

MINUTES - DRAFT

City of Flagstaff

REGIONAL PLAN CITIZEN ADVISORY COMMITTEE

3:30 p.m. – 6 p.m. May 6, 2010

Northern Arizona Healthcare Educational Offices: 1000 N. Humphrey's Suite 241, Flagstaff, AZ;
in the Fort Valley shopping center, south of the hospital.



In compliance with the Americans with Disabilities Act, if you need assistance to participate in this meeting, please contact Bonita Sears at 928-779-7632, ext. 7294 (or 774-5281 TDD). Notification at least 48 hours in advance will enable the City to make reasonable arrangements.

Draft Regional Plan Vision Statement:

The Greater Flagstaff community embraces the region's extraordinary cultural and ecological setting on the Colorado Plateau through active stewardship of the natural and built environments. Residents and visitors encourage and advance intellectual, environmental, social and economic vitality for today's citizens and future generations.

I. CALL TO ORDER

Vice Chair Carol Bousquet called the meeting to order at 3:45 p.m.

II. Roll Call

A. Committee Members:

<input type="checkbox"/> Paul Babbitt (Chairman)	<input type="checkbox"/> Alex Frawley	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Devonna McLaughlin	
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Carol Bousquet (Vice Chairman)	<input type="checkbox"/> Jean Griego	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Jerome Naleski	
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Ben Anderson	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Shaula Hedwall	<input type="checkbox"/> Eva Putzova	
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Susan Bean	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Richard Henn	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> William Ring	
<input type="checkbox"/> Michael Chaveas	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Maury Herman	<input type="checkbox"/> Ken Kaemmerle	
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Nat White	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Judy Louks	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Mike Nesbitt	<input type="checkbox"/> Eunice Tso

B. Alternate Members:

Larry Stevens JR Murray

III. APPROVAL of MINUTES for April 01, 2010 CAC Meetings

RECOMMENDED ACTION: Recommend changes and approve [04/01/10 minutes](#).

A motion to approve the minutes of the Regular Meeting of April 1, 2010 as submitted was made and seconded. Motion carried by unanimous vote.

IV. PUBLIC COMMENT

At this time, any member of the public may address the Committee on any subject within their jurisdiction that is not scheduled before the Commission on that day. Due to Open Meeting Laws, the Committee cannot discuss or act on items presented during this portion of the agenda. To address the Committee on an item that is on the agenda, please wait for the Chair to call for Public Comment at the time the item is heard. If time does not allow all comments to be heard, public comments may be posted to the Regional Plan blog:

<http://flagregionalplan2012.wordpress.com/>

J. Heath representative of the Northern Arizona Builders Association was present along with two other members with a proposal to request a seat on the Committee. Mr. Jim Cronk suggested that this be given to him so that it would be forwarded to the City Council and County Board of Supervisors for their information, as they are the bodies that make the appointments to the Committee.

V. **OLD BUSINESS** - (Continued, postponed, and tabled agenda items.)

A. **Water Element** *(est. 120 minutes)*

PURPOSE: Review proposed Water Element goals and policies, and suggest edits.

RECOMMENDED ACTION: Review, discussion and agreement upon draft and edits

FACILITATORS: Sue Pratt and Brad Hill

HANDOUTS: [Water Presentation 1](#) (County);

[Water Presentation 2](#) (City);

[DRAFT Water Element](#) 032510

Sue Pratt presented the comments and recommendations made by the Committee on the goals and policy for the Water element. Written comments will also be posted on the website. She informed the Committee that the Water Supply study the City is conducting would not be completed until a later date and would be incorporated into the final water element. She also commented that strategies and measures would be done one they had completed the water element. She then proceeded to go over the Goals and Policies and the comments received from the Committee members. She said they would also be doing the five fingers vote on the goals and policies.

Water supply

Goal W. 1: Develop a sustainable water budget incorporating regional hydrology, ecosystem needs and social and economic well being.

- Develop a sustainable water budget
- Need to specify whether the goals are city or county.
- Apply to both if not specified.
- What is a water budget, this needs explanation and definition
- Budget is an interesting term, which considers an allocation between uses. What is a sustainable growth limit? When we think about economic development, do we set aside reserves? We think in rooftops rather than in industrial footprints.
- Water Advisory Council has an intention to support efforts of this regulatory group (CAC). This discussion is the groundwork for the City to develop a budget which will be completed prior to finishing the land use element.
- Think all these are good goals; yet we don't want to delegate the authority of this committee to some other group or agency that we don't know anything about.
- The CAC committee sets policy; it is the other group's purview to set the budget based upon those policies. The current water adequacy study is incorporating other uses other than residential, and the 2009 preliminary study is available on the city's website.
- Will mapping also be part of the land use consideration? Is our portfolio of land use consistent with our water budget?
- We won't know until the budget is done then it will come back to the committee before the land use element is determined.
- The Decision Theater at ASU may help make some difficult land use decisions based upon water consumption. It is up to the CAC to determine what type of variables would be appropriate to consider?
- In August the CAC will discuss what those variables are going to be.
- Would like to investigate the control situation of existing water levels of areas already being pumped, before the water budget is developed.
- The Coconino Plateau Water Advisory Council has participated in an appraisal study, which concludes with scientific evidence that the Flagstaff area has water deficit - there is not enough water to supply the current projected growth in the region. Water is in short supply, there are going to be allocation decisions. Brad only presented a sample of the data but it is a regional trend. The BOR study is a good study for everyone to look at, and is available on-line:
<http://www.flagstaff.az.gov/DocumentView.aspx?DID=11301> .

- Would like to know what the community's capacity to absorb change is, because of the enormous possibilities for water conservation. We are not hearing what those potentials for changing of water usage are, and how policies set now could influence those changes.
- The water goal is indicating that water should be factored in terms of human use, the ecosystem and the economic environmental needs.
- Would like to know who the 27 entities involved in the Water Advisory Council are, so we can accept the data with respect and not question it.
- There are links on the website that show who is involved, such as: the Northern Arizona cities, Tribes, US Forest Service, AZ Game & Fish; and this group was formed to promote regional planning.
- Recommend that everyone look at the appraisal study because it did account for conservation increase and the unmet demand.
- Water is a critical element. How are we going to spend this budget is very relevant to the work of this Committee.
- We are not here to discuss water budget, but to discuss goals and policies.
- Curious to know how the water budget is developed. We need a better understanding.

Five finger vote: 5 & 4s

Policy W.1.1 Participate in and support regional process to develop a sustainable water budget that meets the needs of the Regional Land Use Plan.

Suggestion to split into two:

1. Participate in regional process
 2. Develop a sustainable water budget that meets the needs of the regional land use plan area.
- Suggestion to 'adopt' instead of 'support' to make wording stronger.
 - Regional processes again we talk about the Water Advisory Council (WAC). We may be in competition with the entities that sit on the WAC for allocation of water. It sounds as if the budget will be developed by somebody else; I want to make sure we are developing our budget.
 - This is about protecting our resources; the water budget is making sure that it is being supported by the plan.
 - Want to make sure that we are the ones making decisions about our budget.
 - A sustainable water budget is based on sound science.
 - To support a regional process, we need to look at water regionally. A water budget for this region meets our interests.
 - We need to realize that there are so many water decisions made that are beyond the control of the regional plan. Our job is to suggest and give direction. Are we coming up with the group assumption that the general trends with water are right, they give general guidance to a philosophy about how we treat water?
 - 'Adopt' rather than 'support'. Make it as clear as we can make it so we have a clear process.
 - Are we going to allow water supply to limit development? Because that is what 'adopt' would indicate.
 - If we amend the goal to say 'support', will those who use the plan grasp the intent? Will a developer understand? The language must be very clear and to the point.
 - Happy to keep one policy

Five finger vote on policy as amended. 5-3 fingers

Suggested new policy W.1.2. **Seek opportunities to partner with adjacent landowners and managers to improve water yield and hydrologic processes on these lands.** (Add to parking lot)

- On Goal #2 a comment received asked about including the County, because the county does not manage water or wastewater systems.
- Have to be careful about this, if were going to list customers we need to list all customers. It is more than just residential and commercial but industrial and recreational.

Goal W.2 The City manages a coordinated system of water, wastewater, and reclaimed water utility service facilities and resources.

Five finger vote: 5 & 4s

Policy W.2.1 The City shall develop and adopt an integrated water master plan that addresses water resources, water production and its distribution, wastewater collection and its treatment and reclaimed water treatment and its distribution.

- Recommendation to taking “the City shall” out of the goal and policy.
- Are we talking about the regional area or the city? Goal is specific to the city.
- Discussion about putting a timeline into these policies. Any timelines will be incorporated into an action or implementation plan.
- *Add to parking lot* the need for timelines.

Five finger vote: 5 & 4s

Policy W.2.2. Maintain existing facilities in order to provide reliable, safe and cost effective water, wastewater and reclaimed water services.

- Suggestion to remove the word “existing”.
- Maintain and or develop facilities? What about new, possibly efficient facilities?
- What is the goal of this policy, it seems like it is something that is already being done.
- Do the existing facilities limit new technologies?
- Should it be maintain and upgrade?
- The rest of the sentence implies cost effective water services.
- Add the word “adequate” in the sentence.
- Maintain a network of facilities in order to provide reliable, safe and
- Proposed **“Maintain and / or develop facilities to provide reliable, safe and cost effective water, wastewater and reclaimed water services.”**

Five finger vote: 5’s

Goal W.3: Satisfy current and future human water demands and the needs of the natural environment through sustainable and renewable water resources and strategic conservation measures.

- ‘Current and future demands’ does not make it clear that the environment is included.
- Define ‘needs of the natural environment’.
- At some point we have to consider unreasonable human demands and when we need to address the differences.

Five finger vote: 5’s

Suggestion was to talk about all the policies as a group instead of individually. The Committee then proceeds to discuss policy #6.

- Rain water harvesting is too big to put into commercial development. There is so much to water harvesting that we don’t know (policy 6) enough to adopt a policy about it.
- The current ‘Low Impact Design’ development policy is currently encouraging rainwater collection, but will soon be requiring it.
- ‘Encourage’ is more of the way to go with high density development, because requiring it will make it more difficult to build affordable housing.
- Water conservation means many things. It may mean using less water and planning ahead. Water fixtures could be upgraded to save water. How do we put it into a policy to support a goal? It may cost too much sometime in the future.
- Number 5 covers what number 6 is turning into?
- What does encourage mean? It indicates no commitment, just a general statement.

- Rain water harvesting is developing at a rapid rate, and it does not require much treatment if harvested correctly. It is also an energy saver.
- We need to adopt a standard and educate people to know HOW to implement that standard. If we want to encourage 'Water Conservation' or 'Rainwater Harvesting' we need a smart 'how-to' list so that it is easy for the general public and builders to know how to do this.
- Delete 6 and add to 5 this tail "and encourage and educate people about water harvesting."
- No limit for non potable uses. Potable water needs can be met through water harvesting.
Five finger vote: To eliminate #6 and add to #5. 5's
- "Encourage and educate water users to be proactive water conservationist by installing cost effective low flow plumbing fixtures, appliances, gray water, rain water"

Discussion on the policies will continue at a later date.

VI. NEW BUSINESS

A. **Environmental Resource Inventory** *(est. 5 minutes)*

PURPOSE: Presentation of inventory work being accomplished by community members

RECOMMENDED ACTION: Presentation

FACILITATORS: Susan Bean

Ms. Bean read her presentation to the Committee which covered open space policies. She offered to research and gather information on policies dealing with open space for the Committee's use. This would be a tool and reference document that the Committee could use in policy making for open space. She was not definite on the timeline and format.

B. **Introduction to Environment & Conservation Element** *(est. 15 minutes)*

PURPOSE: Presentation and discussion of 'Environment' element

FACILITATORS: Mark Ogonowski, John Aber, Bob Caravona

A power point presentation on the Environment element was made by Bob Caravona.

- Propose combining environmental and conservation elements as one chapter.
- The focus group last November identified strengths, weaknesses, opportunities and threats (SWOT)
- Each plan element has a relationship to all the other elements, we need to begin to consider, identify and grow the list.
- Suggested 'Environment' focus: Currently in the Regional Plan.

Strengthen existing:

Soils

Topography

Geology

Climate

Seismic condition

New Additions to be addressed:

conservation of natural resources

air quality

water quality

biology

C. **Announcements** *(est. 10 minutes)*

1. **Next regular CAC Meeting:** May 20, 2010 - 3:30 p.m. to 5 p.m. at N.AZ Healthcare facilities

Agenda Items:

1. Continue ENVIRONMENT discussion

2. **Next regular CAC Meeting:** June 3, 2010 - 3:30 p.m. to 6 p.m. at N.AZ Healthcare facilities

Agenda Items:

2. ENVIRONMENT – review revised element section
3. ELEMENT – Open Space & Recreation

VII. ADJOURNMENT

Vice Chair Bousquet adjourned the meeting at 6:00 p.m.