

Meeting Notes

Transportation & Mobility Workgroup

May 20, 2008 Academic Center Riverpoint
Movie "The Power of Community"

Bill Rickard, Environmental Analyst, City of Spokane presented the City's Greenhouse Gas Inventory.

(See Attachment)

Notes on Handout:

This effort focuses on current government operations. They spent 9 months loading the information into software. One challenge is that ICLEI Software only accounts for new carbon created from fossil fuels. The Washington State software accounts for carbon differently.

Solid waste numbers do not take into account waste management in the county.

A Cummins study showed that by retraining drivers on routes, they were able to increase efficiency.

Parking is a problem for police officials both for city owned fleet and personal vehicles.

Should have updated for the City CTR within the month.

Police had some data done recently on CTR which can also be provided to the group.

STA SmartCard is capable of logging miles for CTR without people having to go online.

Are there any requirements for employees who work in the city to live in the city?

Could we develop incentives for city employees to live in the city limits?

There are legal questions regarding such a requirement.

Commercial fuel is not represented here. Not a huge concern because most commercial companies are using natural gas and electric.

Group adjourned temporarily to watch "The Power of Community". The movie showed how Cuba adapted through building community when fossil fuel was cut off to their country.

Group Reconvened for discussion of Movie:

How does one change culture? A lot of items in the movie are cultural. We as American go public to be private. We go private to be public.

There's also a lot of culture in city government that may need to adapt if we are to be successful.

Was this propaganda? Was there a class society that we didn't see in the movie? Not everyone is Cuba is riding a bike to get to work.

Issue of peak oil is real but people still have Hummers and boats on Lake CDA.

You raise an interesting point. The people who really feel the impacts are low income. Social equity is important.

City should be considered a microcosm of the city.

Having our parks be more sustainable is important.

We should answer the questions: Why should I change and how can we pay for it?
The urban core is the poorest in the state and peak oil hits them first.

Food banks are being swamped right now. Food miles traveled within the urban core is huge.
You can easily turn the food of the poor into the fuel of the rich.

How can the city encourage and help create options?

We should look at making it easier to travel in density.

We're looking to get the kind of turnout on the buses like you have during First Night and other events.

City employee drive time is a major contributor to emissions. There should be a way to encourage employees to live within city limits by providing incentives or preferences. Dave Baker wants the name of city attorney to answer legality question.