

Louisville Sustainability Summit Notes

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Transportation

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Challenge

- How can you inspire sustainable transportation and alternative fuel and advanced technology vehicles as they relate to MoveLouisville?

Sustain Louisville Goals

- Goal 4 - Achieve and exceed National Ambient Air Quality Standards.
- Goal 9 - Decrease transportation-related greenhouse gas.
- Goal 10 - Reduce vehicle miles traveled by 20%.

Thought topics

- Promote sustainable transportation
 - Establish car share and ride share programs
 - Alternative fuel and advanced technology vehicle strategy
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Notes

Informational Presentations

KY Clean Fuels Coalition – Melissa Howell

- All fuels are in KY

Immediate priorities that the city community should be looking at (discussion):

- Commercial fleets
- Interstate system. Piece of a corridor. Crossroads.
- Cleaner air
- Keep in mind: passenger trains. Governmental and political obstacles need to be overcome for regional transportation to happen.
- We need an infrastructure – happening now all across KY.
- Louisville – logistics hub. Focus on logistics. Lots of emissions for non-Louisville transportation (movement of goods, businesses, etc.).
- What stands between UPS and rail use?
- Make Louisville a green transport hub

Car Sharing:

- Downtown/UofL – business model needs work and a culture shift
 - Need support – people who want to pay to use it. How do we get people to pay for it?
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Transportation

- Carpooling initiatives – reinvigorate interest
- 80 vanpools exist (7-9 people in it). How are the vans powered?
- In conjunction with other transportation
- Corporate partners – how to get businesses to increase carpooling?
- In Portland, parking rate increases throughout day for businesses. How do we break the habit of not wanting to move further away?
- Shuttle to take people from parking lot outside city center into city every 5-10 min (like Cardinal Shuttle).
- Encourage large employers to use a transit pass
- Too much free/affordable parking downtown – makes it difficult to change the city’s culture. Incentives are needed to get people to use public transit. Some cities tax vehicles that drive downtown. Better transit needed!
- Look at geographic distribution of jobs. If jobs are spread across town, it’s difficult to have useful transit system.
- Affordable housing in hubs at core of city to make mass transit effective.

Move Louisville Ideas – Steve Sizemore

- Where are alternative fuel stations to refuel transit system? Where will the infrastructure be located?
- Car sharing, use of electric buses, etc. are steps to changing the culture. This is what could lead to major changes in the future.
- Create cross-town mobility options
- Start at city central and work way out
- In order for biking to happen, we need safe biking corridors.
- Transit system: sustainable source of funding needed
- KY fuel tax – constitution says it can only be used towards roads, NOT public transit. Mayor wants local option sales tax. Get rid of amendment! Lobbying in Frankfort needed.

TARC Update – Barry Barker

- Not sustainable right now. Not all people can fit on bus, and people have to wait for other buses.
- 3 pillars: economic, environmental, and social
- 20 buses with wifi. Better seats and reading lights, luggage racks. (Incentives)
- 32 hybrid buses currently
- 10 electric powered vehicles (30 mile range, charging center downtown)
- Goal: get solar panels on roof so that they offset electric use by vehicles
- Union Station – will have energy cut by 70%.
- Reduced time between buses up to 9pm to every 15 minutes
- Sidewalk bus stop renovations. Eliminated lots of bus stops.
- Commuter rail – Dixie Highway to Fort Knox
- TARC survey: general public supportive of TARC but they themselves didn’t use it. Availability, Directness, Frequency.

Discussion

We need money.

- Also incentives.
- Vision is needed first.
- Robert: when you build it they will come.

Transportation

What can we do out of the box to address health problem?

- Get people out of cars
- Make existing motor vehicle trips more efficient
- Make each necessary car trip have less emissions/other fuel
- Recognize work that's already been done – don't reinvent the wheel. Report available online: Climate Action Report on Air Pollution Control District's website under programs -> climate action.
- Verification component needed
- When will old "dirty" vehicles be off the road and when will the more efficient ones be on it?
- Reduction of use of traditional fuels (diesel, etc.)
- Land use critical

IMPORTANT: integrate land use. Transportation affects land use and vice-versa. Affects land use planning.

- Infrastructure/policies in government need to be addressed.
- Suburban sprawl is a problem with our goals, among others
- KAIRE – ideas for personal action. Make the public aware of these suggestions.

Deliverable Actions

- Apps for carpool matching. Metro Govt. should put on website. Tickettoride.com
- Whatever is done must be quantifiable – what is that number in the metric
- Educate the public of the resources available, such as the ability to calculate how much gas you save by not idling.
- Ride bus once and report back findings to TARC to Barry Barker via email
- Ex: Metro Government should ride bus once a month to work
- Find corporate sponsors to help implement people getting out of the car
- "Walk someplace day"
- Long term: Help make trucking in Louisville one of the greenest
- Put together an overview of what's already out there
- We need to invest in advertising & teaching people about the already existing infrastructure. Let the existing companies be the poster child so that other people know how to follow.
- Transportation equity across race and class.

Actions (in no specific rank):

- Form an office car pool
- Ride TARC once and send an email about experience
- Find a corporate sponsor to produce matches for Federal dollars
- Don't idle car. Show quantitative measures – info available. Air emissions and gas saved.
- Contact local and state representative to promote local sales tax
- Car pool systems put in place – support, promote, and educate
- Each metro employee car pool once, or ride TARC once a month
- Get an inventory of what's "green" and what is out there. Help connect businesses and people and educate people on what is already being done, and then what NEEDS to be done.

Group reports to Louisville Sustainability Council.