

RECAP

Interagency Sustainability Network Meeting



Meeting Date: January 12, 2009

Time: 10:30 am to 4:30 pm

Location: Water Resources Education Center (WREC)
4600 SE Columbia Way
Vancouver, WA

Attendees:

Oregon Representatives:

Elin Shepard, Oregon Department of Administrative Services, Facilities Division
Vern Rowan, Oregon Department of Corrections
Gabrielle Schiffer, Oregon Department of Consumer and Business Services
James Moering, Department of Administrative Services, State Procurement Office
Tracy Meyer, Oregon SAIF Corporation
Ronda Chapman, Washington County, OR
Noelle Studer-Spevak, Portland State University – Oregon University System
Jeff Kohleppel, Oregon Department of Administrative Services Facilities Division

Washington Representatives:

Karin Kraft, Washington Department of Ecology
Crystal Hart, Washington Department of Printing
Nancy Deakins, Washington Department of Social and Health Services
Irene Ritchie, Washington Lottery
Melody Younglove, Washington Attorney General
Jeremy Epstein, Washington Attorney General
Ted Smith, Washington Department of Parks and Recreation Commission
Ken Zarker, Washington Department of Ecology
Debra Taevs, Northwest Pollution Prevention Resource Center
Julie Vanneste, Washington Department of Corrections
Kristi Lynett, Washington Department of fish and Wildlife

I. Call to Order

- The meeting was called to order at 10:30 am and everyone present introduced themselves.

II. Round Table

- The round table allowed everyone to share the type of projects each person works on and the problems that they face.
- Elin is working on the many bills currently in Legislation.
 - Oregon is looking 15 to 20 bills that deal with GHG reduction.
 - These bills also deal with transportation, renewable energy, Cap and Trade, Net Zero Buildings by 2030, arresting GHG emissions by 2010 and solar projects.
- Many Agencies faced similar issues with deferred maintenance.
 - Low funding contributes to the DM backlog.
 - An established maintenance fund of 1.6% of the buildings value would help offset the DM.
- Many Agencies leased facilities and the property owners would impede progress and sustainable actions.
 - The Washington Attorney General office is working on baselines to implement aggressive leases.

- The Washington Department of General Administration provides leasing services.
 - There has been resistance within the DGA to implement aggressive leases.
- Nancy works for both DGA and DSHS, mention several sustainability programs they were implementing.
 - LEED standard new buildings
 - New data collection software
 - Agency wide behavioral and maintenance improvements
 - Actions plan for new computer software
- Karin mentioned a new Executive Order pertaining to existing public buildings and the Energy Star Program.
- Grants, incentives, and rebates were topics of discussion.
 - Rebates from the ETO were on behalf of the utility companies.
 - Many sustainability projects, labeled as a cost savings projects, have moved forward with the economic stimulus package for Oregon.
 - ODOC will receive money for solar projects if moved up to this year.
 - In Oregon incentives come in as cash, but with out the limitation to send it.
 - DAS went to the E-Board to ask for limitation to match the amount of cash received from the incentives.
 - These incentives are not available to help with the project to which they relate. Sometimes the cash just sits in a pot until limitation is given.
 - Washington has similar issues.
- In Oregon, each agency has its own sustainability plan, derived from the Governor's key goals.
 - The DAS plan updates its action items every six months.
 - The DAS plan is also used as framework for other agencies.
 - The plan also tries to address the social equity aspect of sustainability.
 - Tours and other ways to connect to the public are under consideration.
 - The plan also encourages the use of RFPs and the use of MWESBs.
- Oregon Department of Consumer and Business Services created a green building codes services section in April 2008. This builds on Oregon's reputation as a leader in sustainability and to help grow the state's economy by focusing on:
 - Greater building efficiency
 - Renewable energy
 - Water conservation
 - Low-impact development
- The DCBS is also working with PGE on piloting electric car charging stations.

III. Workgroups

- The workgroups were breakout sessions where similar agencies from each state could talk about common issues they each face.

IV. Joint Discussion with Pollution Prevention and Sustainability Coordinators

- This agenda item involved a joint discussion with the Pollution Prevention Resource Center.
- The PPRC is a non-profit organization that is a leading source of:
 - Education and information
 - Technical assistance
 - Metrics
 - Utility information
- The PPRC was a web-resource topic hub to use.
- They offer solutions to decrease pollution and save money, rapid research, and lean and green manufacturing services.

V. Round Table and Closing

- This last section was an opportunity to discuss sustainability promotional ideas and programs that were working for each agency.

- DAS SPO is working on green purchasing agreements. These include:
 - Green custodial cleaners
 - The Office Max green program
 - OCE recycled ink cartridges
- Agencies were interested in tracking climate change. Suggestions included:
 - Using student programs
 - Tracking and using similar data and metrics
 - Using Clean Air; Cool Planet or the Climate Registry
- Dave Cone from the Evergreen school district was mentioned as an excellent speaker for sustainability.

VI. Adjournment

- There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 3:30 pm

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