

CITY OF FORT COLLINS
AIR QUALITY ADVISORY BOARD
Memorandum to City Council

TO: Mayor Hutchinson and City Council members

FROM: Eric Levine, Chair

DATE: January 30, 2007

SUBJECT: 2006 Air Quality Advisory Board Annual Report

In 2006 the Air Quality Advisory Board held twelve regular meetings and one special joint meeting with the Transportation Board.

The Board sent the following recommendations to City Council:

- A June 2006 memo recommending that the City of Fort Collins join the Local Government Coalition in support of regulating mercury as a hazardous air pollutant and that the MACT (Maximum Achievable Control Technology) be implemented as expeditiously as possible on a source-specific basis. Result – the City did join the Local Government Coalition and the final mercury rule-making is scheduled for January 2007.
- A June 2006 memo to Council stating AQAB support for a resolution being proposed by the Fort Collins Sustainability Group asking the City to reconvene a task force to update the climate plan, to ensure that energy measure are included, and to host a public forum series on the possibility of Fort Collins becoming a climate neutral city. Result - at a January 2007 study session, Council indicated support for a modified version of the FCSG resolution.
- An August 2006 memo to Council noting that due to the demonstrable effects of secondhand smoke, the AQAB recommends that City Council adhere to the original intent of the 2002 Smoke Free Fort Collins law by prohibiting smoking in all indoor public places, that the City Code conform to Colorado state law, that the City use the term “cigarette butt receptacles” rather than “ashtrays” within the 20’ prohibited perimeter, and that the City should not grant certain businesses exclusive rights to operate smoking lounges and thereby limit free trade. Result – Ordinance 122, 2006 allows limited use on-site use of tobacco smoke at *retail tobacco businesses*.
- An October 2006 memo to Council asking the City to provide input into the Colorado Regulation 7 hearing to place more stringent controls on oil and gas well emissions in the Ozone Early Action Compact area and across the state. Result – the City did provide written input and the state did move to promulgate these tighter regulations.
- An October 2006 memo to Council that the AQAB recommends transportation planning based on an all inclusive mobility management strategy to yield a comprehensive

approach for fee assessment and reduction in taxpayer burdens, and letting Council know that over the next year, as the AQAB continues to assess mobility management strategies and implications on air quality, they will provide specific action items for council consideration."

- A December recommendation led to a January 2007 memo to Council recommending that the City of Fort Collins strengthen its greenhouse gas reduction target by signing on to the Seattle mayor's agreement and make a commitment to the achieving the USA Kyoto Protocol (7% greenhouse gas reduction below 1990 levels.)

The Board spent significant time throughout the year discussing and giving input on the following issues:

- Mobility Management Best Practices Study for Fort Collins
- Discussion to identify longer-term barriers and opportunities related to air quality improvement

These topics were discussed at eight of 13 total meetings.

In addition, the Board also received information and updates and discussed the following programs and issues:

- Status of ozone levels and actions to reduce ground level ozone.
- Fleet emission reduction practices of Poudre School District.
- Discussed and made plans to reconvene the West Nile Virus Task Force during the winter 2006/2007 to prepare recommendations for the 2008/2009 budget cycle.
- Provided input into the upcoming 2007 air quality survey.
- Status of 2005 Track To Win program and plans for the 2006 Track to Win program.
- Status of the Fort Collins High-Emitter project.
- Status of the citywide effort to reduce greenhouse gas emissions and on Climate Wise
- Results of the 2006 study to evaluate the effectiveness of the radon mitigation systems that are required to be installed in new homes built since 2005.
- City progress on alternative fuels.
- Discussion about grade-separate road crossings.