



# MONTANA CLIMATE SOLUTIONS COUNCIL

TECHNOLOGY INNOVATION AND TRANSITION

## MEETING INFORMATION

November 19, 2019, 1:30pm to 4:30pm, Metcalf Conference Room 111

The purpose of the meeting was to continue to talk about resilience as a framework for understanding and assisting transitions in communities and industry sectors impacted by climate change and second to review, discuss, and agree on a structure for two white papers.

## ATTENDEES

Mark Haggarty, Co-chair	Amy Barnes, Co-chair (new)
Scott Bischke	Tom Kaiserski (Dept. of Commerce)
Maryssa Fenwick (Guest, NCAT)	Christian (Dept. of Commerce)
Paul Lachapelle (Guest, MSU)	Al Ekblad
Todd O’Hair	Kathy Hadley
Jayne Morrow	Lee Spangler
Jen Lane	Rebecca Harbage
Shaun McGrath	Marty Tuttle

## AGENDA REVIEW AND INTRODUCTIONS

Marty Tuttle is retiring in early January. Congratulations Marty! Marty introduced Amy Barnes as the new co-chair of the committee. Welcome Amy!

A discussion of our committee’s engagement with the full council meeting on December 10<sup>th</sup> and 11<sup>th</sup> was added to the agenda.

## PRESENTATIONS

### Transition Presentations

We heard two presentations, first from from Paul Lachapelle and Maryssa Fenwick about the Climate Smart Montana work and from Tom Kaiserski on the Montana Ready Communities Initiative. The presentations are intended to make the committee aware of existing efforts in Montana to build resilience for communities facing transitions.

Paul and Maryssa:

- Community Transitions: Supporting Resilient Communities
  - Climate-Resilient Community
    - To build a resilience, communities need to...
      - Lessen overall demand for energy and increase renewable sources

- Prepare for pressures and shocks from climate change
- Foster social cohesion
- Pillars of Community Resilience
  - Social Cohesion
    - Education, Awareness & Conversation
    - Clean Energy Transition
    - Climate Preparedness & Adaptation
    - Strengthen Community Self Reliance
- Climate Smart Montana Website
  - Clearinghouse plans for communities
  - Participant Page for listserv
  - Many presentations across the State
  - Works with policymakers, public employees, 4-H, community members
  - Climate Leadership Program for adults to expand climate literacy and develop a network of well-informed and motivated citizens.
  - Potential Program with MPERA for social choice or low-carbon option for retirement funds.
  - MSU and UM scientist have reached 78 communities since 2017
  - City of Bozeman: Mayor’s Climate Protection Agreement
  - Bozeman is setting a high mark for emission trends
  - City of Missoula: Climate Plan
  - Missoula has high-efficiency air filters for vulnerable populations
  - Climate Smart Glacier County: Focus on municipality rather than residential
  - Recommendation for Montana
    - Common definitions are important
- What elements are a plan that we can adapt into a plan/recommendation?
- The big 9 cities have resources, but small communities need help due to lack of resources and education.
- How do people think that transition can happen without an economic security framework? How do we make this work for all members of these communities?

Tom Kaiserski:

- Leveraging the Montana Ready Communities Initiative (MRCI)
  - Ties in with directives to the Council to leverage existing efforts
  - Focuses on community transition planning: specifically related to changing landscapes, etc.
  - What could affect communities (Acute Shocks)
  - How to prepare communities for chronic stressors
  - The MRCI has high relevance to Climate Solution Council work
    - MRCI Tool kit is close to completion
  - Agriculture Examples: Barley, Hemp, Pulses
  - Focus on Li-Ion Cluster for electric vehicles batteries

## DISCUSSION

- Need to define what we mean by “Transitions.” May include the following bins:
  - Workforce/Economic Resiliency
    - Transition should provide comparable wages and comparable benefits (including the benefits of collective bargaining) to MT workforce. New sectors often do not, for example the difference between unionized coal plant workers and non-unionized solar

- installers. Not addressing how economic transitions affect labor has political consequences.
- Initiatives need to be tied to economic factors that affect the workers in the communities – drives the economy and community vitality
- Can we leverage technology innovation to the workforce transition?
  - E.g., requirements of new industries to make certain concessions to labor, subsidizing pensions,
- Energy production
- Communities
- Policy
  - Specifically, enabling the changes that will help ease permitting or other authorizations to incentivize development of the Committee’s recommendations
  - This could mean pre-work on the part of agencies to pave the way for the specific sectors or regions that the committee will recommend (including documented processes, doing pre-assessments like a programmatic EIS, “empowerment zones” where requirements are relaxed, defining conditions that could result in lesser requirements, etc.)
  - Other types of incentives through state policy (tax credits, gaining state primacy, etc.)
- General state economic resilience/transition
  - Decreasing coal revenue over time. How will Montana transition? Focus should be on generating new revenue from sectors that are growing.
  - Coal severance tax & permanent trust – legislature chooses how to spend the interest... is there an opportunity divert some of the money that is going into the trust to different sorts of investments, like the industries we’re talking about or for the transition
    - Perhaps a way to fund road maintenance as gas tax revenue decreases in light of adoption of electric vehicles
  - State is currently studying how the transition in the state’s economy from non-services (natural resources, manufacturing) to services (innovation, tourism) affect the state’s ability to raise revenue to fund services. State’s tax structure may not be prepared for economic transitions. HJ 35 and HB 715 studies are the two primary venues for these discussions? Rep. Llew Jones (author of HB 715) or other as future presenter?
- CAIDS Committee laid out the following topics for a white paper
  - “The community adaptation group will draft recommendations for (1) processes to develop community-based adaptation plans; (2) strategies for the adaptation in the built environment including transportation, water and private infrastructure; and (3) public health.”
- “Resilience” is the end goal
- Climate change is one of many adversities that communities face
- Tech innovation is one of many tools to deal with the adversity of climate change
- We’ve been talking about a lot of different big framework tools (permitting, tax incentives, community education, platforms for sharing information about new technologies, additional studies, etc.)
- Need to think about transitioning the entire economy, not just energy communities. How do we support the transition?

## ACTION ITEMS

- **Two White Papers**
  - **Montana’s Innovation Landscape** (Primary authors: Jayne, Lee, Tom, Mark)
  - **Transitions** (Primary authors: Paul Lachappelle, Tom, Al, Mark, Scott, Jayne)
    - Apply resilience as a way to understand what transitions might mean

- Divide into recommendations/topics for Current (now to five years out) and Future (five to fifteen years out) and the following general buckets:
      - Energy production (current) and research (future)
      - Communities
      - Workforce
      - Government
      - Leveraging existing capacity
    - Need to be careful how we bracket our work, we want to be specific in our recommendations, not overly broad
      - Look for areas where we can score a win (appealing ideas) and apply our best climate thinking to improve transition/adaptation/resilience
    - For each recommendation:
      - What is the lever/tool that will be used?
      - Who actually has the ability to pull that lever? Who is the audience?
    - By 12/10:
      - For each white paper, assign members to write different parts
      - Allow time to coordinate with other committees to avoid overlap. How?
        - Fridays: agency staff meetings
        - Every other Monday: Council leadership meetings
        - Direct conversations between committee co-chairs (and others, if desired)
    - Desire is to be transparent in the drafting so no one is surprised by what is included in a white paper, even if writing falls to just a handful of people (Google Drive?)
  - December meeting of Full Council
    - Committee is on the agenda at 1:15-2:00pm on 12/10. Idea is to have a panel discussion/presentation to tee up workshop-style discussion of draft recommendations.
      - Who could participate on panel to provide overview of technology innovation and transition topics? (Mark, Tom, Jayne, Lee will recommend people)
    - How will the 2:30-3:45 workshop be structured?
      - It's the first chance to share the Committee's ideas with the full Council. It's an opportunity to solicit input from Council on things like overlap between Committees, potential gaps, disagreements, etc.
    - NOTE: make your hotel reservations at the Doubletree. Room block is held until 11/20 for the Climate Council at a government rate for both Sunday and Monday nights.
  - Next meeting is full Council in Helena on December 9-10
  - Next Committee meeting will be in January: January 8<sup>th</sup> @ 1:30-4:30 in Helena

ACTION ITEM	RESPONSIBLE POINT OF CONTACT	DUE DATE
<b>Montana's Innovation Landscape White Paper</b>	Mark Haggerty	12/6
<b>Transitions White Paper</b>	Mark Haggerty	12/6
<b>Full-Council Meeting December 9-10 in Helena</b>	Patrick Holmes	
<b>Next Committee Meeting January 8 in Helena</b>	Agenda from Mark after 12/10	