



JUNEAU COMMISSION ON SUSTAINABILITY AGENDA

August 07, 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. July 3, 2024 Regular Meeting

F. PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

G. AGENDA TOPICS

2. New Member Orientation and Board Refresher - Clerk's Office Staff
3. Sustainability Session Update - Nick Waldo & Marian Call
4. JCOS Annual Report - Nick Waldo
5. Cruise Ship Environmental Impact Factsheet - All

H. INFORMATION ITEMS

6. Staff Update - Attached Memo from Dianna Robinson, Staff Liason
7. Waste updated Memo - Attached Memo from Dianna Robinson, Staff Liaison

I. COMMITTEE MEMBER / LIAISON COMMENTS AND QUESTIONS

J. NEXT MEETING DATE

8. Regular Meeting - September 4, 2024 12PM @ Zoom

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 (JCOS)

Wednesday, July 3, 2023, 12:00 p.m. (Noon) Zoom

A. CALL TO ORDER

Chair Waldo called the meeting to order at 12:16 pm.

B. LAND ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

C. ROLL CALL

Present: Laura Achee, Marian Call, Duff Mitchell, Jim Powell, Nick Waldo

Absent: Jessica Barker, David Teal

A quorum was present.

Staff & Others Present: Assembly Liaison Ella Adkison, CBJ staff Dianna Robinson, Lori Sowa

D. APPROVAL OF AGENDA

Approved as submitted without objection.

E. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Minutes for the June 5, 2024 Regular Meeting were approved without objection.

F. PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

None

G. AGENDA TOPICS

1. Recent [Outside/In podcast](#) on Juneau's hazard mapping

Mr. Waldo raised the question of whether JCOS should take an active role raising awareness of the issue of landslide zoning and/or weighing in on the issue? Alternately, JCOS could simply monitor the issue for the foreseeable future. The sense of the group was that there is not a role for JCOS to play at this time.

2. JCOS Award Presentation

Mr. Waldo thanked Gretchen Kaiser and Steve Behnke in absentia for their many years of service to JCOS. They will be presented with certificates signed by the city manager at a future date.

3. Subcommittee scheduling

- Ms. Call announced that the Outreach Subcommittee is scheduled for July 31 Wednesday, noon to 1 pm. The subject of the meeting is planning for the

September Sustainability Session on the environmental impact of cruise ships.
Date for September Session is TBD

- Mr. Powell announced that the Awards and Indicators Subcommittee will meet soon, public notice will be sent out once a date and time have been set.

4. ETIPP Support Request – Lori Sowa, AELP & Dianna Robinson (attached)

- ETIPP program information: [Energy Transitions Initiative Partnership Project: Coastal, Remote, and Island Community Technical Assistance | State, Local, and Tribal Governments | NREL](#)
- Stakeholder support form: [ETIPP Community Technical Assistance Application](#)

Ms. Lori Sowa from AELP presented on efforts by the organization to get electrification into harder to reach areas. AELP is working on an ETIPP grant application, including gathering feedback from stakeholders, to study the use of heat pumps in multifamily housing and how they would offset the use of space heaters. Space heaters are not efficient and cause irregular load throughout the year. The program would involve quantifying and qualifying conditions in test apartments where heat pumps have been installed and looking at electricity use before and after installation, deployment planning, and possibly working with CBJ on incentives for heat pump deployment in multi-family buildings. AELP requests JCOS submit a stakeholder support form.

A motion was unanimously approved for Ms. Call to draft and submit a stakeholder support form on the ETIPP project on behalf of JCOS.

H. INFORMATION ITEMS

1. Charging & Fueling Infrastructure (CFI) Community Charging Grant Application – Lori Sowa, AELP (attached)

Ms. Lori Sowa provided information on AELP's application for a grant for EV charging stations in the community that would allow pay-for-use charging. This would benefit EV owners who live in multi-family housing and are currently not able to charge their vehicles at home. If JCOS is willing to sign a letter of support, AELP is willing to assist with drafting.

A motion was approved without objection authorizing Mr. Waldo to work with AELP on the drafting and submission of a letter of support.

2. Sustainability Dashboard/Climate Action Community Dashboard – Dianna Robinson (attached)

Was not taken up during the meeting in the interest of time.

3. FERC Chairman visit –

Mr. Mitchell advised that the FERC chairman will be in Juneau Aug 28 and 29 for meetings and will provide more information via email.

4. Staff Update – Dianna Robinson

Was not taken up in the interest of time.

I. COMMITTEE MEMBER / LIAISON COMMENTS AND QUESTIONS

None

J. NEXT MEETING DATE

- | | |
|--------------------------------------|----------------|
| • Outreach Subcommittee | July 31, 2024 |
| • Regular Meeting | Aug 7, 2024 |
| • Awards and Indicators Subcommittee | TBD |
| • Sustainability Session | TBD Sept - Oct |

K. ADJOURNMENT

The meeting adjourned at 1:18 pm.



JUNEAU COMMISSION ON SUSTAINABILITY ANNUAL REPORT JUNE 2022 - MAY 2023

I. INTRODUCTION

The Juneau Commission on Sustainability (JCOS), established by the Assembly in 2007, researches and advises the CBJ on community sustainability. The Commission continued to be engaged and productive this past year. The Commission's work is typically researched and drafted by its committees and the full Commission conducts regular monthly meetings, work sessions as needed, and an annual retreat.

The JCOS charter, and resolutions for the Juneau Climate Action & Implementation Plan (2011) and Juneau Renewable Energy Strategy (2018), identify its duties:

1. promotion of sustainability in the community,
2. recommendations to the Assembly and other boards and commissions on policies and programs,
3. research and applying for grants,
4. advising CBJ staff on GHG emission reductions, and
5. acting as a liaison between the community and Assembly on sustainability-related issues.

Sustainability, as defined in JCOS's charter, encompasses economic, social, environmental, and local government components.

II. HIGHLIGHTS – JCOS Governance, Priorities, Accomplishments and Pending Work

A. GOVERNANCE

The Commission experienced no turnover in membership during this reporting period, though a new chair and co-chair were elected in January. Two members retired at the end of their terms in June 2024, see membership table in Section III.

B. PRIORITY - ENERGY

1. Implementation of the Juneau Climate Action Plan and the Juneau Renewable Energy Strategy

The implementation of these planning documents has become a constant factor in

JCOS decision-making. Appropriate sections of these documents are cited as the basis for numerous JCOS decisions such as letters of support for grant applications, policy memos to the Assembly, and annual goal-setting within JCOS.

2. Transportation

a. **JCOS Actions: Juneau Dock Electrification**

Dock electrification continues to be a key issue for JCOS. We advanced it this year by hosting one of our Sustainability Sessions on this topic (see Outreach section below), made statements of support for including dock electrification in the Blueprint Downtown and other planning documents, and wrote a letter of commitment pledging to help CBJ implement a Clean Ports grant which the City applied for to implement electrification.

b. **JCOS Actions: Electric Vehicles**

JCOS efforts for advancing electric vehicle adoption have focused on two areas: switching the City vehicle fleet to electric vehicles and supporting additional public charging infrastructure to lower the barrier to entry for private vehicles. Examples of these efforts include a letter of support for the CBJ LowNo grant application to purchase electric city buses and a letter of support for an AEL&P grant application to install charging infrastructure at multi-family rental properties. JCOS also advocated for the Assembly to include additional funding for both these areas in the Capital Improvements Projects (CIP) budget.

3. Space Heating

Little progress was made on this priority topic this year. JCOS advised the Assembly to include additional funding for studying heat pumps at City facilities in the CIP budget. This will continue to be a long-term project.

4. CBJ Energy Management

JCOS provided a letter of commitment for a CBJ Climate Pollution Reduction Grant to upgrade to electric boilers at the Mendenhall Wastewater Treatment Plant. Additionally, in the Commission's annual comments on the CBJ CIP budget we advised the Assembly to include more funding for decarbonization of City facilities.

C. **PRIORITY – SOLID WASTE**

This was a major year for solid waste issues in Juneau. There are two main fronts: composting and landfill replacement.

On composting the City has had \$2.5 million in Congressionally Directed Spending appropriated for construction of a municipal composting facility. JCOS has written multiple memos advising the Assembly and staff on how to handle the transition to this new facility and its impact on an existing private business providing compost services. Additionally, JCOS has written letters of support for additional grant funding to further develop the facility as part of a broader zero-waste subdivision, hosted a Sustainability Session on the topic, and had meetings with Assembly members, staff, and the private business owner to discuss the issue and find the optimal path forward.

For landfill replacement the City is moving forward on two projects: a waste characterization study to understand the current nature of waste entering the landfill, and a study to list the options available for waste disposal after the current landfill is retired. JCOS has been engaged in meetings with staff on these issues and expressed support for both efforts to the Assembly.

D. PRIORITY - OUTREACH

The primary outreach success story of the year is the launch of a monthly series of Sustainability Sessions in the fall through spring months. These sessions have included topics important to JCOS such as dock electrification and composting. Attendance has been high, with multiple sessions reaching standing-room-only status in the public spaces reserved and double-digit numbers of online attendees. The hybrid in-person and online video broadcasts have been popular, with the ability to read off questions from the public online as well as from in the room. JCOS is very proud of making the sessions as accessible as possible through this hybrid format.

E. PRIORITY - CLIMATE IMPACTS/SUSTAINABILITY INDICATORS

III. MEMBERSHIP

The 11-member Commission includes nine public members appointed by the Assembly, and one non-voting member each of the Assembly and the Planning Commission. The Commission’s membership reflects environmental, social, economic, and governmental perspectives unified by the common interests of sustainability.

The JCOS members who served during this reporting period are:

Term Expiring	Member	Member	Member
6/30/2024	<i>Gretchen Keiser</i> , retired	<i>Steve Behnke</i> , retired	<i>Jessie Barker</i>
6/30/2025	<i>Nick Waldo</i> , chair	<i>Duff Mitchell</i>	<i>Marion Call</i> , co- chair
6/30/2026	<i>Jim Powell</i>	<i>David Teal</i> , secretary	<i>Laura Achee</i>
Incoming for 6/30/2027	<i>Jessie Barker</i> , returning	<i>Brennan McCulloch</i>	<i>Griffin Plush</i>
<i>Ella Adkison</i>	CBJ Assembly Liaison (non-voting member)	<i>Nina Keller</i>	Planning Commission Liaison (non- voting member)

Denise Koch

CBJ Staff Liaison

Dianna Robinson

CBJ Staff Liaison
(assistant)



Juneau Commission on Sustainability

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Juneau.org/engineering-public-works/jcos
155 Heritage Way • Juneau, AK 99801

DATE: August 07, 2024
TO: Nick Waldo, Chair, Juneau Commission on Sustainability
FROM: Dianna Robinson, Environmental Project Specialist, CBJ
SUBJECT: August Staff Update

Chair Waldo,

Please see updates from CBJ staff below.

Ashley Heimbigner

- On July 29, CBJ Engineering and Public Works co-hosted a Community Change Workshop with the Alaska Municipal League (AML) to facilitate a discussion regarding regional needs and community supported projects as applicable to the EPA's Community Change Grants (CCG) Program. AML reached out to CBJ for assistance in coordinating a Juneau-based workshop as part of their statewide efforts. CBJ worked with AML to coordinate a meeting space (CDD 4th floor conference room), timing and staff participation in the workshop. Workshop participants from Klukwan and Angoon shared their community needs and prospective projects, as did representatives from Juneau-based organizations including JEDC and Tlingit & Haida Regional Housing Authority. The workshop provided helpful information and a thoughtful discussion regarding the funding opportunities provided by the CCG grant program due Nov 21, 2024. CBJ is currently considering a solid waste project for this opportunity.

Nate Abbott, Building Maintenance Supervisor

- CBJ purchased 4 EVs for staff use; one is now used by Facilities Maintenance.

Alix Pierce, Tourism Manager

- No Update

**Juneau Commission on Sustainability**jcos@juneau.govJuneau.org/engineering-public-works/jcos
155 Heritage Way • Juneau, AK 99801

DATE: August 07, 2024
TO: Nick Waldo, Chair, Juneau Commission on Sustainability
FROM: Dianna Robinson, Environmental Project Specialist, CBJ
SUBJECT: Waste Characterization Study & Solid Waste Study RFP Winner

Chair Waldo,

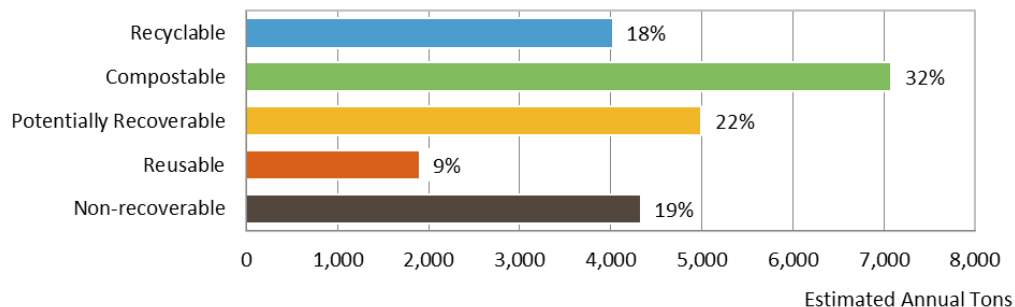
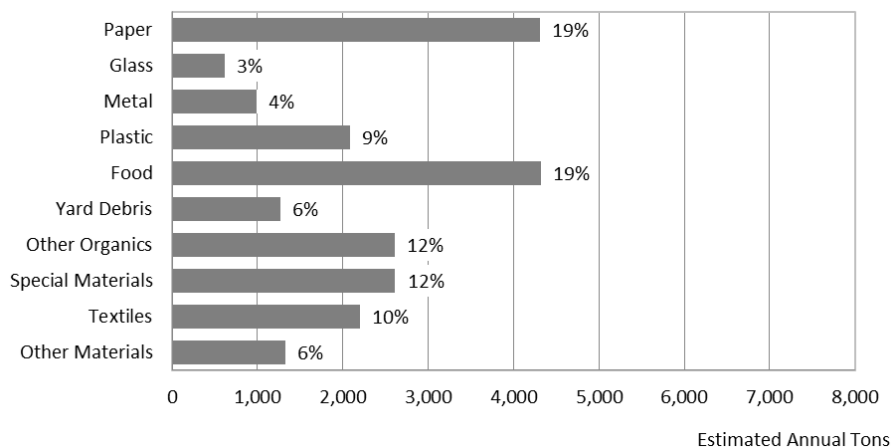
Below are updates on two waste related projects, the Waste Characterization Study and the Solid Waste Disposal Options Study.

Waste Characterization Study

Cascadia Consulting performed a waste characterization of Juneau's solid waste during the week of May 20-25th. Cascadia submitted the draft report in July, which staff reviewed and returned to Cascadia for minor corrections. Once we receive the next draft, we will put the report out for public comment on our website as well as through our Solid Waste Planning listserv.

The tables below show the projections of overall disposed waste by both recoverability (whether the material can be reused, recycled, composted, or otherwise diverted from the landfill) and by material class (paper, glass, etc.). Please note that cardboard is quantified under the Paper category in Table 2; it is separated out elsewhere in the report.

Characterization of Juneau's solid waste stream is critical to our solid waste planning and future diversion program development.

Table 1 - Overall Disposed Waste (by Recoverability)**Table 2 - Overall Disposed Waste (by Material Class)****Solid Waste Disposal Options Study**



Juneau Commission on Sustainability

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We are pleased to announce that the Jacobs Engineering Group is the winner of our RFP process for our Solid Waste Disposal Options Study. The project goal is for the selected consultant to provide a high-level evaluation of the economic feasibility, logistical feasibility, and level of “flow control” for the City and Borough of Juneau (CBJ) for the following long-term solid waste management scenarios:

- A. Construction of a new landfill with recyclables sent south for diversion;
- B. Construction of a transfer/processing station with waste and recyclables sent south by barge for recycling and disposal as applicable; this option should also explore CBJ’s acquisition of a Certificate of Public Convenience and Necessity for waste hauling;
- C. The construction of a waste-to-energy (WTE) facility for municipal solid waste (MSW) with the shipping of recyclables and non-combustibles/ash south for disposal.

The Jacobs team includes members who have worked on solid waste studies and projects in Alaska and Juneau, as well as across the country. Team members have worked on CBJ’s Technical Reconnaissance Study for New Landfill Site Selection¹, Anchorage’s new transfer station², and Kodiak’s biosolids composting facility.³

Staff are excited to work with Jacobs on this important study and anticipate a final report in early 2025.

¹ Technical Reconnaissance Study for New Landfill Site Selection (Brown, Vence and Associates; October 1993). https://juneau.org/wp-content/uploads/2018/07/Technical_Reconnaissance_Study_for_New_Landfill_Site_Selection-October_1993.pdf

² “With new Anchorage waste center, city hopes to help residents minimize trash,” by Michael Fanelli, Alaska Public Media. October 12, 2023 <https://alaskapublic.org/2023/10/12/with-new-anchorage-waste-center-city-hopes-to-help-residents-minimize-trash/>

³ Future Biosolids Composting Facility, City of Kodiak. <https://www.city.kodiak.ak.us/publicworks/page/future-biosolids-composting-facility-information>