

# Hillsboro Sustainability Task Force Meeting Summary

April 5, 2018, 3:00 - 5:00 PM

## Oregon National Primate Research Center

### Oregon Health & Science University

505 NW 185th Avenue/Beaverton, OR 97006-3448

<http://www.ohsu.edu/xd/research/centers-institutes/onprc/contact/directions.cfm>

*\*Meeting includes walking tour*

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*Attendees: Ben Erickson, Ryan Stee, Carl Krutka, Max Ebnother, Carol Brown, Steve Callaway, Linda Everett, Kristel Griffith, Adam Haslam, Anthony Martin, Shauna Brownstein, Laura Schaefer, Ryan Stee, Kelly Xu, Peter Brandom, Jason Robertson, Dacia Bakkum*

*Guest: Clyde Wolf, Washington County Chapter, 350.org*

*Absent: Heather Robinson, Evan Aldrete, Tom Arnold, Heidi Burkart, Bob Grover, Mac Martin, David McInay, Jeff Pazdalski*

#### **Welcome + Introductions**

Jason Robertson welcomed the group and asked for a round of introductions.

#### **OHSU West Campus Presentation**

Nancy Haigwood, President of the OHSU West Campus, gave a short overview of the facility. The West Campus is a biomedical research center and one of seven national primate research centers across the country. The center is in its 59<sup>th</sup> year of funding and employs around 500 people. The center sits on approximately 150 acres and is home to 5,100 primates. About 1/3 of the primates are housed in outdoor corrals, 1/3 are housed indoors and about 1/3 are in an outdoor open enclosure.

Laura Schaefer, campus Sustainability Manager, shared some of the ways they are conserving and repurposing resources including:

- Managing a small apple orchard which provides food/treats for the primates
- Using bioswales to collect and filter rainwater
- Repurposing buckets & barrels and using them for planters and swings for the primates
- Cleansing and reusing the river rocks that are used in the outdoor enclosure
- Donating unused icepacks
- Aggressive materials recycling and reuse program

Kristine Coleman, OHSU animal behaviorist, led the group on a tour of the campus and primate enclosures.

## **Hillsboro Parks Water Conservation**

The group welcomed Ben Erickson, Assistant Maintenance & Operations Superintendent for Hillsboro Parks & Recreation. Ben's background working with golf courses on water conservation led him to look for ways to apply those conservation techniques in Hillsboro's parks. Ben applied for and was awarded an internal Sustainability Revolving Fund (SRF) grant to purchase soil moisture meters which can report how much moisture is in the ground. The City has a long-term goal of reducing water consumption by 25%, even as it grows. If soil moisture drops below 12%, it can take 3-6 times the amount of water to rehydrate the soil. Using soil moisture meters to help determine watering needs can result in water-use savings of up to 40%. Irrigation accounts for nearly 60% of the City's current water use.

In addition to using soil moisture meters, Hillsboro Parks & Recreation is also looking for other opportunities to conserve water and reduce greenhouse gas emissions, such as identifying and converting underused park areas to no-water treatments, which can save on maintenance, fuel, and emissions.

Hillsboro Water Program Coordinator, Kristel Griffith, announced the City offers \$150 rebates for weather-based irrigation controllers and will also be offering water audit training for commercial customers which will include a cost benefit analysis.

## **Partner Survey Preview**

Jason Robertson gave an overview and demo of the annual partner survey. Changes were made to the action status language this year to align with the Hillsboro 2035 partner survey. The new status options are:

- Implemented one-time action: fully-implemented project or program that doesn't require further action
- Implemented ongoing action: fully-operational project or program with continuing activities
- Started: action is underway, but not yet far-enough along to be deemed implemented
- Not started: no formal activity has been initiated at this time

Partners can also select "No Change" for actions that are status quo since last year's survey. Survey responses are due by May 11.

## **City Operations Greenhouse Gas Inventory + Next Steps**

Peter Brandom shared the results of the City's 2016 greenhouse gas inventory. Scope 1 and 2 direct GHG emissions decreased by 3,002 metric tons carbon dioxide equivalent (MT CO<sub>2</sub>e) or 30.2% from 2007 to 2016.

Key actions that contributed to the reduction include:

- Renewable power purchases
- Renewable power generation
- Energy efficient investments
- Greener new constructions practices
- Employee commute alternatives incentive
- Fleet fuel efficiency
- Green purchasing

Scope 3 (indirect) GHG emissions include emissions from business travel, solid waste, energy transmission & distribution loss, employee commute, supply chain and purchased water. The bulk of scope 3 emissions comes from the supply chain. Due to the level of effort to complete the inventory, Scope 3 emissions are inventoried every five years. Total scope 3 GHG emissions increased 5,348 MT CO<sub>2</sub>e from 2007-2012, primarily due to an increase in the volume of purchasing with organizational growth.

The City is exploring the following opportunities to reduce GHG emissions:

- Green purchasing, including renewable energy
- Path to Net Zero for City facilities and infrastructure
- Fleet fuel efficiency and data, green fleet purchasing policy
- Expansion of telematics
- Biodiesel and renewable diesel
- No-idle policy

The City recently launched 'Boro Bikes – an employee bike share program housed at the Hillsboro Civic Center. There are four bicycles available for business or personal travel with a set distance from the Civic Center.

#### **Member Updates**

- Kaiser participated in a three month pilot bike share program and hopes to bring it back this year.
- The Youth Advisory Council is still gathering information exploring policy proposal options around the use of disposal plastic shopping bags.
- NW Natural attributes much of its recent carbon emissions reductions to energy efficiency projects.
- The Intel Café is now 100% paperless and is no longer offering disposable dishware, containers or cups.
- As part of Intel's goal to restore 100% of global water use by 2025, they are funding two water restoration projects – one at Wapato Lake and another at a refuge in the Tualatin River Basin. The two projects will save an estimated 130 million gallons of water per year. Visit [Intel.com/water](http://Intel.com/water) for more information.
- The Crescent Park Greenway Trail plan is now 70% complete. As part of the plan, the City hopes to start communicating the wide range of values greenways provide. More information, including a video that describes the plan and shows the trail route is available at <https://www.hillsboro-oregon.gov/our-city/departments/parks-recreation/planning-and-development/crescent-park-greenway-plan>.
- The City is seeking Energy Trust of Oregon's Path to Net Zero designation for construction of the new 53<sup>rd</sup> Avenue Recreation Center.

#### **Public Comment**

None.

#### **Upcoming Meetings**

- June 28, Insomnia Coffee, Downtown Hillsboro (3-5 pm)
- October 4, 2018, Kaiser Westside Medical Center (3-5 pm)