



**Environmental Management Commission
Meeting Minutes – October 14, 2009**

Meeting Location: Mid-America Regional Council, 2nd Floor, Westview Meeting Room

Commissioners present: Carol Adams, Dustin Jensen, Marty Kraft, Jack Schrimsher, Jim van Eman

Staff: Dennis Murphey, Jerry Shechter and Andy Savastino – OEQ; Scott Cahail – Water Services Department; Matt Gigliotti - Law

Guests: Mike Hoey; Beverly Johnson, MOR²; Ron McLinden – RTA; Caroline Davies and Kelly Thompson - UMKC; Sadie Gardner - BTG; Camaelia Murray; Claus Wawrzinek – Sierra Club; Daniel Dermitzel – KC Urban Agriculture

Carol Adams, Co-Chair, opened the meeting at 4:10 pm; a quorum was not present

A. Welcome and Introductions

The Chair welcomed all Commissioners, staff and guests to the October meeting of the EMC. Everyone introduced themselves.

B. Minutes of the meeting of September 9, 2009 were tabled to the next meeting.

C. Office of Environmental Quality – Report by Dennis Murphey

1. At a ceremony last week, KCMO dedicated its new Vehicle Impound Facility as a LEED-Gold development. Even though the facility was to have been situated between a KCMO water treatment facility and a KCPL power plant, the area business association was not originally supportive. After a series of discussions about the City's intent, they agreed to be supportive and are now happy with the facility.
2. EECBG Formula Grant – The City submitted its application to the US Department of Energy in June and was awarded a grant on August 17, 2009. Staff has been working to prepare for implementation of all nine projects. The first required quarterly report (Sec. 1512 report) was filed on time and staff is preparing the required EECBG report which must be submitted by the end of October. DOE staff provided an good orientation for all project managers. They seem to be interested in giving us the support necessary to be successful. Our experience with DOE, so far, has been good. One of the nine projects is to provide funding to MARC to work with all regional jurisdictions to create a regional strategic energy framework. Of the 14 formula grant recipients, 12 have agreed to help fund this process.
3. The Green Solutions Steering Committee has continued to meet along with its four committees: (1) education, (2) green infrastructure, (3) regulations and policies, and (4) resource management. There will be a joint meeting of the committees on October 23, 2009. The next Steering Committee meeting will be October 26, 2009.
4. Climate Protection (CP) Steering Committee met in September. Staff provided an update of the EECBG formula and competitive grants.
5. MARC applied to the EPA for a Climate Showcase Communities grant. Of the 450 applications, 20 grants, at \$500,000, were awarded. The MARC application was not chosen for an award.
6. Climate Leadership Academy – Dennis Murphey and Patty Noll - KCMO, Tom Jacobs – MARC, and Lee Ann Kell, MoDOT, comprised a team that was one of 16 city teams asked to participate in a discussion of transportation and land use policy to reduce greenhouse gas

emissions. One of the speakers was the former mayor of Bogota, Columbia who is advocating for the design of cities for people and not for vehicles. Another speaker, Mike McKeever, from the metropolitan planning organization in Sacramento, CA, is working on a regional concept for transportation oriented development. A primary focus is understanding the financial and social benefits of increased density. Of all the teams attending, KC is among the absolute minority in its bi-state political condition.

7. Urban Sustainability Directors' Network – This was the second half of the week in Chicago. Comprised of about 55 cities in USA and Canada, the membership provides opportunities to share information, to look at different models for movement to achieve sustainability. Funding for two years from Rockefeller, Blackstone and Home Depot. Have a new website coming out soon.
8. Cross-department work on construction and storm water issues - Andy Savastino – Joint inspections of Water Services projects revealed some deficiencies in complying with the umbrella erosion control permit. Fundamental questions have been how City employees are trained and how to achieve consistency across departments. A cross-department group was created to identify best strategies for staff and contractors. The issue is complicated by utilities working on-site which are not constrained by permit requirements. The team is developing a list of contractor problems for future work. A major objective of the process is that contractors will know in advance what is expected of them in working for any City department.
9. The memo from the EMC to the Mayor and City Council regarding the EECBG Competitive grant eligibility requirements was distributed. The grant goals are potentially game changing but the problem is getting into the game – i.e., eligibility requirements. Currently, it is proposed that the most recently published energy codes be adopted ... and most cities and states have not adopted them – the 2009 IECC and ASHRAE 90.1-2007. KCMO suggested an alternate approach that is detailed in the handout. If the eligibility issue can be resolved, this is a great multiple neighborhood opportunity. An initial planning meeting is scheduled for October 23, 2009 and EMC input is welcomed. Carol Adams noted that the EMC letter to City Council re: their strategy session has no response yet. Dustin Jensen noted the proliferation of revolving loan funds around the country which are a creative way to feed job creation rather than just addressing the demand side of energy efficiency and renewable energy. A brief discussion about “pay as you save” programs followed. Ron McLinden noted (1) there is little that addresses a transportation component, and (2) we should look at the possibility of establishing public interest in the energy efficiency of multifamily buildings. Dennis summed up the discussion noting that, even if we are not eligible to apply, the early discussions could open doors to other ideas.

D. Liaison Updates

1. Solid Waste – No report
2. Air Quality Forum (AQF) – Carol Adams
 - a. The ozone standard issue is being re-opened which will allow additional time for further consideration. Can investigate the relationship between climate protection, carbon dioxide and criteria pollutants – and look at whether the current process is adequate. A smaller group will meet and report to the AQF.
 - b. The AQF has more often begun to engage thinking about climate protection in general but there is uncertainty as to whether the AQF has sufficient expertise
 - c. Frank Lenk, MARC gave a presentation regarding alternate analysis for Transportation 2040 for transportation and land use planning. The process newly includes an estimate of infrastructure costs for the standard way to project as well as for the alternative. The result appears to be a cost of about \$8.7 billion for the standard model and \$3.4 billion for the alternative for infrastructure needs to accommodate growth to 2040. A critical next step is to suggest policies the direction to transportation oriented development (TOD). Ron McLinden noted that the more appropriate reference to the alternative scenario is actually the adaptive scenario. The adaptive scenario does not anticipate all growth will occur in existing areas (infill and redevelopment) but that this would be about 40%. The best approach would likely be a menu of policy options. Both County Executive Michael

Sanders and Clay Chastain announced respective proposals for commuter and light rail systems.

E. EMC Project Reports

1. Urban Agriculture – A meeting is planned for Tuesday, October 20, 2009 at 6 pm at Badseed at 1909 McGee to discuss codes and their impact on urban agriculture.

F. Old Business

1. Membership issues were discussed regarding the two existing vacancies as well as two expiring terms and several who do not attend the meetings regularly.

G. New Business

1. Bannister Mall Area – Three Trails development plan - Lew Austin using the urban village concept including transit oriented development. The potential of a presentation to the EMC was brought up but there was no immediate decision.

H. Visitor Remarks and Announcements

1. Carolyn Davies briefly described a new UMKC class for next semester to be co-taught by Dr. Jacob Wagner and Dan Dermitzel Tuesday evenings on sustainability.
2. Dan Dermitzel noted how important it is to set standards higher than we can discuss in a perceived need to be more ambitious. We need to engage in dialog to arrive at new models. An example is Brownfields talking about increasing urban agriculture and other beneficial reuse of land.
3. Ron McLinden asked how we best market for social impact; how we get citizens to do more than what we have normally done – e.g., energy efficiency in our houses and our vehicles.
4. Aldi Grocery Store – Aldi has a possible interest in the Green Impact Zone at 39th & Prospect. Dennis Murphey has talked to their architect about more than just a greener building but about a neighborhood gathering place, changing their product mix, relating to urban agriculture and local food.

The next monthly meeting is scheduled for

Date: Wednesday, November 11, 2009

Time: 4:00 pm to 6:00 pm

Place: MARC – 2nd Floor, Westview Room

The meeting was adjourned at 5:50 pm