



Economic Health Office  
300 LaPorte Avenue  
PO Box 580  
Fort Collins, CO 80522  
970.221.6505  
970.224.6107 - fax  
fcgov.com

**MEMORANDUM**

Date: October 12, 2017

To: Mayor and City Councilmembers

From: Josh Birks, Economic Health Director *JAB*

Through: Darin Atteberry, City Manager *DA*  
Jeff Mihelich, Deputy City Manager *J.M.*  
Jackie Kozak-Thiel, Chief Sustainability Officer *JKT by mg*

Re: October 10, 2017 Work Session Summary – Business Engagement Action Plan Update

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**COUNCILMEMBERS PRESENT:**

Mayor Wade Troxell, Mayor Pro Tem Gerry Horak, Ken Summers, Ross Cunniff, Kristen Stephens, Bob Overbeck and Ray Martinez

**STAFF PRESENT:**

Jackie Kozak-Thiel, Josh Birks, Jeff Mihelich, Shannon Hein, Emily Wilmsen, and Rebecca Hicklin.

Staff provided the following review:

Overview of the development and implementation of the Business Engagement Action Plan.

**DISCUSSION SUMMARY:**

*Strategy*

- Council was generally supportive of the overall efforts
- Council liked the focus on retention, expansion and incubation, with attraction being the smallest part of the strategy. Intentionality around economic clusters is important.
- Council reaffirmed we have a good balance of Economic Health priorities that represent our community.
- Suggested podcasts used as a tactic to highlight small business activity
- Need a tool like SARs to make sure business feedback gets addressed

- Need better communication with businesses when construction occurs, both before, during and after. Examples include during Foothills Mall construction, Campus West, and underpass construction.
- Council encouraged staff to be mindful of the Amazon effect and cybersecurity

#### *Appreciation and Events*

- Business Appreciation Breakfast was a successful way to engage with businesses and important we recognize their efforts.
- Consider integrating more TBL elements while still focusing on businesses
- Support the business community for special events like National Coffee Day, Pancake Day and Comic Book Day

#### *Council Engagement*

- Council is interested in more strategic support for how to engage with businesses

#### *Triple Bottom Line*

- Look at having Boards and Commissions come together at various times during the year that focus on TBL

#### **NEXT STEPS FOR STAFF**

- Provide some sample survey questions from the National Business Survey to Council
- Council will receive a memo about business engagement and how to get involved

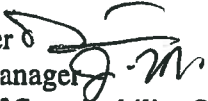






Economic Health Office  
300 LaPorte Avenue  
PO Box 580  
Fort Collins, CO 80522  
970.416.2294  
970.224.6107 - fax  
fcgov.com

MEMORANDUM

**DATE:** October 11, 2017

**TO:** Mayor and City Councilmembers

**THROUGH:** Darin Atteberry, City Manager   
Jeff Mihelich, Deputy City Manager   
Jacqueline Kozak Thiel, Chief Sustainability Officer   
Josh Birks, Director, Economic Health Director 

**FROM:** Sean Carpenter, Climate Economy Advisor 

**RE:** Work Session Summary - Climate Economy Action Plan Update

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During the discussion portion of the staff update to Council regarding the October 10, 2017 *Climate Economy Action Plan Update*, Council offered the following feedback, below. All members of City Council were in attendance.

- Overall supportive of the approach and direction taken by staff;
- Encouraged creativity in the development of financing mechanisms to create support execution of Climate Economy-related projects;
- Continue to develop “On bill financing 2.0”;
- Ensure focus on low and moderate income (LMI) residents in the Climate Economy Action Plan. Councilpersons mentioned that affordability can be a barrier that prevents LMI residents from engaging in energy efficiency retrofits;
- Research how adjustments to credit scoring and interest rates can increase LMI participation in these programs;
- Consider how the utility rate structure can better support the Climate Economy, renewable energy, and opportunities for waste-to-energy;
- Consider the life cycle impacts of new renewable energy technologies (e.g. battery disposal, etc.);
- Investigate if our codes or internal policies may prevent future expansion of climate economy activities, such as personal battery storage in the community.

**Recommendations from Council for next steps:**

- Consider creating measurement tools for expected greenhouse gas (GHG) emission reductions from each of the “quick wins” discussed in the presentation;
- As we plan for the future, we need to take systems-wide, integrated approach across the organization that assist Fort Collins Utilities, Power and Light etc. to manage new and evolving “Climate Economy” technologies and service models, such as Electric Vehicles and “Energy as a Service”.



Utilities  
electric · stormwater · wastewater · water  
PO Box 580  
Fort Collins, CO 80522  
970.221-6700  
970.221.6619 fax · V/TDD: 711  
utilities@fcgov.com  
fcgov.com/utilities

**MEMORANDUM**

**DATE:** October 13, 2017

**TO:** Mayor and City Councilmembers

**FROM:** Tim McCollough, Light & Power Operations Manager DS

**THROUGH:** Darin Atteberry, City Manager DS  
Kevin Gertig, Utilities Executive Director DS

**RE:** Work Session Summary – Oct 10, 2017 RE: Fort Collins & Organized Energy Markets

Tim McCollough provided an educational overview to all Councilmembers on Platte River Power Authority’s (Platte River) decision making process in joining the Southwest Power Pool (SPP). The presentation covered both potential benefits and risks to the City of Fort Collins, as a member owner of Platte River.

**Question Asked of Council**

1. What additional information does Council need regarding the formation of an Energy Market?

**Key Discussion Points**

- Council generally supports pursuing membership in an energy market.
- Acknowledgement that energy markets create new renewable energy opportunities for our community.
- Concerns on governance of the new market including structure and the ability to retain local influence on decisions.
- Exploration of opportunities for the Platte River member cities and their customers to participate in an energy market with Distributed Energy Resources.
- Exploration of the potential energy market and the local watershed analysis alignment.

Staff will report back to Council on the progress and Platte River board approval.