



JUNEAU COMMISSION ON SUSTAINABILITY AGENDA

March 06, 2024 at 12:00 PM

Zoom Webinar

<https://juneau.zoom.us/j/88069534778> or Phone 1-253-215-8782 Meeting ID: 880 6953 4778

A. CALL TO ORDER

B. LAND ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

We would like to acknowledge that the City and Borough of Juneau is on Tlingit land, and wish to honor the indigenous people of this land. For more than ten thousand years, Alaska Native people have been and continue to be integral to the well-being of our community. We are grateful to be in this place, a part of this community, and to honor the culture, traditions, and resilience of the Tlingit people. Gunalchéesh!

C. ROLL CALL

D. APPROVAL OF AGENDA

E. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

- [1.](#) February 7, 2024 - JCOS Regular Meeting Minutes

F. PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

G. AGENDA TOPICS

2. April 18th Sustainability Session Topic
3. Staff Update Calendar Discussion
- [4.](#) Solid Waste Disposal Options Study
- [5.](#) CIP Comments Discussion & Approval
6. Plastic Bag Ban

H. INFORMATION ITEMS

- [7.](#) Grant Update

I. COMMITTEE MEMBER / LIAISON COMMENTS AND QUESTIONS

J. NEXT MEETING DATE

8. March 7, 2024, 5:30 PM - Sustainability Session
9. March 12, 2024 12:00 PM - Outreach / Solid Waste Subcommittee
10. April 3, 2024 12:00 PM - JCOS Regular Meeting
11. April 18, 2024 Time TBD - Sustainability Session

K. ADJOURNMENT

ADA accommodations available upon request: Please contact the Clerk's office 36 hours prior to any meeting so arrangements can be made for closed captioning or sign language interpreter services depending on the meeting format. The Clerk's office telephone number is 586-5278, TDD 586-5351, e-mail: city.clerk@juneau.gov.

Juneau Commission on Sustainability
Wednesday February 7, 2024

Call to Order

12:04pm

Land Acknowledgement

Roll Call

JCOS: Gretchen Keiser, Nick Waldo, Marian Call, Duff Mitchell, Laura Achee, Jessie Barker

Other participants: Dianna Robinson, Ella Adkison, Lori Sowa, Nate Abbott, Ashley Heimbigner

Approval of Agenda

Approved, with modification to move agenda items on food and sustainability awards to the retreat outcome discussion.

Approval of Minutes

Approved

Public Participation

Duff asked Lori for an update on the letter JCOS provided to AEL&P regarding Salmon Creek infrastructure. Lori confirmed the application has been submitted; unsure when applicants will hear the outcome.

Agenda Topics

Election of Officers

Unanimous approval for Nick as Chair, Marian as Vice-Chair, David as Secretary. Gretchen as ex-Chair handed the meeting to the new Chair.

Staff Updates

Still waiting on final determination from EPA grant on municipal composting.

On Feb 12 Dianna will be presenting about solid waste.

There are a couple of new CBJ webpages, including zero waste planning.

Ashley gave an overview of grants. CBJ is considering projects that might be competitive for the EPA climate pollution grant, and have submitted a Notice of Intent to apply for funding for an electric boiler at the Mendenhall waste water treatment plant, which would be a substantial reduction in GHG emissions. Full grant is due April 1.

Dianna provided an update that the USDA grant application with Juneau Composts but this wasn't successful. The application received high scores but it was very competitive.

The group discussed a tracking system for grants, one advantage being to help JCOS request letters of support in a timely manner. Providing a spreadsheet in the meeting packet would save time in the meetings. JCOS would also appreciate hearing proactively about grant opportunities from staff.

Draft CIP Comments

Steve has been going through the draft CIP, and proposes to distill the key points into a memo to the City manager which would include several new CIP projects which focus on the sustainability goals, such as energy efficiency and decarbonization of buildings, electric vehicle charging, and solid waste.

The aim is to get these into the staff recommendations to the joint assembly. To meet the deadline of March 11, this needs to be done before the next JCOS meeting. Duff proposed a motion to give Nick as Chair approval for the memo to be sent to staff and Public Works. Gretchen seconded.

Retreat Outcomes

Gretchen summarized the main topic areas for the 8 potential projects brought up at the retreat: clean energy/financing, outreach (zero waste, climate impacts), sustainability indicators, sustainability awards, emergency preparedness, food security. The next step is to narrow this to a more manageable number and identify issues that individual members might want to take the lead on. Criteria identified at the retreat: amount of time, can we move the needle substantially, timing with regard to CBJ staff and assembly priorities, whether CBJ and community buy-in is likely, the timeline for completion, what can we hand off to the community. Marian clarified that instead of the previous topic-based subcommittees, going forward JCOS will have a project-based approach.

Jessie proposed an additional topic on sustainable food and reducing meat consumption. Duff suggested that this might get more buy-in as food security versus reducing GHG emissions. Jessie will work with Dianna to set up a food working group, which would include sustainability, food security and food waste. Suggestions of people to contact include former JCOS member Colin Peacock, Jennifer Nu at Sustainable Southeast Partnership, and to look at the [2023 Alaska Food Security Task Force Recommendations](#).

JCOS Priorities

Nick Waldo summarized discussion, so far, that there are two working groups identified: 1) Food-based topics, and 2) Sustainability Sessions.

Gretchen Keiser briefly identified the Sustainability Awards and Sustainability Indicators projects, as Jim Powell's behalf.

Marian Call suggested a process to move JCOS forward whereby she will produce a template that can be circulated to all members by Dianna. Commissioners can indicate which of the

potential projects they are interested in working on. A working group can then be formed around projects which receive enough interest among members. Others concurred with this approach. Steve Behnke indicated that he is interested in projects #1 Clean Energy Financing and #2 CBJ Carbon Reduction. He said that the pending CIP effort focuses in on #2 already. Duff Mitchell noted that it may be possible to involve interested members of the public on a particular project as well once they are underway.

Member/Liaison Comments & Questions

Duff Mitchell acknowledged and appreciated Jim Powell’s materials on Sustainability Awards and Indicators, which he had been asked to bring forward to the full Commission. Mr Mitchell stated that Jim has given the commission information they can consider.

Adjournment

1:14pm.

Submitted by Jessie Barker



Engineering and Public Works Department
155 Heritage Way
Juneau, Alaska 99801
Telephone: 586-0800

DATE: February 26, 2024
TO: Nick Waldo, Chair
Juneau Commission on Sustainability
FROM: Dianna Robinson, Environmental Project Specialist
SUBJECT: Waste Disposal Options Study

Hello JCOS members,

At the February 12th COW, the Assembly approved the use of funds from the Zero Waste CIP to fund a high-level study comparing our future options for solid waste. This study will look at the feasibility of building a new landfill vs. an incinerator vs. sending our waste south and should cost around \$75,000. Denise and I have already planned for the funds in the Zero Waste CIP.

The Assembly requested that JCOS weigh in on this topic, and while I've spoken with a few of you about this and it's come up in past meetings, we would like to have something to submit to the Assembly directly from JCOS. It would be ideal if it could be finalized and approved at the April regular meeting.

Please let me know if you have any questions,

Dianna Robinson



Juneau Commission on Sustainability
(907) 586-0800
jcos@juneau.org
www.juneau.org/engineering-public-works/jcos
155 S. Seward Street • Juneau, AK 99801

To: Denise Koch, Director Eng & Public Works
Assembly PWFC Members

From: Nick Waldo, Chair, Juneau Commission on Sustainability

Subject: JCOS Recommendations for FY2025 CIP

Date: March 1, 2024

The Juneau Commission on Sustainability has reviewed the [first draft CIP Resolution 3052 - Jan 29 2024 PWFC](#), focusing on its contribution to meeting the CBJ's sustainability goals and priorities, and offers the following comments and recommendations.

The draft includes a number of projects that relate to solid waste management, energy use, and climate action that will contribute to meeting CBJ's sustainability goals. However, as we have noted in past years, CIP project descriptions currently have very little information or quantification relating to specific sustainability policies or goals, including the Assembly's 2024 goals, so it is difficult to evaluate them.

JCOS identified the following gaps in the draft CIP relating to meeting CBJ goals as outlined in the JCAIP and the JRES, and the Assembly's 2024 sustainability goals:

- No funding relating specifically to long-term decarbonization of CBJ facilities
- No funding relating to CBJ fleet electrification
- No funding for public EV charging.

JCOS is recommending the addition of three new projects to the CIP, and offers comments on an additional one to more specifically address JCAIP, JRES, and Assembly sustainability goals. JCOS also adds comments supporting proposed CIPs addressing solid waste issues.

We would appreciate having these recommendations incorporated into the next version of the CIP, and included in materials provided to the PWFC.

Background

CBJ facilities and operations burn about 1.3 million gallons of gas/oil and use 37 million kwh of electricity – costing about \$9 million for energy and creating about 12,400 metric tons of carbon pollution– or about 5% of Juneau’s total of 300,000 metric tons. The CBJ’s carbon emissions can be divided into 4 roughly equivalent pots:

Schools	4,000 m. tons
General facilities	3,000 m. tons
Wastewater/water system	2,800 m. tons
Bartlett Hospital	2,600 m. tons

An additional 18,000 metric tons of carbon emissions are emitted annually at the CBJ's two downtown cruise ship docks.

JCOS CIP Recommendations

Feasibility assessment of heat pump systems for CBJ buildings. \$100,000/year FY25-27

This project would fund site assessment, technical evaluation, and financial analysis to identify opportunities for replacing oil heating systems in CBJ buildings with Ground Source Heat Pumps (GSHP). The CBJ’s experience in installing, operating and maintaining GSHP systems at four facilities for more than a decade provides a strong base for evaluating additional opportunities in other facilities, including the JSD.

Heat pumps have among the lowest life-cycle costs for heating systems in Juneau even before the new federal “direct pay” subsidies that can cover up to 50% of the costs for GSHPs. This provides an opportunity over the next 5-10 years for the CBJ to significantly reduce a large proportion of the oil heating and carbon emissions in many of its facilities while reducing operating costs. For example, the Auke Bay School, heated by a GSHP, has heating costs that are about half the cost per square foot as other JSD buildings, with zero emissions.

This project relates directly to implementation of Assembly Sustainability Goal 5B:

“Identify and prioritize the most cost-effective energy efficiency and electrification upgrades in CBJ facilities.”

CBJ fleet electrification and charging infrastructure grant program. \$300,000/yr. (6 years)

This program would allow CBJ departments to cover the additional cost of replacing internal combustion vehicles with EVs. It would also provide funding to install necessary charging infrastructure. Federal incentives will cover up to 30% of EV costs. This project will be used to receive these direct pay funds from the IRS, as well as provide matching funds for any fleet electrification and fleet charging infrastructure grants.

The CBJ owns and operates about 340 vehicles, which burn about \$1 million worth of gas and diesel, and create about 2,725 m. tons of carbon pollution per year. About 60% of the CBJ vehicles scheduled for replacement in 2024 could be replaced with EV's.

This project relates directly to Assembly Sustainability Goal 5C:

“Implement projects and strategies that advance the goal of reliance on 80% of renewable energy sources by 2045.”

Public EV charging infrastructure. \$100,000/yr. (6 years)

This funding would allow the CBJ to continue to contribute to installing and upgrading public EV charging infrastructure. In combination with public donations and significant volunteer installation and maintenance efforts, this will continue to ensure a minimal level of public EV charging in Juneau. Federal funding may be available for EV charging upgrades in the next few years, and CBJ funds could be used for match.

This project relates directly to Assembly Sustainability Goal 5C:

“Implement projects and strategies that advance the goal of reliance on 80% of renewable energy sources by 2045.”

Solid waste.

The Assembly's Goal 5A (*Implement a zero waste or waste reduction plan, including development of the Zero Waste Subdivision*) argues strongly for continued CIP funding and specific projects to address the long-term solid waste issues facing Juneau. JCOS wholeheartedly supports the proposed FY25 CIP funding for 1) ongoing staff work, and 2) a study to analyze the options Juneau must consider to replace the current landfill once it reaches capacity in 10-15 years.

It would be very useful to understand the finances and feasibility of potential options - a new landfill, an incinerator with new (smaller?) landfill, shipping solid waste south, and shipping to a SE regional landfill. Presenting a timeline for needed infrastructure investments, with calculations translated into monthly fees or property taxes, would help Juneau residents understand the pocketbook effects. This study results will underscore the value of the near-term efforts at waste diversion and reduction which could help to delay these financial demands on the community, households and businesses.

cc: Dianna Robinson, Eng & Public Works
John Bohan, Eng & Public Works

CBJ Funding Opportunity Evaluation Matrix

	Yes	No
Eligibility		
Is CBJ directly eligible for funding?		
Are relevant partner opportunities available?		

Relevance		
Does the opportunity align with a current CBJ Legislative Capital Priority?		
Does the opportunity (and applicable project) align with current Assembly goals?		
Does the opportunity align with the CBJ CIP?		
Does the opportunity align with the CBJ Comprehensive Plan?		
Does the opportunity align with other CBJ area plans, action plans and strategies?		
Are there more relevant funding opportunities forthcoming which might provide greater value?		

Competition & Funding Levels		
Would the funding opportunity meaningfully contribute to project outcomes/success?		
Does the funding floor/ceiling align with identified project needs?		
Is the CBJ project aligned with the identified funding priorities? (Would it be considered a "priority" project according to the NOFO?)		
Is the required match funding reasonable and within the CBJ budget or other identified funding?		

Other Considerations		
How competitive is the funding opportunity? (Consider the total available funding, estimated number of grants to be awarded and any relevant set asides)		
Does staff have the bandwidth to meaningfully support a competitive grant application within the required timeline?		

Notes

Spring 2024 EPW Grant Application Update

Planned and pending (submitted) applications as of March 4, 2024. This list includes programs with active/recently closed NOFOs and does not include programs which were evaluated but not a competitive fit for CBJ at this time.

Grant Name	Source	Lead Department	Project Name/Scope	Amount	Status
Climate Pollution Reduction Grant – Implementation Grants	EPA	EPW	Electric Boiler – MWWTP	\$8-9.8M	<i>In Progress (Due April 1)</i>
Clean Ports Program	EPA	D&H, EPW	Shore Power at Dock 16B	\$25-40M	<i>In Progress (Due May 28)</i>
Low or No Emission and Grants for Buses and Bus Facilities Programs	FTA	Capital Transit	Acquisition of six electric busses (including replacement of Proterra Bus) + charging infra	\$7-10M	<i>In Progress (Due April 25)</i>
Assistance to Firefighters Grant	FEMA	CCFR	Portable Radios Acquisition - Statewide Coalition Application (15 Fire Depts)	\$2M	<i>In Progress (Due March 8)</i>
Reconnecting Communities and Neighborhoods – FY23	USDOT	EPW	Lemon Creek Multimodal Path	\$622,400	Submitted
2023 Transportation Alt. Prog. (TAP)	AKDOT&PF	EPW	Lemon Creek Multimodal Path	\$4.56 million	Submitted
2023 Transportation Alt. Prog. (TAP)	AKDOT&PF	P&R	Montana Creek Bridge Replacement	\$1.2M	Submitted
2023 Community Transportation Prog. (CTP)	AKDOT&PF	EPW	Vintage Park Road Safety Improvements	\$6.39 million	Submitted
Thriving Communities Technical Assistance Program	USDOT	CDD, EPW	Partnership with Tlingit & Haida, THRHA – Kowee Creek Area Dev	2-3 years technical asst.	<i>CBJ is a Finalist</i>
Safe Streets for All - FY23	USDOT	EPW	Supplemental Planning for FY22 Action Plan	\$86,000	Awarded
State and Local Cybersecurity Grant Program	DHS&EM (SOA)	IT + Utility	Two IT projects and one Utility project submitted	\$384,900	One Awarded (\$75k to Utility)
EECBG - Energy Efficiency & Conservation Block Grant	DOE	EPW	EV Truck for Utilities Fleet	\$76,000	Awarded

Commented [AH1]: Phase 1 design and construction

Commented [AH3]: Should find out by April 2024

Commented [AH2]: Technical assistance for collaborative area development; including project engineering navigating land use; prepare for funding opportunities; build lasting relationships.

Commented [AH4]: Funding for Expanded data collection, non-motorized user road safety audit and planning + community engagement for non-motorized access options

Rural and Tribal Assistance	USDOT, BAB	EPW	JDNC Technical Assistance (Construction Financing)	\$70,000	<i>Not Awarded</i>
Charging & Fueling Infrastructure Grant	USDOT	EPW	Public EV Charging Infrastructure	\$5 million	<i>Not Awarded</i>
CFWR (Composting and Food Waste Reduction) Pilot Project	USDA	EPW	Food Waste Diversion (Compost) Infrastructure	\$400,000	<i>Not Awarded</i>
SWIFR (Solid Waste Infrastructure for Recycling)	EPA	EPW	Compost Facility	\$6.5 million	<i>Not Awarded</i>
REO (Consumer Recycling Education and Outreach)	EPA	EPW	Source Control & Food Waste Reduction	\$500,000	<i>Not Awarded</i>

Other Funding Programs:

- **ADEC State Revolving Fund**
 - Working with utility to submit forgivable loan applications for several projects this year
 - First up is Lead Service Line Inventory (see [proposed resolution here](#))
 - Next is a Pyrolysis project
- **IRA Direct Pay/Elective Pay Clean Energy Rebate Program**
 - Researching rebate opportunities for Electric Vehicles, EV charging infrastructure and relevant clean/renewable energy projects
 - Program availability through 2032