

**ADMINISTRATION AND HUMAN SERVICES
STANDING COMMITTEE MINUTES
Monday, October 26, 2020**

The meeting of the Administration and Human Services Standing Committee was held on Monday, October 26, 2020, at 6:40 p.m., remotely via Zoom or by phone. The following members were present: Commissioner Markley, Chairman; Commissioners Philbrook, Kane, Ramirez and Bynum. The following officials were also in attendance: Gordon Criswell, Melissa Sieben, Emerick Cross, Alan Howze, Assistant County Administrators; Misty Brown, Deputy Chief Counsel; James Bain, Assistant Counsel; Kathleen VonAchen, Chief Financial Officer; Crystal Sprague, CARES Act Response Team Leader; Wilba Miller, Director of Community Development; Juliann VanLiew, Director of Health Department; Stephanie Stauffer and Bianca Garcia, Healthy Communities Wyandotte.

Chairman Markley said before I call this meeting to order, I want to announce that due to COVID-19, some committee members, staff, and the public are attending remotely via Zoom as well as on-site. All participants joining by phone should mute their phones when not speaking to avoid background noise.

During the meeting, please make sure you announce yourself by name and title every time you speak that is current guidance from the Kansas Attorney General.

Due to COVID-19 requirements, in-person public comment has been suspended unless otherwise required by law. The public is allowed to participate by Zoom or submit comments by email prior to the meeting and those comments will be included in the record of the meeting.

Chairman Markley called the meeting to order.

Roll call was taken, and all members were present as shown above.

Chairman Markley said we do have one revision to tonight's agenda. Item No. 3, which is to ban the sale of flavored tobacco products has been removed from tonight's agenda.

Approval of standing committee minutes from August 24, 2020. **On motion of Commissioner Bynum, seconded by Commissioner Ramirez, the minutes were approved.** Roll call was taken and there were five “Ayes,” Philbrook, Kane, Ramirez, Bynum, Markley.

Committee Agenda:

Item No. 1 – 20456...PRESENTATION: CLIMATE ACTION KC

Synopsis: Climate Action KC, a metro-wide coalition of elected officials and community leaders working to reduce the region’s carbon footprint, will be presenting the Climate Action Playbook, which contains climate solutions for local governments, submitted by Alley Porter, Commission Liaison.

Alley Porter, Commission Liaison, said the presenter will actually be Mayor Mike Kelly, which Rocki has promoted him. **Chairman Markley** said, oh I see him. Welcome Mayor Kelly. You may take over and begin.



Mayor Mike Kelly said thank you very much Commissioner. Thank you to all the commissioners for the invitation to be here this evening, it's my pleasure. It's always great to hear a little bit about what's going on in our neighboring community to the north, so thank you for the opportunity to be here. I'm gonna share my screen now if that's all right, and dive into this brief presentation regarding Climate Action KC.

When I was elected Mayor of Roeland Park, one of the things I knew that I wanted to do was to work within the bonds of neighborly opportunity that we have in the Greater Kansas City

October 26, 2020

metropolitan region, and found some like-minded governing body officials throughout the region to work together on issues of the day as it relates to climate in the environment, which really when you put the venn diagrams together touches so much of what we are tasked with doing as elected officials including our financial responsibility to our constituents.

So we've formed Climate Action KC previously known as the Metropolitan Kansas City Climate Action Coalition to be an organization that invites not only elected officials but business and community leaders together with the idea of drawing down greenhouse gases, but also promoting the code benefits of the good things that come along with reducing carbon emissions and methane emissions including, but not limited to, financial prosperity, public health in general quality of life.

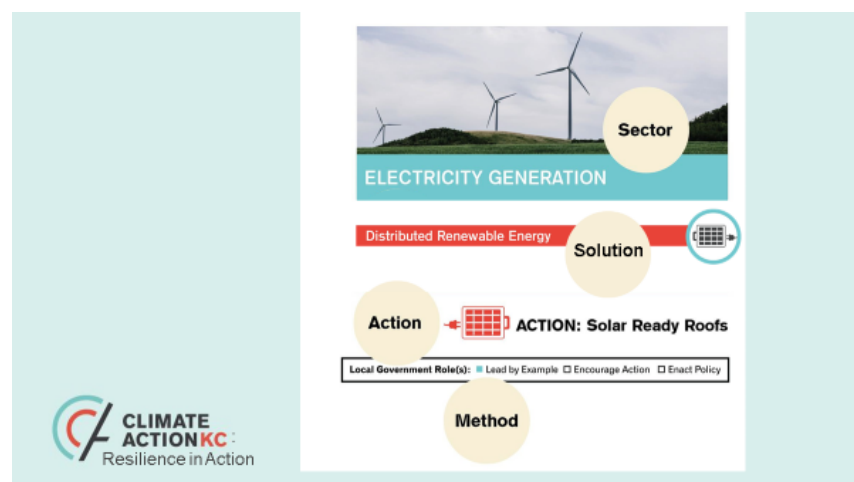


Here on the slide is some of the leaders that have been working through one of our six committees in the last year and a ½ since we've started. In addition to various elected officials, we have corporate partners and nonprofit partners, some of which are seen here, because we believe that to promote these solutions that we're looking to promote, we want participation throughout the community and we're very proud to have a robust, big tent organization to have various viewpoints represented corporate, nonprofit, education and government.



So, in working to promote regional activity, we wanted to first bring attention to the things that municipalities and counties could do on their own volition, things that they can do without any needed authority from either the federal or the state government. So, what we did was work to gather resources with subject matter experts, but as well as talking to other communities throughout the country, primarily throughout the Midwest, to put together what we have called a playbook. What the playbook does is highlights 65 different solutions and categories from land use, to planning, to energy, to buildings and cities, giving specific solutions, categorizing six very general categories, which was framed after a book called “*Project Drawdown*” by Paul Hawken.

Side note, what's really interesting about that book, is that it talks about 80 different solutions. Within these categories, giving 80 solutions brought to scale that they could drawdown the amount of carbon in the atmosphere at the 1950s levels while saving \$3T.

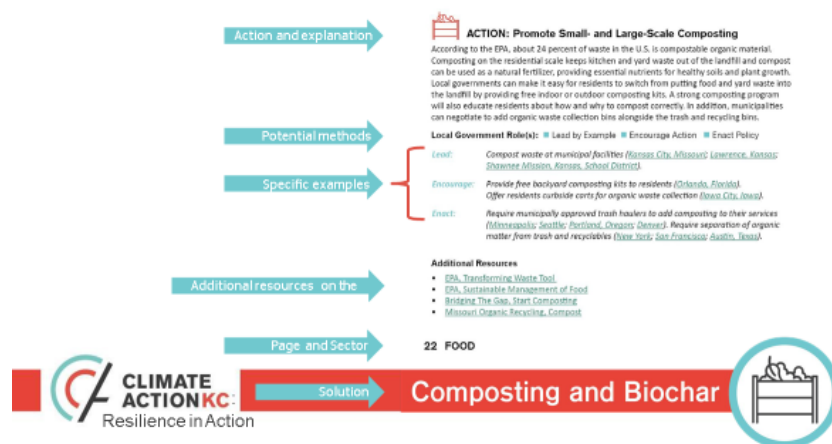


October 26, 2020

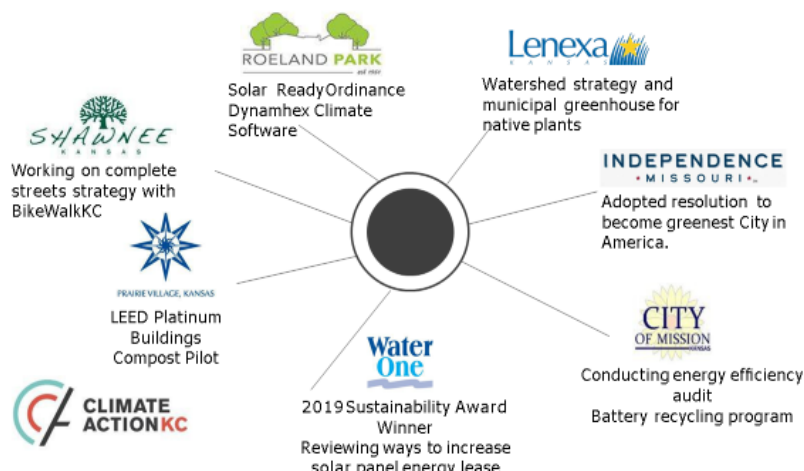
The SIX SECTORS of DRAWDOWN



So, in our playbook we categorize these different solutions into sector, the kind of solution, what kind of action it would require from the government, whether it'd be leading by example in municipal projects, encouraging action through incentives or enacting policy.



Each section has an action, some potential methods and specific examples from communities, many of which are within the Kansas City metro area, as well as additional resources to help cities avoid potholes and implement these solutions expeditiously.



A small example of what some of the cities who are partners with us have been doing are included here, whether it be LEED Platinum Building Pilots, or our Solar Ready Ordinance or Watershed Strategies. There's a number of different solutions within that playbook, which you can find on our website, which is climateactionkc.com and I'm happy to send that information, and some actual tangible playbooks to you commissioners for your reference.



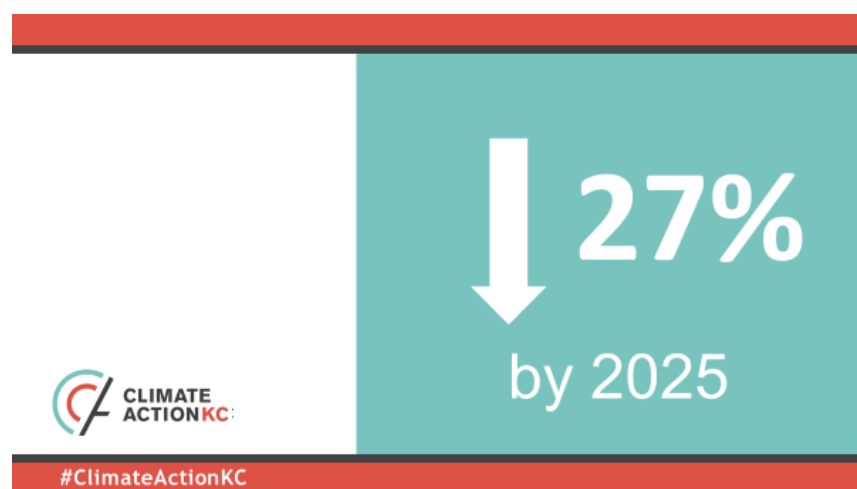
- Emissions Inventory
- Vulnerability Assessment
- Road Map for Resilience



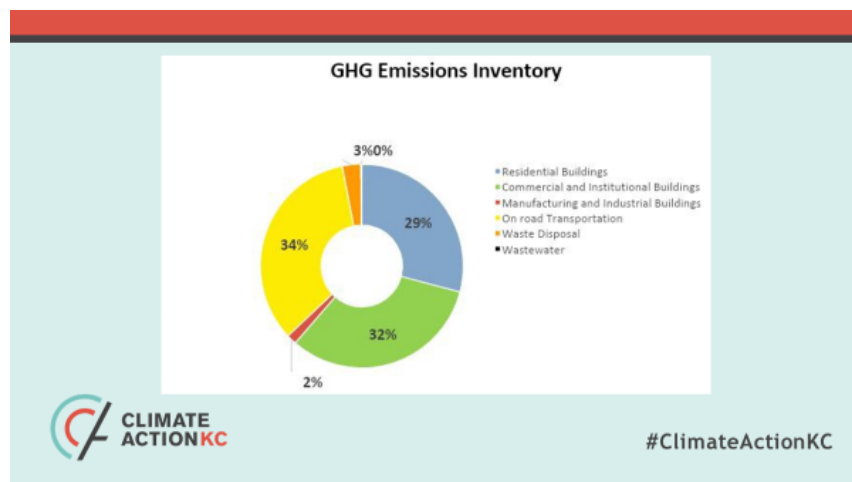
We realize though that as much as we could do within our individual municipalities or counties to make real meaningful action and move the needle for all 2 million plus residents in the metro area, we're going to have to work together. Being a mayor of a city of about 7,000, I realized that I relied so much on the partnership of others for things like trash and recycling services, for water, for energy. So to really have an impact on those things, trans boundary issues like energy, transportation or food we realized we're going to have to work together and we wanted to get a

October 26, 2020

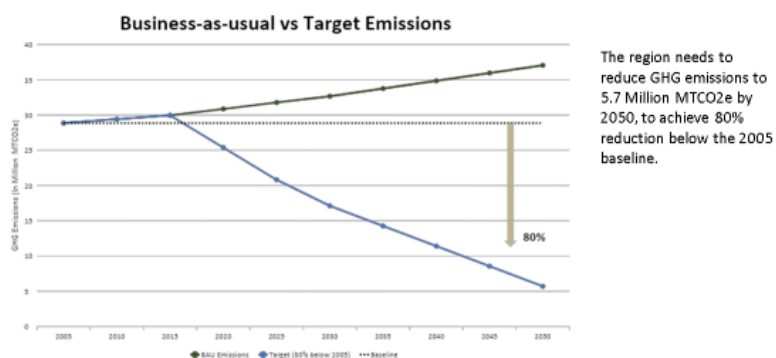
baseline of where we were as a region, so that we could set goals and work towards those and we found a partner in the Global Covenant of Mayors, which is an organization that started in New York but is now worldwide to where one of every 10 people in the world lives within a city that's a member of this Global Covenant of Mayors, and we pitched them on a pilot project that would take a regional approach to climate action planning, a nine county approach bi-state approach. Along with the Kansas City metro region we worked with Washington DC, Chicagoland, and then Metropolitan Denver, to create an emissions inventory for these regions, as well as a climate risk and vulnerability assessment to then inform an actual plan of action.



So, the goal we had initially penciled in was a 27% reduction in 2005 levels by 2025. That would put us in line with the requirements of the Paris Climate Accord, but also have some real tangible benefits in a reasonable timeline. We thought a lot of people like to set goals out in 2050 but we wanted to be held accountable in the near term to keep the deadline fresh. So, with a partner and the technical assistance of an engineering firm that was hired by the Global Covenant called Buro Happold, we worked with all major utilities in town to create this emissions inventory.

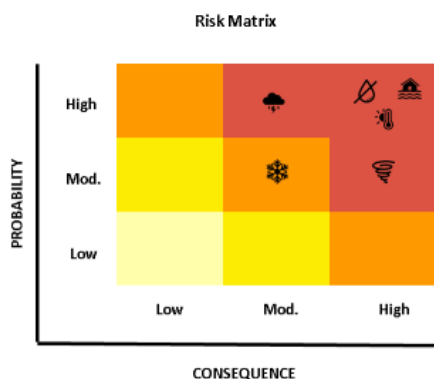


And you can see here, generally the categories that came out of that inventory. Obviously, the biggest emissions sectors are on road transportation, and the building industry, whether it be commercial or residential. Together buildings accounted for about 63% of emissions. We realized that would be the biggest opportunity that we could have to move the needle in the near future for the Kansas City metro region.



As you can see in this chart, we'd have to significantly reduce greenhouse emissions to achieve an 80% reduction by 2050, which is the goal that a lot of people like to throw out as possible but without some changes, we have a long way to go if we keep on track with the business as usual approach.

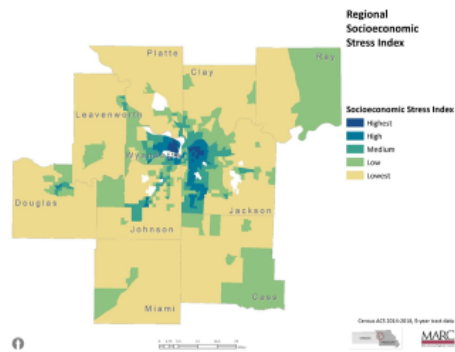
October 26, 2020



Additionally, we did a climate risk and vulnerability assessment looking on-looking at what factors or what impacts of a climate the Kansas City residents are most vulnerable to. It is no surprise that the most vulnerable populations in a region are disproportionately affected by a changing climate and also most vulnerable to the risks.

One interesting study that we'd like to point to was called the Climate Disruption Index. It was created, I believe in 2018 by a group of climate scientists that ranked all of the different metropolitan regions across the country and in doing so, ranked them based on how much they were prone to be affected by a changing climate. One would think that coastal cities would be top of that list, but lo and behold Kansas City, as a region, was ranked number five, as a metro area, throughout the entire country and this is one of the reasons why. When you look at the risk matrix, we have a high probability of things of high magnitude and high consequence; such as drought, increased heat degree days, flooding, as well as natural disasters and increased rainfall and flooding. So, things that we need to be aware of as we prepare for things like infrastructure, reinvestment within our building stock, reinvestment within our streets and our sidewalks, that we be aware of the changes coming to the climate so that we can adapt.

Social Vulnerability Index

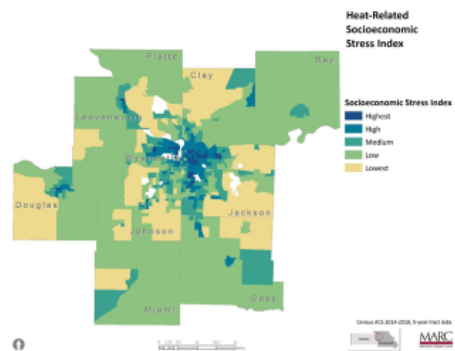


Vulnerability indicators:

- Less than high school graduation
- Non-white population
- Population below 200% of poverty
- Population over 65
- Population 65 and Over Living alone
- Single parent families
- Uninsured
- Unemployed

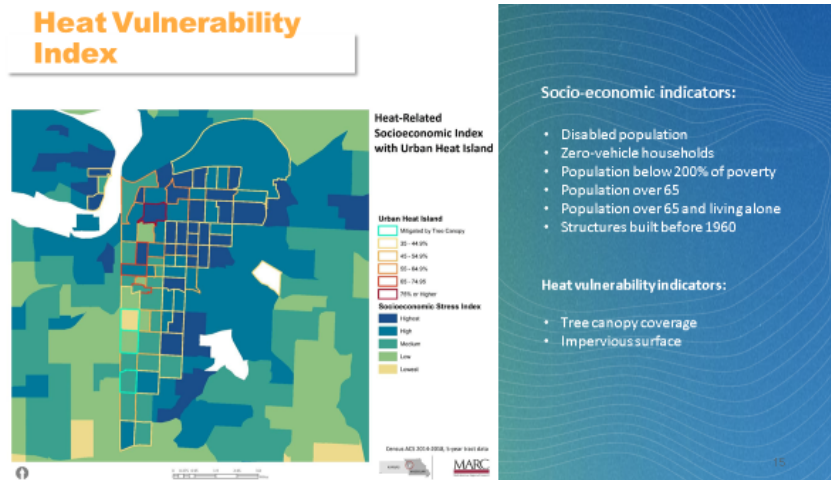
One of the other parts of the study was a social vulnerability index, and again, no surprise that the vulnerability indicators that we saw through the study were those of already vulnerable populations. Those with less education, those who were non-white, who had lower socioeconomic status, as well as the elderly population, or those living alone, as well as those uninsured or unemployed.

Heat Vulnerability Index



Socio-economic indicators:

- Disabled population
- Zero-vehicle households
- Population below 200% of poverty
- Population over 65
- Population over 65 and living alone
- Structures built before 1960



This is the heat vulnerability impact index. Again, similar socioeconomic indicators that indicate heat vulnerability. Here's just a little more granular detail that we have available. The study of which we've released an executive summary, when all the data's in a presentable format, I look forward to sharing the specific granular detail of Wyandotte County with the Commission.

Top actions

Action	Mitigation	Adaption
Complete and green streets	•	•
Expand mixed-income housing throughout the region	•	•
Expand public transit and mobility hubs	•	•
Implement Pay As You Save programs	•	•
Regenerative and conservation agriculture practices	•	•
Increase urban tree canopy coverage	•	•
Native landscapes and decrease maintained turfgrass	•	•
Energy efficiency/conservation programs for all municipal buildings and facilities	•	•
Support green building practices, encourage special certifications	•	•
Expand composting and increase use of compost	•	•
Expand bike- and walk-friendly communities, connect to other modes	•	•

Once we were done with that inventory and risk assessment, we brought together as many Kansas City residents as we could to discuss what priorities we have as a region moving forward. While we had planned and we're excited to have 500 registrants for an event at Bartle Hall, lo and behold COVID hit. So, we moved and pivoted our entire outreach online to a website called Mind Mixer. It's a project of BNIM's Architectural Firm and then Google's Sidewalk Program and we still heard from several hundred Kansas City metro residents on what strategies were priorities for them, and one of them, one that you've discussed this evening already, complete streets and green streets.

A few stakeholder comments....

"Local governments own and operate enormous fleets of all vehicle type. All **local governments** should undergo an energy/green audit to start working towards **reducing dependence on fossil fuel and increasing the use and demand for electric/hybrid vehicles.**"

"The true transportation **game-changer for KC is e-bikes.** They are do-able today, don't need ubiquitous charging stations like cars, and far cheaper. They also make biking in KC a pleasure, with all our hills. Mass adoption of e-biking would complete change how we see our own city."

"The River Market/Columbus Park area is a **"15-minute community"**.... Most things I can access by foot or by bike. Living in the area, my energy use has decreased significantly. Now that I am working from home, I use my car very little. I have walkable access to local farm-grown produce and meat. The neighborhood even has a community garden to grow organic food.."

"Many of the ways to impact sustainability as an individual can be costly. This leaves out a huge segment of the population. A **focus on how everyone can participate is needed.**"

Some of the stakeholder comments, more for things like e-bikes, walkable, rideable 15-minute communities, less dependence upon individual cars but on public transportations or walkability.



So, for the study and for the Climate Action Plan, our next steps, we're in the process of planned development now. We are very deeply thankful and in the debt of the Mid-America Regional Council for a lot of the work that they put in on this. MARC does some amazing things and a lot of the categories in which they have been working for, for decades now, are categories that have influenced and helped shape this Climate Action Plan. So, their transportation plan, their air quality, focus, as well as their green infrastructure plan and playbook, all of which helps to shape this this plan that we are excited to launch at the end of the year, and then from there, we're excited to work with our community and corporate partners to help the actual implementation of some of these strategies.

October 26, 2020

One of the things that we're going to be launching next year is a regional building in energy exchange to help reduce that 63% of emissions coming from our building sector. We are excited to work with not only nonprofit partners, but the robust design community; the architects and engineers in general contractors that form such a backbone of the Kansas City economy as well as with the Chambers Of Commerce to help make some of these solutions more readily available to increase education to our building community about the co-benefits of building weather resistant, energy efficient buildings, and also to empower local governments with not only knowledge, but also collective opportunities for partnerships and procurement of some of these technologies so that we might work together to be more efficient to save fiscal resources in implementing some of these things because there's really great opportunities in partnership.

Along with some of these more meat and potato things, we have committees, working, focusing on education and outreach. A committee focused on the youth. Generation Z is so in tune with this issue.

You've seen great support from folks in the high school and college level. We're excited to have a committee working with them to bring an opportunity for them to voice their concerns to their elected officials. We have a committee working on public policy. We'll have a policy platform for both Kansas and Missouri. We have a committee focused on a summit. Back in 2019 we're able to bring together 750 folks at Johnson County Community College. We had planned to do the same this year, but again the pandemic; but we're looking forward to an event in 2021 and are excited about that. We also have a committee focused on equity. Again, understanding the unique—unfortunately, all too common, but not unique problem of vulnerable communities being vulnerable to a changing climate. So, we want to empower communities with education and opportunities there in and then committees focused on continued education in working with policymakers in the metro region working with MARC, working with the Johnson and Wyandotte County Council of Mayors, as well as the Jackson County Council.

I appreciate the opportunity to share just a little bit and just to throw a lot of information at you. I apologize that I can get very excited about this but I think it's just a really great opportunity for our region to take advantage of things like Kansas wind power, energy efficiency and making our buildings energy efficient saves our taxpayers money. It provides a good leadership role by example and really can help reduce emissions; which has so many benefits for our community, not the least of which is doing our part in the global challenge.

October 26, 2020

So, with that, I want to thank you again for the opportunity to be here and present. I'm happy to answer questions now, and also, I'm happy to answer questions later should they arise and invite all of you to join us on various committees or for educational opportunities to bring some of these solutions back to Wyandotte County. Thank you all very much for your time and for the opportunity to be here.

Chairman Markley said thank you very much, Mayor Kelly, for your presentation. I have one question. It's kind of a strange question but actually you made me think of it and when you were mentioning COVID and going back to your data about buildings and transportation being you know the big biggest producers of air quality concerns. There's been all these stories about air quality improvements as a result of COVID. Is there any thought from your committee about sort of promoting the idea of continuing to have work from home for some employees and how that, I mean, it's sort of a catch 22 for government? If people reduce their office space, that may not be what we want. But, if they have people coming in maybe only half the days of the week, that could continue to have improvements to air quality.

Mayor Kelly said absolutely. It can have an impact on our carbon emissions and our air quality. I think we've seen that Zoom, GoToMeeting or WebEx have all received a big trial by fire here but it's one of the silver linings, hopefully, that we can bring from this pandemic is proof of concept for a change in changing habits that can have a positive impact not only on economically, saving the cost and the opportunity cost and time for a commute, but also from an air quality standpoint, it can have an impact.

So, as much as the pandemic has challenged us all, we hope that maybe one of the silver linings that we can take out of this whole process is a recognition that change is possible; that sometimes we have to take a different lens when we're looking at a problem; but also the necessity of community action and preparedness. So, we're excited about, hopefully, promoting some things like this that the pandemic have shown is possible and, you know, I understand the concern also about commercial real estate and people maybe not wanting to take as much space but at the same time, an opportunity for smart growth and density also then exists. So, I would be continuing to take a different lens on the problem, but you're absolutely right, Commissioner.

Chairman Markley asked if there were any questions for Mayor Kelly.

October 26, 2020

Commissioner Ramirez said yes, I do. Thank you, Mayor Kelly, for coming and giving the presentation and also, Commissioner Markley, thank you for letting me invite Mayor Kelly. Unfortunately, his counterpart, I call her Shawnee Council, Councilwoman Constance, wasn't able to be here tonight. So, I thank you, Mayor Kelly, for coming in and accepting the invitation.

I wanted Climate Action KC to come before us because it's—I've noticed that climate change and sustainability really hasn't been part of our conversation until recently. You know, COVID really came—when COVID came about is when we really started looking at how our government and how we do things to be more green, more sustainable. So, I'm happy that we are starting that and I hope that we continue that because it's very important.

One of the things that I hope to do, recently the city of Lenexa, they voted on the resolution accepting the playbook as possibilities of ways that they can improve their city and be more sustainable. They carefully chose the word, accept instead of adopt so that they would be able to take the playbook and put it, use it, but also make sure that that fits with what the city is trying to do within the means of that city. And so that is something I would like to do for Wyandotte. I am working with Mayor Alvey on that and he is going to be working on with the Council of Mayors to get their perspective so that we can have a more regional approach with Edwardsville and Bonner.

I'm excited that this is going, that this is happening and so I thank you, Mayor Kelly, for coming and being a part of this and starting this. I've only recently been part of Climate Action KC and so I hope to continue to be involved and I hope that Wyandotte, that we continue having these conversations and take big steps in ensuring our environment is sustainable and green and beautiful so, thank you.

Mayor Kelly said, Commissioner, thank you so much, not only for your participation in CAKC's efforts, but for the invitation to be here today and I want to make one suggestion for Wyandotte County, in terms of looking at the playbook. One of the things you might do, is take a look at the playbook and use it as a checklist and you will be surprised that a lot of the good things that you are already doing for your community, you'll be able to tick off and recognize as things that are listed in the playbook. The playbook is not a one size fits all considered an a la carte menu of things that make sense for a municipality, but you'll see that some of the good actions that Wyandotte has already taken for their own accord have an impact on the environment in a positive way; that also then has an impact on carbon emissions.

October 26, 2020

We've really tried to focus on the positive and the CO benefits of these actions about the cost savings in highlighting solutions and in choosing our tone and so we feel like that's something that everybody can get behind. We're a bipartisan and nonpartisan organization. Folks from all different spectrums, as part of the team, because it just makes sense and I'll leave you with one more from a financial argument.

When we were in Washington DC, we had the opportunity to meet with the House Select Committee on the climate crisis and provide some testimony there. One of the groups that was there at the same time was Moody's. Moody's had just bought a controlling stake in a climate in data analytics firm called 427 and that firm, maps the county and a municipalities ability to recover from natural disaster, how climate resilient was your infrastructure in your policies. That leads us directly to believe that a region, based on these matters and their intent behind it is potentially going to have direct impact on their bond rating. So, not only is it a good thing to do, it's a proactive measure for the future. So, thank you, Commissioner. I appreciate the opportunity to be here.

Chairman Markley asked, Commissioner Philbrook, did you have a question. **Commissioner Philbrook** said I have a statement. So, I do appreciate the Mayor coming and speaking with us and I can tell he's very passionate about this subject, and it carries through and thank you so very much. I do know that we, we, the UG have been working on some green things over the years and have slowly started to adopt these things. So it didn't start happening just recently and that we're very bad at tooting our horn about the good things that we do for our community. Just like a lot of hierarchy doesn't talk about everything they've done. They just do it, and they just keep working. So I would say that yes, you're right. I think that if we ticked off of your checklist that we would see a whole bunch of stuff that we have done. I am really excited to hear that you do that climate action case. (Inaudible).

Chairman Markley said we might have lost Commissioner Philbrook there for a minute. Well, we lost you there for a minute Commissioner Philbrook. **Commissioner Philbrook** said uh oh, well. So, whoops! I'm unstable again. I'm just unstable and be careful how you quote that Mayor Kelly. **Mayor Kelly** said I won't touch it with a ten-foot pole. **Commissioner Philbrook** said but thank you. **Mayor Kelly** said you're absolutely right. Wyandotte County

October 26, 2020

has done some amazing things, one of which I'll mention. BPU, just about the cleanest fuel mixture of any of the utilities in town. 40% bio renewables, that's one of the best in the country. You guys can absolutely toot your horn on that and we think there's some absolutely great things going on in Wyandotte County and we're excited to align with.

Commissioner Philbrook said and our lighting, you know, going to the LD. So yes, so we have things but yes, I think there's always more things we can do and thanks for bringing that playbook in front of us. **Mayor Kelly** said thank you for the invitation.

Chairman Markley said, alright, any other questions from the Commission? There were none. Well thank you again, both, to Commissioner Ramirez for bringing this item forward and to Mayor Kelley for spending time with us tonight. We really appreciate it. That information is for information only.

Action: For information only.

Item No. 2 – 20450...ORDINANCE: INFLUENZA REPORTING

Synopsis: An ordinance relating to the required reporting cases of influenza to the UG Public Health Department, submitted by Juliann VanLiew, Director of Health Department. It is requested that this item be fast tracked to the November 5, 2020 full commission meeting

Influenza Reporting Ordinance

October 26, 2020

Health Department Director, Juliann Van Liew, MPH



Unified Government Public Health Department

Juliann VanLiew, Director of Health Department, said good evening. Thank you for having me. I'm going to be quick tonight on this item.

October 26, 2020

Reportable Conditions

- Kansas Department of Health and Environment sets the list of "Reportable Diseases" for healthcare providers and laboratories
 - Currently requires reporting of:
 - Influenza deaths of children <18
 - Influenza, *novel* A virus infection (i.e. NEW strain of flu in humans)
- Many states and localities require all influenza cases to be reported



We are coming to you, requesting an ordinance requiring that our health care providers and our laboratories in Wyandotte County are being required to report influenza cases. So, if you're not familiar, the State Health Department and this is the standard across the country, State Health Department's set what are called reportable conditions or reportable diseases and they have done that; they have a very long list. Those cover the gamut measles, tuberculosis, polio those sorts of things. Right now, the state health department does not include laboratory confirmed cases of influenza on their list of reportable conditions unless it's an influenza death of a child or a novel influenza virus. And this is likely because that would be a massive amount of work for them, they would have to receive these reports from all over the state and that would be difficult for them to do, but at the county level it makes a really big difference.

Why make influenza "reportable"?

- To allow the health department to better track and understand the spread of influenza in the community
- To ensure our ability to appropriately monitor both COVID-19 and influenza
 - Similarities in symptomology may require dual-testing
- To enhance our understanding of how influenza and COVID-19 affect one another at the population level



So unfortunately, at this time, we, at the county level do not receive accurate reporting of influenza in our county. Again, that's because it's not a required reportable condition to the State Health Department. So that really is a problem for our ability to appropriately track influenza, and this season of course to understand the difference between flu and COVID in our community and understand its spread and how it's affecting our population.

What would be “reportable” and by whom?

- Proposed ordinance:
 - *Reporting within seven calendar days:* Reportable to the Director within seven calendar days of first knowledge are all cases of laboratory-confirmed influenza (including rapid tests).
 - *Required reporters:* Physician, Physician’s Assistant, nurse, hospital, clinic, or other private or public institution providing diagnostic testing, screening or care to any person with influenza.



So, this ordinance that we're bringing forward this evening would require that laboratory confirmed cases of influenza be reported to our local health department within seven calendar days. So, typically, reportable conditions in the state of Kansas have to be reported within four hours, COVID-19 being among them. We are not looking to make a stringent, very difficult ordinance for our healthcare partners in our laboratories to comply with. This is really about surveillance and population wide understanding of disease spread. So, that being said, it would be reportable within seven calendar days. You can see here who would be required reporters basically, anybody who's working in health care; physician, physician’s assistant nurse, but also laboratories and health clinics and the like.

Reporting requirements

2020-2021 Influenza Surveillance Reporting Form
 Unified Government of Wyandotte County Public Health Department

Reporting Facility: _____ Phone number: _____

Please email to epidemiology@wycokck.org or FAX to 913-573-6744 each Monday morning.
 Call our main communicable disease control line at 913-573-6712 with any questions.

Date of Diagnosis	Age (yrs)	Test Result	Race/ethnicity	Zip Code	Was Patient Vaccinated?
<i>mm/dd/yy</i>	<i>(<1 for infants)</i>	<i>A, B, unknown</i>	<i>Please include both race and ethnicity</i>	<i>of home residence</i>	<i>If unknown leave blank</i>

Just to give you a quick understanding, we won't be requiring patient level protected health information. Rather we'll be asking for the date of diagnosis, how old they are, test results, race/ethnicity, but not name, no identifying address of that individual, only the zip code, again, so that we can understand what this looks like on a population level. I just want everyone to understand we're not collecting additional PHI or protected health information; we're really going for population level surveillance.

Communications and Logistics

- UGPHD will mail notification of new requirement to all health-related facilities and laboratories in the county.
- Cases may be reported in a basic spreadsheet and sent via fax or secure encrypted email to the UGPHD.
- UGPHD will publish reports of lab-confirmed cases weekly throughout flu season.



And so if passed this evening and then through the Commission, what we would do is mail out notification to all of our health care providers in the county and laboratories. We would also push out through all of our various networks that we have, the Kansas Association of Pediatrics, the many healthcare related folks that we know and work with routinely to make sure that they all know about this change and again the reporting to us will be very basic; it would be in a spreadsheet format sent via fax or secure encrypted email and then we publish. We've already

October 26, 2020

been doing this but we routinely publish weekly cases of influenza, but again in recent years our data has not been entirely accurate, again, because it's not a reportable condition so pretty straightforward. This is something that a lot of states and other counties around the country do require, ours does not, and so this will again give us the ability to have a much better flu surveillance program in our county.



And that's all I have on that.

Chairman Markley asked the commissioners if they had questions for Juliann.

Commissioner Ramirez said I have one and I'm trying to remember where exactly in your—how many counties in the state of Kansas have this requirement? Do you know Juliann? **Ms. VanLiew** said I don't know. I looked for that. There's nobody that seems to be tracking it. So, it's similar in Missouri that it's not state required. The Kansas City, Missouri Health Department did this a couple years ago because they were running into the same issue, so I believe more counties and cities are starting to do it, but I'm sorry I can't tell you that this evening. **Commissioner Ramirez** said okay, no problem. Do you—well, you just said you probably didn't. Does any city or Johnson County have this? **Ms. VanLiew** said I don't believe so. Again, I can't say definitively. They would have had to do it in an ordinance at the local level, but I don't believe so. **Commissioner Ramirez** said okay, thank you. **Ms. VanLiew** said but I want to make sure people understand that this isn't a burden something that we're asking for. This routine reporting is what they do every single day in health care and again we're giving

October 26, 2020

them a seven-day window rather than that four hours to make sure that they have the time that they need to give us the information.

Chairman Markley said I will say, Juliann, I Googled the list of state reportable conditions just for my own curiosity, and it's an extensive list. **Ms. VanLiew** said it is. **Chairman Markley** said so certainly medical providers are used to providing information on these reportable conditions and this just happens to be one that, as of right now, they only have to report, you know, deaths of children due to influenza, but it's a big long list of conditions. Everything from the chickenpox, to HIV, to just a huge list so it was an interesting learning experience for me. **Ms. VanLiew** said I'm so glad.

Action: Commissioner Bynum made a motion, seconded by Commissioner Philbrook, to approve.

Ms. Portley Lott said before we take roll call, we want to make note that it is requested that this item be fast tracked to the November 5, 2020, full commission meeting.

Roll call was taken on the motion and there were five "Ayes," Philbrook, Kane, Ramirez, Bynum, Markley.

Item No. 3 – 20453...ORDINANCE: BAN SALE OF FLAVORED TOBACCO PRODUCTS

Synopsis: An ordinance banning the sale of flavored tobacco products, including vaping products and menthol cigarettes, in Kansas City, KS, submitted by Juliann VanLiew, Director of Health Department.

Action: Item deleted.

Item No. 4 – 20454...ORDINANCE: SALE OF TOBACCO PRODUCTS TO ANY PERSON UNDER 21

Synopsis: An ordinance relating to the sale of tobacco products to those under 21 years of age, submitted by Juliann VanLiew, Director of Health Department.

Tobacco 21 (T21) Amendment

October 26, 2020

Health Department Director, Juliann Van Liew, MPH
Tobacco Free Wyandotte Coordinator, Bianca Garcia, MPH



Unified Government Public Health Department

Juliann VanLiew, Director of Health Department, said we are coming before you this evening to ask that we make a small amendment to our existing Tobacco 21 Ordinance.

T21 Ordinance

- Passed on November 19, 2015
- Why?
 - 95% of smokers start before 21
 - A delay in smoking initiation can mean prevention of life-long tobacco use
- Wyandotte was out front on this, but now after several years of T21 implementation there are improvements to make to our ordinance



Several of you are here at the time but if you'll recall, five years ago, you all passed the T21 Ordinance and what this did, is it raised the age of being able to purchase tobacco from 18 to 21 and we did this; you all did this, which was incredible and really out in front, and ahead of a lot of other folks, because 95% of smokers, nationally, start before the age of 21. So, if you can delay smoking initiation or delay vaping, you know, any sort of tobacco use that can oftentimes

October 26, 2020

mean preventing lifelong tobacco use. As I mentioned, Wyandotte County was really out front on this which was fantastic, but now we're five years in, and there is a whole new body of research and evidence to show that T21 can certainly work, but there's a good way to do T21 and there's an even better way and so we're bringing forward to you this evening a small change to make our existing ordinance even stronger.

Now I'm going to pass to Bianca Garcia, who's our tobacco expert within the Health Department to explain this change to you.

Model Policy

- PUP- Purchase, Use and Possession by underage person
- Model policy suggests removal of PUP language from T21 ordinances
- PUP Laws:
 - Inappropriately Shift the Blame from the tobacco industry/retailers to users
 - Are not an effective approach to reducing youth tobacco use
 - Deter cessation

Source: Campaign for Tobacco Free Kids 2018



Bianca Garcia, Program Coordinator, said as Juliann mentioned, it's been about five years since we passed a Tobacco 21 Ordinance in our community and we've learned so much since then and there are some key things that we've learned about model policy. So, a big one is around, PUP, which is Purchase, Use and Possession by underage persons. So, model policy suggests removal of PUP language from T21 Ordinances and when we passed our ordinance in 2015, it did include this language, and like Juliann mentioned, there have been research that have come out since then and we've realized that PUP laws really are putting the punishment on youth and oftentimes these youth, they are addicted, and that is due to aggressive marketing by the tobacco industry that led to initiation at an early age and so rather than punish them for their addiction, we're not offering some other resources in exchange. So, PUP, what we've learned is inappropriately shifting the blame from the tobacco industry or retailers to the users. We've also learned it's not an effective approach to reducing youth tobacco use. It's really detracting from more effective enforcement measures and tobacco control efforts and along with that, it could deter cessation. So those youth who are addicted may find it difficult to quit and not know really

October 26, 2020

where they can get the support to stop smoking and putting the punishment on them could really even deter that cessation even further.

T21 Amendments

- Removal of Purchase, Use and Possession (PUP) language from our T21 ordinance
- Violation on tobacco retailer vs. cashier
- No punishment on the user



So, what we've learned as a better approach is really implementing cessation intervention strategies that prove to be much more beneficial. With this Tobacco 21 Amendment, what we're proposing is removing the PUP language from our Tobacco 21 Ordinance that was passed in 2015. We also know that the violation should go on the tobacco retailer versus the cashier. We know it's more equitable to place this on the responsibility of the license holder. Also, the tobacco retailer is the one who should be educating employees on the proper practice, along with holding them to a higher level of compliance, and we don't want the punishment to be on the user for the reasons I mentioned on the earlier slide.

Cessation Resources

- Kansas Youth Cessation Quitline- MyLifeMyQuit
- Tobacco Cessation work with Vibrant Clinic



**Free, confidential help
to quit vaping and other
tobacco for youth
under 18**

**Text or Call 855.891.9989
mylifemyquit.com**



So, I mentioned that a better approach would be offering some cessation intervention strategies, and in Kansas, we do have an adult quit line that's dedicated to those 18 or older to help them, really guide them through a quick journey.

As of January of this year, we implemented a new Youth Cessation Quitline called MyLifeMyQuit, and so this one's focused on youth specifically, those under the age of 18 who need help to quit, quitting vaping, tobacco and so it's a text-based service where they get free, confidential assistance through a coach who has been trained on how to work with youth specifically. They don't ever have to speak to this person over the phone so we know that this is much more adapted to the type of population that they're working with.

Along with that locally, I do a lot of work with Vibrant Clinic, who really represents the population and those who are most susceptible to tobacco use; and we focused for a long time on adult cessation, and so youth cessation is something that we're really focusing on this year to provide more resources, work with the providers, the provider team, to implement different strategies based off best practice; that focus on addressing that issue, addressing the needs of tobacco users versus punishing the user for addiction. So, these are some ways that we know will really help the issue versus what PUP law could create in our community.



So, that is all we have. Thank you so much for your time. Are there any questions?

Chairman Markley said so, Bianca, back in the olden days when we had, when the law was under 18, did that law have the PUP provisions in it? Or do you know? I'm guess just curious.

Ms. Garcia said I'm not sure. I believe it did. I think this is something that just as of tobacco 21

October 26, 2020

has come into effect and has become the best practice, we've realized that PUP is more of an issue so prior to raising that age, I believe, PUP language was still a part of that language.

Chairman Markley asked, James, were you going to answer my question? **James Bain, Assistant Counsel**, said yes, I was going to answer your question; yes, I was going to answer that. So, when it was 18, yes. Possession of cigarettes was what was illegal. **Chairman Markley** said thank you.

Commissioner Kane said okay, clarification, I didn't pass it. I think that you guys are overstepping your bounds. I said that in 2015 and I'm saying it now. If you're 18 years old and you can serve our country and you can die for our country, what we're doing is wrong. I disagreed with it then. I disagree with it now and that flavor in tobacco when that comes up, I think I'll line up some people to show you folks how they don't like it and our job is to do what our constituents ask us to do, not what our—well, instead of getting mad. I disagree with you.

Chairman Markley asked other questions from commissioners. If there are no more questions from commissioners, Clerk, I believe we've had a couple of folks who were prepared to speak on this item tonight from the public. **Ms. Portley Lott** said absolutely, Madam Chair. We have two. We have Ginny Chadwick that is in support.

Ginny Chadwick said thank you guys so much for having me. I too am sad that I can't be there in person. I stood before you five years ago as a former council person in Columbia, Missouri, who had passed tobacco 21 here and ask you and Kansas City to pass this ordinance there and as you've heard, we've learned a lot about tobacco 21 since then. I helped communities across the country pass and even worked at the federal level to move the age to 21 and we did learn a lot in that process and we know how important it is for the penalty to go on the retailer who's addicting our kids to a deadly substance and providing sufficient support for our kids. Also, a co-author on a document called *The Tobacco Control Enforcement For Racial Equity* meeting up originally that purchases and possession laws get put on our minority population more often and that we also believe that the law should be criminal. So, this ordinance that's before you will change the penalty structure to a civil structure and put the penalty on the retailer and I encourage you to

October 26, 2020

make the commitments to make your ordinance, strong, and follow what we've seen across the country as communities adopted it because you guys were once the leaders in the nation and for the Midwest to lead on this was very positive, but we want to keep leading and having strong laws and so I encourage you to support it. Thank you.

Chairman Markley said thank you and, Clerk, I think we had one more, right? **Ms. Portley Lott** said yes, Missty Slater, that is in support, and she's with the American Heart Association.

Missty Slater said I am coming to you on behalf of American Heart Association Kansas City, in support of this ordinance, making changes to the sale of tobacco products to any person under 21. In working with partners all across the county and the metro over about the last year to address tobacco use policy, what we realized was these criminal offenses for young people in the county to buy tobacco and that even could potentially lead to criminal records for those young people, and we feel very strongly that this is the right time to fix that. Laws prohibiting the possession and the use and the purchase of tobacco products by minors, as I believe Bianca said PUP laws, we now know that they're not effective deterrence for youth smoking and oftentimes they're not enforced equitably across the entire community or across the entire state.

So, while advocates for these PUP laws really hoped that they could be a part of this multifaceted approach to reduce youth smoking rates. What we have found through studies over the last few years is that there is a little evidence that they are actually having a deterrent effect for youth smoking. PUP laws are oftentimes inequitable because they disproportionately affect youth of color, as well as the low income communities and neighborhoods, use of color, as well as LGBT youth, youth with disabilities and boys are oftentimes more likely to smoke because these populations have really been targeted by tobacco industry messaging and oftentimes, even have more access to the shops that sell tobacco products in their neighborhoods.

So, these post changes that are in front of you tonight are really in alignment with best practices from across the country that make tobacco laws easier to enforce. **Ms. Portley Lott** said you have one minute remaining. **Ms. Slater** said it's easier and more effective to conduct compliance checks on retailers because there are fewer of them and they are known and constant as compared to youth who are addicted to nicotine to move all about the city. So, by amending the community for PUP laws, you are taking a really important step to stay on the leading edge

October 26, 2020

to address health equity and nicotine addiction in our city and I stand prepared to work with all of you, as well as our community partners across the city and across the metro as we continue to improve health and equity, and I ask that you all support the programs for signing those penalties. Thank you so very much for allowing me to speak tonight.

Chairman Markley said thank you very much. Commissioners, are there additional questions or comments, if not this item is for action.

Action: Commissioner Philbrook made a motion, seconded by Commissioner Ramirez, to move this forward for full Commission conversation. Roll call was taken on the motion and there were four “Ayes,” Philbrook, Ramirez, Bynum, Markley; and one “No,” Kane.

Item No. 5 – 20455...UPDATE: CARES ACT/CDBG CARES FUNDING

Synopsis: Update on the CARES Act funding and CDBG CARES funding, submitted by Crystal Sprague, CARES Act Team Leader; and Wilba Miller, Director of Community Development.



Crystal Sprague, CARES Act Team Leader, said thank you so much, Commissioner Markley and yes, Wilba is with here with us, and will join us at the conclusion of this presentation.

October 26, 2020

Planning
Committee
Funding
Priorities
Funding

\$37,330,934



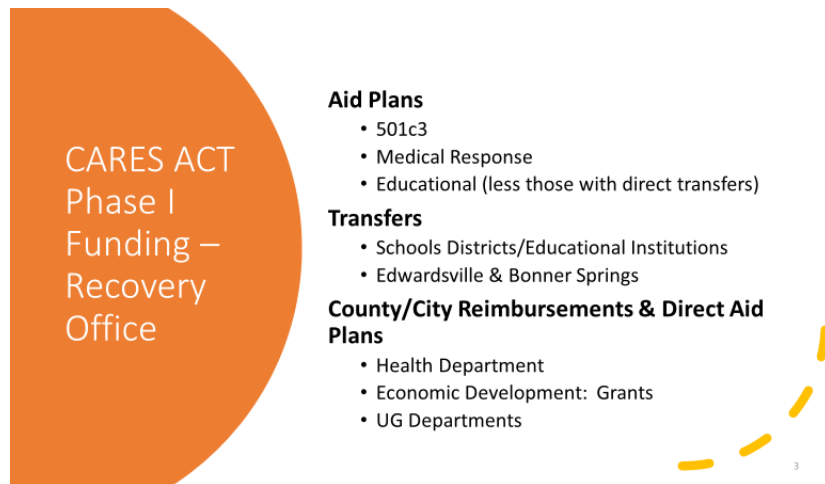
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Thank you so much to the Chair Markley and also to the rest of the committee for bringing us back tonight to allow us to give you an update on the Cares Act Funding. This item is for information only and we'll be presenting some information about phase one, phase two, and Community Block Grant Development Funding through the Cares Act.

For our audience that's joining us tonight I want to provide a little context as to why we are here having this conversation. As a reminder, the Governor's Office of Recovery was tasked with distributing CARES Act Dollars that were awarded from the federal government to the local states. Wyandotte County received an allotment of \$37M in phase one funding.

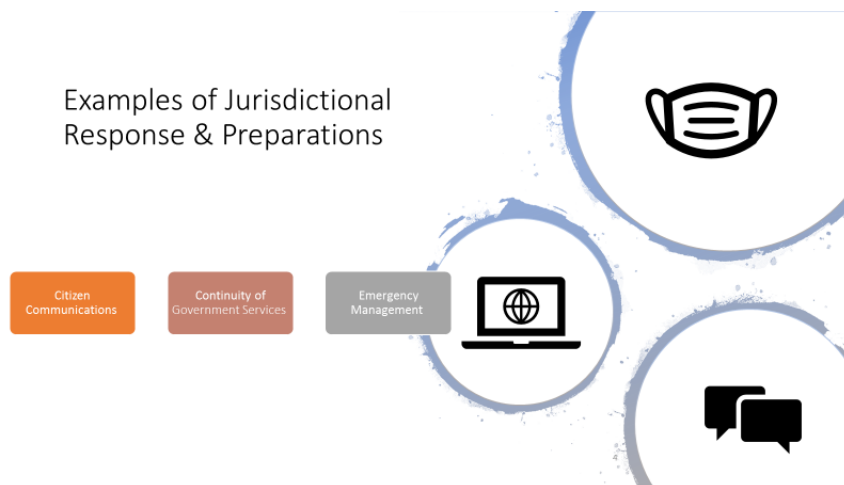
The Mayor appointed a planning committee to plan for and prioritize distribution of the allocation and the planning committee chaired by Commissioner Markley, in addition to Commissioner Bynum and Commissioner Philbrook with the City Manager, Mike Webb of Edwardsville, Matt Zayas from Bonner Springs, Maureen Mahoney from the Mayor's Office, our Chief Financial Officer, Kathleen VonAchen, Assistant County Administrator, Alan Howze and the Director of our Public Health Department, Juliann VanLiew all set on that committee and laid out the priority fundings that are here before you. That's the basis to our update today and how we got started in the CARES Act One funding distribution.

October 26, 2020



As a point of reference, the CARES Act, round one funding distribution from the Recovery Office was divided into three major categories. The first being Direct Aid Plans. These were awarded to 501c3's, Medical Response Community agencies and educational agencies.

We also had direct transfers to school districts and educational institutions, as well as to the city of Edwardsville and the city of Bonner and county and city reimbursement and direct aid plans. This included our public Health Department grants to the Economic Development Department and to UG departments for preparedness, response and recovery from the COVID pandemic.



We want to give you a few updates, just give you some highlights of how these dollars are being put to work inside our community. We want to give you first examples of how the Unified Government is accomplishing recovery in response, as well as preparing for whatever is around the corner in the COVID response need next for our community. I'm going to start by

October 26, 2020

highlighting just three of the series of programs and response efforts throughout the organization here at the Unified Government, and I'm going to start by highlighting the Citizens communication.

The Communications Department used CARES Act funding to play a critical role in the Communications Team's ability to provide Wyandotte Countians with important COVID-19 information education and update. CARES Act Dollars and funding has been used to bolster the team's activity by publishing three, 12-page additions of the *Citizen Newsletter*, that newsletter reaches 68,000 addresses in Wyandotte County. They all also use CARES Act dollars to publish four double-sided direct mailers sent to those same addresses that contained latest information about COVID-19, CARES Act Information, which included testing availability, contact tracing and local health officer guidance.

The Communications Team was able to publish monthly postcards around the radius of pop-up testing locations to keep residents in those areas informed as to the locations and availability of testing. These dollars also allowed the production of material both in English and Spanish which has been a priority in our communications to citizens to promote mask wearing and testing. Commercially, commercials have been produced in air on local television, radio, print and digital mediums. These include the creation of two television commercials, with 15 second and 30 second variations in both English and Spanish and the commercials will continue to run in our area—have started running in September and will continue to run and remain on air through January of 2021.

And lastly, and maybe quite important to this group, and our community as a whole, this funding has allowed the communications team to fund productions of African American and Latina X specific commercials proposed by the Health Department's Health Equity Task Force. This is important because both of these populations have been disproportionately impacted by COVID-19, and the commercials are being finalized now and will enter the existing advertisement rotation as soon as they're finalized. Just a little idea of what the communications—how the Communications Team has been able to use their CARES Act allocations to promote information exchange to citizens.

Other areas that we would highlight today are the continuation of government services. Through an exhausting effort amongst the inner department efforts, we were able to purchase technology to ensure that government can continue no matter whether that be at home because of

October 26, 2020

a stay at home order or some isolation, but also to operate not in an emergency capacity but also fully respond to citizens needs in a remote capacity. We were able to leverage bulk purchases for the entire UG at a cost savings with our provider, and this included the purchase of laptops, cameras and other equipment to ensure that critical functions such as Courts, Clerk's, the Finance Department, the Planning Department can continue to fully operate while abiding by any of those health orders, social distancing and provide citizens access to our services who are themselves are practicing social distancing or under stay at home orders. The purchases have been made, received, inventoried and we're preparing to distribute them now to the departments. We would also mention that the Emergency Management Department has been able to make bulk purchases of PPE, as well as replace stores that were depleted in the early stages of the COVID-19 pandemic.



Small Business Grants through the Economic Development Department

Grant amounts:

- \$10,000 - Businesses with 1-25 employees
- \$20,000 - Businesses with 26- 500 employees

- \$825,000 allocated to support businesses
- Utilized existing small business grant process
- Used for response & recovery to COVID-19
- 113 Applications < 25 employees
- 20 Applications > 25 employees

Distribution process to begin within the next two weeks.

5

Furthering the local jurisdictional response and what was included in the city, county distribution was an allocation to our Economic Development Department for direct grants to small businesses, and these businesses were asked to apply for and provide information regarding their impact because of stay at home orders, because of lost revenue or because of mitigation efforts that those small businesses had to do. The Small Business Grants went through an application process similar to the 501c3 and medical institutions. We used the current structure in the Economic Development Department to ensure that we had the most adequate grant process and selection process for the small businesses.

We were able to release 825 or planning to release \$825,000 into the local community for small business aid. Director Carter's Team led by Shaya Lockett in the small business area of the

October 26, 2020

Economic Development Department has developed, created, advertised, ranked, allocated and registered these dollars or these grant recipients in less than 45 days, which is just absolutely astounding; for that department to be able to shelter and handle that level of interest in our community.

We were able to replicate the application process that was digitized so that we could move this process quickly and efficiently for our small businesses. The Economic Development Department received 113 applications for businesses here locally that have less than 25 employees and 20 applications for businesses that had 25 or more employees. We are happy to say that the distribution process is to begin within the next two weeks. The economic development team will be bringing additional information about these awards and their impact in the small business area of our county at additional and future updates.

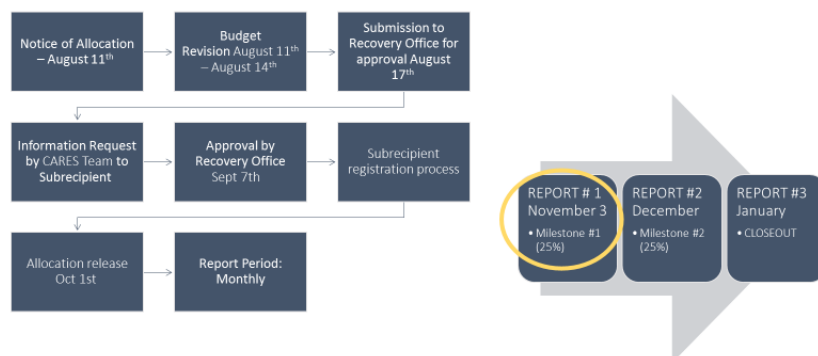
Community Centered Recovery - Subrecipients

- Over \$9 million was allocated to the community driven response – subrecipients
 - Medical
 - Educational Institutions
 - Human Service Agencies



Another area of funding set forth by the planning committee and also approved by the full Commission was a community response. Over \$9 million of our award here at Wyandotte County was issued back into the community to subrecipients. That included those medical, educational and human service agencies. Local schools, colleges, daycares, preschools, small to large 501c3's who fund food efforts, rent and utility assistance in job training in our community we're funded through these dollars. Medical sources for many in the community, which is a vital—which are vital partners to our local Health Department were also funded here.

Subrecipient Path



We know that it is important and critical that we keep information flowing regarding the experience of our subrecipients. We've used this extraordinary process as a testing ground for digitizing processes within the UG. This will be continued during the final phases of the CARES Act distribution, highlighted here which will be the reporting period. The final phase, which is reporting, will be taken seriously by the CARES Act Team. We take the directives of the Governor's Office, the trust of this governing body, very seriously when we act upon our responsibilities to monitor for only eligible uses of CARES Act dollars. Our reporting period for our subrecipients begins just in a week or so and then is followed by two subsequent reports.

Subrecipient Process

- Reporting
- Milestones
- Training
- Information Sharing

- Training for reporting process will be offered via Zoom starting 10.27.2020
- Agencies receiving > \$20,000 received 50% followed additional releases with compliance with reporting & spenddown.

FOOD DISTRIBUTION	
ANKA	913-626-0015
Food Bank, State of Greater Kansas City	913-361-3000
Diets Local Grocer	913-449-0150
Feeding Children's Chefs	913-299-1400
Heavenly - The Community Food Network	913-929-3000
Kansas City Dream Center	913-485-3416
Kansas City Food Bank	913-626-3416

HEALTH - MENTAL / PHYSICAL / TESTING

RENT / UTILITIES	
Hillcrest Ministries of MidAmerica, Inc.	913-490-2573
United Way	913-371-3675
Wyandotte County Economic Development Council (WYCED)	913-748-2272

A little bit more information about our subrecipient process. To support our subrecipients our team will be offering interactive trainings beginning tomorrow for all of our community partners. We want to make sure that they're set up to be as successful as they possibly can. For agencies receiving less than \$20,000, the milestones and meeting those milestones drive the distribution process of the remaining dollars. To meet those milestones, agencies must submit required reporting and have used significant portions of their prior release, financial release. Lastly, to better inform citizens about the agencies that have received CARES Act dollars through phase

October 26, 2020

one funding, we're in the development of a resource list that will be in publication in various platforms; including sharing amongst the community recipients, so that they might be able to better and wholly assist the individuals that come in to their offices for help during this time.

Public Health Response

- Over \$10 million was allocated to the Public Health Department response
 - Testing
 - Vaccinations
 - Contact Tracing
 - Increase staff or dedicated staff



As the public health response continues to require flexibility, our Public Health Department is utilizing the \$10M allocation to respond and recover to ever changing environment that COVID-19 has presented them. They use their CARES Act dollars to meet the needs of the community with testing, contact tracing, and preparation for vital vaccinations.



Adjustments

WYCO CONNECT Project \$2.7mil

Barriers

- Time constraints of current CARES Phase I funding
- Change in local need
- Sustainability of the program

Proposal

- Reimbursement increase for qualifying payroll \$1.5mil
- Testing Site set-up \$650,000
- Increase need for H.D. contract staffing \$500,000

WyCo Connect aims to jointly address the economic and health effects of COVID-19 on Wyandotte County.

- Hire Wyandotte County residents who work as "Connectors"
- Direct service to facilitate testing, contact tracing, and compliance with quarantine/isolation requirements.
- Case-management for those needing assistance accessing health insurance, health care, unemployment, job training programs, housing, utility assistance, food assistance, local government services, and other social services.
- Joint program Health Department, United Way, and the Community Health Council of Wyandotte County.

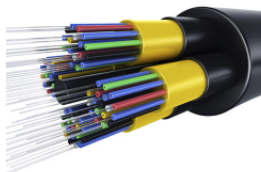
We do, however, want to inform this group tonight that unfortunately we must make an adjustment to the scope of one of the products or one of the programs that the Health Department had budgeted for previously. The Health Department had submitted the WYCO Connect Program as a brand-new program implemented with cooperation amongst the Health

October 26, 2020

Department, United Way and the Community Health Council of Wyandotte County. This project was seen as vital to our future efforts in mitigation for COVID-19, but also provided wraparound services for job training, housing utility assistance and case management. The project was really important to our Health Department professionals, but due to the constraints of the CARES Act One funding, it was a heart heavy decision to decide that redirection of these fundings was the only eligible option.

Barriers included the time constraints of the current phase one funding, which required that the program be wrapped up by December 30th. There's also an ever changing and flexible need within our community and I think we're seeing that with remote testing location set at 78th & State and just the sheer sustainability of the program with such a short funding cycle. So, the Health Department is weighing their options as to the redistribution of these dollars for the public health response. The proposals that could potentially come back to this group are reimbursement increases for qualifying payroll, increase needs at testing sites, set up, and increased need for health department contract staffing.

Again, this was an important program that the Health Department felt could make a lasting change in our community when it came to public health response, but, unfortunately, the reality hit, that with 75 days to go, it was not sufficient to be able to set this program up with any kind of sustainability, I am excited at the end of this, our presentation of the CARES Act One and Two Funding that Wilba will be presenting some options that we have vetted out for you.



Connectivity Emergency Response Grant

The Connectivity Emergency Response Grant (CERG) was created to address the increased need for internet connectivity in Kansas in response to the COVID-19 pandemic. Proposed projects should improve connectivity to unserved and underserved areas of Kansas to address the needs of telework, telehealth, distance learning and other remote business services.

Round II Funding –
Department of Commerce
\$2,823,164 approved

• JOINT APPLICTAION :
• City of Bonner Springs
• City of Edwardsville
• USD204
• Unified Government

• GOAL :
• Expand fiber access for
education, public safety,
economic development
and municipal services

11

I want to provide an update on the Phase Two Funding, the Connectivity Emergency Response Grant. We placed an application, as we told this group some 45 days ago, with the Department of Commerce to increase and expand fiber access for education, public safety and economic

October 26, 2020

development to the underserved areas of our community in our county. That would be in cooperation with Bonner Springs, Edwardsville and USD 204. The Department of Commerce notified the Unified Government that we were selected for this project at our request of \$2.8M to extend that high speed connectivity to those parts of the county.

The Fiber Connectivity Phase Two Team is working through the award requirements and developing guidance as it continues to develop from the Federal Department and the Department of Commerce so there'll be more to come on this particular Phase Two update.



I always like to give you guys some timeline perspective. It's been 122 days since Wyandotte County presented their applications and released the application for subrecipients to apply for funding. It's been 99 days since Wyandotte County's applications were due back in for our subrecipients. It's only been 77 days since the Commission approval of the Wyandotte County CARES Act Funding Plan resolution, and only 49 days since the Recovery Office approved and released funding. We have 65 days left to go with CARES Act round one funding, so I'm happy to report that we are extended at a rate or have contributed community resources at 50% of our award, and we're excited to get some more of those dollars out into the community so that our community can continue to respond and recover to the COVID-19 pandemic.

CARES TEAM

- Alan Howze, Administrator's Office, **Executive Sponsor**
- Crystal Sprague, CARES Act Planning Team, **Manager**
- Deasiray Bush, CARES Act Planning Team, **Finance**
- Lisa Rangel, CARES Act Planning Team, **Administration**
- James Bain, CARES Act Planning Team, **Legal**
- Robbie Anderson, CARES Act Planning Team, **Metrics**
- Dave Reno, CARES Act Planning Team, **Communications**

- Procurement Team
- Accounting Team
- Budget Team
- Building and Logistics Team
- Department of Technology (DOTS) Team

13

With that type of timeline, I would be remiss if I did not acknowledge the team that has been assembled and has continued to work over those last days; all the way from our Executive Sponsor, Mr. Howze to our communications contributor Dave Reno, Deasiray Bush from the Finance Department, Lisa Rangel from Administration, James Bain from Legal, Robbie Anderson from Public Works who focuses on our metrics and also the exterior components to our team. We could not have gotten this far, and we will not finish without to be support from other agencies throughout our organization. In 50 days, these offices have processed a massive amount of procurement bids, payments, allocations, vendor registration. The DOTS Team has received well over 200 pieces of technology and all that protective measures that departments have been purchasing or we've been purchasing for the Health Department, those things all have to be installed so the Building & Logistics Team has really been right there with us.

COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT BLOCK GRANT: CARES ACT ALLOCATIONS

COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT DEPARTMENT



October 26, 2020

So, and yet another type of CARES Act dollars have been the Community Development Block Grant Dollars and at this time I'm going to turn this over to Wilba Miller, who will present some information about those CDBG dollars.

CDBG-CV (COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT BLOCK GRANT CARES ACT ALLOCATIONS)

- There were three rounds of funding for CDBG-CV and the UG received two allocations
- Funds can be used for all eligible CDBG Activities but must also “prepare, prevent, or respond to” the COVID-19 health crisis and economic impacts
- The funds have a six-year performance period but 80% (\$1,715,184) of funds must be spent in the first three years

CDBG-CV 1	\$1,355,838
CDBG-CV 2	\$788,142
Total Allocation	\$2,143,980

Wilba Miller, Director of Community Development, said, as you all know, we got our first round of—or we were notified of our first round of allocations earlier this year. We brought forward a substantial amendment to the Commission for the first round, which was \$1.3M, and submitted it to HUD for a substantial amendment to our regular annual plan. We have received a second allocation of funds from HUD in the amount of \$788,142 for a grand total of \$2,143,980M. As you can see on the slide, the funds can be used for all eligible CDBG activity, but also must be used to prepare, prevent and respond to the COVID-19 health crisis and economic impact. The nice thing about these funds, they have a six-year performance period, but 80% of them or \$1.7M of these funds must be spent in the first three years.

The requirements include meeting the regular CDBG objectives that we have, which are to be used for predominantly to benefit low-and moderate-income households, which are the people who make less than 80% of the area median income. The CDBG allows for many of these eligible activities but based on the current community impacts of COVID and consultation with Crystal Sprague and Juliann VanLiew, we have identified a handful of activities that have the potential to make the greatest impact.

RENT MORTGAGE ASSISTANCE

- Maximum assistance: One-time assistance of up to 6 consecutive months for rent or mortgage payments
- Maximum Household Income Limit of 80% of the Area Median Income
- Will prevent the spread of COVID-19 by keeping families housed

Family Size	Annual Household Income
1	\$48,200
2	\$55,050
3	\$61,950
4	\$68,000
5	\$74,350
6	\$79,850

We are looking to fund the following: rent and mortgage assistance. These funds can be used to provide emergency payments of rent or mortgage for up to six months for income qualified households. Some of the UG CARES Funds have been allocated for this purpose and would probably need to be spent first. Eviction prevention is important in preventing the spread of COVID-19 by decreasing the likelihood that a family will double up with another household or have to enter a congregate shelter or even shelter on the streets with limited access to hygiene.

We will use utilize a subrecipient to administer this program, and a portion of our CD Admin dollars will be used to cover staff time and overseeing these subrecipients. You can see that the 80% of the area mid-income is on that page from a person of one making \$48,200 to a family of six making \$79,850.

FOOD/MEAL PROGRAMS

- Funding to non-profit subrecipients that address food insecurity such as pantries
- Fulfill the increased need due to COVID-19 health crisis

The next slide shows that we are considering food and meal programs. The funds can be used to address food insecurity brought on by COVID and the economic impacts of the health crisis. Eligible costs would include quantifiably expanding or new directional operation costs for items such as food pantries. We will also utilize subrecipients embedded in low, moderate income areas and neighborhoods to provide these funds. Again, a portion of our admin dollars will be used to cover staff time and overseeing the subrecipients.

October 26, 2020

WYCO CONNECT

- A collaborative effort to hire, train and embed approximately 20 Community Health Workers in community organizations to help the most vulnerable populations navigate health needs
- CHW's help residents connect to COVID-19 testing/care (and eventually vaccination), provide health education, and connect families to other COVID-19 related resources such as housing, food, employment, etc.

The next slide shows the exciting activity that Crystal has referred to. After talking to Crystal and Juliann, we determined that we could use some of these CDBG dollars to do sort of a smaller pilot of the WYCO Connect program. This is an effort to embed about 20 community health workers in community organizations to help the most vulnerable populations navigate COVID-19 testing care, and hopefully eventually a vaccination. It would provide health education and connect families to other COVID-19 related resources, such as housing, food, employment, etc. We will partner with the Health Department and subrecipients such as United Way and Community Health Council to manage this project.

WYCO CONNECT- CONT.

- WyCo Connect is a wrap-around approach that includes partnerships with the Health Department, United Way and Wyandotte County Community Health Council
- The success of this pilot could bring further funding opportunities to the UGPHD and partner agencies

The project would involve employing Wyandotte County residents in community health care worker roles at a time when unemployment is high, and because of the breath of the program, the funding would need to be significant. The hope is that this initial pilot can be used leverage to apply for additional funding. We plan to provide a million dollars for direct operating costs and some additional funding for administrative costs for the first year of the program.

ADMINISTRATION AND PLANNING

- Capped by regulation at 20% of total allocation (we do not intend to reach the 20% cap)
- Allocation will be used for Community Development staff time dedicated to the oversight of CDBG-CV
- Allocation will also be used to fund some administrative costs associated with WyCo Connect that cannot be charged to CDBG-CV as “direct operational cost” such as Health Department staff time

And finally, a little bit of the admin and planning costs. We are allowed to have up to 20% of both allocations which would be approximately \$428,000 but we do not intend to reach those, those caps.

These allocations will be used for a portion of CD staff time dedicated to the administration, but we will also use funds to help with WYCO Connect that cannot be charged as operational costs such as Health Department staff time.

ELIGIBLE ADMINISTRATION AND PLANNING COSTS

- | | |
|--|---|
| ■ Providing local officials and citizens with information about the program; | ■ Preparing reports and other documents related to the program for submission to HUD; |
| ■ Preparing program budgets and schedules, and amendments thereto; | ■ Coordinating the resolution of audit and monitoring findings; |
| ■ Developing systems for assuring compliance with program requirements; | ■ Evaluating program results against stated objectives; |
| ■ Developing interagency agreements and agreements with subrecipients and contractors to carry out program activities; | ■ Travel; |
| ■ Monitoring program activities for progress and compliance with program requirements; | ■ Allocable indirect costs; |
| | ■ Submission of applications (24 CFR § 570.206). |

Allowable costs include developing systems for ensuring compliance with program requirements, developing interagency agreements with subrecipients and contractors to carry out program activity, monitoring program activities for progress and compliance, and preparing reports and other documents related to the program for submission to HUD.

BARRIERS/CHALLENGES

- HUD guidance on CDBG-CV has been slow. Many technical assistance tools have not been released
- CDBG can be cumbersome to administer so choosing subrecipients with sufficient capacity is critical
- CDBG-CV has additional reporting/documentation burdens such as additional quarterly reports and Duplication of Benefits
- With HUD there is no “ask forgiveness later”. Any money spent incorrectly could require repayment from the general fund

So, for expediency, we will prioritize subrecipients with knowledge of federal grant funding guidelines and the capacity to fulfill federal requirements. You know, that CDBG is complicated and cumbersome to administer and CD staff capacity must be considered as well. If our funding is used incorrectly and later have monitors and find erroneous spending, the UG could be required to pay back these funds with non-federal dollars so careful adherence to this federal requirement is crucial. Again, all of the activity that we fund out of these dollars must be used to prepare, prevent or respond to the COVID-19 health crisis.

PROPOSED BUDGET

Project	Allocation	Output
WyCo Connect (Direct Costs)	\$1,000,000	~3000 Clients
Rental Assistance	\$750,000	~120 Households
Food/M meal Programs	\$100,000	~1500 Households
Admin Health Dept. /UW (TBD)	\$200,000	Not Applicable
Admin CD (6-year grant period)	\$93,980	Not Applicable
Total Allocation	\$2,143,980	

The next slide shows you the proposed budget, with the WYCO Connect direct costs for a million dollars which could—these are estimated outputs, we're just estimating at this point 3,000 clients, rental assistance, \$750,000 for 120 households. Food meal programs, 100,000 for 1,500 households and then we would share our admin dollars with the Health Department and United Way and another agency to be determined in the amount of \$200,000, and our regular CDBG staff time over six-year grant period, about \$93,980, for a total of \$2,143,980M.

So, we bring this to you tonight. We will be having to have a public hearing and revise our substantial amendment, which will need full Commission approval for submission to HUD. So, we plan to come before the full Commission in November, have the public hearing and get approval for submission. That is the end of my presentation. Sorry I went through it so fast.

Commissioner Kane said ladies, I want to thank you, your staff, for what you're doing. I know it is a huge task, a lot of responsibility and I don't know how you do it. Like you said, in the timeframe that you had to get it done and the money has to be spent precisely on what you're working on, so, I'd like to thank your entire team for what you're doing. I know it's difficult and we appreciate your work. **Ms. Miller** said thank you, Commissioner.

October 26, 2020

Chairman Markley said thank you Commissioner Kane.

Action: **Commissioner Philbrook made a motion, seconded by Commissioner Kane, to approve to move the item to the Full Commission in November.**

Chairman Markley said alright. I don't know. I don't think we—do we need a motion? **Ms. Portley Lott** said no, it's not an actionable item. It's just an update.

Commissioner Philbrook said well then, I still support it and thank you for giving too. **Commissioner Kane** said we all do.

Chairman Markley said the support is duly noted and your appreciation to staff is duly noted as well and it has been quite the undertaking and their work is definitely appreciated. Does anybody else have questions? There were none.

Action: For information only.

Chairman Markley said alright team, that was our last item for this evening. It was for information only so we will see it as a public hearing on our full Commission agenda and that concludes our meeting for the evening. Thanks so much everyone for your attention.

Adjourn

Chairman Markley adjourned the meeting at 8:00 p.m.

tpl

October 26, 2020