ITEMS FROM STAFF
- K. ITEMS FROM THE PUBLIC
- L. ITEMS FOR NEXT AGENDA
- M. ADJOURNMENT

Next Meeting: May 18, 2016

NOTE: Persons with disabilities in need of accommodations, contact the City Clerk's office at 955-6520, five (5) working days prior to meeting date.

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Approval of Agenda	No changes.	Page 1
-	Ms. Hatherly moved to approve the agenda as presented, second by Commissioner Holian, motion carried by unanimous voice vote.	
Approval of Minutes	No Changes	Page 2
March 16, 2016	Ms. Smith moved to approve the minutes of March 16, 2016 as presented, second by Mr. Schiffbauer, motion carried by unanimous voice vote.	
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Adjournment	There being no further business to come before the Santa Fe Sustainable Commission, the meeting was adjourned at 6:20 pm	Page 8
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# SUSTAINABLE SANTA FE COMMISSION Wednesday, April 20, 2016, 4:00 to 6:20 p.m. Planning Conference Room, City Hall, 200 Lincoln Avenue

#### **MINUTES**

#### A. CALL TO ORDER

The Sustainable Santa Fe Commission meeting was called to order by Ms. Beth Beloff, Chair at 4:05 pm. A quorum was present at time of roll call.

#### B. ROLL CALL

#### Present:

Beth R. Beloff, Chair Teijinder Ciano Robb Young Hirsch Christian Casillas Amanda Hatherly Kathleen S. Holian Linda Smith Glenn Schiffbauer

#### **Not Present/Excused:**

Jack McGowan

#### **Public:**

Benjamin J. Brant, EcoPonex, Presenter Seth Roffman, Green Times Joe Eichner Lisa Logan Luke Spangenberg, Director of Bio Fuels, SFCC Nicholas Petrovich, SFCC

#### **Staff Present:**

John Alejandro, Staff Liaison Adam Schlachter, Santa Fe Solid Waste

Fran Lucero, Stenographer

#### C. APPROVAL OF AGENDA

No changes.

Ms. Hatherly moved to approve the agenda as presented, second by Commissioner Holian, motion carried by unanimous voice vote.

#### D. APPROVAL OF MINUTES: March 16, 2016

Ms. Smith moved to approve the minutes of March 16, 2016 as presented, second by Mr. Schiffbauer, motion carried by unanimous voice vote.

#### E. COMMUNICATIONS FROM THE FLOOR

Introduction of guests reflected above.

## F. REPORT FROM, AND ASSIGNMENT OF, ACTIONEER

#### **ACTIONEER LIST:** (Amanda Hatherly, Actioneer)

- Commissioner Holian will send the links for Jemez/Sangre Water Plan which includes, Galisteo, Santa Fe and Pojoaque basin. The Chair would also like Section 8 if available.
- John Alejandro: Will extend invitation to Morgan Day, Santa Fe Food Policy Council Coordinator to attend the May 18, 2016 meeting.
- Commissioner Holian: Ag Implementation group should be invited to the May meeting.
- John to contact Erin Ortigoza, Santa Fe County Community Planner directly).
  - o It was noted that 10 minutes will be allowed for the two above presentations.
- The Chair asked for feedback from the Sustainable Santa Fe Commission and she has not received any comments to date. May 18<sup>th</sup> would be the drop down date for preliminary summary reports and asked Commission members to think about it not only informing the community but the contractor as well.
- John will send "Energy Report Cards" on the city buildings as they develop. Mr. Alejandro and Mr. David Pfeifer, Facilities Director will be creating a report card that details valuable statistics on usage and budgetary reflection on how to save energy. The template should be ready within 30-days and shared with the city departments.
- Note: Please advise if members would like to go paperless for the meeting collateral.
- List of new Committee Chairs and City Council members has been distributed as an informational piece.
- Mr. Alejandro to forward the resolution for the Verde fund after City Attorney has reviewed and approved for distribution.
- Tour Santa Fe Community College regarding the ECOPONEX project.
- Invite the students from Monte del Sol, one or two students who receive the highest grade on their reports. Mr. Casillas will send out the agenda for this activity in hopes that Commission members will be able to participate.
- Send ideas on the science spots. The Chair will send some of the tapes around and noted that they are not copyrighted at this point.

#### G. DISCUSSION/ACTION ITEMS

- 1. Presentation: ECOPONEX, Benjamin Brant, CEO
  - a. Luke Spangenberg, Director of Bio Fuels, Santa Fe Community College Mr. Spangenberg provided the introduction on the plan to develop a Renewable Energy Efficient Farm at Santa Fe Community College. An agreement was signed today with ECOPONEX and SFCC which will also

allow us to train directly here in Santa Fe. Note that we don't have water so this is critical and we do not grow food in our city.

Mr. Alejandro added that early on, when briefed on this project and through the presentation they understood the factors of this project and the benefits. This is a tangible project that is getting off the ground to help Santa Fe be an example for the rest of the country on how this can be done and how it can be replicated. This is the first for us in New Mexico.

(Let the record reflect that the presentation was followed by the Commission members through a power point presentation).

Mr. Brant: Note: Created the first City of Santa Fe Comprehensive Water Conservation Plan in 1990 that was implemented.

Defined areas in presentation:

- > Food Security and Health Issues in New Mexico
- > The Food-Water Energy Nexus
- > Our Solution: REEF
- > REEF Program with SFCC, in two phases over the next 32-36 months, first phase small scale of urban model.
- ➤ Location of Micro-REEF at SFCC will be in the old track and field area that is currently unused.
- > Plan is to produce "renewable food" vs. imported "fossil food".
- > Closes community food waste energy loop.
- > Major benefits and significance of REEF program.
- > Establishment of relationship with Mexico and Dutch entities. Provides endless international opportunities.
  - Excited to be here to develop a tool kit to establish targeted milestones. Master Plan for Sustainability and Economic Development – Food, Renewable Energy and Water.
- (Power Point will be provided to the Sustainable Santa Fe Commission as part of the minutes.)

The Chair would like to have this presentation posted on the city website when received. Thank you to Mr. Brant for attending today's meeting and willingness to share this information and provide future information.

Question: Who is providing the funding? Mr. Brant noted that 2/3 of the project would have public/federal underwriting. They are also working with USDA for funding. Mr. Brant noted that they are working with New Mexico Lt. Governor Sanchez for funding opportunities through the State Investment fund.

Mr. Alejandro reiterated that major stakeholders have been contacted and this opportunity is one of the best to follow, it is an exemplary model in keeping the focus on the community and it being local. We have so much to offer in our city and what a great benefit it is to work with SFCC. The Chair would like to have an opportunity to tour the facility.

#### 2. 25-Year Sustainability Plan: Committee Updates

Teijinder Ciano: Waste Working Group
The working group met last week – Environmental Services Director made a presentation, Waste Committee will provide feedback and work on

recommendations. Once there are more solid recommendations they will be sent to the Chair for review.

Christian Casillas: Climate Group

Next meeting is May 11<sup>th</sup> and we should have a finalized draft that can be sent to the Consultant and City Staff.

Linda Smith: Energy

The group has settled on 3 priorities: Performance Contracting – (sample and request for qualifications have been sent to Mr. Alejandro). Advocate for optimizing the financial benefit for performance contracting; that means using the maximum financing terms and applying it to all buildings that the city intends to hold on to. Advocate for fast tracking the timeline to capture the savings. Secondly, the city is moving forward on the Energy Report Card to engage occupants and all city employees to save energy and water in the environment they work in. Feedback on energy usage is important. We have asked the Mayor for an Executive Order to encourage energy savings. Thirdly - Energy Pace, Property Assessed Clean Energy. This sub-committee has worked with the industry to identify commercial customers.

The Chair led a Solar Brainstorm meeting with members from different industries, one being the solar energy industry. The Chair quickly reviewed selected City goals. Noted were some of the barriers to increasing solar presentation in the city. One of the comments discussed was the time it takes for the permitting process. There is a great issue regarding public awareness on solar. The city will need to engage the community and the governmental entities to create the awareness. The real estate industry is not informed on solar benefits. There was discussion on going directly to the PUC related to Utility Company involvement. There was discussion on solar installations for commercial and to perhaps have the city broker a meeting with the banking and building industry to explain the benefit of building solar in commercial properties. The Chair would like to have that small brain storm group. (Summary included, Exhibit A)

Ms. Smith noted that they would like to create a drop box to help with sharing and accessing material. One suggestion was Google groups.

John Alejandro: In meeting with Dave Pfeiffer from Facilities and reviewing the report from ESCO, the staff is evaluating and identifying the facilities to target. We know there are five facilities that are energy hogs and we are trying to identify additional facilities. All of this information will be put in to a matrix and provided to the Governing Body for review. This is a Facility Division priority and moving quickly.

Glenn Schiffbauer: Transportation

It was noted that it has been difficult in arranging meetings with certain individuals. NCTRD and MPO contacts have been made. They do have reports that will be helpful towards the April deadline. Transit has their master plan, MPO may be experiencing some shifts of staffing, but we continue to get information from them. Their plan is more than 5 years but less than 10 years to coincide with the Sustainable Santa Fe Master Plan.

Councilor Harris provided information on the Transit Program and offered his assistance if there are questions that the Commission would like to have answered to please contact him directly; it is entirely appropriate. Councilor Harris will provide Mr. Alejandro with the contact name to assist Mr. Schiffbauer.

Amanda Hatherly: Building Environment Group

- Development build list has been created working on live groups right now.
- Education Group: Creation of short-term and long-term goals should be wrapped up by next week.
- Sustainable Santa Fe Awards This is a big undertaking for a volunteer to do, the city did do it in the past. The Women in Green group in Santa Fe is co-hosting a conference with the Green Chamber of Commerce. Sustainable Santa Fe Awards could take place at that time, possible at the end of the evening. Women in Green could take that task on. There would need to be collaboration on identifying what the award criterion is and judging. The Chair is excited about this opportunity.

It was the feeling from the members that this topic required more discussion. The Chair provided clarity; they would have the City, Green Chamber, Sustainable Santa Fe Commission and Women in Green would work on the Sustainable Santa Fe Awards. Women in Green would manage the details. The Chair asked Ms. Hatherly to come back to the commission and explain how this would work. Ms. Hatherly reiterated that there are no entities nor anyone from the Sustainable Santa Fe Commission stepping up to coordinate this event and it is a huge commitment of time. Mr. Hirsch wants to be assured that every Commission member has an opportunity to offer nominations. Ms. Hatherly said there are more details in coordinating this event that should be discussed.

Mr. Alejandro – Katherine Mortimer spent a lot of time outing on this event and it was time consuming. There was funding available in previous years, and unfortunately that is not the case. The suggestion was possible partnering with a non-profit or another organization to continue this endeavor.

Mr. Ciano asked what the budget was primarily spent on in past years. Mr. Alejandro said that it was partly advertising and staff time. Mr. Ciano said; "if it is a matter of people power, we could develop the framework and then enlist groups like Women of Green and task out different sections of it and have particular commissioner be the point person."

Mr. Schiffbauer noted that there could possibly be funding from the Green Chamber for this event if they coordinate and shared the sequence of events. He would like to see this Commission be involved.

The Chair directed; based on the feedback received that a design plan be created on how we could combine the 4 entities, the tasks, judging and how it would all work. A meeting will be held away from the formal monthly meeting to review and report back to the Sustainable Santa Fe Commission.

Mr. Robb Hirsch: Social Equity

Meeting was held to discuss the main issues; feedback is to help support the city so they can have a reliable funding source for all of these initiatives. Mr. Hirsch welcomes anything that we can do to be supportive of that; one element is engaging our community on these issues so

constituency is being heard. The survey has been an excellent tool for strategy and cost. Our Chair has put up almost half the cost of the survey and we need a matching supporter for this environmental stewardship endeavor. Meeting opportunities will continue with others to solicit support. The Chair noted that we are looking for a \$10,000 match.

Mr. Hirsch: The group still feels importance for the immediate fiscal year to not cut the bus service in low income areas, pilot some weatherization support, etc. If there is a way to support the rental assistance program for low income families that would help minimize the transport need. Another of the issues is not to consolidate the transportation system and keep it with the city. These are some samples of the issues.

#### Commissioner Holian

Water Sub-Committee; we have not convened a smaller sub-group. The Jemez/Sangre Water Plan is being worked on and it includes about 150 people, not only city and county but a broader population. This larger effort could be incorporated in to the 25-year sustainable plan or we could take it out of that plan if that would meet the needs of the Sustainable Santa Fe Plan. Next meeting is May 23<sup>rd</sup> and hopes are to have a good final draft by the beginning of June. The Commissioner offered to make a presentation to the Sustainable Santa Fe Commission and get input before the Jemez/Sangre Water Plan is finalized. The Commissioner is also coordinating a workshop and invited anyone who can talk about water topics, i.e., for example taking water from egg to use in the cities, should that be our principle or not. She would also like to talk about the whole issue of Regionalization. We share one main watershed; we need to have everyone understand that we need to keep that watershed healthy. Once the details are more formalized, Commissioner Holian will invite and provide additional information to the Sustainable Santa Fe Commission. Ms. Hatherly offered to help Commissioner Holian.

Food Group: Commissioner Holian has not created a separate sub-group as the Food Policy Group is very inclusive of the same topics discussed. Santa Fe County has arranged for 5 kick-off meetings to get people in who are involved with Agriculture and get them to talk about how we bring agriculture back in to our areas. We still have a lot of farmland in this area, and farmlands have water rights. Unfortunately that land is not being farmed; how do we make that happen? At a recent meeting in Pojoaque some of the questions/comments were; we need to create a resource plan, how do we hook up the schools with some of the farmers, i.e., growing carrots and more. There is a lot to be said about "low tech" agriculture, we use to grow everything. There are aging community members that own the farming land but can't farm any longer. Mid Region Council of Governments has created the land-link program to link the elders with the young population who want to farm the land. Mr. Ciano said he can help with connecting these two populations. The Chair asked the members to come to the Agricultural meetings sponsored by Santa Fe County. It was noted that these initial meetings are to scope out the questions and to get back to hearing from our constituents, "how can we feed ourselves?"

Environmental Protection and Restoration Working Group Committee – The Chair and Mr. Alejandro held a meeting on April 5, 2016 which resulted in a positive outcome with various attendees. It was noted that there is a need to have representation from the Watershed in the group. They talked about carbon sync, about categories and what should and should not be included. There was 11ot of conversation of root causes and eco systems amongst other things. It resulted in coming up with a plan to do a visioning session to look at the conditions we want in 2040 regarding environmental issues. What are the indicators of progress that need to pair up with the other areas. Next meeting will be very interesting and it could be replicated in other Committees. Next meeting is May  $2^{nd}$ , 11-1 pm. (Exhibit B)

#### H. ITEMS FROM THE CHAIR & CO-CHAIR

#### Chair: RFP Process

Mr. Alejandro informed the Commission that they have received 7 proposals and the Screening Committee is in process of evaluating and scoring them. The hopes are to have them completed by middle of next week and have a selection by end of next week. If the score is close, the Selection Committee can bring the applicant in for interviews. Once the process is all complete, recommendations go to the Governing Body for approval. The hopes would be to have someone on line by end of May or first part of June, 2016 to start the collaboration process. Mr. Alejandro will look in to when the names of the applicants can be shared with the Commission members.

The Chair, together with a Nuclear Physicist friend of hers are putting together 5-minute sound bites on solar science, carbon science and have come with 3 or 4 briefs. She would like feedback if they should be on public radio or TV and website. These are audio tapes with power point takes to help educate the public about the science side of things. The Chair will ask if they can be shared at this point. Santa Fe County would like to have them as well.

#### I. ITEMS FROM COMMISSIONERS

Christian Casillas informed the Commission members about his collaboration with teachers from Monte del Sol Charter School for Earth Day on May 11<sup>th</sup>. There will be 11<sup>th</sup> and 12<sup>th</sup> graders that will be brainstorming ideas on what would help the city with carbon neutrality by 2040. Request to Commission members is if anyone from the Commission or work groups would be willing to be there (from 12-2:30 pm) and be subject matter experts and give advice to the students and be a judge on the proposals that these groups issue. One of the two top proposal student winners could be invited to the next Sustainable Santa Fe Commission meeting on May 18<sup>th</sup> and share one or two of their proposals.

#### J. ITEMS FROM STAFF

Thank you to Councilor Harris for coming to the meeting and supporting the Commission.

Adam Schlachter from Solid Waste reported that as part of the Joint Powers Board – you can bring all of your waste for free, no fee assessed.

Earth Care and Master Gardner's got together to kick of Compost Day – we will be offering a discount for backyard compost bins. Distribution on August 27<sup>th</sup>.

#### K. ITEMS FROM THE PUBLIC

Councilor Harris would like to be on the distribution list and continue to keep up with the Commission, participate and advocate. Councilor Harris was a strong advocate before the City Council on the approved resolution which focused on Arts Plus Creativity Center, this is a commitment to donate or contribute 5 acres to the Interface Group. The Councilor proposed some amendments on finances and density and stated that we need to get the most value for our money. Councilor Harris issued an amendment that there be goals consistent with the Sustainable Santa Fe Commission. After a lot of discussion we ended up with a smaller scale not specific to renewable energy. Once the resolution is ready for distribution, Mr. Alejandro

will share with the Commission as it pertains strongly to working with this group. Councilor Harris will be meeting with Dan Worwith and invited John Alejandro to attend.

Councilor Harris met with Presbyterian Health Care Services to talk about their proposed new hospital. (District 4) He did mention Sustainable Santa Fe and was pleased to hear about their plans. The Chair has also met with PHS to promote renewable energy. One of the thoughts is to sit down with them and discuss reasonable cost estimates, as a non-profit they were not aware that they could sell solar credits. Future meeting would be extremely helpful. It was also recommended that they go for LEED certification. PHS is happy to be here and very open to innovation.

Teijinder Ciano asked if there is any way to guarantee that the recycling and waste management plan is in effect. Councilor Harris said he would talk about this tomorrow at the Solid Waste meeting and get back to the Commission.

Seth Roffman – Noted that there is a comprehensive view on water issues in the Green Fire Times issue this month.

Mr. Spangenberg from SFCC suggested that polling be done with the students. They continue to be trained; they will stay in Santa Fe and buy in to the Sustainability Plan. The Chair commented on the random sample and noted that polling doesn't keep us from going to students, La Familia or other places. We are looking for a base line of thinking in the community to begin introducing the issues and to understand the priorities. We need a good sample of the entire population to know where our community is.

Mr. Alejandro reiterated that we are interested in all of those things and we are interested in what they don't know.

#### L. ITEMS FOR NEXT AGENDA

Invite Santa Fe Food Policy Director Morgan Day to next meeting.
Invite Erin Ortigoza, Santa Fe County Community Planner to next meeting.
Invite Ag Group to next meeting.
Proposal and information for Sustainable Santa Fe Awards to come back to the Commission members for discussion.

### M. NEXT MEETING May 18, 2016

#### N. ADJOURN

There being no further business to come before the Sustainable Santa Fe Commission, the meeting was adjourned at 6:20 pm.

# Santa Fe Sustainable Santa Fe Commission

Signature Sheet:

Beth Beloff, Chair

Fran Lucero, Stenographer

# Solar Brainstorm Meeting April 14, 2016 Brief Notes for Energy Working Group

**Solar Companies Present:** 

Installation Companies: Amenergy (Peter Page), CST Solar (Dan Baker, Diane Roembach)

Project Developer: Heath Foundation (Diane Berdal)

City/County: John Alejandro, Craig O'Hare

SSFC: Beth Beloff

Beth Beloff quickly reviewed selected City's Goals

50% energy generation/usage with Renewable Energy by 2025

Carbon Neutral by 2040

NOTE: Suggested that the Energy Working Group suggest Roadmap of Targets (e.g., Yr 5, 10, 15)

John reviewed City's current plans, affordable housing projects, and status of Verde Fund.

#### **SOLAR DISCUSSION**

**Barriers to Solar Expansion:** 

- Process: excess time lags, multi-party coordination and signoff
  - City/County Permitting
    - Often experience a 3-4 weeks or longer time lag in City permitting process
    - On-line Permitting Process suggested
    - Suggest increase permit fee from \$40 to \$150 to pay for more staff to move permitting along
    - Joint City/County review vs hierarchical review process (county reviews, then city reviews). Example: solar ground mount requires county review even if in the city
    - Suggested review Permitting Steps and time lapse between tasks to tighten
    - To Do: John/Craig to review items with City and County staff

#### o PNM

- If the transmission line used for the interconnect has > 15% co-generation, PNM can evoke a Secondary Review of the interconnect agreement.
- This Secondary Review has no maximum time lapse requirement. This secondary review can add 1 month or more to the permitting process.
- This is an archaic rule from the 1970s that has created a loophole slowing down solar installations. As more solar comes online, this application of this rule will increase.
- Goal: shrink from 12 weeks to less than 6 weeks for all permitting for a 4 day solar installation job.
- To Do: Solar companies to write 2-3 page white paper to provide to PRC for awareness of issue. County/City could possibly raise issue through formal PRC hearing process.
- o HOAs and Solar Rights
  - Home Owner Associations often require reviews of planned installations, in addition to standard permitting processes
  - This can create excessive time lags (e.g., HOA planning committee only meets once per month).
  - Perception that some HOA's overstep the consumer's solar rights, as defined in State Attorney's written opinion 12-0011.
  - Suggestion: City/County could clarify guidelines regarding solar rights and HOAs, for potential inclusion in Land Use Codes.
  - To Do: Solar companies to research and summarize HOA issues and send to Commissioner Holian for review by County.

Frehibit A

#### Oureach/Awareness

- o Public not aware of Decreased Costs of Solar over last couple of years
  - Strong education push a couple of years ago, including pricing. So public has misperception of today's affordability given decrease in equipment costs
  - City never funded a Solarize Santa Fe campaign, only County. Make a commitment to marketing solar in the City.
- Public and Real Estate Industry not educated on solar's impact on property valuation
  - Real Estate agents and home owners concerned over solar being a positive or negative on home valuation and quick resale: aesthetics, aging system, terms/contract
  - Appraisers don't understand how to value solar installations
  - LANL had created a Home Solar Value model (not stated when created or if recently updated)
  - Recent focus has been on contract terms and conditions of loan, lease or PPA. Example: current owner may have to buyout contract in order for clean sale to new owner, creating cash burden on current owner
  - Note: the following articles are provided for insight (not covered in the meeting)
    - Recent Study <a href="http://newscenter.lbl.gov/2015/01/13/berkeley-lab-illuminates-price-premiums-u-s-solar-home-sales/">http://newscenter.lbl.gov/2015/01/13/berkeley-lab-illuminates-price-premiums-u-s-solar-home-sales/</a>
    - Real Estate Article: <a href="http://realtytimes.com/consumeradvice/sellersadvice1/item/33973-20150331-solar-panels-may-effect-your-homes-value-in-either-direction">http://realtytimes.com/consumeradvice/sellersadvice1/item/33973-20150331-solar-panels-may-effect-your-homes-value-in-either-direction</a>

#### Funding

- Need 4% financing to make solar projects affordable for homeowners (Dan Baker, CST)
- Residential loans are available at good rates for qualified buyers.
  - Issue is many people don't know where to get these loans or have misperception of cost and value of solar system.
- Large Projects, particularly for government and non-profit property owners, need private party wanting the tax benefits
- Commercial property owners viewed as an untapped market
  - Mix of Owner-Occupied vs Leased Commercial Property
  - Find owner-occupied properties through county assessor
  - Commercial businesses have variety of decision processes
    - o Save on energy costs
    - Only invest in assets that hit their hurdle rate (e.g., best use and return of available funds)
  - Often use line of credit; commercial loans are available but excessive time and data requirements to secure loan
  - Marketing to commercial properties is big issue!
- To Do: facilitate a meeting with 3 lenders and 10 solar companies to address 1) how to shrink the process of getting a loan for commercial solar installations, and 2) to build the story as to why solar and EE are a good investment on commercial properties. Include Nusenda's Denise Austin.

#### Environmental Protection and Restoration Working Group April 5, 2016

In attendance: Jan-Willem Jansens, Teresa Seamster, Eytan Krasilovsky, Porfirio Chavarria, Julie Weinstein, Mary Schruben, Beth Beloff, John Aleiandro

**Absent: John Horning** 

The meeting opened with discussion of background on the Sustainable Santa Fe Commission's mandate to work with the Renewable Energy Planner to develop a 25 year comprehensive sustainability plan and a carbon neutral plan. The structure of the working groups and key objectives of this effort were presented, as well as timeline and deliverables. The timeframe for the deliverables was questioned – 3-5 years, 5-7 years, 7-10 years, and 10+ years. In the discussion, it was raised that planning timeframes should coincide more with reasonable evaluation cycles and measurable results, all of which might require longer timeframes to evaluate results. Further, plans need to be adaptable to future conditions.

In discussing the make-up and "goals" for the EP&R working group, numerous suggestions and observations were made:

- Invite SFe Watershed Association to join the group representing the watershed side. John A. will
  contact Andy Otto to discuss his participation in both the Water and the EP&R groups.
- Teresa suggested that we perhaps meet with the Water group to further discuss overlapping areas. She emailed a valuable resource for our consideration: BLM Riparian-Forest Restoration Project analysis for Santa Fe River Canyon:
- http://www.blm.gov/style/medialib/blm/nm/field\_offices/taos/taos\_planning/docs.Par.76233.Fi le.dat/Santa%20Fe%20River%20Canyon%20%20Proposed%20Action,%20Alternatives%2011.1.10 JES.pdf
- Involve representatives from US Fish and Game and BLM to be Advisors as needed. In particular, ensure that we are familiar with the SFe National Forest Plan Revision.
- Establish a VISION for this working group of future desired conditions. The visions from each
  working group can roll up to a larger vision for the overall planning process.
- In addressing a goal of improving the land and its ability to sequester CO2, Jan-Willem pointed out that, according to a 2012 study by Worldwatch Institute (by Sara Scherr and Sajal Sthapit) (<a href="http://www.worldwatch.org/system/files/179%20Land%20Use.pdf">http://www.worldwatch.org/system/files/179%20Land%20Use.pdf</a>), 23% of carbon sequestered by land is captured in the soil. Therefore, we should explore ways to enhance carbon uptake of the soil.
- Jan-Willem discussed revising our categories of consideration by exploring root causes and symptoms, cycles and timelines (particularly the carbon cycle), and identifying indicators of progress. Identify ranges of flows, city-wide ebb and flows of economic activity, energy or water consumption, etc., and pathways to better understand the integrated systems we are considering.
- Add back the goal of maintaining our high air and water quality. Again, explore what are the factors that degrade and support those environmental services.
- Boulder's use of sustainability metrics were offered as an example of how to, for example, trade
  off development rights with green returns, such as carbon sequestration.
- Given the overlapping considerations between working groups, we can help inform other groups
  through the use of accounting for development and reviewing land use plans from the
  standpoint of balancing needs human and ecosystem. Water budgeting as expressed in the La
  Cienega hydro-geology report reveals potential issues of economic fairness when urban water
  use affects rural water supplies. We need to look beyond jurisdictional boundaries to understand
  the systems in which impacts occur.
- Management systems in City and County are just as important a part of the planning effort as are the elements of the plan.

Copy but B

- In fireshed management, what resilience strategies should be employed? Need for a landscape assessment from the point of view of fire danger.
- Other resources for our effort:
  - o Wetlands Action Plan for SFe County
  - o 7 Open Space Management Plans for SFe County
  - US Fish and Game: biological data; maps indicating wildlife habitats and recreation trails/roads to ID conflicts.
- Mary Schruben discussed tree inventories that The Tree Board is conducting. These inventories include Santa Fe parks and some streetscapes and provide information of the quality of trees In terms of drought tolerance, age, condition, fire resistance, etc. The use of I-Tree can be helpful in continuing tree inventories elsewhere in the City. Mary mentioned that SFPS is doing an inventory of their plants on school properties in terms of fire and drought resistance. The urban treescape in the tourist areas of town have an old tree stock, with 80% of the trees dying. With respect to urban trees, we need an inventory of the carbon sequestration potential of various species and an inventory of trees from the standpoints of carbon sequestration, drought resistance, and fire resistance, as well as plans for the future.
- Include wildlife migration corridors and landscape corridors in planning effort.
- Air quality issues in Santa Fe are primarily from dust and smoke and are episodic. How can we reduce such episodes?
- The importance was noted of change management and City management structures for sustainability that encourage developing new ideas, programs, projects from cross-boundary thinking.

For the next meeting on May 2, 11:00-1:00 (lunch will be provided), we will do the following:

- Develop a VISION: what are the conditions we want in 2040 regarding environmental issues?
- Do a category-setting exercise, using Post-It notes with ideas from all and grouping in logical sets.
- Consider what are the indicators of progress by category
- What is the finance and political timeline for this planning process and how do we conceive of planning timeframes given these external timing factors?