

## Citizens Committee on U.S. Mayors Climate Protection Agreement

**Mission:**

1. Encourage citizens to be a part of the solution
2. Encourage City staff and citizens to conserve current resources
3. Work with the City Council to implement ideas
4. Effectively address the future impacts of climate change



**Committee Members:**

- Members:** Richard Bisbee, Jeannie Blair, Carolyn Chapel, Howard Chermak, Bob, Freeman, Wes Gallagher, Hank Landau, Todd Cloutier, Linda Lyshall, Cynthia Pruitt, Laura Spehar, Rebecca Wolfe
- City Staff:** Mayor Dave Earling, Rob Chave, Stephen Clifton, Steve Fisher, Carolyn LaFave, Jen Machuga, Strom Peterson, Jim Stevens, Phil Williams

### Meeting Agenda

**July 5, 2012 @ 9 am**

1. Approval of June 7, 2012 meeting minutes	
2. Coal Train Media Event	Mayor Earling
3. City of Edmonds Preliminary ECM List Overview	Jim Stevens
4. Committee Reports	
a. Promoting Energy Efficiency	Jim Stevens
b. Outreach & Reporting	Cynthia Pruitt & Rebecca Wolfe
c. Development of Incentives	Jen Machuga
5. Next meeting date – August 2, 2012 @ 9 am	

### Meeting Minutes June 7, 2012

**Attendees:** Carolyn Chapel, Janice & Bob Freeman, Wes Gallagher, Howard Chermak, Jen Machuga, Jim Stevens, Mayor Earling, Cynthia Pruitt, Rebecca Wolfe, Carolyn LaFave

1. Mayor Earling opened the meeting by thanking Carolyn Chapel for her Sound Transit letter re: the parking situation. Carolyn said that she received a personal letter in return, ST is sympathetic but there are no funds available. Mayor informed her that her letter was read at the ST Board meeting. Mayor also let the committee know that the City is pressing hard for commuter parking. He also stated that originally there was money set aside for this project but with the economic crunch the board had to scale back. At that time they sent out a questionnaire to the City providing them with an opportunity to defend their project but unfortunately they got no response from Edmonds so the Edmonds project was taken out.
2. Mayor Earling informed the committee that the City won the AWC Going Green Municipal Award for the application “Sustaining Edmonds” that Jen & Rob presented at the April 5 meeting. Mayor Earling, Rob Chave, Jen Machuga, Jim Stevens, and Stephen Clifton will be at the awards ceremony this month for the presentation.

3. Mayor discussed coal trains. City has been very quiet about what they are doing, but have been very active in a quiet way. Brief overview:
  - a. While many efforts regarding coal trains have been focused on just STOPPING the trains, the reality is the trains are already going through our city and there will be more if the Cherry Point station gets built. Regardless of this, the issue is, we will continue to have increased train traffic going through our city and we need to find ways to mitigate the impact this will have on Edmonds. We are in a unique situation because we are the only City on North route that has a conflict between ferry and railroad. Our most pressing problem is SAFETY – more trains cutting off the waterfront, with no way of getting to the waterfront for an emergency if there is a train coming through. How do we make our SAFETY issue the leading issue so we can get it addressed? The Mayor has met w/Maria Cantwell and with Patty Murray’s staff and they are willing to draft and sign a letter raising the safety issue, and its uniqueness to Edmonds. Mayor has also met w/head of ferry system, Paula Hammond, DOT director, and is moving to state level. He met w/Rep. Liias so he now has the issue on his radar, and he has scheduled meetings w/Rep. Cyndi Ryu and Senator Paull Shinn, as well Judy Clibborn, Chair of the House Transportation Committee. We’ve had good response with all we’ve met with so far and now we are reaching out to the community. We have police, fire, and the Port, on-board, and are meeting w/senior center and environmental community tomorrow. We’re pointing towards scheduling a large event at the end of month. Scoping project will be starting up soon and will last for 60 days. The biggest issue for Edmonds is the number of trains we will have even if the coal trains don’t come through – we have somewhere around 30 trains daily now and it will jump to 105 trains daily by 2030, sans coal trains – they add another 18 to the total. This is a great opportunity to use coal trains as a spark to get people interested in the SAFETY issue we have in our city, working on a potential answer. An underpass is our first choice. Consider coming to the event at the end of month for kick-off of Edmonds concerns.
    - i. Cynthia Pruitt – last year this time we created a logo and we should bring it out and use it to show we've been working on these issues.
    - ii. Janice Freeman – attended coal train meeting last night. Richard Bisbee is taking the lead. Very enthusiastic crowd last night. They have a large mailing list that could be used for the end-of-the month event. Group has applied for a permit for 4th of July parade. Maralyn Chase has attended one of their meetings.
    - iii. Mayor made the point that we need to understand STOPPING the trains can't be the first point, they are already going through, and this won't solve our long-term problem.
    - iv. Bob Freeman raised the issue we are a coastal town and what will happen to buildings on the waterfront with rising sea levels due to climate change if we allow buildings to be built there? How will the city take hold of that land so proper development is done and we won't have swamped building in 50 years?
    - v. Mayor said the real focus for him, and one of the ways to create the cash flow we need for the City, is to wisely develop the property we have. Supportive for issues but looking at budget problem by 2013 on an annual basis.
4. Carolyn Chapel brought some books to loan to committee members
5. Jim Stevens reported on Electric Vehicle Charging Stations – attachment provided. Graph shows usage is steadily growing, along with the greenhouse gas savings. Reported stations can be relocated if they are not getting good usage.
  - a. Cynthia Pruitt would like to see us produce a graph like this for city retrofits. It would be a great visual graphic. We could look into getting data from SustainableWorks on the retrofits they've done.

- b. Jim Stevens – we should encourage businesses to go energy star and then provide incentives and do a promotions campaign about those businesses.
      - i. Cynthia Pruitt – made a note for the outreach committee to possibly do this
      - ii. It was asked if we could make contact w/others who have charging stations in Edmonds and then report on what ALL OF EDMONDS is doing
- 6. Wes Gallagher asked if anyone was tracking our progress for the original criteria for starting the group?
  - a. It was mentioned that Steve Fisher has tracked a lot of information pertaining to this and we should ask him to present the information next month
- 7. Committee members not present at previous meeting where we set our priority groups were given an opportunity to sign-up for one of the 3 groups. Rebecca Wolfe signed-up for the Outreach & Reporting group; Howard Chermak signed-up for the Development of Incentives group; Wes Gallagher opted to not sign-up for a group. Carolyn contacted all committee members after last month’s meeting asking them to sign-up for a group but got no response other than from Sally Lider who said that she would not be continuing with the committee but would like to stay informed.
- 8. Each group decided on a chair who will be responsible for organizing group meetings and reporting:
  - a. Outreach & reporting – co-chairs will be Cynthia Pruitt & Rebecca Wolfe
  - b. Promoting energy efficiency – chair will be Jim Stevens
  - c. Development of incentives – chair will be Jen Machuga
- 9. It was determined that each of the groups would do a quick 3-minute report at each meeting
- 10. Bob Freeman questioned if the work that the 3 groups are doing would ultimately contribute to the revision of the climate action plan? The committee agreed that we would evaluate the progress each group has made by October with this likely culminating in a revision of the City’s Climate Change Action Plan.

**Committee Members Reports**

- 1. Rebecca Wolfe would like to see leaf blower and outdoor heater ordinances put into place to address the carbon & methane output of these devises.
  - a. Cynthia Pruitt not sure how much of a problem this is. Feels we have bigger issues that we should be addressing, like retrofitting houses.
- 2. Cynthia Pruitt – as part of outreach do we want to do something in the 4th of July parade? Possibly pass out info on the AWC award the city just won. Join in w/sustainable Edmonds. Does City have a problem w/the brand joining with sustainable Edmonds? Carolyn to check w/guidelines for group participating in 4th of July parade.
- 3. Jim Stevens reported that he got 52.1 miles per gallon on his last tank of gas.
- 4. Bob Freeman reported that the Seattle Times had an op-ed piece in the 6/7/12 paper. Also the New York Times had a piece on the City of Los Angeles banning plastic bags.
  - a. Jen Machuga said that Edmonds was mentioned in the California news reports regarding the Los Angeles ban.

**Next meeting:**

July 5, 2012

9 – 10 am

Brackett Room – 3<sup>rd</sup> Floor Edmonds City Hall