



# Agenda

DATE 7/12/12 TIME 7:50a  
SERVED BY Katherine Mortimer  
RECEIVED BY [Signature]

## SUSTAINABLE SANTA FE COMMISSION

Tuesday, July 17, 2012  
City Council Conference Room  
Santa Fe, NM  
3:00 to 5:00 p.m.

- A. CALL TO ORDER
- B. ROLL CALL
- C. APPROVAL OF AGENDA
- D. APPROVAL OF MINUTES – April 17, 2012
- E. COMMUNICATIONS FROM THE FLOOR
- F. STAFF COMMUNICATIONS
  - 1. Report on Food Policy Council activities
  - 2. Report on City's Staff Green Team
  - 3. Report on lessons learned from Institute for Sustainable Community Urban Sustainability Leadership Academy
  - 4. Opportunity for Institute for Sustainable Community Academy on Adaptation to Climate Change
- G. PRESENTATIONS/DISCUSSION/ACTION ITEMS
  - 1. Report from Climate Change Adaptation Conference (L. Pape/ E. Chiocchio)
  - 2. Solid Waste Advisory Committee Representation Update (K. Shanahan/L. Pape)
  - 2. Environmental Management System (EMS) Update (E. Lloyd-Ortigoza)
  - 3. Development Code Update (K. Shanahan)
  - 4. Plan for setting 2012/2013 priorities (K. Mortimer)
- H. ITEMS FROM THE CHAIR
- I. ITEMS FROM THE COMMISSION
- J. ADJOURNMENT

**Next Meeting: – August 21, 2012**

**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.**

**INDEX OF MINUTES**  
**SUSTAINABLE SANTA FE COMMISSION**  
**July 17, 2012**

<b>ITEM</b>	<b>ACTION TAKEN</b>	<b>PAGE(S)</b>
<b>A. CALL TO ORDER</b>	<b>Convened</b>	<b>1</b>
<b>B. ROLL CALL</b>	<b>Quorum</b>	<b>1</b>
<b>C. APPROVAL OF AGENDA</b>	<b>Approved</b>	<b>2</b>
<b>D. APPROVAL OF MINUTES: April 17, 2012</b>	<b>Approved [as amended]</b>	<b>2</b>
<b>E. COMMUNICATIONS FROM THE FLOOR</b>		<b>2</b>
<b>F. STAFF COMMUNICATIONS</b>		
1. Report on Food Policy Council Activities		2-3
2. Report on the City's Staff Green Team		3
3. Report on lessons learned from Institute for Sustainability Community Urban Sustainability Leadership Academy		3-4
4. Opportunity for Institute for Sustainable Community Academy on Adaptation to Climate Change		4
<b>G. PRESENTATIONS/DISCUSSION/ACTION ITEMS</b>		
1. Report from Climate Change Adaptation Conference		4-6
2. Solid Waste Advisory Committee Representation Update		6
3. Environmental Management System (EMS) Update		6
4. Development Code Update		7
5. Plan for setting 2012/2013 priorities		7
<b>H. ITEMS FROM THE CHAIR</b>	<b>None</b>	<b>7</b>
<b>I. ITEMS FROM THE COMMISSION</b>		<b>7</b>
<b>J. ADJOURNMENT</b>		<b>7-8</b>

**MINUTES OF THE**  
**CITY OF SANTA FE**  
**SUSTAINABLE SANTA FE COMMISSION**  
**July 17, 2012**

**CALL TO ORDER**

A meeting of the City of Santa Fe Sustainable Santa Fe Commission was called to order by Kim Shanahan, Vice Chair at 3:10 p.m. at the City Hall, City Councilors' Conference Room, Santa Fe, New Mexico.

**ROLL CALL**

Roll call indicated the presence of a quorum for conducting official business as follows:

**MEMBERS PRESENT:**

Bianca Sopoci-Belknap, Chair [arriving later]  
Kim Shanahan, Vice Chair  
Esha Chiocchio, via teleconference  
Faren Dancer  
Reina Fernandez  
Kim Kelly  
Louise Pape

**MEMBERS ABSENT:**

None

**STAFF PRESENT:**

Katherine Mortimer, City of Santa Fe Environmental Services Division  
Erin Lloyd-Ortigoza, Americorps Food Cadre Member  
Cindy Padilla, Environmental Services Division Director

**OTHERS PRESENT:**

Lisa Merrill, Solid Waste Management Agency  
Seth Roffman, *Green Fire Times*  
Jo Ann G. Valdez, Stenographer

## **APPROVAL OF AGENDA**

**Commissioner Dancer moved to approve the Agenda as published. Commissioner Pape seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously by voice vote.**

## **APPROVAL OF MINUTES:**

**April 17, 2012**

The following change was made to the Minutes of the April 17, 2012 meeting:

Page 8, last paragraph, Faron Dancer was changed to read: Faren Dancer.

**Commissioner Pape moved to approve the Minutes of the April 17, 2012 meeting as amended. Commissioner Shanahan seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously by voice vote.**

## **COMMUNICATIONS FROM THE FLOOR**

Introductions were made and the new Commissioners were welcomed to the Commission.

Seth Roffman of *Green Fire Times* said he is presently working on Native American green building issues and solutions for the August issue. The September issue will focus on a theme around the northern Rio Grande heritage area.

The Commission discussed the low percentage/rate of recycling that is done in the community of Santa Fe; and the fact that there is no program for construction waste. Commissioner Shanahan would like the Commission to be more representative of this issue to ensure that this does not die. He requested that this be an ongoing item on the agenda under Staff Communications so that the Commission can receive updates on what the City is doing about this issue.

## **STAFF COMMUNICATIONS**

### **1. Report on Food Policy Council Activities**

Ms. Mortimer reported that the Food Policy Council is working on assisting on the Farmers Market Association and a conservation easement group to put an agriculture easement on a farm in the north that is owned by the Bennett's. The idea is to come up with

some funds to help buy down the development rights so that the property owners can afford to encumber the property for agriculture purposes. They will be asking the County to use some of the COLPAC funds as a portion of the buy down of the development rights. Then they will be looking for a farmer or farmers.

Ms. Lloyd-Ortigoza said they are looking at a new model called “equity-trust”. More information can be found at the website: [equitytrust.org](http://equitytrust.org).

## **2. Report of the City’s Staff Green Team**

Ms. Mortimer reported that the City’s Staff Green Team has been meeting and have been trying to figure out what the goals will be. The one thing that stands out is community outreach and education and this will be a big goal for the Team.

Ms. Padilla noted that the Team wants to work on what is the best way to coordinate what “green” activities or sustainable programs the City has and educate city staff about the different programs within the City.

Ms. Padilla said with regard to increasing recycling within the City, the Green Team will be handling out recycling pledge cards. They will also be talking about water conservation, etc. She said they have talked about scheduling an event at City Hall for people and staff to get together and talk about the various sustainable programming.

## **3. Report on lessons learned from Institute for Sustainability Community Urban Sustainability Leadership Academy**

Ms. Mortimer attended the Institute for Sustainability Community Urban Sustainability Leadership Academy in June in Colorado. She met with directors of sustainability offices from around the country. She said it was really “eye-opening” in a number of ways.

Ms. Mortimer shared some of the lessons she learned while she was at the Academy. She said there is a new stronger focus on ecological adaptation, resiliency and food systems. She said Santa Fe has lost ground on this compared to other states. She noted that the Commission has included some of these aspects in the Sustainable SF Plan. Another thing that she learned is the frustration that the Commission and/or City have had affecting change in people, is felt in other places. She said a lot of this is out of fear and guilt. She explained that there are psychological stages that people go through. She said when you look at this;

you take a different approach in moving people along that continuum and you understand where people are coming from.

Ms. Mortimer said they have talked about bringing an instructor to Santa Fe to do a workshop later this year. She said another step is assessment.

Ms. Mortimer said when the Commission establishes the priorities and goals for the next year; she would like to have a workshop to introduce this, and the books that she purchased so that the Commission can be more effective moving forward.

Commissioner Shanahan asked if Ms. Mortimer could create a document that highlights what she learned and possibly this could be part of the Retreat.

Ms. Mortimer said she has some things that she can scan and e-mail to the Commissioners.

#### **4. Opportunity for Institute for Sustainable Community Academy on Adaptation to Climate Change**

Ms. Mortimer said the same organization that held the Academy that she attended in Colorado will be holding one on climate adaptation and resiliency in October. She said in this case, states can put together a five-people team and they are putting together a team and submitting an application that is due this Friday. The team will consist of Mayor Coss, Katherine Miller, Cindy Padilla, City Councilor Dominguez and County Commissioner Kathy Holian. The cost of the trip will be paid by the Academy, if the application is accepted.

### **PRESENTATIONS/DISCUSSION/ACTION ITEMS**

#### **1. Report from Climate Change Adaptation Conference**

[Copies of the report entitled *The Important Next Step: Involving the City of Santa Fe in the Climate Adaptation Movement* prepared by Louise Pape and Esha Chiochio dated July 18, 2012 were distributed. A copy is hereby incorporated to these Minutes as Exhibit "A".]

The United Nations Environmental Program and the University of Phoenix held an international conference entitled *Climate Adaptation Futures* for 750 top researchers, policy makers, and practitioners from around the world.

Commissioners Pape and Chiocchio said with climate change already beginning, policy makers, and efforts to tackle this serious problem weak and bogged down in political quagmires, the need to adapt to impending climate shifts is imminent.

Commissioners Pape and Chiocchio presented the information from Exhibit “A”. Please see Exhibit “A” for the specifics of this presentation.

Commissioner Pape said science is showing us that the world’s climate is shifting faster than predicted just a few years ago, and the changes are threatening in multiple ways. Efforts to curb greenhouse gas emissions are not occurring at all fast enough, giving us the imperative to move quickly towards planning for an altered, hotter future. By planning ahead and investing in adaptation and hazard mitigation measures today, our money will be more efficiently spent than paying for post-disaster reconstruction. Adaptation planning has been going on for years in multiple areas around the world; however, most areas have not begun.

Commissioner Pape explained that the climate is changing faster than predicted because multiple variables were omitted. Models did not include all significant variables that contribute to increased climate emissions because there were inadequate data to give definitive predictions. They also failed to present abrupt climate change: The 2007 Intergovernmental Plan on Climate Change model shows a slow, steady increase of temperatures over a long period of time, yet we now know that climates can change abruptly, and the modeling as failed to include this possibility. The worst case scenario in 2007 was sadly based on the assumption that the world would act quickly to reduce emissions. Now that worse case is no longer the worst projection.

Commissioner Pape said while coastal cities are focusing heavily on sea level rise, some cities in the Southwest have begun working on the threats facing us in the Southwest. The *Western Adaptation Alliance* currently includes Flagstaff, Tucson, Salt Lake City, Boulder, Aspen and Phoenix, and provides funding for community programming through federal, private and foundation grants. With the states of Nevada, Utah, Arizona and Colorado already involved, New Mexico is viewed as a next target state.

Commissioner Pape noted that the member cities have different approaches. Some cities are focusing primarily on key city department heads meeting and coordinating planning for such topics as increased heat, increase in fires, water issues, tourism threats, and more. Other cities are focusing more on involving their communities.

Commissioner Pape and Commissioner Chiocchio reported that Flagstaff has a useful city model and Flagstaff has many similarities to Santa Fe – about the same altitude and the

same population, high number of tourists, etc. Flagstaff heads of various departments have identified 115 climate impacts to city operations. Now the city council has passed a resolution to authorize all City operations to follow guiding principles on climate adaptation. Everything the city does now has to go through climate adaptation filters, giving city staff the authority to actually act on adaptation.

Commissioner Pape and Commissioner Chiocchio suggested that Santa Fe join the Western Adaptation Alliance and begin to review various models for formalizing adaptation actions. It is not enough to have the Sustainable Santa Fe Commission and a mitigation plan written in 2008. There is a strong need to involve department heads in getting up to speed on this topic, and building into every department an adaptation filter that ensures key operational decisions integrate and coordinate adaptation and resiliency. Key city staff from other cities can help facilitate this process, as well as membership in the *Western Adaptation Alliance*.

Commissioner Pape said other cities in New Mexico are discussing the need for beginning major adaptation planning, and while Santa Fe is about three years behind some cities in other states, we can become a leader in New Mexico.

Commissioner Dancer noted that the city of Boulder hired a Sustainability Director. He suggested that Santa Fe look into creating a Sustainable Department because he thinks this is what Santa Fe is lacking.

Commissioner Chiocchio said she is not sure what system will work best for Santa Fe; however Santa Fe needs some kind of sustainability filter. She requested that the Commission have a full day workshop to discuss this further and get leadership focused on this again. She noted that this process took over one year.

## **2. Solid Waste Advisory Committee Representation Update**

The next meeting is scheduled for August 1<sup>st</sup> and Commissioner Pape will be attending.

## **3. Environmental Management System (EMS) Update**

No report was given.



#### **4. Development Code Update**

Ms. Mortimer said the commercial green building code - that is modeled after all the edits were done after meeting with the commercial building community- has come out. Ms. Mortimer is now tasked with comparing the Code that came out with the edits that were recommended and what the group agreed to. She said the city is on path to get the commercial code adopted but this could take a couple of months.

#### **5. Plan for setting 2012/2013 priorities**

Following discussion on a plan to set the 2012/2013 priorities, there was consensus that the Commission would schedule a half-day retreat on August 21<sup>st</sup> (the regular date of the Commission meeting) and have a facilitator for the retreat. Councilor Rosemary Romero will be invited to be the facilitator. The retreat will be held at another location.

Chair Sopoci-Belknap said one of the goals of the retreat should be to do a report on the final status of the objectives that the Commission set.

#### **ITEMS FROM THE CHAIR**

There were no items from the Chair.

#### **ITEMS FROM THE COMMISSION**

Commissioner Pape said we should all be paying attention to what is happening to the corn crop in the United States because corn is in things like toothpaste and sweeteners and the prices are going to be going up.

#### **ADJOURNMENT**

##### **Schedule next meeting/ adjournment**

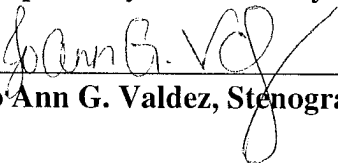
The next meeting is scheduled for August 21, 2012 from 1:00 p.m. to 5:00 p.m. This will serve as the retreat for the Commission.

Commissioner Pape moved to adjourn, second by Commissioner Shanahan, the meeting adjourned at 5:05 p.m.

**Approved by:**

\_\_\_\_\_  
**Bianca Sopoci-Belknap, Chair**

**Respectively submitted by:**

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
**Jo Ann G. Valdez, Stenographer**

# **The Important Next Step: Involving the City of Santa Fe in the Climate Adaptation Movement**

A Report on the United Nations Conference on Climate Adaptation

Tucson, May 2012

Notes by Louise Pape and Esha Chiochio

July 18, 2012

## **Overview:**

From May 29- May 31, 2012 in Tucson, Arizona, the **United Nations** Environmental Program and the University of Arizona held an international conference entitled ***Climate Adaptation Futures*** for 750 top researchers, policy makers, and practitioners from around the world. With climate change already beginning, and efforts to tackle this serious problem weak and bogged down in political quagmires, the need to adapt to impending climate shifts is imminent. The implications are complex and serious. Three solid days of lectures presented a wide array of research methodologies, results, and actions. The city of Santa Fe was represented by two members of the Sustainable Santa Fe Commission who wrote this report.

## **Major Theme:**

The science is showing us that the world's climate is shifting faster than predicted just a few years ago, and the changes are threatening in multiple ways. Efforts to curb greenhouse gas emissions are not occurring at all fast enough, **giving us the imperative to move quickly towards planning for an altered, hotter future.** By planning ahead and investing in adaptation and hazard mitigation measures today, our money will be more efficiently spent than paying for post-disaster reconstruction. Adaptation planning has been going on for years in multiple areas around the world; however, most areas have not begun. Of course, adaptation efforts will only take us so far; we must move diligently towards mitigation-reducing CO<sub>2</sub> as fast as possible.

## **Why is climate changing faster than predicted with IPCC report?**

Dr. Jonathan Overpeck, a lead author of the first 2007 Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC) report, gave a moving talk about how scientific conventions created models that lead to a serious underestimation of what we are actually seeing in climate change, concluding that scientists have been wrong to not more effectively explain their findings and more effectively warn people. Three major reasons were defined.

1. **Multiple Variables Omitted:** Models did not include all significant variables that contribute to increased climate emissions because there were inadequate data to give definitive predictions. Scientists are conservative by nature, wanting 95% certainty, yet decision-makers have to deal with uncertainty all the time. Eliminating numerous potentially powerful processes, including omission of melting ice sheets and methane releases from melting tundra, leads to reduced totals, which means in 2007 they underestimated the speed of change.
2. **Failed to Present Abrupt Climate Change:** The 2007 IPCC model shows a slow, steady increase of temperatures over a long period of time, yet we now know that climates can change abruptly, and the modeling has failed to include this possibility.
3. **Assumed World Action to Reduce Emissions:** The worst case scenario in 2007 was sadly based on the assumption that the world would act quickly to reduce emissions. Now that worse case is no longer the worst projection.

## **How are western U.S. cities adapting to climate change? The Western Adaptation Alliance**

While coastal cities are focusing heavily on sea level rise, some cities in the Southwest have begun working on the threats facing us in the Southwest. The *Western Adaptation Alliance* currently includes Flagstaff, Tucson, Salt Lake City, Boulder, Aspen and Phoenix, and provides some funding for community programming through federal, private and foundation grants. With the states of Nevada, Utah, Arizona and Colorado already involved, New Mexico is viewed as a next target state. (We know that this critical initiative will not be led by the state with the current administration, and thus will be placed on the shoulders of our cities.)

Member cities have different approaches. Some cities are focusing primarily on key city department heads

meeting and coordinating planning for such topics as increased heat, increase in fires, water issues, tourism threats, and more. Other cities are focusing more on involving their communities.

For a report- [http://www.iscvt.org/who\\_we\\_are/publications/Resource-Guide-Regional-Adaptation-v1.pdf](http://www.iscvt.org/who_we_are/publications/Resource-Guide-Regional-Adaptation-v1.pdf)

### **A Useful City Model: Flagstaff, AZ**

Flagstaff has many similarities to Santa Fe- about the same altitude and the same population, high number of tourists, etc. Flagstaff, as both a comparable city and as a good example, is having the heads of various departments- planning, fire, water, health, etc. meeting regularly, and they have *identified 115 climate impacts to city operations*. Now the city council has passed a resolution to authorize all city operations to follow guiding principles on climate adaptation. **Everything the city does now has to go through climate adaptation filters, giving city staff the authority to actually act on adaptation.** It was interesting to note that a few department heads did not believe in human-caused climate change but were willing to work on adaptation because they could see the impacts already in their area.

For the Flagstaff report- <http://flagstaff.az.gov/DocumentCenter/Home/View/38841>

### **Why should food be included in adaptation topics?**

There are two categories of issues to face when dealing with a changing climate.

**Local Area:** First, those that are clearly understood areas of vulnerability for the local area, in the southwest such as fire, water, drought, ecosystems, and excessive heat.

**Stresses from Outside the Area:** The other category can be more difficult to recognize- the vulnerabilities from national and global stresses. A primary one is food. Numerous speakers pointed out some of the forces that are threatening a wide variety of food sources, and as these come into play, increasing food prices and even availability issues will occur, making local food sources far more important than today when approximately 97% of food is imported from outside the area. National and international trends such as food and energy will impact local systems and will need to be incorporated into planning.

Creating local food can also have a major impact on reducing emissions since current food systems are heavily dependent on fossil fuels for industrial agriculture, transportation, processing, packaging, and waste management, with some estimates as high as 30% of all emissions.

### **What was said about our water situation?**

New research indicates that **we could have HALF the water that we assume we have**, even while we have an expanding population. Megadroughts are expected, lasting far longer. The Colorado River is in serious risk and is already over-allocated. Landscapes will be transformed, with diebacks occurring all over the world, including New Mexico. Also, sea level rise will be significantly higher than predicted, which has national implications for the economy, movement of people to higher ground (New Mexico?), etc. Read *Dry Times Ahead (2010)* <http://www.sciencemag.org/content/328/5986/1642.short> but even more recent studies are indicating greater changes.

### **What are next steps?**

While Santa Fe has begun numerous steps towards adaptation to climate change, far more remains.

**Join Western Adaptation Alliance:** Our City needs to join the Western Adaptation Alliance and begin to review various models for formalizing adaptation actions.

**Get City Department Heads Actively Involved:** It is not enough to have the Sustainable Santa Fe Commission and a mitigation plan written in 2008. There is a strong need to involve department heads in getting up to speed on this topic, and building into every department an adaptation filter that ensures key operational decisions integrate and coordinate adaptation and resiliency. Key city staff from other cities can help facilitate this process, as well as membership in the *Western Adaptation Alliance*.

**Provide a Model for Other New Mexico Cities:** Other cities in New Mexico are discussing the need for beginning major adaptation planning, and while Santa Fe is about 3 years behind some cities in other states, we can become a leader within New Mexico.

### **QUOTES**

*"These are very challenging times. There are cascading events happening around the globe. This is not just the future."*

Kathy Jacobs, U.S. Office of Science and Technology Policy

*"We must have appreciation of the facts. Adaptation can only take us so far.  
We must have mitigation!"*

Chris Field, Director, Carnegie Institution for Science and the IPCC

*"Climate change is a game-changer. We have to be ready. We must proceed on all fronts.  
The more we prepare in advance, the more resilient we will be."*

Ralph Marra, SouthWest Water Resources

*"Just about everything a government does can be impacted by climate change/weather.  
Building the resiliency in our city operations is the foundation to building a resilient community."*

Stephanie Smith, Sustainability Specialist, City of Flagstaff

*"City leaders are at the right level of governance to take action. We need to motivate for transformative adaptation, and combine both mitigation and adaptation."*

Dr. Cynthia Rosenzweig, NASA Goddard Institute

*"Climate change is a core business risk. We cannot build on the bases of historic data.  
Investors require improved disclosure and tools."*

*For those of you who have investments, be an activist! Talk with your pension fund or other investments  
and find out how they are dealing with climate change."*

John Firth, Acclimatise

*"Adaptation is harder to deal with than mitigating climate change.  
There are no clear targets such as a certain level of CO<sub>2</sub> and no agreed upon final metric."*

Sebastian Catovsky, Head of Adaptation, UK Committee on Climate Change

*"Climate change is a game-changer. We have to be ready. We must proceed on all fronts.  
The more we prepare in advance, the more resilient we will be."*

Ralph Marra, SouthWest Water Resources

*"People don't care about 100 years from now. Instead of trying to deal with specific time frames- i.e. in 20  
years- use a suite of indicators that will let decision-makers know when to proceed to the next phase."*

Elisabeth Hamin, University of Massachusetts

*"Planning now needs to take into account a continually changing environment."*

*We must codify a Precautionary Principle."*

Judy Lawrence, New Zealand climate Change Research Institute

*"Think about the vegetative composition of where you live. It's going to be different."*

Dr. Jonathan Overpeck, IPCC and University of Arizona