

ENVIRONMENT AND ENERGY COMMISSION

Meeting Minutes

June 14, 2022

Conducted Remotely

Commission Members Present: Laura Derks (Chair), Lisa Boone, Mark Goldberg, Cassandra West, Darryl Baker.

Commission Members Absent: Ramona Blaber, Stephen Morales, Carly Provost-Rizor, Liz Lukehart.

Staff Present: Marcella Bondie Keenan, Sustainability Coordinator

Guest Presenter Present: Dominic Marlow, GRAEF consultants.

Call to Order: The meeting was called to order by Chairperson Derks at 5:30 p.m.

1. **Approval of Agenda:** A Motion was made to approve the agenda and it was unanimously approved with no revisions.
2. **Approval of Minutes:** A Motion was made to approve previous meeting minutes, it was unanimously approved with none opposed.
3. **Public Comment:** No public comment.
4. **Agenda Items:**
 - **Discussion of the Final Draft of the Oak Park Sustainability, Climate Action and Resiliency Plan**
 - Chairperson Derks expresses her excitement that equity is at the center of this climate plan. Marcella Bondie Keenan introduces Dominic Marlow, an urban planner and urban designer with GRAEF.
 - Dominic Marlow begins to go through the public facing deliverables of the climate plan as they near their final draft form. The purpose of the presentation is to review this content. He puts a link to the plan in the chat and shares his screen to go over the introduction and some definitions. He pauses for questions.
 - Dominic Marlow continues on the walk through the existing conditions and the greenhouse gas inventory. He clarifies that all forecasts were based on population growth and a 2019 baseline (2020 was an anomalous year due to the pandemic). In addition to the environmental data and climate hazards, the plan also looks at social vulnerability data.
 - Dominic Marlow begins to go over how the vulnerability maps were made and shows their features. He explains that a social vulnerability index and a climate vulnerability index were created to analyze the data. He starts

with tree canopy map and continues on to the map of impervious surfaces. The land surface temperature map is next and Dominic Marlow explains how the satellite data from a cloudless day is used to find temperature hot spots in Oak Park. An average daily traffic volume map is used to show the levels of air quality. A ground level ozone map is included because ozone is a climate change hazard that contributes to global warming and health risks. Other maps include air pollution, traffic fatalities and serious injuries, and community-reported transportation hazards. Overall, the highest ranked highest on the climate vulnerability index are near the Eisenhower and northeast Oak Park. The areas that are ranked highest on the social vulnerability index do not match up with the highest ranked areas on the climate vulnerability index.

- Dominic Marlow walks through how the social vulnerability index was created and shows the associated maps including poverty threshold, older adults, children, people with disabilities, and older renter-occupied homes.
 - Dominic Marlow describes the racial equity analysis and shares maps showing majority race/ethnicity by block, white-black income disparity, and maps of race equity.
 - The methods of community involvement for the action plan include affinity groups, human centered design meetings, and village events. Dominic Marlow discusses energy use in buildings and the associated actions. Each action is broken down into action priority levels, timeline categories, and cost ranges. Marcella Bondie Keenan says they are working with Village staff to incorporate the short-term actions into upcoming budgets.
 - Dominic Marlow explains the emissions reduction scenarios and the road maps to achieve the goals. The transportation section is next, the actions and emissions reductions goals in this section are organized in the same way as the energy section.
 - Chairperson Derks asks if there were topics that commonly came up during community engagement. Marcella Bondie Keenan answers transit, Dominic Marlow adds pedestrian infrastructure and safety. Other popular topics include plastics reduction and flooding.
 - Dominic Marlow explains the implementation framework, both public-facing and internal structure. The plan will also be consistently reviewed to asses alignment with other previous or ongoing plans.
 - Marcella Bondie Keenan goes around the room to get feedback from the commissioners.
- **New Business:**
 - Chairperson Derks suggests watching the recent board meeting about the topic of leaf blower bans.
- **Adjourn:** At 7:00 p.m. a motion was made, seconded and unanimously approved to adjourn the meeting.

The next EEC meeting is scheduled for July 19th at 5:30pm.