

**Capitol Hill Neighborhood Council
Meeting Minutes
9/12/18, 6:30pm
Marmalade Library Multipurpose Room**

Welcome & Review of July Minutes

Motion to approve (BG) seconded (MM), unanimously approved.

Representative Reports: no one is present for updates.

Committee & Community Announcements

Infrastructure & Planning Committee — David Scheer is arguing on behalf of CHNC at the Inland Board Meeting but updates are provided on Capital Improvement Project submissions and a letter regarding the pumphouse.

Engagement Update — JamFest September 22nd at the Garten (10am-6pm)

- JamFest needs volunteers for set-up, take-down, and vendor assistance, take fliers to distribute.
- Please note the new location on 400 N. and 400 W. and this is an option to support neighborhood businesses, artists, and the jam contest (submission forms at the library through the 15th).

Environmental Panel Discussion: Jessica Reimer (HEAL Utah) and Bryce Bird (DAQ)

HEAL works with air, renewable energy and nuclear hazards and waste. Jessica's background is in ecology and she has spent 1.5 years at HEAL with a focus on air quality and, recently, nuclear waste as depleted uranium emerges as an issue. HEAL's approach is multifaceted and includes: work with regulatory environment and legislative policy. She addresses the major sources of air pollution (mobile, area, and point). Relevant current events include: the Inland Port and the lack of a built-out plan. HEAL is trying to influence the proceutahss using solutions seen in other inland ports as it's hard to retrofit something that already exists and is better to find best practices before large decisions are made. The Port Authority has not established a public input process but HEAL has presented to the City.

Q: Is there any connection between potential inland port (IP) and reemergence of depleted uranium? A: Not exactly. The reemergence is mainly due to Energy Solutions trying to host some of the 700,000 tons of depleted uranium. HEAL is currently working to fight this, due to the sentiment that Utah and its residents should not take on this burden. The direct connection between IP and uranium isn't something to be concerned about, but if there is more rail and freight coming through the city due to the port, what is included in those shipments is probably what should be focus for concern.

Q: What is the IP meeting about tonight?

A: The City's approach to zoning.

Q: Are heavy rail lines west of TRAX part of Inland Port plan?

A: We don't know. Currently Union Pacific is the main operator but IP might impact that. There are strict limitations as to what emissions can be put out and Utah is close to the maximum.

Q: Portion of IP is over a sealed garbage dump, who is responsible for paying for it?

A: Not sure. Rio Tinto owns the land but there is discussion of moving materials to Promontory Point landfill (unclear source). This question is unanswered moving forward.

Q: If they do start to remove materials from dump, would it release methane?

A: It is a byproduct of landfills, but we don't know what those impacts will be.

Q: Is it a dump or a landfill?

A: Can't speak to this.

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Comment: Dust from the gravel pits and trucks traffic impacts our air quality in under discussed ways. Other states like Oregon have addressed this through incentives.

A: The fugitive dust rule is supposed to address dust pollution, stating there must be plans to maintain dust issues. There are concerns over the rule and its effectiveness and HEAL has a meeting with major dust sources. There aren't really best practices from other states but [Utah Physicians for a Health Environment](#) are holding town halls about the Geneva Gravel Pit expansion. DAQ also recognizes truck traffic and current modeling does not get us into compliance with regulations. In context of IP, this issue needs to be revisited.

Q: What happened to the bill about rail switching from diesel to electric?

A: Sponsored by Rep. Handy in Davis County. Wanted to provide \$2M to help deal with costs to retrofit or deal with freight switchers. There is new technology now to help remediate some of the impacts. State wasn't too thrilled with plan, but conversations are ongoing. The state cannot require UP to keep rail switcher here because money could be used to move it to another state.

Q: 2002 Olympics had strict truck schedules, could this be implemented again?

A: Not sure where of regulatory authority, but might be worth being brought up. It's been done other places but would be a hard sell here. Better data on traffic may help this.

Introduction of additional panelist: Kerry Kelly, a University of Utah research is trying to understand different pollution levels in neighborhoods. Research on woodturning shows spikes near Glendale, Rose Park, and 7th East with PM2.5 already out of attainment and wood burning levels double/triple the standard. A limited number of monitors (8) report to EPA. There are new low cost sensors that can deploy more broadly. Pulling data from Purple Air and AirU network to gain better understanding. There is a plume of clean air coming through City Creek Canyon and there is a correlation between higher median incomes and air quality.

Q: Does City Creek canyon in particular emit clean air or do all the canyons do the same thing?

A: All the canyons do at certain times of day, you can see online here: www.AQandU.org and click on "Learn More" for the model.

Q: Are school districts hosts of monitors?

A: Yes! We rely on hosts to have our air quality monitors to diversify our readings. If you go to the website www.AQandU.org, you can sign up to be a sponsor. You need a covered space, wifi, and an electrical plug to set this up. SLCSD is a sponsor and Granite has a module to learn about air quality, build sensors and one group traveled to the National Science Foundation.

Q: What about indoor air quality?

A: People spend a lot of time indoors, but that is a different situation

Q: Are you monitoring hospital admissions like Arden Pope in Utah County?

A: No, that is more the realm of epidemiologists and this is engineering.

Q: We've heard the issues, but what can we do to help?

A: There are solutions, but people have to address many avenues: clean transportation, clean freight, smart planning, and approach to growth. There's a misconception that no one is doing anything about it, but that's not true. There are political, behavioral, and regulatory issues to address.

Q: Has your research shown something coming from Andeavor refinery into the neighborhood?

A: Current monitors keep track of PM2.5. A source like Andeavor would produce volatile organic compounds (VOCs) which require different monitors that are either very expensive or not very good. Hope to take it on in the futures

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Q: What about two-stroke motors (lawn mowers, etc)

A: There are programs now to try to replace these pieces of equipment, focus on working with landscaping companies ([UCAIR](#)).

Q: What is the impact of coal for power-production A: Economics are driving the decision to shift to renewables and for power plants to sunset old technologies. People have concerns with baseload power, but the grid is evolving in a way that is responsive to battery storage and other technologies that utilize algorithms rather than manpower to decide where energy is going.

Q: Have there been studies on storage battery emissions?

A: That is a product life-cycle issue; generally, it comes out ahead in environmental impacts.

Q: Updates on Stericycle pollutants?

A: Stericycle was a classic example of a bad actor. They were exceeding permit limits, located in neighborhood (which was developed after factory opened) and it shut down as a result of neighborhood action.

Comment: JR discussion of the State Improvement Plan and how the public can act. This is the 3rd plan developed to submit to EPA to deal with non-attainment and has 30-day public comment period beginning October 1. HEAL will have an action alert highlighting some of the things they felt were missed (off-road vehicles, alternate woodsmoke approach and, other waivers). There will be resources available to help people look at the SIP and take action from HEAL, subscribe for more info. The SIP is due end of December 2018.

CHNC Comment: We need better representation in DC to address what is going on nationally, like weakening CAFE standards, ACE power plan.

A: HEAL encouraged Gov. Herbert to submit letter to EPA in support of Tier 3 fuels, Gov Herbert did that and was the first governor to write in support.

Additional comments: the power plant by Fairpark is a natural gas peak plant which does not operate on red air days; e-mail Brad with questions about the Tesoro/Andeavor/Marathon refinery and associated smell: brad.c.shafer@andeavor.com

Q: Does high density population increases pollution

A: That's dependent on lifestyle and transportation. If people live closer to where they work and play, they are spending less time in their car than those who are commuting from other areas of the Wasatch Front; there are complicated tradeoffs. Planning organizations (Envision Utah, Wasatch Front Regional Council) both encourage density to reduce commutes. There are ways to get involved at the city level and planning wisely will address growth.

Q: Can you explain ozone?

A: Ozone is the result of volatile organic compounds, NOx, and sunlight mixing together. It's typically a summer thing and this has been a difficult summer for ozone. In 2-3 years, we'll probably have to report to EPA on ozone. Uintah Basin has issues with ozone in the winter, but it is a summer issue in Wasatch Front.

Q: Indoor air purifiers and systems recommendations?

A: You want a filter with a high MERV number, 13 or 14 is good to remove particulate matter; avoid ozonator filters and know that Febreze and candles can deteriorate air quality and ionizers also may do harm.

Motion to adjourn (MaB), seconded (MiB), unanimously adjourned, 8:05pm