



# JUNEAU COMMISSION ON SUSTAINABILITY AGENDA

June 07, 2023 at 12:00 PM

Zoom Webinar

<https://juneau.zoom.us/j/3184683251> Meeting ID: 318 468 3251 or

Phone +1 253 215 8782 US (Tacoma)

**A. CALL TO ORDER**

**B. LAND ACKNOWLEDGEMENT**

**C. ROLL CALL**

**D. APPROVAL OF AGENDA**

**E. APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

- [1.](#) May 3, 2023 – JCOS Regular Meeting
- [2.](#) May 9, 2023 – JCOS Solid Waste Subcommittee
- [3.](#) May 23, 2023 – JCOS Solid Waste Subcommittee
- [4.](#) May 30, 2023 – JCOS Outreach Subcommittee

**F. PUBLIC PARTICIPATION**

**G. AGENDA TOPICS**

- [5.](#) JCOS 2023 Annual Report Draft – Gretchen Keiser (JCOS)
- [6.](#) Solid Waste Committee Memo – Nick Waldo (JCOS)
- [7.](#) Debriefing on JCOS 6-5-23 Presentation to COW – Steve Behnke and Gretchen Keiser (JCOS)
8. Outreach Committee Report – Marian Call (JCOS)

**H. INFORMATION ITEMS**

- [9.](#) JCOS 2023 Work Plan: a mid-year check-in - Gretchen Keiser (JCOS)

**I. COMMITTEE MEMBER / LIAISON COMMENTS AND QUESTIONS**

**J. NEXT MEETING DATE (S)**

Outreach Subcommittee	June 13, 2023 12 PM @ZOOM
Monthly Work Session	June 21, 2023 12 PM @ZOOM
Solid Waste Subcommittee	June 27, 2023 12 PM @ZOOM
Regular Meeting	July 5, 2023 12 PM @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.org](mailto:city.clerk@juneau.org).

**Juneau Commission on Sustainability (JCOS)**  
**Wednesday, May 3, 2023, 12:00 p.m. (Noon) Zoom**

**1. Call to Order**

Vice-Chair Behnke called the meeting to order at 12:09 pm.

**2. Land Acknowledgement**

**3. Roll Call**

Present: Jessica Barker, Steve Behnke, Marian Call, Duff Mitchell, Jim Powell, David Teal,  
 Absent: Laura Achee, Gretchen Keiser, Nick Waldo

*A quorum was present.*

Present: Assembly Liaison Maria Gladziszewski, Planning Commission Liaison Nina Keller  
 Staff & Others Present: CBJ Staff Liaison Denise Koch, CBJ staff Alan Steffert,  
 Lori Sowa (AEL&P), Anna Canny (KTOO), Paul Goodfellow (ADEC), Devon Kibby, Kyle  
 Hayward, Ashley Heimbigner (CBJ), Brandi Tolsma (CCTHITA), Cer Scott (CCTHITA),  
 Pete Strow (Kensington), Scott Ciambor (CBJ), Michael Eich (CBJ)

**4. Approval of Agenda**

Approved with no changes.

**5. Approval of Minutes**

Minutes for

- March 30, 2023 – JCOS Regular Meeting
- April 11, 2023 – JCOS Outreach Subcommittee
- April 19, 2023 – JCOS Work Session

were approved without objection.

**6. Public Participation**

None

**7. Agenda Topics**

- a. EV Charger Grant Letters of Support – Steve Behnke (JCOS)  
**Mr. Mitchell made a motion to permit Mr. Benke to draft and send a letter of support and to otherwise support the grant. The motion passed without objection.**
- b. Sustainability Awards – Jim Powell (JCOS)  
 Mr. Powell resurrected a memo suggesting CBJ make sustainability awards and providing a process for doing so. Maria Gladziszewski recalled that the assembly wanted some additional details before proceeding, but the issue fell through the cracks. The Outreach Committee should check minutes for specific comments.  
**Mr. Teal made a motion to send the material to the outreach committee to update and resubmit the memo through the JCOS chair. The motion passed without objection.**

c. Sustainability Indicators – Jim Powell (JCOS)

Mr. Powell gave a [presentation](#) on indicators covering definitions, framework and approach, history, CBJ policy and indicators, how to choose indicators, and Whitehorse's approach and indicators. The underlying idea is that JCOS could help develop sustainability indicators that are relevant and that can be measured and controlled.

d. Sustainability Session—Marian Call

Ms. Call provided an update on a public session on sustainability scheduled for May 16. Minutes of the Outreach Committee's April 11 meeting provide details of actions and plans, including publicizing the session.

**8. Information Items**

A grant for Alaska Heatsmart is on the CBJ agenda today. Mr. Benke will attend.

**9. Committee/Liaison Comments and Questions**

**10. Next Meetings**

- Solid Waste Subcommittee May 9, 2023 12 PM @ZOOM
- Sustainability Session May 16, 2023 5:00 PM - 6:30 PM – Hybrid
- Solid Waste Subcommittee May 23, 2023 12 PM @ZOOM
- Regular Meeting June 7, 2023 12 PM @ZOOM
- Monthly Work Session June 21, 2023 12 PM @ZOOM

**11. Adjournment**

The meeting adjourned at 1:03 pm.

Submitted by David Teal, Secretary

## Attending:

Nick Waldo, subcommittee chair, JCOS

Dianna Robinson, CBJ DPW

Jessie Barker, JCOS

Marian Call, JCOS

Lisa Daugherty, Juneau Compost

Zach Gianotti, solid waste management with CED, zach.gianotti@alaska.gov

Michele Elfers, dep direc parks & rec

Dan Hysell, SEAK Land Trust

Kris, member of the public

Nancy Waterman, Leighty foundation

## Minutes:

- Land Acknowledgement at 12:04pm
- Public comment - introductions of all present
- Agenda item: artificial turf for parks & rec locations
  - *Dianna*: CBJ did some risk assessment of risk of contamination from artificial turf in response to concerns about PFAS content of artificial turf
  - There is risk of contamination, but not any more than other buildings / clothing / environment
  - *Nick*: It is a potential source of PFAS contamination, but we have bigger fish to fry if we want to tackle this issue. The particular product we're looking at – unless you're living on these fields, it's not going to be a major source of contamination for you. Issues with other products (not the one being used in Juneau) have presented larger risks, but we're not using those.
  - *Dianna*: any further questions, send them to me and/or Michele Elfers, parks & rec. The major pathway for PFAS to enter the body is through drinking water.
- Agenda item: Construction industry waste
  - *Nick*: I reached out to SEAK Construction Industry Association, an industry consortium. My pitch was that JCOS is looking at reducing what goes into our landfill, particularly demo/construction. Received a positive but guarded response, they will talk about it at their next meeting and attend one of our future meetings
  - Nick references Talking Trash meeting, recording:  
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=iEn16EoQn6U>
  - *Jessie*: Do you have a sense of whether it's bigger because it's higher volume? how much room is there for reduction?
  - *Dianna*: Several avenues to explore. C&D waste is about 20% of our waste stream. Landfill is a willing partner in finding ways to reduce, reuse.
  - *Marian*: how do we begin outreach to engage the private sector in the reuse portion of this? Seed the idea of the need for a ReStore?
  - *Dianna*: we're convening a stakeholder group as part of our zero waste plan. People to engage might be Chamber of Commerce, DBA, potentially JEDC
- Agenda item: Juneau Composts & future of composting

- Juneau Composts, local business, is already engaged in composting. CBJ also recently received funding for a facility, and is figuring out how to design it
- *Lisa*: I've been operating since 2017, food scraps and yard debris, also distributing garden supplies to community as product. CBJ is our landlord, the owner of the unpaved property where we're located. Now entire business is at a standstill due to uncertainty, because the city can't guarantee I'll be the operator due to RFP process. I'm interested in whether the RFP process can happen now, before the facility is designed, so that whoever gets the contract can plan for the future and prepare to engage the facility as it is. The main point is that composting continues to happen in the city – I'm at the point of taking no new customers and potentially shutting down if there's no future for the business, if I can't invest in heavy equipment.
- *Lisa*: Talking Trash session (linked above) had some issues. If we want to know more about how to divert from the landfill, it's important to ask DNC Recycling (Valley), Skookum, Juneau Recycling, asking people already engaged in diversion
- *Dianna*: Talking Trash was requested by assembly and questions came from assembly, hopefully there will be more and we can share out more of the story. We have the power to work on more Talking Trash events and can continue the conversation.
- *Marian*: what autonomy does CBJ have when it comes to the timing on the RFP?
- *Dianna*: procurement is a huge complex process and the people in procurement have been historically fairly conservative. That said, the Assembly may have some authority over the process and could make it possible to do things differently if they wanted to. But procurement process would be the hurdle. We're looking at models of public/private partnership and trying to find a model for success, Lisa is aware of several failed attempts.
- *Nick*: could there be more than one facility for diversion, with food grade / non-food grade output, ie for road grade etc? w bio-solids for example?
- *Lisa*: that seems unlikely, what would be added to the compost that would make it non-food grade? as a composter I wouldn't want to rehydrate bio-solids, so all my compost is food grade, and there is no advantage to pursuing a non-food-grade
- *Zach*: our solid waste can be dried for disposal – but it's essentially just dry sewage, so when it re-enters a wet environment (like the landfill) it rehydrates and microbes create methane. There's also PFAS contamination in sewage solids (not as high as elsewhere, but still very present). So plans to dispose of dried sewage solids that way were scrapped, now they are shipped to a landfill in Oregon. So it's allowable to use it in compost, but a problem to use since it produces so much methane and contains PFAS. CBJ has been looking into other options, including the option of fully composting sewage, which is quite a different process. I don't know that it would make sense to attempt to merge solid waste and compost processes at this time.
- *Dianna*: we ship biosolids out at \$600/ton, we purchased the drier to make shipping safer, but at the time there were thoughts it could help with other waste – but it's not suitable to blend w compost solutions.
- *Marian*: Lisa, what would be indicators to you that progress would be happening?
- *Lisa*: moving towards an RFP now would be helpful – I'm aware the city can't favor my business, but the risk here is that composting vanishes completely for a few years if I close before the new facility can work. I personally wish businesses

like mine were able to get the funding instead of the muni government, but private sector really isn't eligible for that. In other states, grants are made directly from states and munis to compost businesses. The state of AK doesn't have any vehicles for this to happen. Waiting in limbo for this to happen is terrible – I'm considering closing my business down.

- *Nick*: next steps - what recommendations JCOS might want to put forward to the assembly. We might have to come up with a resolution as a full body.
- The subcommittee will reconvene May 23rd and spend time on a work session drafting language to share with JCOS to move us towards a resolution on the matter of composting and this important community issue. Will read some resources and references in the meantime.
- Next subcommittee meeting:
  - discuss construction waste if the industry can get back to us
  - work on compost RFP question and potential resolution language to bring to JCOS
  - discuss Dianna's work on food waste mitigation / diversion
- Meeting adjourned at 12:59pm

## JCOS – Solid Waste Subcommittee

May 23, 2023

1. Update from Southeast Alaska Contractors Association (Nick)
  - a. They are discussing our outreach at their board meeting, have not gotten a formal response or confirmed a date for them to join one of our meetings.
2. Update on food waste initiatives (Dianna)
  - a. Waiting to hear back on SWIFR grant and food waste public outreach grant.
    - i. Public outreach grant would finance contracting.
    - ii. USDA to potentially pave the site where Juneau Composts operates - Aug. or Sep for funding.
    - iii. Tlingit and Haida trying to get funding from same source - composting grant to build facility in the valley with an in-vessel composter
3. Work on language for compost facility RFP recommendations to the Assembly (All)
  - a. Diana spoke with Greg Smith in city contracts. It is possible to issue an RFP before the facility is complete. Contracts are 3-5 years, may take that long to build facility. He could be available for future meeting.
  - b. Marian has typed up some key points, would like an example letter to match writing style of recommendations
  - c. Discussion and concerns about planning compost while the rest of the resource recovery subdivision is still in flux
  - d. Recommendation letter should be addressed to PWF Committee - June 5
  - e. Deliverables:
    - i. Diana will share example memos
    - ii. Nick will email Gretchen what to put on PWFC agenda

## JCOS Outreach Subcommittee Meeting Agenda & Minutes - 5/30/23 from 12:00pm to 1:30pm

### 1. Call to order

Chair Marian Call called the meeting to order at 12:05pm

Present: Marian Call (chair), Jessie Barker, Dianna Robinson, Steve Behnke, Gretchen Keiser, Duff Mitchell, Jim Powell

### 2. Land acknowledgement

### 3. Public participation

(None)

### 4. Agenda topics

#### A) JCOS Outreach Subcommittee Logistics

- Meeting roles and responsibilities: Jessie is unable to take minutes this particular meeting (Marian will send summary post-meeting)
- Discussion of meeting times deferred until Duff can join meeting

#### B) Reviewing May 16 Sustainability Session and discussing outreach processes

- Comparing promotional work (given short timeline) to our master checklist, we continue to develop our promotional checklist – several items added to reflect work done/needed
- What went well? KTOO outreach and article, attendance was decent (- *Steve*), JCOS Facebook page and website have received a facelift and look good, online engagement was decent (- *Marian*)
- What can we improve? Weather was a factor, KINY outreach is important (- *Duff*) Outreach to other sustainability organizations, building a rolodex of interested parties to connect with in the future (- *Jessie and Marian*)
- Divvying up tasks to repeat so that we know who has responsibility for what...
  - Marian comfortable with design and website work, interfacing with CBJ on getting that done, as well as KTOO/Empire outreach
  - Duff comfortable with KINY and business community outreach
  - Jessie comfortable with building on connections to other orgs and key individuals who ought to be invited directly in future
- Duff brings up that we need an email list people can sign up for – Dianna mentions we have to figure out how to have such a thing hosted at the city. Marian will work with CBJ on figuring out the best system for that over the summer.
- The event was not recorded, which is a shame. What can we share with the public from it?
  - Duff: can make a new short video summary with Sunny Sanwar?
  - Gretchen: Steve and Gretchen will be presenting a summary to the assembly on June 5, that video will be available on Youtube (Dianna provided [link to CBJ channel](#) where that will be hosted)
  - Dianna: there's also a recording of the Feb 2023 meeting where Sunny did his initial presentation ([linked here](#))



- Both of these are appropriate to share on the JCOS Facebook page, as are individual slides from the slide deck posted on CBJ's website and any direct quotes from it.
- We can post as a reminder that public comment is open until June 16
- Marian can send a thank you to Sunny on behalf of JCOS as outreach chair (- *Gretchen*)
- For future events - can we get PSA's on KTOO for the community DJ's to read at all hours? (- *Duff*)

### C) Sustainability Awards (outreach subcommittee's role)

- Jim: proposal for Sustainability Awards was presented to HR committee in 2020 and received some feedback, now it's time to move it forward again (*Gretchen*: the draft proposal we're reviewing incorporates that feedback)
- Five JCOS commission members would be part of the initial review process and would recommend some finalists to HR
- Marian: some specific questions –
  - How many awards? Jim: as many as we feel are awardable
  - Which five JCOS members specifically will serve? Jim: any interested
  - Are projects with JCOS commissioners on the awards subcommittee directly involved eligible?
    - Jim: it's a conflict of interest, but I want all groups in, I think they should be, subcommittee members could recuse themselves
    - Marian: Maybe they're not eligible on a year when there's a subcommittee member representing them making decisions, the subcommittee could rotate and in a year when they're not serving they could be eligible – we don't want this to appear to be awarding the usual suspects or friends of JCOS
    - Duff: this is a matter worth consideration by HR / the assembly
  - What would the award be? Jim: a certificate (people get tired of plaques), to be awarded at a major event in Juneau, Earth Day or perhaps Innovation Summit
- Marian: what is JCOS' role versus the city's role? There's a lot of hours of work in this project, design and administration plus subcommittee doing the awarding
- Jim: I'd like this to happen organically, start small and let it grow, it could be mostly volunteer – JCOS has the passion
- Marian: CBJ has an interest in these being branded for the city and being a long-term project, for the city to know their involvement level up front will help them anticipate what saying yes to awards means
- Duff shares some examples of existing websites for awards for [King County](#) and [Port of Seattle](#), mentions we need comprehensive contacts / promotional plan
- Gretchen: we should come up with a clear idea of how much work is entailed and who's going to do it to present that to HR
- Marian: to know what the Outreach subcommittee's role will be, we'll need to think through the actual steps of taking this project from abstract to concrete
- Jim and Marian decide to work together on breaking down the different steps of the project and thinking through which ones would be the work of the city, which would be JCOS or volunteer work

D) Discuss topics of past and future Sustainability Sessions

- Deferred to next meeting for time

E) Return to JCOS Outreach Subcommittee Logistics (A)

- Scheduling future meetings: Duff, Jessie, and Marian are all available Tuesdays at noon through the summer but may need some flexibility. Future upcoming meetings planned for the 2nd Tuesday of the month, which means:
  - Tues June 13
  - Tues July 11
  - Tues Aug 8
  - Tues Sept 12
- If any of these present a problem we can remain in communication about changing weeks as necessary but keeping the same time (Tuesdays at noon).

**5. Commissioner Closing Comments**

- Duff: Sustainability Sessions in Sept and Oct will be before the election, if we want any particular issues to be discussed as part of election public discourse, plan for that

**6. Adjournment**



## JUNEAU COMMISSION ON SUSTAINABILITY ANNUAL REPORT JUNE 2022 - MAY 2023

### I. INTRODUCTION

The Juneau Commission on Sustainability (JCOS) 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 conducted 11 regular monthly meetings, numerous work sessions, two special meetings, and a December 2022 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 considerable turnover in membership in 2022, with former members moving on because of business and work commitments, personal health, and graduate school. Remaining members provided orientation sessions, 1:1 guidance, and led an abbreviated work load while new members came up to speed. The commission's December 2022 retreat provided new members the opportunity to step into committee and leadership roles.

In 2023, the Commission established a consistent day/week schedule for JCOS subcommittee work sessions, in order to optimize Eng/PW liaison support and in recognition of staff workloads.

## B. PRIORITY - ENERGY

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

#### a. JCOS Actions

- actively engaged with CBJ staff to monitor and advocate for energy-related components in CBJ projects.
- actively participated with E&PW Dept on the contract with Dynamhex (now Constellation) to obtain an updated *Juneau Energy Use & GHG Inventory* for 2021. Conducted three review sessions of report drafts with the consultant at JCOS meetings.
- provided specific sustainability recommendations to the Assembly for its annual retreat goals-setting.
- prepared for the Assembly a JCOS Report: *Juneau's Climate Action and Sustainability & Proposed Action Plan* (December 2022). The report
  - summarizes the actions undertaken in the community over the 5 years since JRES was adopted;
  - offers JCOS recommendations on “next steps” moving forward; and
  - identifies 40+ potential clean energy/climate action funding opportunities in the federal Bipartisan Infrastructure Law and Inflation Reduction Act.

#### b. Pending Work

- make a presentation at 6/5/23 Assembly COW on the 2021 Energy/GHG Inventory analysis, recent/current actions, and recommended next steps to meet the community's GHG emission and renewable energy goals.

### 2. Transportation

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

- Provided input to CBJ Docks & Harbors that was incorporated into CBJ comments submitted to EPA which sought public feedback on how to structure a new grant program. The program, directed at reducing air pollution in ports, may be a potential funding source for dock electrification in Juneau.
- Recommended the use of Marine Passenger Fees (MPFs) in 2023 for several projects:
  - prepare bid-ready engineering/design and environmental permitting and order the two load tap transformers for the 16B docks electrification;
  - conduct a beneficial electrification impact analysis with 3<sup>rd</sup> party consulting services to assess and evaluate alternative approaches and CBJ investments

in the downtown/port area electrical infrastructure; and

- provide local matching funds for a federal grant application in 2023 for downtown electric bus circulators.
- Recommended 16B Dock Electrification as a community project for CBJ's 2023 *Legislative Priorities* list.

#### **b. JCOS Actions: Electric Vehicles**

- advocated to use MPFs for local matching funds to a federal FTA Low No grant application for downtown electric bus circulators (which was not pursued in the 2023 grant cycle).
- actively monitored the Alaska Energy Authority's (AEA) development of the State of Alaska's EV Plan, a requirement to receive substantial federal Bipartisan Infrastructure Law funding. Participated in a summer 2022 AEA workshop to represent Juneau/SE Alaska input.
- engaged with the Juneau International Airport (JIA) manager to determine and recommend how the JIA parking lot improvements in 2023 include EV charging stations. This follows up on JIA's commitment for EV chargers as part of JCOS's waiver of airport LEED requirements in 2019.

#### **c. JCOS Pending Work**

- continue to monitor the State's allocation of federal EV funds through AEA.
- assist CBJ staff on grant applications for EV program funding.

### **3. Space Heating**

#### **a. JCOS Action: Financing for Commercial Building Energy Efficiency Upgrades**

- conducted background research and education of commission members about C-PACE (Commercial-Property Assessed Clean Energy) financing for upgrades to multi-family housing and other commercial buildings.

#### **b. JCOS Pending Work**

- Advocate for and assist in an examination of potential CBJ participation in clean energy financing and identify federal funding opportunities and requirements.

### **4. CBJ Energy Management**

#### **a. JCOS Actions: Energy Use in CBJ Facilities**

- engaged with CBJ staff on energy efficiency components to renovations to Centennial Hall and new construction at Bartlett Regional Hospital.
- received an update and applauded CBJ Facility Maintenance staff actions to track

energy data and establish separate billing records for approx. 600 CBJ facilities.

**b. JCOS Pending Work**

- offered to work with CBJ staff to re-examine the 2011 LEED ordinance and current “green” building certification programs.

**C. PRIORITY – SOLID WASTE**

**a. JCOS Actions**

- toured the City of Whitehorse waste management facility and met with staff (June 2022) to consider successes/failures of the City’s waste planning.
- re-established a Solid Waste Committee of JCOS.
- recommended the municipal composting facility design and construction as a project to be included in the CBJ’s 2023 Legislative Priorities list.
- Attended the “Talking Trash” public meeting in April 2023 organized by Eng & PW staff and Assembly PWFC.
- Provided a letter of support for a CBJ grant application to EPA for funding to augment the congressional grant for a municipal composting facility.

**b. JCOS Pending Work**

- present a memo to the Assembly PWFC regarding CBJ’s approach to seek consulting services for design/build/operations of a municipal composting facility.

**D. PRIORITY - OUTREACH**

**1. Public Education and Community Awareness**

**a. JCOS Actions**

- conducted a JCOS Sustainability Session in May 2023 on the public review draft of the *2021 Juneau Energy Use and GHG Emissions Inventory*.
- drafted for the mayor two energy-related proclamations
  - Juneau Participation in the National Drive Electric Week EV Road Rally (September 2022) and
  - Earth Day/Litter Free (April 2023).
- maintained a website under the CBJ/Eng& PW website and also has a Facebook page. Sustainability sessions are recorded and posted, as are JCOS reports, meeting minutes, and useful articles.

## 2. Collaboration with AK municipalities

### a. JCOS Actions

- regularly participated in bimonthly meetings of the Alaska Municipal Climate Network of local elected officials, staff, and advocates around the state to share information and actions. Presented an overview of JCOS duties, procedures, and actions in February 2023.
- Met with members of the newly established Sitka Sustainability Commission in March 2023 and provided information about JCOS governance, duties, priorities, and procedural approaches.

### b. JCOS Pending Work

- consider an initiative and investigate work tasks to present to the Assembly the concept of a Sustainability Award to honor an individual, organization, business or agency that takes substantial action to further Juneau's sustainability and resilience.

## E. PRIORITY - CLIMATE IMPACTS/SUSTAINABILITY INDICATORS

### a. JCOS Action

- Presented the *Juneau Climate Impacts* Report, a collaborative effort by UAF and UAS scientists and others, to the Assembly (July 2022).

### b. JCOS Pending Work

- develop sustainability indicators/metrics as part of a CBJ Comprehensive Plan update.

## III. OVERVIEW OF JCOS

The Juneau Commission on Sustainability, established by the Assembly in 2007, researches and advises the CBJ on community sustainability. The Commission's mission is to promote the economic, social, environmental, and governmental well-being of Juneau and all its inhabitants, now and in the future.

### 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. In June 2022, the Commission liaison support switched from CDD to Eng&PW staff to be better aligned with most of JCOS work priorities. The Commission's membership reflects environmental, social, economic, and governmental perspectives unified by the common interests of sustainability.

The JCOS members currently serving are:

<b>Member</b>	<b>Term Expires</b>	<b>Member</b>	<b>Term Expires</b>
<b><i>Gretchen Keiser</i></b>	6/30/2024, Chair	<b><i>Laura Achee</i></b>	6/30/2023
<b><i>Jessica Barker</i></b>	6/30/2024	<b><i>Duff Mitchell</i></b>	6/30/2025
<b><i>Marion Call</i></b>	6/30/2025	<b><i>Steve Behnke</i></b>	6/30/2024
<b><i>Jim Powell</i></b>	6/30/2023	<b><i>Nick Waldo</i></b>	6/30/2025
<b><i>David Teal</i></b>	6/30/2023, Secretary		
<b><i>Maria Gladziszewski</i></b>	CBJ Assembly Liaison (non-voting member)	<b><i>Nina Keller</i></b>	Planning Commission Liaison (non-voting member)
<b><i>Denise Koch</i></b>	CBJ Staff Liaison	<b><i>Dianna Robinson</i></b>	CBJ Staff Liaison (assistant)

A special thanks to former commissioners Lisa Daugherty (Solid Waste Chair), Anjuli Grantham (Outreach Chair), and Colin Peacock for their commitment and superb work. Also, JCOS thanks Assembly Liaison Carole Triem and Planning Commission Liaison Paul Voelckers who served on the Commission during the past year.

For additional background about the Commission, see Attachment 1.



## ATTACHMENT 1: History of the Juneau Commission on Sustainability

The governing legislation for the Juneau Commission on Sustainability is CBJ Resolution 2401am, July 9, 2007. The policy and purpose of the Commission incorporated the mission of the former Juneau Energy Advisory Committee, which was also repealed by Resolution 2401am. The Commission's 2010 sunset date was removed by CBJ Resolution 2528, May 19, 2010.

The membership structure of the Commission was altered in 2015. Resolution 2755; February 5, 2015 renewed the Commission and repealed an earlier Resolution 2718. The Planning Commission and Assembly Liaison members are now non-voting members and do not count towards a quorum.

In the past, many persons have actively served on the Commission:

**Public Member:** Carol Anderson, Nathan Arentsen, Kaley Bangston, Bob Bellagh, Kate Bevegni, Eva Varadi Bornstein, Sandy Boyce, Alida Bus, Amy Condra, Lida Daugherty, Robert Deering, Susan Ely, Catherine Fritz, Myrna Gardner, Anjuli Grantham, Clint Gundelfinger, Dave Hanna, Lauren Heine, Scott Jackson, Zane Jones, Jonathan Kamler, Ed King, Linda Kruger, Iura Leahu, Jeni Lefing, Sarah Lewis, Sean Lynch, Greg McEwen, Colin Peacock, Jim Rehfeldt, Sally Schlichting, Amy Skilbred, John Smith, Kate Troll, Sara Truit, Greg Smith, Nancy Waterman, , Rick Wolk, Gayle Wood, Lisa Weissler, Christine Woll.

**Assembly Liaison:** Bob Doll, Karen Crane, Mary Becker, Jerry Nankervis, Kate Troll, Maria Gladziszewski, Rob Edwardson, Michelle Hale, Alicia Hughes-Skanjes, Carole Triem.

**Planning Commission Liaison:** Dan Miller, Nancy Waterman, Nicole Grewe, Ben Haight, Mike Levine, Mike Peterson, Paul Voelckers.

**CBJ Staff Liaison:** Maria Gladziszewski, Tim Felstead.

**Previous JCOS Chair:** Gayle Wood, Sarah Lewis, Sandy Boyce, Sean Lynch, Alida Bus, Nancy Waterman, Kate Troll, Lisa Weissler, Steve Behnke, Duff Mitchell.

Over the years, JCOS worked on several aspects of community sustainability through several past committees, including: Food Security (2016-2018; 2009-2011) Climate Action Plan Implementation (2012), Sustainability Indicators (2010-2012), Initiatives (2012), Energy (2014-2015; 2017-2023), Energy/Greenhouse Gas (2009-2011), Solid Waste (2014-2016; 2020-2023), Sustainability Chapter/Comprehensive Plan Update (2014), Built Environment, City Operations, and Transportation; Outreach /Accountability (2014-2015); Outreach/Education (2018-2023).



## Juneau Commission on Sustainability

(907) 586-0800

[jcos@juneau.org](mailto:jcos@juneau.org)

[www.juneau.org/engineering-public-works/jcos](http://www.juneau.org/engineering-public-works/jcos)

155 S. Seward Street • Juneau, AK 99801

To: Chair Bryson and members of the Public Works and Facilities Committee

From: Nick Waldo, Chair, JCOS Solid Waste Subcommittee

Date: June 6, 2023

Subject: JCOS recommendations on composing facility contracting process

The future municipal composting facility is an exciting development and JCOS fully supports the City's efforts to increase the scale and efficiency of composting services as a means to divert waste from the landfill and recover valuable resources. However, the promise of this facility in the near future is creating financial uncertainty for the one business which currently offers commercial composting services in Juneau. To support the continuity of compost services in a way that is fair and business-friendly, JCOS recommends launching a competitive bid process for compost facility operations prior to the facility actually being operational.

### **Background**

- JCOS is invested in supporting continued and expanded composting services in Juneau because composting is a far more sustainable means of food waste disposal than landfilling. Benefits include:
  - Diverting waste from the landfill, which has limited remaining capacity.
  - Reducing greenhouse gas emissions by processing organics in an aerobic environment, where carbon is emitted as CO<sub>2</sub> rather than methane, a much more potent greenhouse gas which is generated in anaerobic landfills.
  - Produces valuable compost for Juneau's gardeners, reducing the need to ship bulky compost in from out of state or produce and ship chemical fertilizers.
- Juneau has a single commercial composting business, Juneau Composts, which has diverted approximately 1.5 million pounds of food waste since 2017.
- The owner of Juneau Composts has testified to JCOS' Solid Waste Subcommittee that if another business is selected as the operator of the new City facility, it will most likely put her out of business.
- This uncertainty reduces Juneau Composts' ability to invest in maintenance and upgrades to their current facilities and equipment, possibly leading to a situation where it does not make sense to continue operations, even before the new facility opens.

## Proposal

- JCOS recommends the City issue a request for proposals (RFP) and sign a contract as early as possible in the pre-planning and design process for a contractor to both:
  - advise on the design of the new facility;
  - be its first operator when it comes online.
- The contract with both the advisor/initial operator and the facility designer should specify a flexible design, to avoid the creation of a facility that only one operator could use in the future.
- The contract should include optional tasks and contingency language to avoid committing public funds to paying for operation services prior to the facility being operational.

## Benefits

- The City gains a design advisor with a vested interest in the success of the facility.
- Establish a predictable business environment.
- Ensure the facility is ready to begin operations as soon as it is completed instead of having to go through an additional competitive bid process once it is built.
- If the existing local business is selected, awarding the contract early ensures a continuity of service and retention of local expertise between now and the opening of the new facility.
  - No other operator is likely to or able to replace this one before the new compost facility is completed and open for use in a few years. The premature loss of this private operator effectively means that mid-scale composting services for the public would cease for several years.
- If a different business wins the contract, the longer lead time gives them an opportunity to prepare for operations concurrently with the design and construction of the facility.

## Drawbacks

- If a business other than Juneau Composts wins the contract, there is a possibility that this course of action may lead Juneau Composts to wind down their operations earlier. This would be a loss for sustainability in Juneau, but one which also may occur if the City follows the default option of waiting to issue the contract.
- If there are construction delays, the facility may not be operational within the span of this contract, reducing the benefits of this proposal and expending unnecessary effort and money on the procurement process.
  - Careful writing of the contract can ensure that public funds are not committed to tasks which are not needed.

Overall, JCOS believes that the benefits outweigh the drawbacks. If the existing local small business wins the contract and this added certainty allows it to stay in business and continue providing services in the interim, the City's sustainability goals are served greatly by the continued waste diversion and composting. If another business wins the contract then an answer is known and all parties can plan appropriately for the new facility.

# **Juneau's Energy Picture and Climate Action Where Are We? What's Next?**

Assembly Committee of the Whole

June 5, 2023

Gretchen Keiser, Chair, Juneau Commission on Sustainability

Steve Behnke, Chair, JCOS Energy Committee

# Overview

Section G, Item 7.

- I. Juneau's Climate Action and Energy Policies
  - I. 2021 Energy and GHG Inventory
  - I. Where Are We? What Juneau's Been Doing
  - I. What's Next? JCOS Recommendations





National  
Weather  
Service

**RECORD  
JUNE**



*Feel Hot Tuesday? It Certainly Was!*

Section G, Item 7.

# Tuesday Record Heat

May 31, 2022

**Juneau**  
**78°**

Old Record:  
76° in 1982

**Yakutat**  
**74°**

Old Record:  
67° in 1964



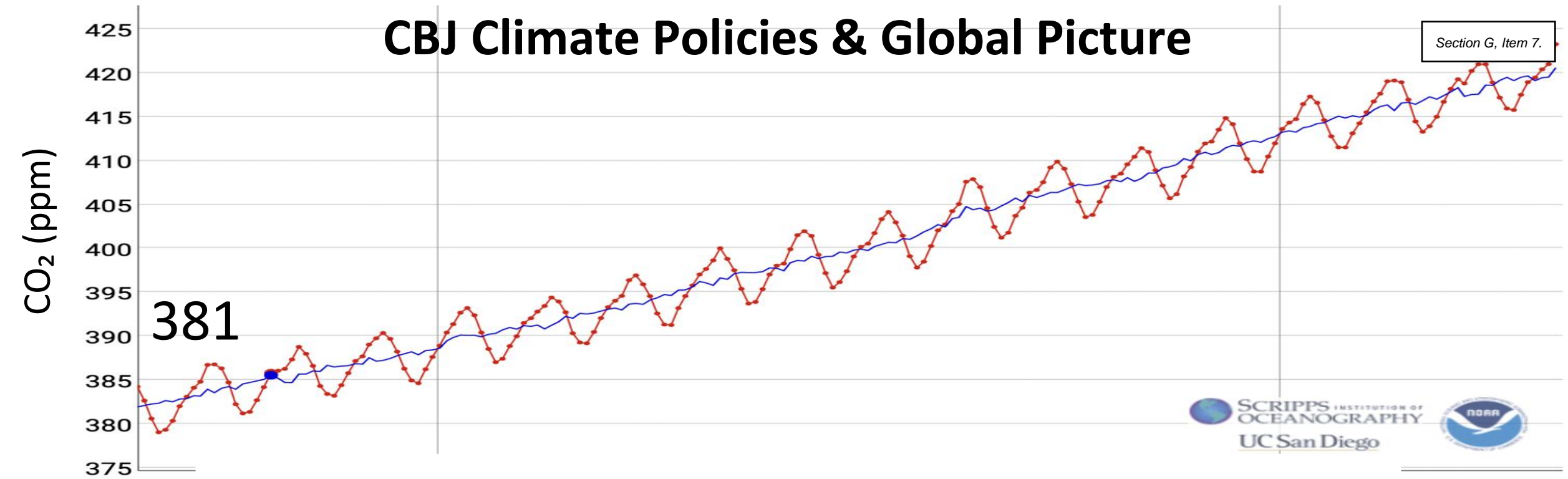


Fall, 2020



# CBJ Climate Policies & Global Picture

Section G, Item 7.



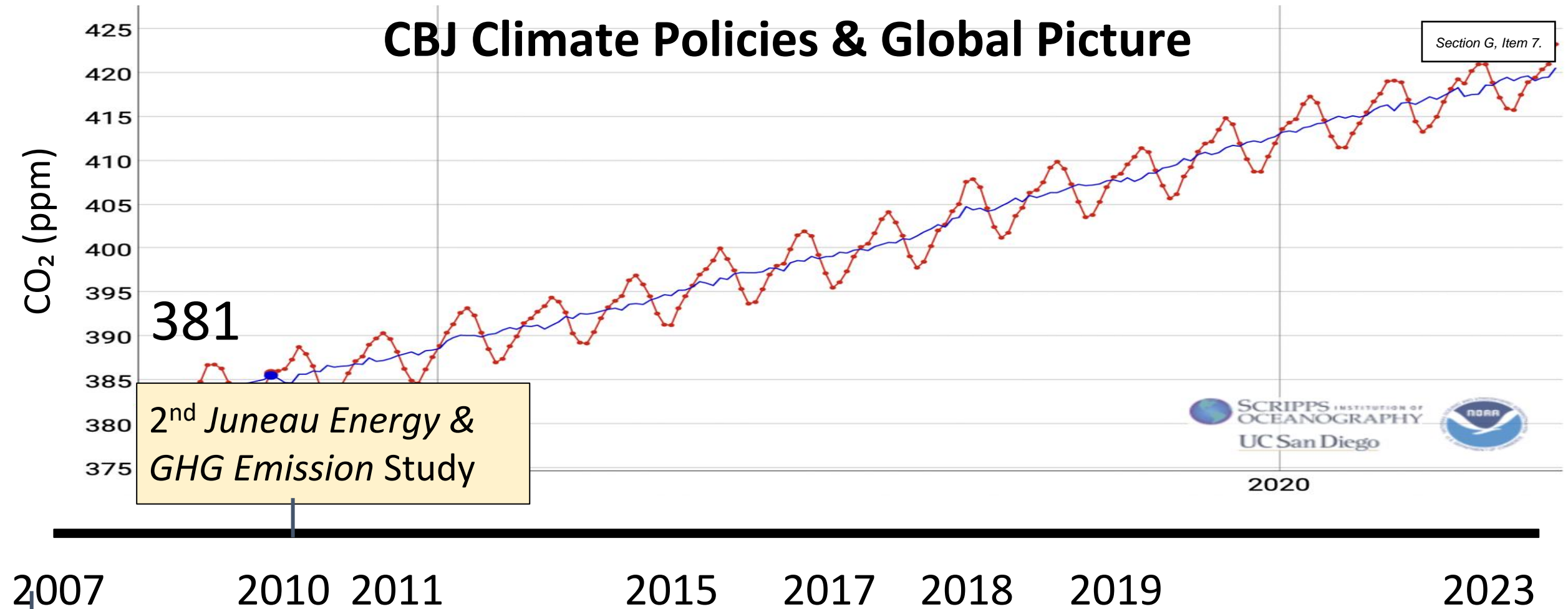
2007 2010 2011 2015 2017 2018 2019 2023

JCOS established.  
1<sup>st</sup> *Juneau Energy  
& GHG Emissions  
Study*



# CBJ Climate Policies & Global Picture

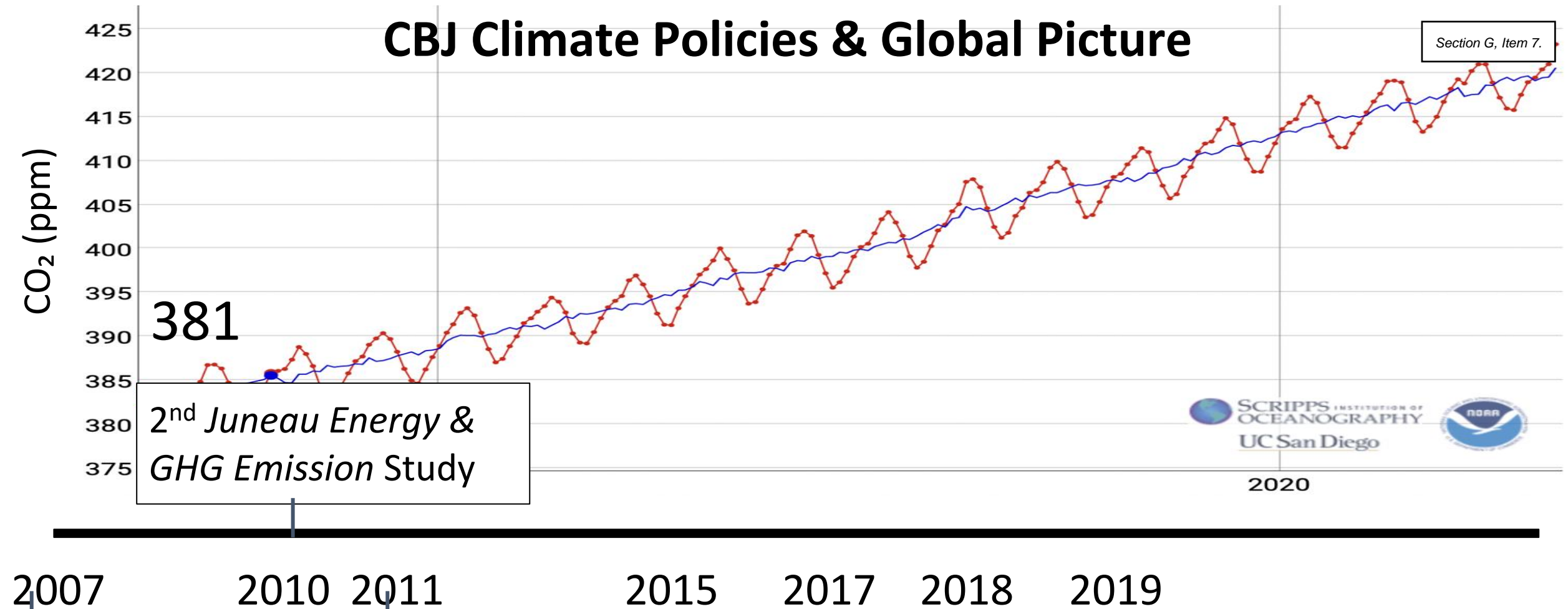
Section G, Item 7.



JCOS established.  
Res 2401. 1<sup>st</sup>  
Juneau Energy &  
GHG Emissions  
Study

# CBJ Climate Policies & Global Picture

Section G, Item 7.

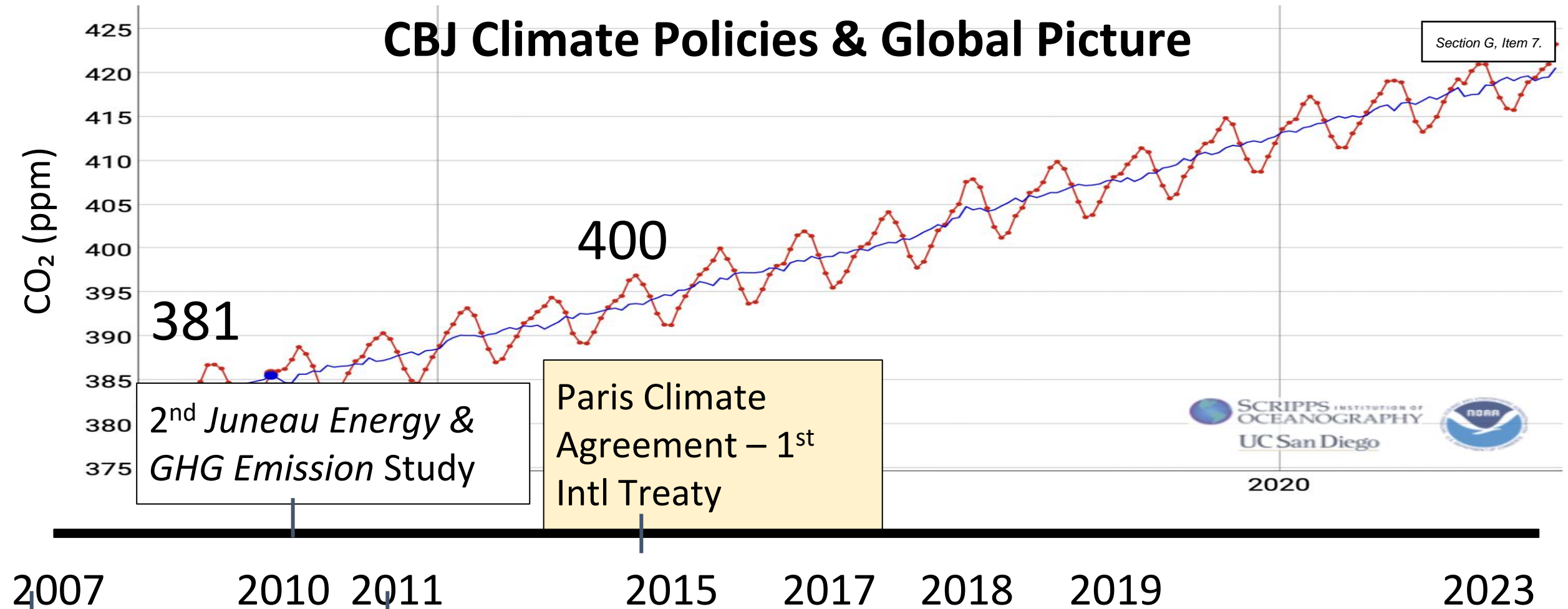


JCOS established.  
Res 2401. 1<sup>st</sup>  
*Juneau Energy &  
GHG Emissions  
Study*

Juneau Climate Action  
& Implementation  
Plan. Goal: 25% GHG  
reduction by 2032

# CBJ Climate Policies & Global Picture

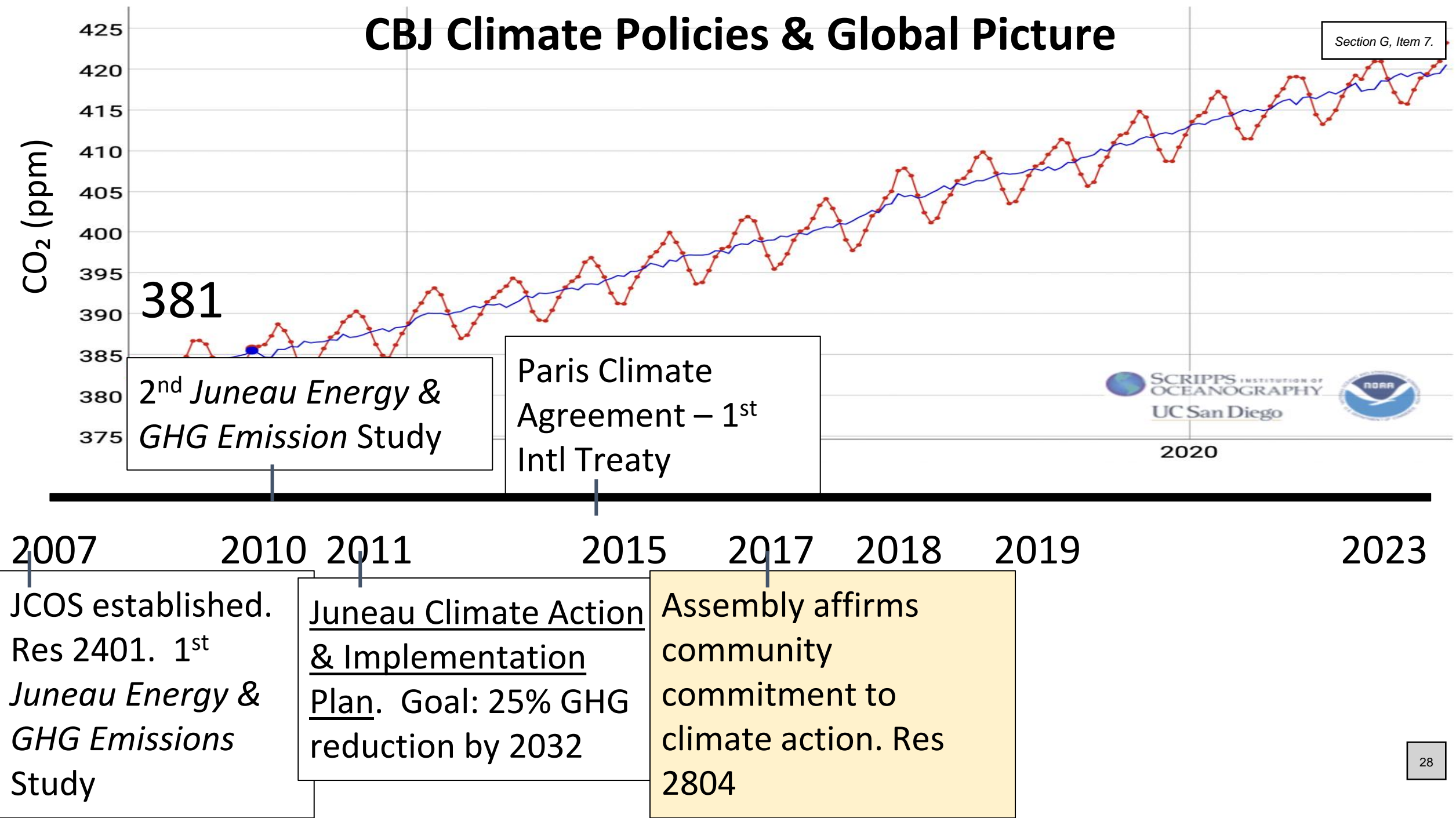
Section G, Item 7.



JCOS established.  
Res 2401. 1<sup>st</sup>  
*Juneau Energy &  
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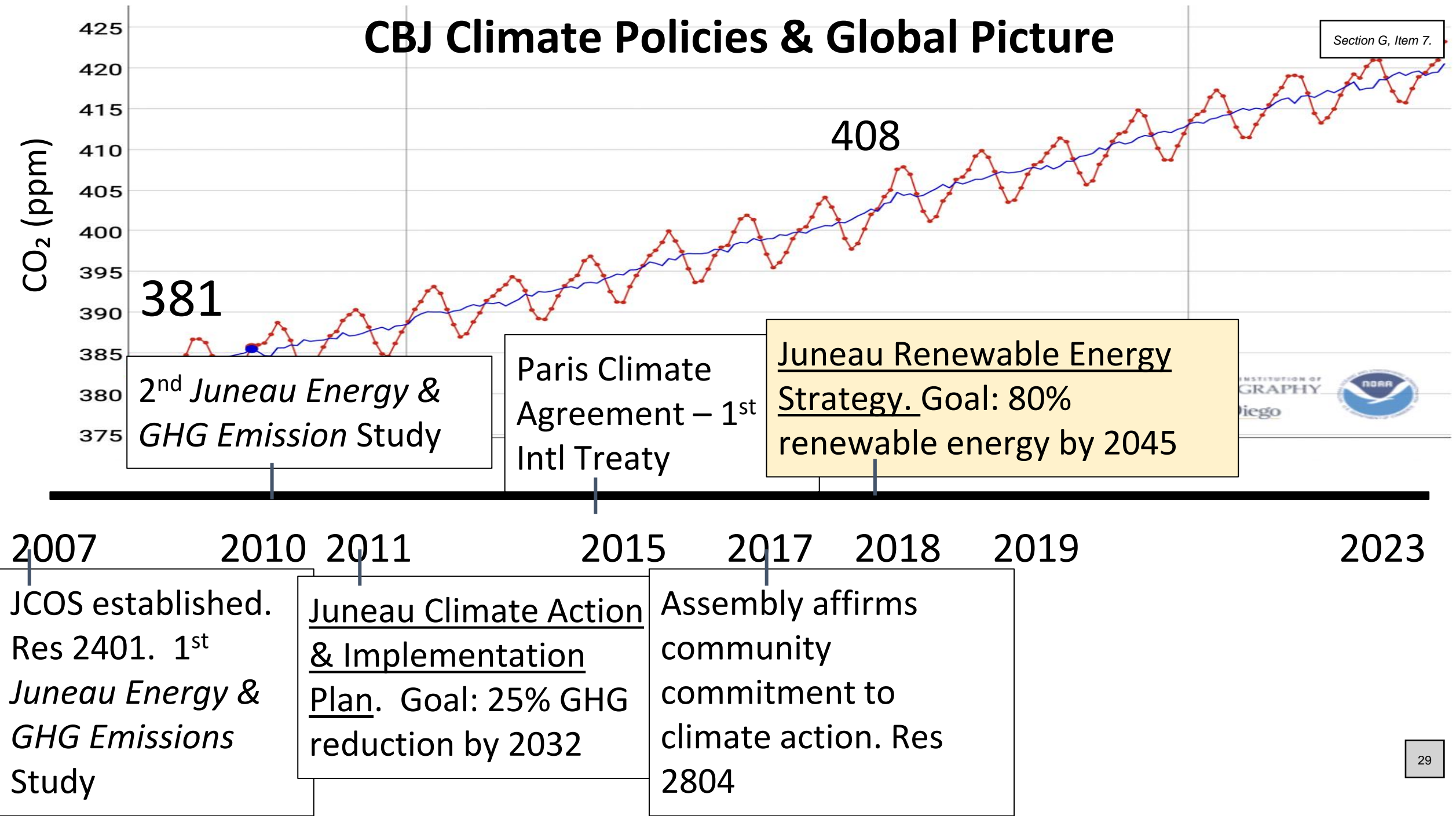
Juneau Climate Action  
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# CBJ Climate Policies & Global Picture



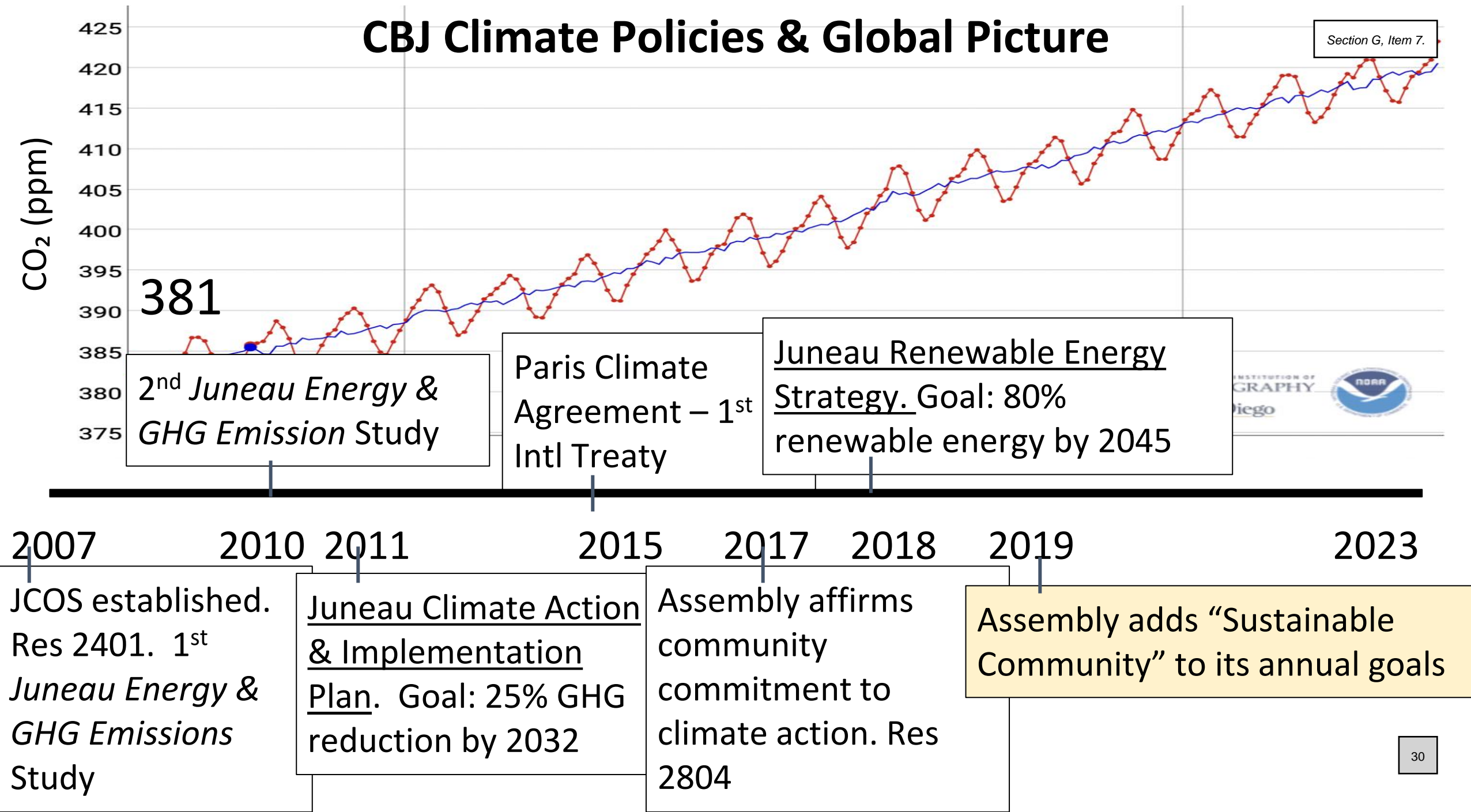
# CBJ Climate Policies & Global Picture

Section G, Item 7.



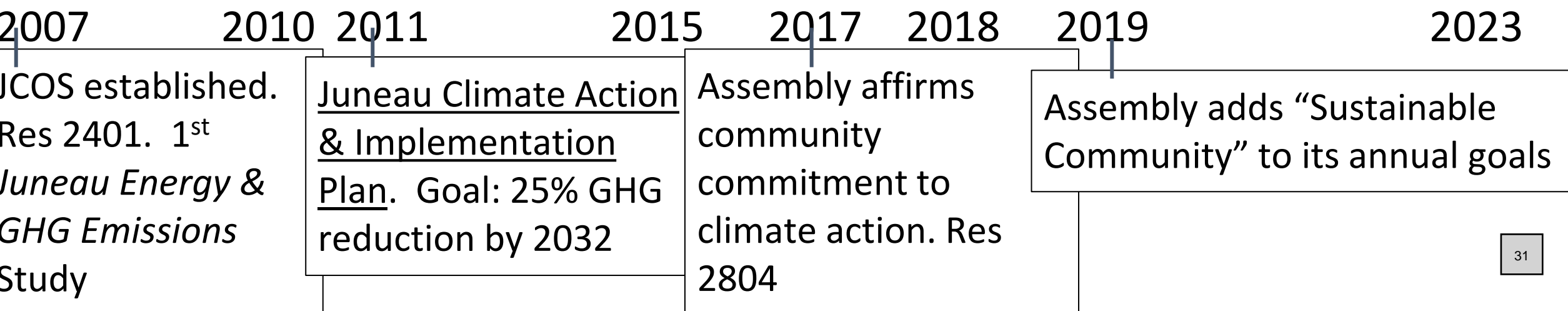
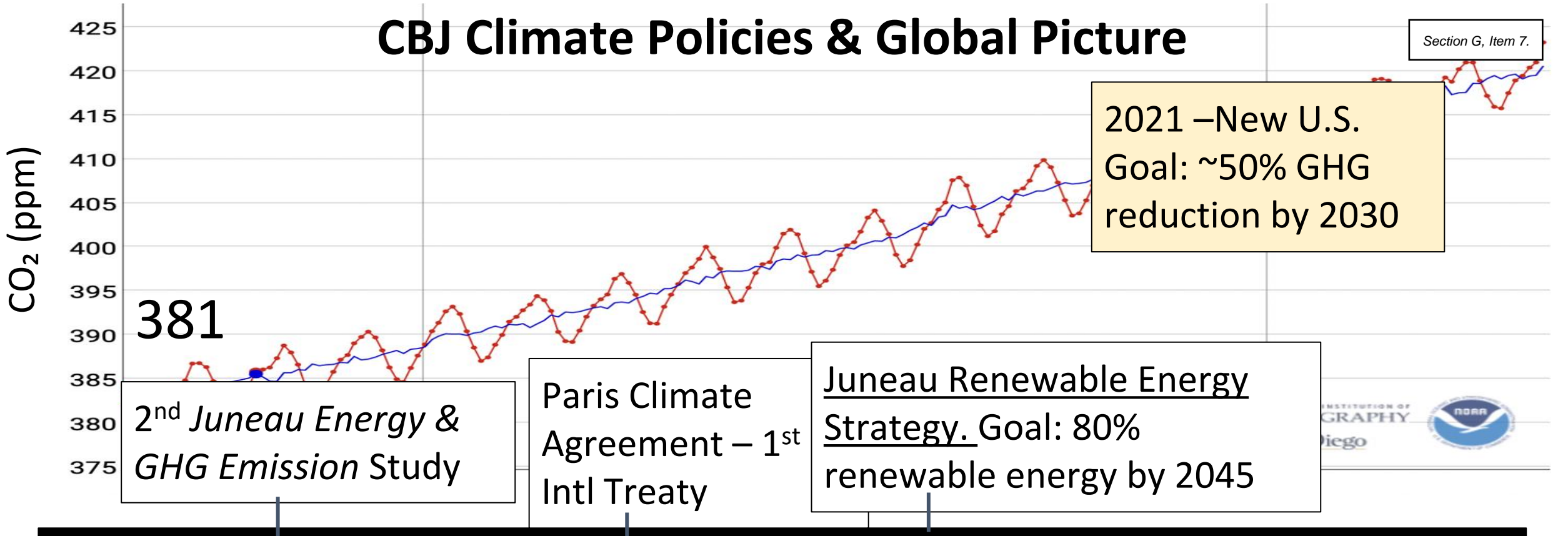
# CBJ Climate Policies & Global Picture

Section G, Item 7.





# CBJ Climate Policies & Global Picture



# CBJ Climate Policies & Global Picture

Section G, Item 7.

CO<sub>2</sub> (ppm)

381

2<sup>nd</sup> *Juneau Energy & GHG Emission Study*

Paris Climate Agreement – 1<sup>st</sup> Intl Treaty

Juneau Renewable Energy Strategy. Goal: 80% renewable energy by 2045

3<sup>rd</sup> *Juneau Energy & GHG Emission Study for 2021*

2021 – New U.S. Goal: ~50% GHG reduction by 2030

2007

2010

2011

2015

2017

2018

2019

2023

JCOS established. Res 2401. 1<sup>st</sup> *Juneau Energy & GHG Emissions Study*

Juneau Climate Action & Implementation Plan. Goal: 25% GHG reduction by 2032

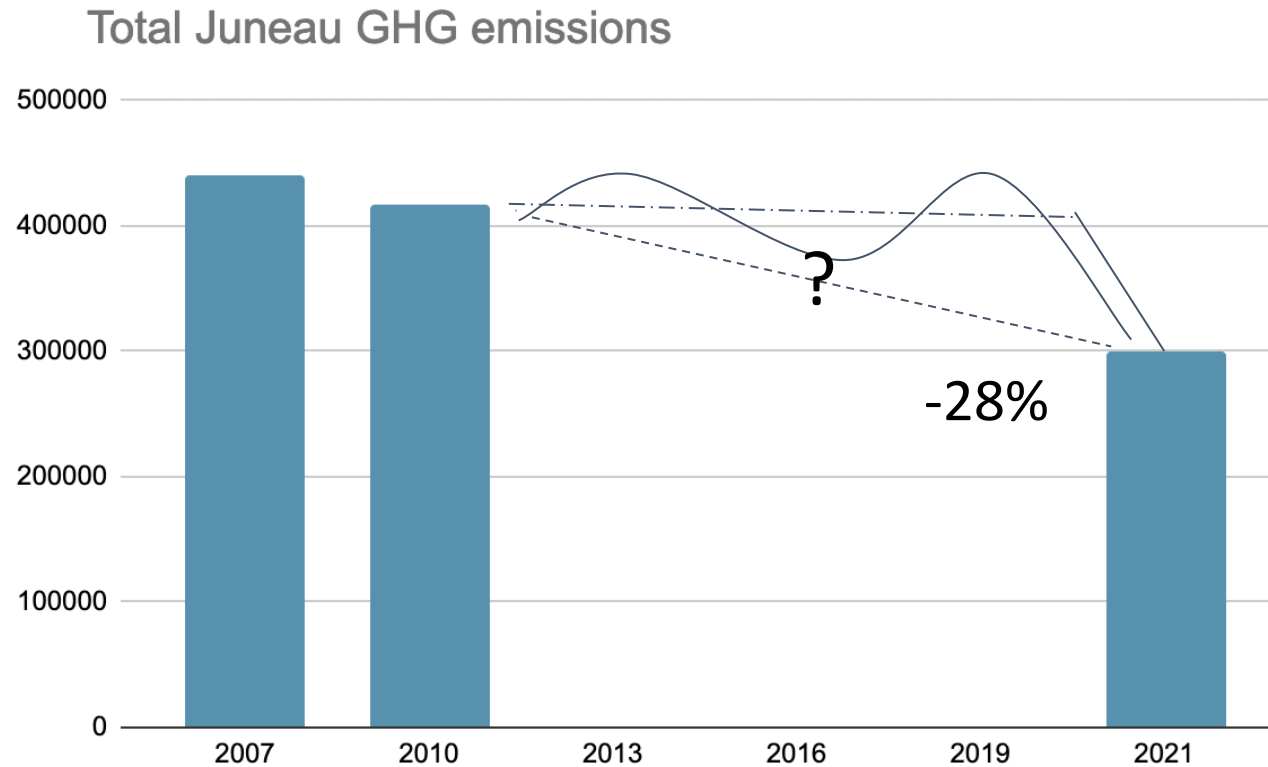
Assembly affirms community commitment to climate action. Res 2804

Assembly adds “Sustainable Community” to its annual goals



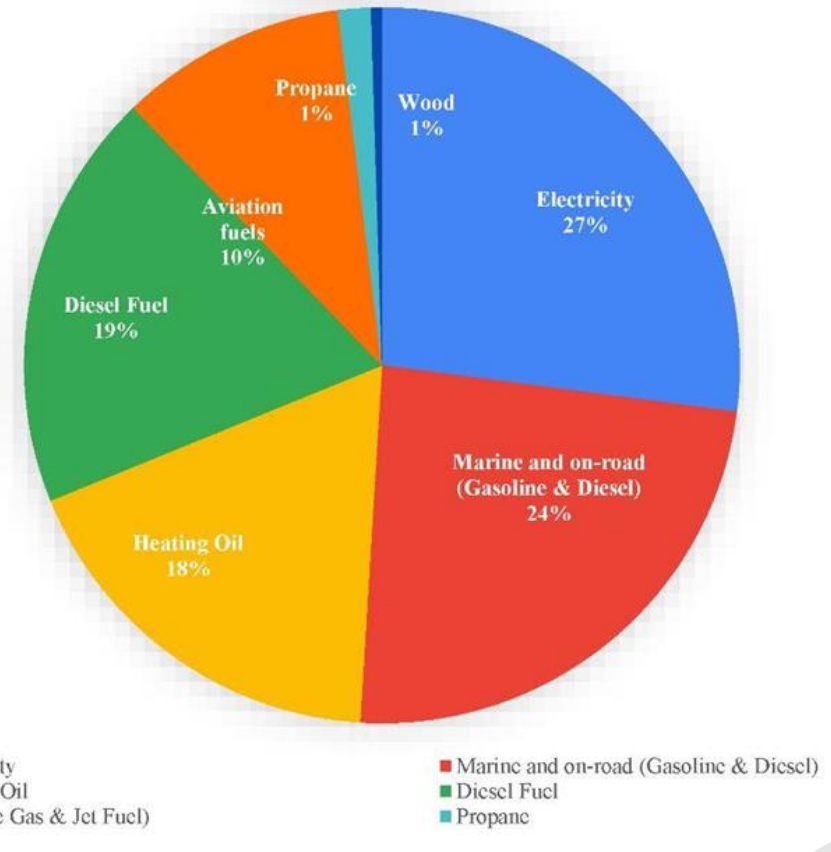
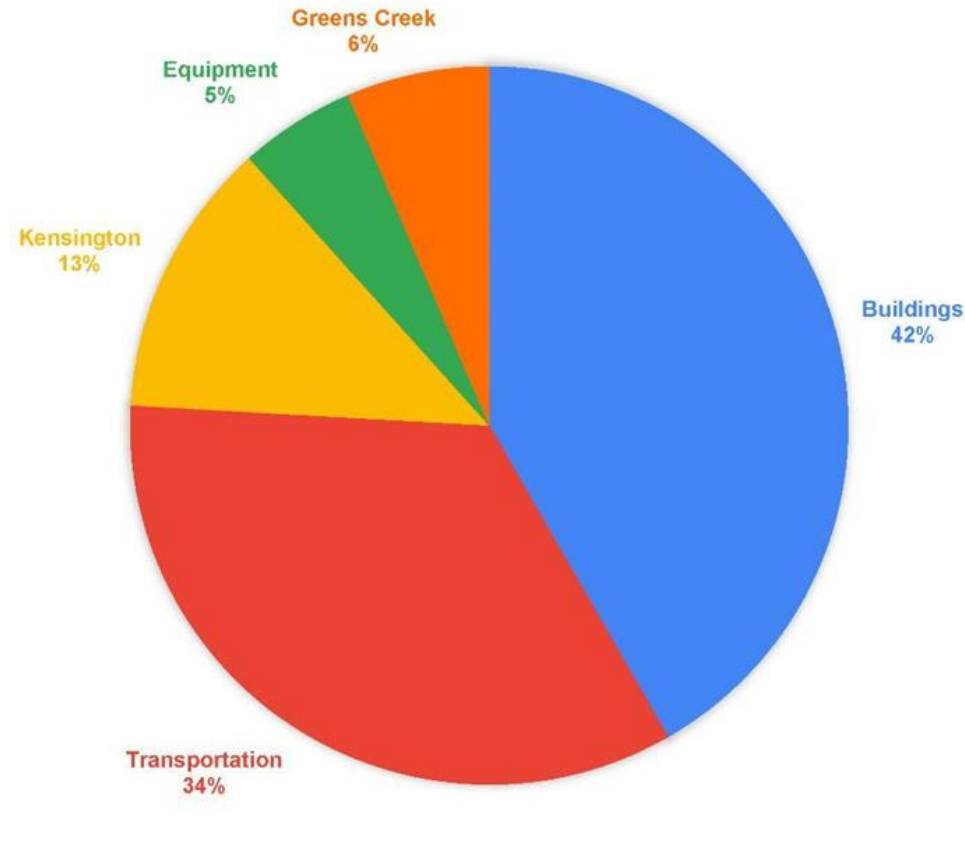
# 2021 Energy Use & Greenhouse Gas Emissions Inventory for Juneau, Alaska

DRAFT • Public Review until June 16, 2023



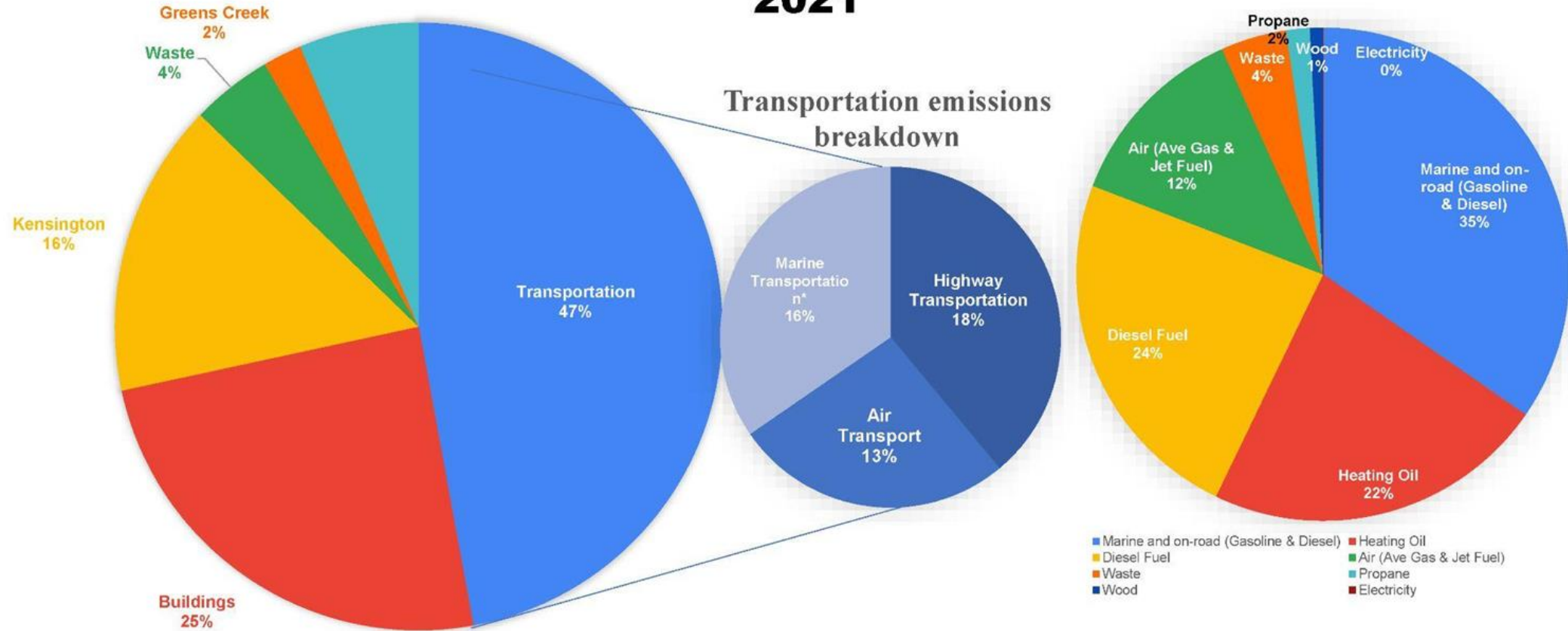
# Community wide Energy (MMBtu) 2021

Section G, Item 7.



Juneau consumed 5.3 million MMBTU of energy

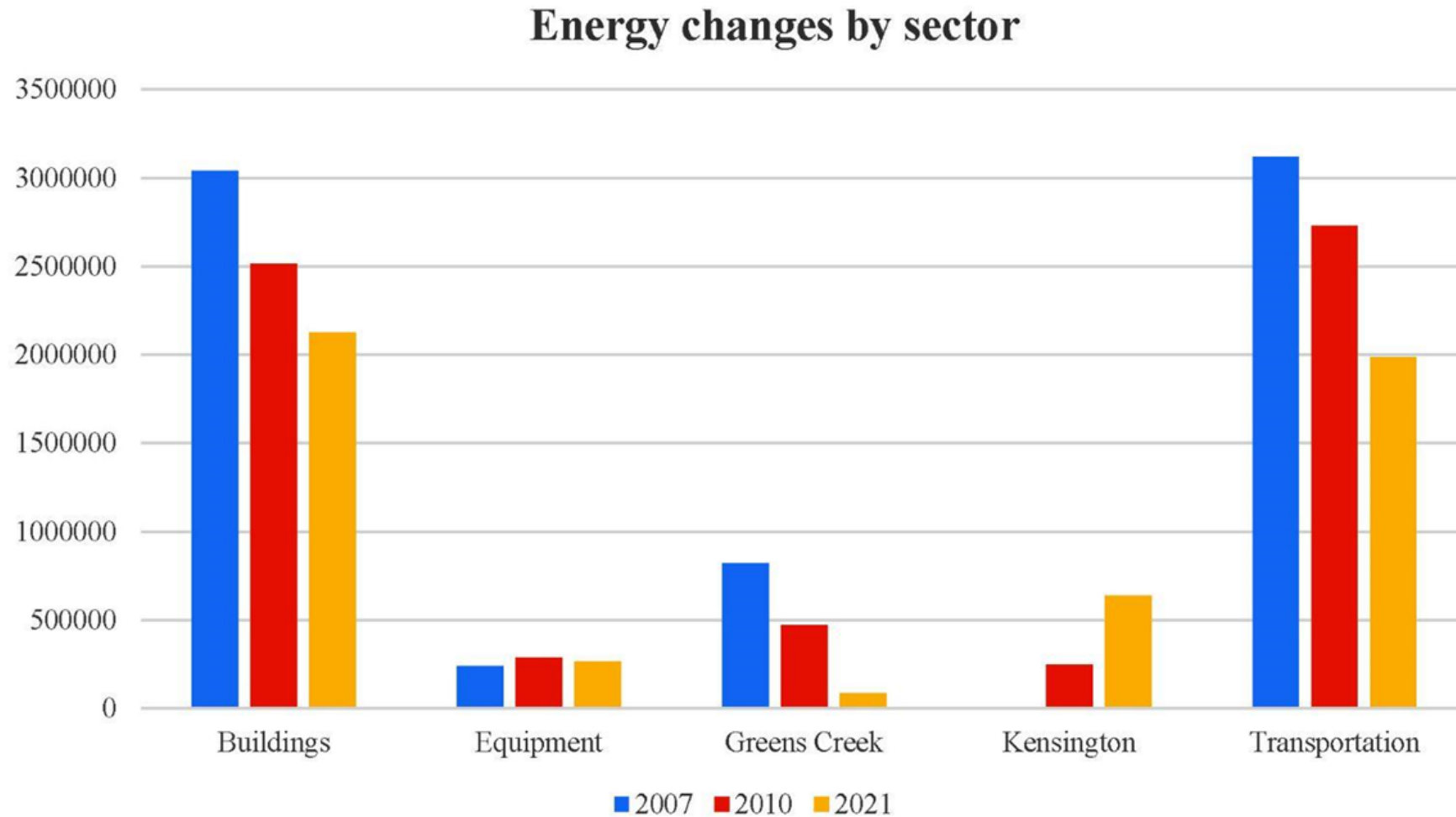
# Community wide Emissions (MT CO<sub>2</sub>e) 2021



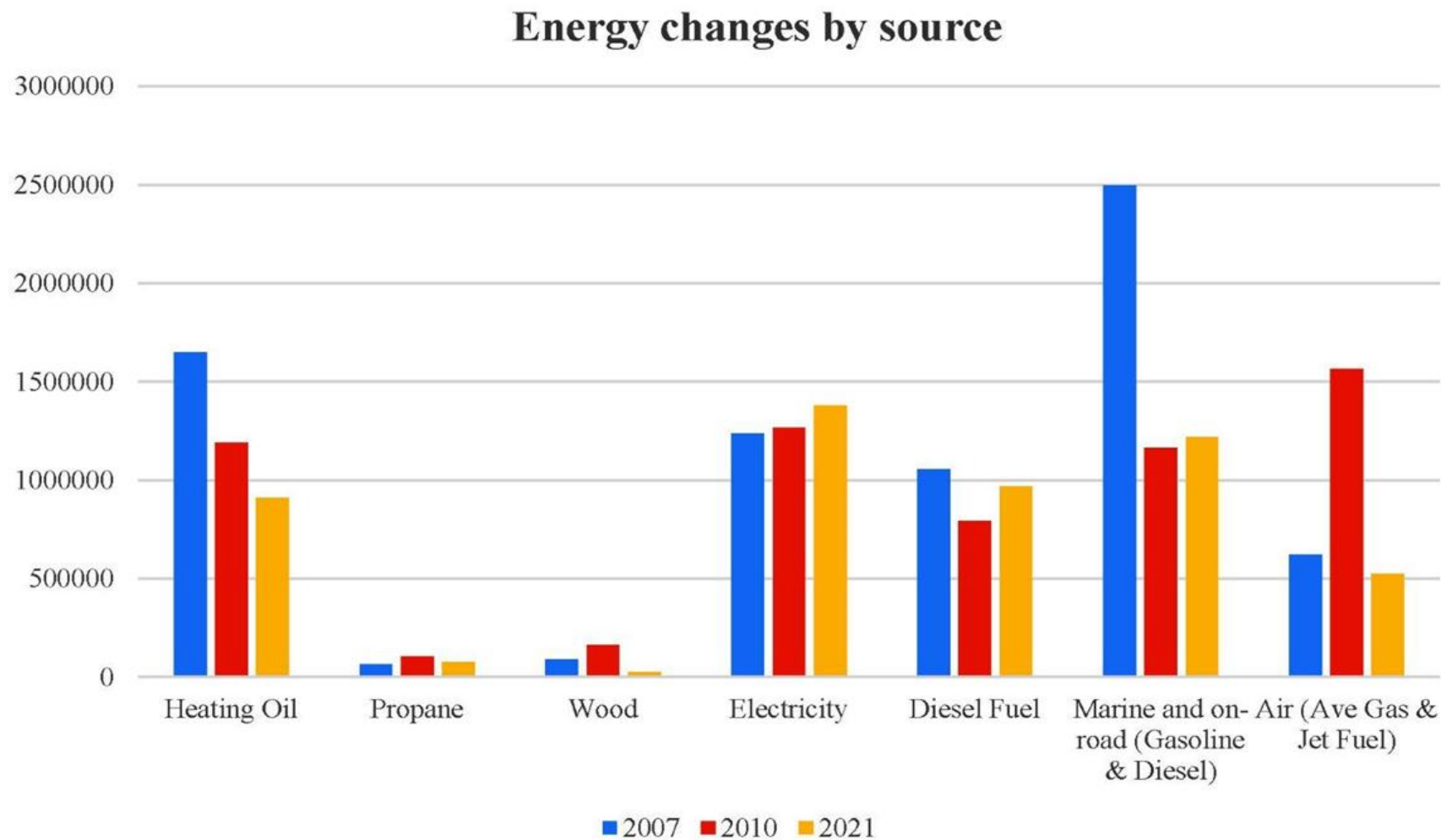
Juneau released almost 299,965 MT CO<sub>2</sub>e in 2021

# Changes in Juneau's Energy Use by Sector | 2007-2021

Section G, Item 7.



# Changes in Juneau’s Energy Use By Source | 2007-2021



# Four Ways to Reduce Energy Use & GHG Emissions

More Efficient Use of Current Energy Source

Electrification: Shifting from fossil fuels

Reduce Auto Dependence / Support Infill Development

Composting Organic Waste

# Where are we?

## CBJ Energy Management

Section G, Item 7.

**Assembly Goal 3F:** “Maintain Assembly focus on deferred maintenance including BRH and JSD” (these are the 2 largest CBJ carbon emitters)

Oct **2020 bond** funded energy efficiency upgrades to city facilities

**Current/future projects** - estimated 18% fuel reduction in next 5 years (General Gov’t facilities)

**CBJ Fleet**– at least 5 passenger vehicle EVs

**Capital Transit** – charging & bus barn upgrades; 7 Gillig elec. buses in late 2024

# CBJ Energy Management...cont'd

Section G, Item 7.

## CBJ Staff Estimates of Energy-related Work

- Grant Writer – new position in 2023 to seek federal funding
- Eng & PW – FTE
- Maintenance/Parks & Rec – 0.25 FTE
- Docks & Harbors - 0.10 FTE
- Tourism Manager - 0.15 FTE



# Where Are We? Juneau Housing & Buildings

Section G, Item 7.



# Housing & Buildings...cont.

Section G, Item 7.

## Housing

Lower Income Housing – EE upgrades & heat pumps (AK Heat Smart)

Low Income Houses - 38 heat pumps (Juneau Carbon Offset Fund)

All Incomes Housing - heat pumps in almost 2,000 Jnu homes

Rental Housing

## Market Place

## Local Jobs



# Where Are We? Transportation

Section G, Item 7.



JUNEAU  
COMMISSION  
SUSTAINABILITY

# Where Are We? Transportation

Section G, Item 7.

**Assembly Goal 5C:** support public EV charging network

**700 EV's.** And used model resales provide lower-cost entry

**33 Public EV Chargers** thru public-private collaboration

**AEL&P EV Rates**

**Federal DOT EV Charging Grant**

# Transportation...cont'd

Section G, Item 7.

**Lead by Example** – CBJ Gillig electric buses in service by 2025

**Assembly Goal 4C:** Explore subsidizing transit & eliminating fares

**Electric Bus Circulators Downtown** – completion fall, 2023

**Franklin & City Docks** – electrical transformers for cruise ship shore power

# Composting Juneau's Organic Waste

Section G, Item 7.



**1,409,811 pounds of food scraps diverted from the landfill!**

# Composting Juneau's Organic Waste

Section G, Item 7.

**Assembly Goal 5A:** Develop a zero waste reduction plan

**Municipal Composting Facility** - grant funding

**Zero Waste Subdivision**

**FY24 Staff Work**



JUNEAU  
COMMISSION  
ON SUSTAINABILITY

# What's Next? JCOS Recommendations

## Continue and Accelerate Existing Activities

Actions...1-9

## New Near-Term Activities

Actions...10-15

## Further Down the Road

Actions...16-17



# Continue and Accelerate Existing Activities

Section G, Item 7.

**Action 1:** Update *Energy & GHG Emissions* Analysis for 2022 & 2023

**Action 2:** Incorporate climate/energy priorities in CIP and budget

**Action 3:** Support community transit and consider subsidized fares.

**Action 4:** Implement bike and pedestrian improvements

**Action 5:** Expand public EV charging network

# Continue and Accelerate Existing Activities...cont'd

**Action 6:** Complete electrification of CBJ docks by 2025.

**Action 7:** Incorporate energy efficiency & electrification into affordable housing actions.

**Action 8:** Partner with and support programs conducting outreach and incentivizing energy efficiency & electrification.

**Action 9:** Lead by example on CBJ building performance.

# New

## Near-Term Activities

**Action 10:** Develop financing options to accelerate building and transportation energy efficiency & electrification.

**Action 11:** Update Juneau climate target to meet national goals: 50% reduction in GHG pollution by 2030?

**Action 12:** Adopt a zero emission municipal fleet policy. Commit to complete transition by 2030 for all vehicle uses with viable zero emission makes and models.

# New

## Near-Term Activities...cont'd

**Action 13:** Assist in procurement of electric school and shuttle buses. Commit to develop a plan by 2025 for full electrification of these bus fleets by 2030

**Action 14:** Collaborate with businesses, nonprofits and other agencies to acquire EV fleets.

**Action 15:** Adopt a carbon-neutral operations standard for new municipally-owned and funded buildings.

# Activities

## Further Down the Road

**Action 16:** Task CDD/BCAC with adopting up-to-date residential and commercial building energy codes.

**Action 17:** Task CDD with developing a voluntary stretch code for carbon neutral building construction, and a related information program for permittees.

# Conclusions

- Keep Measuring Juneau's Progress
- Continue & Accelerate What's Working
- Find Ways to Finance Clean Energy
- Lead by Example: CBJ Energy Management
- Collaborate and Support efforts by Others
- Celebrate Success & Educate the Community





## JCOS Goals and Operations - 2023

Section H, Item 9.

	Title	Start	Finish	Owner	Status	Percent Complete	Notes
<b>Goal 1: Energy Efficiency &amp; Renewable Energy Chair: Steve Behnke</b>							
	<b>Subcommittee: Energy Planning - Chair Steve Behnke</b>						
1.1	Participate in and use results of Jnu Energy Use & GHG Inventory study to promote 5-year actions.	Jan	Dec	Behnke	Public Review ends June 16, 2023. JCOS 6/5/23 COW presentation - recommend repeating analysis for 2022.		EPW Dept heads Constellation contract.
1.2	Monitor federal funding opportunities & assist others to maximize Jnu grant success.	Jan	Dec	Behnke / Keiser		ongoing	JCOS 12/2022 report identifies numerous BIL & IRA opportunities.
	<b>Subcommittee: Transportation - Chair Duff Mitchell</b>						
1.3	Monitor CBJ action on dock electrification; promote public communications.	Jan	Dec	Mitchell	JCOS input to Docks & Hbrs comments to EPA RFI on "Reducing Air Pollution in Ports" grant program.	ongoing	IRA may provide EPA funding opportunity in 2023.
1.4	Promote electrification of vehicle fleets' EV conversion in Juneau community.	Jan	Dec	Behnke/ Keiser	JCOS input to Eng&PW regarding Community EE Block Grant & CFI grant application.	ongoing	JCOS suggests EV promotion as Assembly 2023 goal.
1.5	Promote Downtown Electric Bus Circulator	Jan	Dec	Mitchell	Study underway; results anticipated late summer, 2023. JCOS participated in stakeholders workshop 11/2022.		LoNo grant possible if presented as an expansion of existing transit service. Study timing misses 2023 application period.
	<b>Subcommittee: Buildings - Chair David Teal, Jessie Barker</b>						

1.6	CBJ facilities: energy upgrades	Jan	Dec	Teal	Nate Abbott, CBJ Facility Maintenance updated effort in 5/23.		Uncertain when/if LEE update will occur.
1.7	Educate Assembly on Clean Energy Financing Options (C-PACE, R-PACE, etc.). Monitor AK Green Bank legislation.	Jan	Dec	Teal	JCOS intro to C-PACE at 11/2022 mtg. JCOS 6/5/23 recommendation @ Assembly COW to investigate clean energy financing options, CBJ role, & federal funding.		AK Green Bank legislation did not pass 2023 session.
1.8	Consider energy building codes (heat pumps, EV chargers, etc)	July	Dec	Teal/ Barker	Begin research. JCOS 6/5/23 Assembly COW presentation recommends CDD task in the future.		May be difficult to get CDD traction since focus on comp plan revision in 2023.

## Goal 2: Local Resource Recovery / Zero Waste - Chair Nick Waldo, Jessie Barker, Marian Call

2.1	Zero Waste Planning - Provide support to Eng&PW and PWFC. Assist community/stakeholder engagement.	Jan	Dec		CBJ obtains \$2.5M federal funding for municipal composting facility. CBJ applies for \$4M EPA grant to augment CDS & JCOS provides support letter. JCOS SW Comm to provide input to PWFC regarding contracting approach by CBJ.		CBJ CIP FY24 funds to close out leases in site behind Costco & continue planning.
2.2	Assist on waste grant funding opportunities				CBJ applies for \$550K EPA grant for wastewater utility that includes public outreach on food waste handling.		IRA funds new EPA grant programs for recycling, waste mangmt system improvements, and public education/outreach.

## Goal 3: Outreach - Chair Marian Call, Jessie Barker, Duff Mitchell

3.1	<i>Juneau's Changing Climate</i> presentations	Jan	June	Powell	Report released 7/2022.		USFS request for 2023 presentation.
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3.2	Sustainability presentations, JCOS website & social media.	Jan	Dec	Call	Flexible approach & frequency. Potential topics: from JCOS work (energy, zero waste, climate), Jnu's power situation, food security, food waste reduction, household-level actions.	Ongoing	
3.3	Participate in Alaska Municipal Climate Network	Jan	Dec	Keiser / Behnke	Information sharing.	Ongoing	~ Qtrly meetings.
3.4	Sustainability Awards	1st Qtr		Powell & Call	Resurrected 2020 effort. Identifying work tasks & responsibilities for feasibility before consideration by Assembly HRC.	50%	General concern about workload to pull off a quality effort.

#### Goal 4: Climate Impacts / Sustainability Indicators - Chair Jim Powell, Marian Call, Jessie Barker, Nick Waldo

4.1	Promote sustainability indicators/metrics in Comprehensive Plan review. Use 2021 analysis as basis for a dashboard.	Jan	Dec	Powell/Teal	Initial conversation with CDD as it starts Comprehensive Plan revision. A) Identify draft list. B) Schedule public meeting with CDD Comp Plan efforts.	5%	2021 Energy Use/GHG Inventory will provide data in 2023.
4.2	Assist effort on a changing climate hazards strategy.	Jan	Dec	Keiser	EPW begins info-gathering to define questions to be answered. Focus outcome on identifying actions rather than planning.		Assembly 2023 goal. Focus on infrastructure?
4.3	Info-gathering on Jnu's climate emergency preparedness - food & water security.	Jan	Dec	Call, Barker, Waldo	Begin process of identifying potential emergencies & community response and resources.		

file: JCOS Goal Tracking 2023  
6/2/2023