

# Joint 2035 Oversight Committee + Sustainability Task Force Meeting Summary



February 5, 2018 | 3:00-5:00 pm | Hillsboro Civic Center (Room 113 B/C)

---

*Attendees: Tim Dalton, Kristi Wilson, Ryan Smith, Kelly Xu, Pattie Russell, Liz Connor, Ted Vacek, Kyle Allen, Deanna Palm, Evan Aldrete, Kristel Griffith, Jeff Van Raden, Carol Brown, Heather Robinson, Peter Brandom, Cece Clitheroe, Michael Brown, Jeff Pazdalski, James Gleason, Linda Everett, Luis Nava, Ryan Stee, Laura Schaefer, Adam Haslam, Bob Grover, Max Ebnother, Mayor Steve Callaway, Heidi Burkart, Tom Arnold, Bryan Welsh, Sushmita Poddar, Debbie Garman, Shanna Brownstein, Sandra Fowler-Hill (by phone), Jason Robertson, Chris Hartye, Dacia Bakkum*

*Absent: Hannah Fuller, Katherine Galian, Beth Graser, Bruce Roll, Caitlin Horsley, Anthony Martin, Mac Martin, David McInay, Mary Moerlins*

## **Welcome**

Ted Vacek, 2035 Oversight Committee Chair, welcomed both groups to the meeting.

## **OC and HSTF Role Discussion**

Jason Robertson, briefly recapped recent discussions regarding 2035 Oversight role and operations. He said the planning team would be working on ways to:

- Involve OC members in partner survey review and action implementation and/or troubleshooting
- Continue and expand discussion of important community topics during OC meetings
- Engage OC in designing or delivering communications to new community members about the Community Plan and other city services
- Rotate meeting locations to expand familiarity with the various vision partners – upcoming OC meetings will be held at Clean Water Services and Tuality Healthcare; upcoming HSTF meetings will be held at the Oregon National Primate Research Center, Insomnia Coffee and Kaiser Permanente Westside Medical Center

Robertson also noted that the OC (and likely the HSTF) will be very busy come this time next year, as that will be the start of the Year 5 2035 Community Plan update (Spring 2019). During Plan update years, the 2035 Oversight Committee should expect increased involvement in outreach activities such as guest speaking and tabling at events.

## **Environmental Sustainability Plan Updates**

Heather Robinson, chair of the Hillsboro Sustainability Task Force, provided an overview of the Environmental Sustainability Plan (ESP) and highlights from the ESP 2017 Annual Report.

Environmental sustainability emerged as a community priority during the ten-year update of the Hillsboro 2020 Vision and Action Plan and, as a result, a separate Plan was created with input from diverse stakeholders and formally adopted by the Hillsboro City Council in June 2015. There are three main goal areas in the plan:

1. Energy
2. Resource Conservation
3. Resource Renewal and Recovery

2016-17 progress updates and highlights include:

- 14 of 20 indicators in the ESP are progressing in a positive direction; three remain static and three are currently trending in a negative direction
- Over 100 Hillsboro businesses and schools are voluntarily participating in a commercial food waste collection program – only 30 businesses were participating a year ago
- Portland General Electric created an “Energy Tracker” – a new online tool that allows customers with smart meters to view energy usage in real time, forecast utility bill amounts and explore energy saving improvements
- The Westside Transportation Alliance launched a new bike share pilot project at two Hillsboro employer sites to encourage employees to use bikes to connect to the nearest light rail station, provide an option for workday errands, and reduce auto commutes
- Washington County Solid Waste and Recycling introduced “Garbage and Recycling Day”, a new web and mobile application that allows community members to set reminders for their collection day, review preparation instructions and receive notifications for special waste related events
- County staff connected the KLA School with Exceed Enterprises through a Resourceful Use workshop. KLA School acquired nearly 2,000 pounds of large plywood spools from Exceed Enterprises, which they made into stools for their preschool

For more ESP Annual Report highlights, visit [Hillsboro-Oregon.gov/sustainability](http://Hillsboro-Oregon.gov/sustainability).

### **Sustainability Revolving Fund**

Peter Brandom provided an overview of Hillsboro’s internal Sustainability Revolving Fund (SRF) which was created to provide funding for internal sustainability projects that address one or more goals in the Sustainability Plan. A portion of financial savings generated from City-led sustainability projects are reinvested into a special sustainability fund, which can then be accessed by City employees to support sustainability projects or initiatives. The Sustainability Task Force is currently working to develop guidelines/criteria to make the sustainability fund available to community members looking to implement their own sustainability initiatives. The goal is to launch the new fund in late 2018 or early 2019.

### **Partner Spotlight: Youth Advisory Council (YAC)**

Kristi Wilson, Hillsboro Youth Advisory Council Advisor, gave a brief overview of the YAC and introduced two members – Ryan Smith (2035 Oversight Committee Youth Rep) and Kelly Xu (Hillsboro Sustainability Task Force Youth Rep).

YAC Roles and Activities (Kelly Xu and Ryan Smith)

- There are currently 30 YAC members from all five Hillsboro High Schools
- The YAC works with City Council and City leaders and provides input on projects and initiatives
- YAC members serve on various City boards and committees and participate in community events
- The YAC hosts annual TEDx Talks for youth and other interested community members
- The YAC volunteers for community projects (e.g. Hillsboro Doer Day, Home Plate, Earth Day, etc.)

- The YAC's three primary focus areas are:
  1. Education (ex. Promoted an anti-bullying campaign)
  2. Equality (ex. Wrote a letter to public officials in support of DACA)
  3. Environment (ex. Conducting research on phasing out the use of plastic bags)

### **Small Group Discussion: Potential YAC Policies and Projects**

The group broke out into small teams to discuss ideas and potential barriers around phasing out the use of plastic shopping bags City-wide (current YAC research areas), and/or to suggest another research topic for YAC consideration in the future. Below are some of the ideas/comments that were reported out:

- Research what percent of plastic bags in the waste stream come from grocery stores
- Would there be exemptions for restaurants (take-out), dry cleaners and retail stores that use plastic bags?
- Research cities that have implemented and then abandoned a bag ban to learn what didn't work and why
- Reach out to local grocers that have stores in cities/states that have banned the use of plastic bags to see how they implemented the new changes and learn about any challenges they experienced
- Incentivize participation for businesses and consumers
- Investigate Oregon's state-wide ban attempt failures
- Create a deposit on bags similar to Oregon's Bottle Bill
- Partner with OSU's marine program to help provide evidence to support a plastic bag ban
- Conduct a plastic bag life cycle analysis
- Promote reuse
- Create a transition/phase-out program
- Engage the community through local sustainability networks, the Hillsboro Chamber and Small Business Alliance
- Use a plastic bag ban as a launch pad for other plastic products such as straws, plastic cups/lids, etc.
- Host an open house or create a survey to get input from the community
- Leverage existing green business programs for feedback
- Explore biodegradable plastic bag options for produce
- Charge five cents for each paper bag to reduce costs for businesses
- Consider economic impacts to low-income populations
- Consider approaches that "incentivize" behavior change vs. "banning" it
- Find grocery stores that have already eliminated plastic grocery bags to learn best practices (Whole Foods, Trader Joes)
- Encourage large companies to hand out reusable bags as part of their marketing/outreach campaigns
- Work with grocery and other stores to create a rewards program where points are awarded for each reusable bag that is used; points could be redeemed for store discounts, free products, etc.
- Host a bag drive where people can drop off extra reusable bags they don't need which can then be used to create kits with essentials for homeless community members

- Other ideas for YAC involvement include work around recycling education, area transit options and auto idling reduction around schools

### **Partner Updates**

- Hillsboro School District graduation rates are up 11% overall. Century High School has a 92.2% graduation rate putting them in the top ten highest graduated schools in the state
- The Hillsboro Chamber and Washington County Solid Waste & Recycling are hosting a Green Business Workshop on Thursday, February 15 from 8-10am. Learn about the change in recycling markets and what it means for your business. Register online at [hillsborochamberor.com](http://hillsborochamberor.com).
- The Westside Transportation Alliance is promoting their new “Commuter Kickbacks” program that rewards commuters in Washington County and employees of WTA members for logging their commutes online. To learn more, visit [wta-tma.org](http://wta-tma.org).
- The Master Recyclers hosted PlanetCon, a recycling and education event in January. They collected 90 yards of Styrofoam (there is a Styrofoam recycler located in Tigard), 450 pounds of plastic film and more than 200 pounds of old holiday lights. Around 300 people dropped off materials for recycling and/or visited the information booths and holiday décor swap.
- The Hillsboro Downtown Partnership and downtown businesses are discussing a pilot program to consolidate and centralize waste collection.
- The 2018 Rang Barse Festival of Colors will take place in May. More details coming soon!
- It’s tree planting season – more than 8 million trees have been planted in the Tualatin Rivershed through the Tree for All program.
- Kaiser Permanente has rebranded and is opening a new clinic in Tanasbourne that will include medical, dental and mental health services.
- Nearly every school in the Hillsboro School District is participating in the Trex Plastics Recycling Challenge. Fred Meyer, Safeway and Winco are still accepting plastic film from the public for recycling.

### **Public Comment**

None.