



City of Milwaukee

200 E. Wells Street
Milwaukee, Wisconsin
53202

Meeting Minutes

CITY-COUNTY TASK FORCE ON CLIMATE AND ECONOMIC EQUITY

*Ald. Nik Kovac and
Marcelia Nicholson, Co-Chairs*

*Bialk Tha Hlawn, Pam Fendt, Linda Frank, Julie Kerksick, Ted
Kraig, George Martin, Janet Meissner Pritchard, Supreme
Moore Omokunde, Pamela Ritger, Erick Shambarger, and
Rafael Smith*

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*Google documents for this body can be found at :
<http://bit.ly/CCTFCEE>*

Monday, February 8, 2021

1:00 PM

Virtual

Adaptation and Climate Resilience Work Group

Zoom link to attend: [https://us02web.zoom.us/j/4663463575?](https://us02web.zoom.us/j/4663463575?pwd=NIRJWtJlQ2pCbENtSE9ORU1lSFZUT09)

[pwd=NIRJWtJlQ2pCbENtSE9ORU1lSFZUT09](https://us02web.zoom.us/j/4663463575?pwd=NIRJWtJlQ2pCbENtSE9ORU1lSFZUT09)

Meeting ID: 466 346 3575

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or join by phone: 312 626 6799

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1. Brief introductions of Work Group members to one another.

Call to order: 1:06 p.m.

Roll call with brief background on why joining the Work Group:

- John Gardner (UWM developing climate action plan);*
- Laura Herrick (Chief Env. Engineer with SEWRPC, flooding (SW and riverine – working on WICCI in terms of extreme storms, and Hazard mitigation Plan);*
- Andy Bochman (with Dept. of Energy; Idaho National Lab; in DC, briefings with the PSC; cyber infrastructure and now climate);*
- Jamie Ferschinger (Dir. of Dept. of Environmental Health; Federally-qualified health center; looking at environment – resiliency, EJ and environmental sustainability; disproportionate energy burden; talking about climate change in a way that this non-partisan);*
- Rebecca Gries (Manager of Corp. attraction and expansion for M7 – under umbrella of MMAC – 1) Connection to businesses, (2) Have shifted to attracting more Renewable Energy and Energy, Power and Controls manufacturers (e.g., Ingeteam, EV charging company from Portugal – helps for marketing (3) looking to learn a lot;*
- Meg McKenna (works at Visit Mke – are funded and charged with marketing Mke; in*

charge of partnerships with Visit Mke; thinking of soft branding of Mke as a stable region to re-locate to and host events like the DNC; also watching for climate refugees)

2. Discuss the Adaptation and Climate Resilience Work Group tasks, template and timeline.

Discussed Meeting logistics and Climate & Equity Action Plan Timeline: Will likely meet twice a month, so would be advantageous to find a set meeting time rather than sending a Doodle poll each time. Next Doodle poll will to select recurring meeting time. If you are in attendance today, I will assume you want to be confirmed by the Task Force as part of this Work Group.

Note about Public Meetings Laws: It is best to avoid “replying all” to our entire Work Group. Rather, email Pam information or proposed agenda items between meetings.

March and April 2021 – Work Groups produce a “menu” of strategies with support from ICLEI and other climate experts

May 2021 – Work Groups prioritize ideas and coalesce around one big idea per Chapter (in our case, maybe 3)

May – July 2021 – Strategy outreach to public to help prioritize and refine projects through surveys, focus groups and other methods

August – November 2021 – Prioritize and refine policy proposals

December 2021 – Bring Climate and Equity Action Plan Framework to Common Council and County Board for Adoption

3. Discuss time commitment of members and meeting logistics.

Discussed Topics to be Addressed:

- *Flooding and coastal planning*
- *Planning for extreme weather*
- *Managing extreme heat*
- *Encouraging in-migration to Milwaukee*
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- *Can lean on Plans already created:*

- o *City of Milwaukee’s Green Infrastructure Plan*
- o *MMSD Resilience Plan recommendations*
- o *City of Milwaukee Hazard Mitigation Plan*
- o *Milwaukee County Hazard Mitigation Plan*

☐ *Discussed how SEWRPC City and County Hazard Mitigation Plans touch on the top three topics in terms of public health risks, etc.*

☐ *To date most Wisconsin Emergency Management hazard mitigation funding has been focused on removing structures from the floodplain and constructing tornado/storm shelters;*

☐ *May not address risks to infrastructure as much;*

☐ *Regarding extreme heat, some past discussion of creating cooling centers throughout the City, as well as splash pads and other places to cool off; as well as planting trees to help cool the city and reduce the urban heat island effect.*

o *Pam will check-in with Nick Tamara at the Milwaukee Health Dept. meeting with stakeholders on what the City can do about extreme heat, other extreme weather examples*

o *For extreme heat, at UWM, another issue they are looking at is worker safety – especially for people working in pits.*

o *John mentioned UWM is looking at stresses and shocks – cannot just focus on shocks, need to also think about stresses as well. Asked about looking to WICCI in*

terms of anticipated climate change impacts for Milwaukee – down-scaled climate data for Milwaukee.

o Laura mentioned Dr. Daniel Wright at UW-Madison is looking at rainfall data statistics for the past three decades – which indicate that rain is becoming more extreme for the State. Also, the global circulation models to predict extreme weather do not include the Great Lakes – Laura noted recent large storms are getting caught by Lake Michigan and the global circulation models are not accurately reflecting this.

- Review of Work Group template*
- Andy mentioned the desire to see more racial diversity in our Work Group. Pam mentioned past discussion at last Task Force meeting regarding trying to come up with metrics for equity, in addition to our goals and metrics for climate and GHG-reducing goals.*

For next meeting: Look out for Doodle poll to find recurring meeting time; I will send out the template for review; Start thinking about policy and project ideas.

Meeting adjourned at 2:02 p.m.

Minutes provided by Pamela Ritger.