



JUNEAU COMMISSION ON SUSTAINABILITY - RETREAT AGENDA

January 06, 2024 at 12:00 PM

Downtown Library Large Conference Room & Zoom Webinar

<https://juneau.zoom.us/j/88069534778> or Phone 1-253-215-8782 Meeting ID: 880 6953 4778

A. CALL TO ORDER

B. LAND ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

We would like to acknowledge that the City and Borough of Juneau is on Tlingit land, and wish to honor the indigenous people of this land. For more than ten thousand years, Alaska Native people have been and continue to be integral to the well-being of our community. We are grateful to be in this place, a part of this community, and to honor the culture, traditions, and resilience of the Tlingit people. Gunalchéesh!

C. ROLL CALL

D. APPROVAL OF AGENDA

E. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

F. PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

G. AGENDA TOPICS

- [1.](#) 2023 Recap - Accomplishments, What Worked, & What Didn't Work - JCOS Committee Chairs
- [2.](#) JCOS Work in 2024 - All JCOS Members
- [3.](#) JCOS Officers for 2024 - Gretchen Keiser

H. INFORMATION ITEMS

I. COMMITTEE MEMBER / LIAISON COMMENTS AND QUESTIONS

J. NEXT MEETING DATE

4. February 7, 2024 JCOS Regular Meeting
5. JCOS Committee Meetings - To Be Determined

K. ADJOURNMENT

ADA accommodations available upon request: Please contact the Clerk's office 36 hours prior to any meeting so arrangements can be made for closed captioning or sign language interpreter services depending on the meeting format. The Clerk's office telephone number is 586-5278, TDD 586-5351, e-mail: city.clerk@juneau.gov.

JCOS Goals and Operations - 2023

Section G, Item 1.

	Title	Owner	Status	Upcoming Milestones	Notes
Goal 1: Energy Efficiency & Renewable Energy Chair: Steve Behnke					
	Subcommittee: Energy Planning - Chair Steve Behnke				
1.1	<i>Jnu Energy Use & GHG Inventory 2021</i>	Behnke	Report completed & posted on JCOS website. JCOS 6/5/23 COW recommended repeating analysis for 2022.	* Interpret results, identify study refinements & targets. Use report as appropriate. * 12/15/23 JCOS request thru City Mgr to PWFC for appropriation request analyses of 2022 & 2023 data.	Original CIP includes \$\$ for 2022 analysis but need addl \$\$ for 2023 data analysis.
1.2	Monitor federal funding opportunities & assist others to maximize Jnu grant success.	Behnke / Keiser	Regular identification of potential funding to EPW Director & grant writer.	Determine process with EPW grant writer so JCOS gets regular updates.	JCOS 12/2022 report identifies numerous BIL & IRA opportunities.
	Subcommittee: Transportation -				
	Monitor dock electrification action.	Mitchell/ Behnke	JCOS input added to D&Hbrs Feb 2023 comments to EPA RFI on "Reducing Air Pollution in Ports" grant program. Behnke/Keiser met w/D&Hbr 7/25/23 & 12/04/23 for update on dock electrification orders & consulting work.	*D&Hbr anticipates EPA NOFO Feb-Mar 2024. JCOS to collaborate on grant application. * Collaborate w/D&Hbr in Dec 2023 on MPF budget request for 2025. * Investigate funding opportunities through AEA. * Advocate for a timeline/work plan update for the Assembly.	D&Hbr applied for EPA DERA grant in 2023. IRA provides EPA funding opportunity possibly in 2024.
1.3	Promote agency/business vehicle fleets EV conversion.	Behnke/ Keiser	JCOS input to EPW Community EE Block Grant & CFI application. 6/2023 Mayor letter to USPS re: JNU as site for e-delivery vans in 2024.	* Continue advocacy for CBJ fleet EV conversion, as "lead by example" action & addresses transportation as largest GHG category in 2021 study.	JCOS suggests EV promotion as Assembly 2023 goal. AEL&P to get two Ford 150 Lightning trucks.

	Title	Owner	Status	Upcoming Milestones	Notes
1.5	Monitor Downtown Electric Bus Circulator study	Mitchell	JCOS reviews draft report & provides comments in Oct 2023. JCOS participated in stakeholders workshop 11/2022.	* JCOS recommendations pending final report.	LoNo grant possible if presented as an expansion of existing transit service. Look to 2024 application period.
	Subcommittee: Buildings - Chair David Teal, Jessie Barker				
1.6	Monitor CBJ facilities' energy upgrades.	Behnke	Nate Abbott, CBJ Facility Maint. 5/2023 update to JCOS. Abbott 8/2023 memo to PWFC identifies process for identifying maintenance projects.	JCOS work to identify process for prioritizing energy efficiency upgrades.	Uncertain when/if LEED update will occur.
1.7	Monitor JEDC efforts on Clean Energy Financing Options (RESP, C-PACE, etc.). Monitor AK Green Bank legislation in 2024.	Teal/ Behnke	JCOS 11/2022 intro to C-PACE. JCOS 6/5/23 COW recommended CBJ examine its role in financing options & federal funding. 8/8/23 COW on On-bill Financing by proponents. 11/2023 JCOS recommends to Assembly on clean financing goal.	* JCOS work to identify CBJ interest to participate in a collaboration among JCOS, JEDC, financial insts, AEA, etc on broad examination of clean energy financing options.	AK Green Bank legislation did not pass 2023 session.
1.8	Energy building codes (heat pumps, EV chargers, commercial bldgs).	Teal/ Barker	JCOS 6/5/23 COW recommended future CDD task. Next steps: focus on CBJ lack of commercial energy codes & Assembly 2024 goal.	* Advocate for commercial energy code (currently lacking(and update to residential energy code. * JCOS 11/2023 recommended energy codes as Assembly 2024 goal (no traction). * Identify federal funding opportunities.	Difficult to get CDD traction w/o Assembly direction and dept focus on comp plan revision in 2023.

Goal 2: Local Resource Recovery / Zero Waste - Chair Nick Waldo, Jessie Barker, Marian Call

	Title	Owner	Status	Upcoming Milestones	Notes
2.1	Zero Waste Planning - provide support to EPW & PWFC. Assist with sector engagement & community education.	Waldo	CBJ has \$2.5M federal funds for municipal composting facility. \$4M EPA SWIFR appl. to augment CDS unsuccessful. \$400K USDA appl. for education (consultant hire). JCOS SW Comm input to 6/26/23 PWFC on CBJ contracting approach unsuccessful.	* 11/02/2023 Sustainability session on Composting. Provide input to ongoing composting activity & municipal planning. * 12/2023 JCOS comments to EPA supporting municipal compost site development. * Monitor waste characterization contract in 2024. * Advocate for FY25 CIP funding of next	CBJ CIP FY24 funds to close out leases on site behind Costco & continue planning for zero waste subdivision.
2.2	Provide support letters on waste grant federal funding opportunities, as requested.		JCOS provides support letter for EPA SWIFR grant application. CBJ applies for \$550K EPA grant for wastewater utility that includes public outreach on food waste.		IRA funds new EPA grant programs for recycling, waste mangmt system improvements, and public education/outreach.

Goal 3: Outreach - Chair Marian Call, Jessie Barker, Duff Mitchell

3.1	<i>Juneau's Changing Climate</i> presentations	Powell	Report released 7/2022.		USFS request for 2023 presentation.
3.2	Sustainability presentations, JCOS website & social media.	Call	Outreach at Aug 5 Climate Fair w/JCOS materials. Potential Session topics from JCOS ongoing work: Jnu's power situation, food waste reduction, household-level actions.	* Develop website with actionable items (vs info-sharing). Group and individual actions. * 11/02/2023 Sustainability Session on Composting at Valley Library.	Sessions to be held during Sept-Nov and Jan-Apr periods.
3.3	Participate in Alaska Municipal Climate Network	Keiser / Behnke	Information sharing. Feb 2023 presentation on JCOS governance & procedures.		~ Qtrly meetings.
3.4	Sustainability Awards	Powell	Revived 2020 draft.	* Identify work tasks & responsibilities for feasibility before consideration by full JCOS & Assembly HRC.	Concern about CBJ & JCOS workload to pull off a quality effort.

	Title	Owner	Status	Upcoming Milestones	Notes
Goal 4: Climate Impacts / Sustainability Indicators - Chair Jim Powell, Marian Call, Jessie Barker, Nick Waldo					
4.1	Promote sustainability indicators/metrics in Comprehensive Plan review.	Powell/Teal	Initial conversation with CDD Spring 2023 as it starts Comprehensive Plan revision.	* Obtain interest confirmation from CDD. * Identify draft list of indicators. * Coordinate public meeting w/CDD Comp Plan efforts.	2021 Jnu Energy Use/GHG Inventory study provides data to start work.
4.2	Assist effort on a changing climate hazards strategy.	Keiser	EPW begins info-gathering to define questions to be answered. Focus outcome on identifying actions rather than planning.	8/2023 Suicide Basin glacial outburst causes significant and damage along Mendenhall River.	Assembly 2023 goal. Focus on stormwater infrastructure?
4.3	Info-gathering on Jnu's climate emergency preparedness - food & water security.	Call, Barker, Waldo, Achee	July 2023 briefing by Tom Mattice, CBJ Emergency Manager.		EPW Water Utiliy, CBJ Emergency staff, JPD/CCFR, USDA Coop Ext, THCC.

GOAL 5: Sustainable Community - Chair: Keiser, others as designated.

5.1	JCOS input into CBJ annual processes (CIP, MPF, Legislative Priorities)	Keiser/Behnke	* JCOS 11/2023 input to EPW on 2024 Legislative Priorities.	* Ongoing work to identify candidate projects input on MPFs (December) and CIP process (January).	
5.2	JCOS recommendatons to the Assembly for annual goal setting	Keiser	* JCOS 11/2023 input to Assembly on its 2024 goals.	Dec: followup on 2024 Assembly goals.	

file: JCOS Goal Tracking 2023 Jan 2024 Retreat Prep
12/18/2023



Juneau Commission on Sustainability

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November 3, 2023

Mayor Weldon and Assembly Members,

The Juneau Commission on Sustainability (JCOS) thanks you for your ongoing commitment to promoting a sustainable local government and community. Among all the issues you constantly juggle for the benefit of local residents, your leadership on climate action, housing, and solid waste in the past continues to yield progress:

- CBJ now has an updated (2021) *energy use/GHG emission inventory* that provides a baseline for actions to accelerate Juneau's transition to renewable energy.
- CBJ tracks energy use in about 60 General Gov't facilities, and current/pending energy efficiency upgrades are estimated to reduce fuel use by 18% in the next five years.
- CBJ-supported Alaska Heat Smart has assisted over 1000 Juneau households complete energy efficiency measures, cut costs, reduce GHG emissions, and improve home health. Homes with heat pumps realize energy savings of \$1,200 - \$1,800/year and cut 5.5 tons emissions. Using federal grants (with CBJ match), AHS is assisting nearly 300 lower to middle income families surmount the up-front costs of efficiency upgrades.
- The FY24 Legislative Priorities lists *Juneau School District HVAC and Heating Control System Upgrades* (#6) – a project that addresses the substantial energy use in Juneau's schools as reported in the 2021 *energy use/GHG emission inventory* study.
- CBJ supports Juneau's EV growth through investments in public EV chargers, and has applied for federal funding for major upgrades to the system.
- Capital Transit's 7 Gillig electric buses are slated for delivery in late 2024, with bus barn upgrades and charging infrastructure underway.
- Planning for the Municipal Composting Facility started in 2023.
- The 1st step in Juneau's zero waste plan - a waste characterization/audit - will occur in 2024.
- CBJ Docks & Harbors has diligently investigated vendors that can provide the multiple, state-of-the-art components for shore power systems at the 16B docks.

JCOS encourages the Assembly to keep supporting and moving forward on these efforts so Juneau can truly optimize its sustainability. As you approach your annual retreat, JCOS recommends the following goals for your consideration.

Assembly Goal #1 – Housing

- **Goal 1B Substitute:** Implement projects and strategies that advance the goals of the Housing Action Plan. Incorporate energy efficiency and electrification explicitly into CBJ actions in order to dramatically improve housing affordability while also contributing to Juneau’s energy and climate goals.
- **New Goal 1:** Initiate an update to CBJ residential and commercial building energy codes. Participate in and build off of a 2024 federally funded Alaska Housing Finance Corporation project to update community energy codes.

Assembly Goal #5 – Sustainable Community

- **Goal 5A Substitute:** Undertake actions identified in the zero-waste plan. Staff has laid out a sequence of steps for planning and implementation of waste reduction in Juneau. One timely action would be to revisit CBJ’s 1993 landfill study and update the financial analysis of solid waste options.
- **New Goal 5:** Continue to develop the Zero Waste Subdivision with the municipal composting facility as the first anchor. Initial site development of the approx. 25-acre subdivision (e.g., electrical power, grading, paving) could be initiated in 2024.
- **Goal 5B Substitute:** Identify and prioritize the most cost-effective energy efficiency and electrification upgrades in the General Gov’t facilities. The baseline energy data compiled by staff can be used to undertake a system-wide analysis of CBJ facilities in order to identify projects that would produce the optimal energy use reductions and life-cycle savings and contribute to CBJ energy and climate goals.
- **Goal 5C Substitute:** Support financing and funding of clean energy in the building and transportation sectors to advance the goal of reliance on 80% renewable energy sources by 2045. JCOS is willing to assist on a collaborative effort among CBJ Finance, JEDC, AEL&P, JCOS, financial institutions, non-profit organizations, etc. to undertake a broad examination of available financing options, partners, and funding sources.

Sincerely,



Gretchen Keiser, Chair
Juneau Commission on Sustainability



DATE: December 18, 2023

TO: Wade Bryson, Chair, Public Works and Facilities Committee

THROUGH: Denise Koch, Director, Engineering and Public Works

FROM: Dianna Robinson, Environmental Project Specialist, Engineering and Public Works

SUBJECT: Zero Waste Update

Zero waste as a concept is very broad and can include reducing or diverting everything that is disposed of in our community. Programs can center around waste reduction, reuse, composting, recycling, household hazardous waste, construction & demolition waste, and biosolids. Below you will find progress updates on CBJ's pathway towards zero waste.

Waste characterization study (Summer 2024):

A waste characterization is the first step in any large-scale Zero Waste/waste reduction process. This study will tell us exactly what is in our waste stream entering the landfill, which will help inform program development and give us baseline data to measure future progress against (exactly like the GHG emissions inventories for energy efficiency).

- Contractor selection:
 - o Cascadia Consulting Group, Inc. out of Seattle, WA, selected via RFP in November 2023
 - o Over 30 years of institutional experience performing waste characterization studies
- Timeline:
 - o Projected start date of mid-May 2024 to capture community and seasonal tourism
 - o Draft report ready by June 2024

Program Feasibility and Prioritization (Through Fall 2024 and continuously):

Staff have begun working on examining potential waste reduction and diversion programs for their economic and logistical feasibility. Staff are able to begin this work before the completion of the waste characterization study because, based on national data, certain waste categories, such as organics, and construction and demolition waste, take up a significant portion of the waste stream, and we are therefore able to look for solutions ahead of time.

We will likely contract some of this work to a consultancy firm (like Cascadia) due to limited staff capacity. This will also provide us with more insights from firms that routinely help other communities with these processes. With a growing number of companies promising a wide range of solutions with varying results, it will take time and expertise to evaluate them and select the best fit for our community.

Once we have a thoroughly vetted list of options, as well as a completed waste characterization study, we can proceed to stakeholder engagement and goal setting. By vetting options and removing those that economically and logistically will not work in Juneau, we can create a focused menu of choices for the stakeholder group and Assembly to consider. While other ideas will be welcome from stakeholders, Assembly members, and the general public, staff believes this will help streamline the public process by performing the majority of this necessary research in advance. It will also help inform goal setting as it will give us an idea of how quickly we will be able to scale up different programs.

Goal setting (Begin Fall 2024):

Once we have the completed waste characterization study and have vetted the feasibility of potential programs and solutions, we can begin stakeholder engagement in earnest. Staff are currently working on an outreach plan for the zero-waste planning process, which we will present to this body when it is completed. This will include broad community

outreach as well as targeted engagement with key stakeholders, including: waste-related businesses such as Composts!, WM (formerly Waste Management), Alaska Waste; other groups such as Sustainable SE Partnership/Spruce Root, UAF Cooperative Extension, and area tribal governments and Corporations; and large waste generators, such as local breweries, distilleries, restaurants, mining operations, construction companies, the hospital, correctional facility, UAS, and fish processing.

There are many forms that stakeholder engagement can take, but it will likely involve a neutral third party to facilitate an equitable goal-setting process. Staff intend to use the stakeholder group for goal setting after there is an educational component to get everyone working from the same knowledge base.

Planning and program development (After goal setting and stakeholder engagement are completed):

Using these diversion and programmatic goals, we can begin planning and program development.

Currently, staff are laying the groundwork for this future process. There are still unanswered questions, but we do know two things:

1. The Assembly has identified municipal composting as a priority.
2. CBJ will have \$2.5 million in congressionally directed spending (CDS) from Sen. Murkowski to begin development of the former Lemon Creek Gravel Pit for future waste diversion activities, pending EPA determination that the site is suitable for composting and construction. The [comment period](#) for the EPA Finding of No Significant Impact (EA/FONSI) is December 26th, 2023. (Projected date of acquiring funding: Spring 2024)

This site is a critical first step to supporting the community's waste reduction. A portion of the CDS funds will be used to begin planning the future 'zero waste subdivision (ZWS),' which will inform our future funding goals and grant proposals.

The following outlines the plan for the CDS funding:

Short-Term Outcomes: Plan and design a ZWS and Compost Facility (by Winter of 2024).

Medium-Term Outcomes: Perform site preparation and basic infrastructural improvements for a composting site where composting can begin without a building (Late 2025-early 2026).

Long-Term Outcomes (Future Funding): Contingent upon future funding, build a composting facility (i.e., building, equipment, etc.) and build out the rest of the ZWS infrastructure. A full-scale composting program, along with other diversion and reduction programs, can be developed in conjunction with selected contractors and community partners, although parts of this can also occur during stakeholder engagement (Completion TBD).

Implementation, assessment, and adjustment (Continuously and TBD):

These activities will be farther down the road when we implement new programs, but current programs, such as recycling and household hazardous waste (HHW), can be assessed and adjusted sooner. Please note that either program will require substantial infrastructural investments to significantly change current diversion rates due to space limitations at the current recycling and HHW facilities.

Discussion Item

Staff believes that the discussion on the design of the future composting program should occur during the stakeholder engagement portion of this pathway. It needs to be after the results of the waste characterization study are out in order to understand the quantity and types of organics that we will have available for diversion.

However, staff are also aware of community concerns around what CBJ's role in composting will be. If it is desirable, there are some unanswered questions that the Assembly will need to decide on, and that can be discussed in the meantime. These include whether the Assembly wants to subsidize composting, and if so, to what extent. Other items include whether the Assembly would like to lease out a future composting site or facility, versus the standard CBJ practice of contracting operations.

Suggestions for Potential JCOS Work in 2024.

1) Suggestion from Jessie Barker to JCOS members:

I'd add a suggestion on sustainable food, specifically reducing consumption of farmed animal products (meat/dairy) since this has by far the biggest environmental impact.

Off the top of my head, ways that JCOS could contribute:

- Encouraging CBJ to publicly commit to this goal (e.g. [this newsletter](#) from earlier in the year covering proclamations passed by Denver's City Council, Baltimore, and the US Conference of Mayors in support of plant-based food, and [this newsletter](#) covering actions by the City of Palo Alto)
- Working with the school district, other orgs in town such as SEARHC or Bartlett perhaps, to promote reduced meat/dairy consumption (the second newsletter above mentions a Boston hospital doing this)
- Lots of further ideas for how local gov / orgs could approach this issue in a report ([executive summary](#)) by my former boss.

2) Suggestion from Gretchen Keiser

I'd like to see JCOS follow up its recommendations on a collaborative examination of clean energy financing. The idea is for JCOS to take the initiative to seek collaboration among CBJ Finance, JEDC, AEL&P, interested Jnu financial institutions, NGOs, etc. on the potential financial options that could be employed in Juneau to access substantial federal monies to assist homeowners, commercial building owners, non-profits, tribal organizations, and CBJ to electrify and retrofit for energy efficiencies and climate resilience.

Juneau Commission on Sustainability

Description of Officer Positions

November 2023

JCOS Chair, or Co-Chairs in alternating months.

- Performs the executive functions of calling for topics and setting the agenda for regular monthly meetings, gathering materials, reviewing draft minutes, running meetings, and assigning follow-up work, as needed.
- Usually finalizes and signs formal JCOS correspondence (letters, memos, resolutions, reports, etc.), unless delegated to the vice-Chair or a subcommittee Chair.
- Works closely with JCOS's Eng & PW liaison on administrative and archival duties.
- Regularly scans upcoming Assembly meeting agendas and flags topics for other JCOS members.
- Represents JCOS at the bimonthly Alaska Municipal Climate Network (AMCN) Zoom meetings. This could be assigned to another JCOS member.
- In conjunction with JCOS Outreach Chair, occasionally reviews JCOS webpage for content.
- Fields requests for informal JCOS input on its activities.
- Prepares the written JCOS annual report of its activities and coordinates with the Clerk's Office on the annual presentation to the Assembly HRC.
- Coordinates with Clerk's Office on JCOS membership, provides input to HRC members via email on applicants for JCOS vacancies, and orients new members.
- Acts as an ex-officio member of JCOS subcommittees. May take an active/lead role on a particular JCOS work task.

Estimated time commitment: approx. 10-12 hrs/month for workload of the JCOS regular meeting, attending 1-2 subcommittee meetings, finalizing JCOS correspondence, and scanning Assembly meeting agendas. ~1 hr. every 2 months participating in a AMCN meeting. May spend 2 hrs occasionally to research and draft a piece of correspondence. Variable time spent on occasional special projects/work tasks.

JCOS Vice-Chair

- Performs executive functions when the Chair is unavailable.
 - Finalizes JCOS correspondence in the Chair's absence.
 - Represents JCOS on behalf of the Chair, as warranted.
- Estimated time commitment: occasional (3-4) JCOS meetings or subcommittee meetings per year.

JCOS Secretary

- Prepares minutes for JCOS meetings and annual retreat, using a standard CBJ format.
- Ensures that another JCOS member will take minutes, in the Secretary's absence.
- Submits draft minutes to the Chair and CBJ liaison in a timely manner for the following meeting's packet.

Estimated time commitment: approx. 1 hr./regular or special meeting.