

SUSTAINABILITY ADVISORY BOARD AGENDA

(Formerly the Board of Environmental Affairs)

Wednesday, July 17, 2019

Service Center
1100 South Sherman Street
Longmont, CO 80501

3:30 p.m. – Water Conference Room

MEETING CALLED TO ORDER

1. ROLL CALL

2. DETERMINATION OF A QUORUM

3. APPROVAL OF MINUTES OF LAST MEETINGS

A. June 19, 2019 – Sustainability Advisory Board Regular Meeting

4. PUBLIC INVITED TO BE HEARD

5. AGENDA REVISIONS AND SUBMISSION OF DOCUMENTS

6. GENERAL BUSINESS

A. Design Standards and Construction Specifications Presentation

7. OTHER BUSINESS

8. ITEMS FROM STAFF

9. ITEMS FROM BOARD

10. ITEMS FROM COUNCIL

11. ADJOURN

If you need special assistance to participate in a Sustainability Advisory Board meeting, please contact Heather McIntyre at (303) 651-8817 in advance of the meeting to make arrangements.



PUBLIC WORKS & NATURAL RESOURCES

ENGINEERING SERVICES

(303) 651-8330 | LONGMONTCOLORADO.GOV

MEMORANDUM

To: Sustainability Advisory Board

From: Chris Huffer, Engineering Administrator

Subject: Design Standards and Construction Specifications 2019 Update

Date: July 11, 2019

Summary:

Engineering Services in conjunction with Operations, Parks Open Space and Trails, and LPC staff is bringing forward a revision to the Public Improvements Design Standards and Construction Specifications to City Council for approval this year. The last revision to the Standards and Specifications was in July 2007. Since that time there have been many changes in standard practices and guiding documents, so that an update is needed to ensure the infrastructure being constructed is of high quality for the use and service to the citizens of Longmont.

Each of the sections have been updated to reflect current construction practices as well as national and state standards while incorporating sustainability measures as mentioned in the Sustainability Master Plan. The major areas of change include updated transportation design including trails, bike lanes and other multi-modal improvements. The Storm Drainage section also includes language related to LID practices for small developments and redevelopments which do not fall under the Permanent Stormwater Control Permit regulations. The Landscape and Irrigation section revised the public areas plant requirements and recommendations for private property to include more native species and low water tolerant plant material.

Engineering Services is presenting the proposed changes to the Board to provide information and receive comment prior to taking an ordinance to City Council.

Background:

The first Design Standards and Construction Specifications were adopted by City Council in 1993 to address the need for consistent and reliable construction practices to aid in the City's overall asset management. By creating minimum standards, the City is able to provide better service

to the citizens and responsibly conduct ongoing maintenance.

The current standards include criteria for public streets, storm drainage systems, water systems, sanitary sewer systems, arterial and greenway landscaping and bikeways, and electric infrastructure. These standards are technical in nature and apply to the way in which the improvements are to be constructed and are complimentary to the Land Development Code which includes zoning regulations and guides the overall use and layout design for development.

Project Goals

This update to the Design Standards encompasses all seven chapters due to the time that has transpired from the previous revision. In addition to addressing sustainability, Envision Longmont and Development Code revisions, the major goals or revisions for each chapter include:

Section 100 General Requirements: Clarification of the plan submittal and review process as well as the construction inspection and approval process. This includes clarifications to the exception process. Clarification of utility spacing in public right-of-way and excavation and trenching requirements.

Section 200 Transportation: Change of title from Street Construction to Transportation in order to better represent how this section encompasses multi-modal transportation design standards including bike lanes, sidewalks and trails. The update of accessible ramp configurations as well as updates to conform with recent changes to the CDOT standards is a priority. The alignment and geometry of streets has been updated to reflect the most recent AASHTO recommendations as well as the latest MUTCD standards.

Section 300 Storm Drainage: Replacing the 1984 Storm Drainage Criteria Manual with references to the current methodologies of the Urban Drainage Flood Control District. The approach to calculating rainfall intensities, hydrology, conveyance design and storm water storage have changed significantly. Changes include development under one acre is required to assess the total change in imperviousness and offset the changes using LID techniques as described in Urban Drainage Vol. 3. The section will also provide minimum standards for ground water underdrain systems in accordance with the Municipal Code.

Section 400 Wastewater Collection: The overall capacity calculation methodology has been refined to reflect the master planning completed over the last few years. Actual meter data will be used to determine average daily flow for designing new systems and evaluating existing capacity.

Section 500 Water Distribution: The material and construction requirements reflect changes in the American Water Works Association (AWWA) standards and general construction practices. Water meter sizing and backflow requirements will be included to reflect recent State

requirements including backflow prevention.

Section 600 Landscaping and Irrigation: Reflect current best practices including water conservation efforts as well as bringing uniformity to systems operated and maintained by the Operations Group within Natural Resources. There have been modifications to clarify use of raw water irrigation and general construction practices. Large structures that were covered in the previous standards have been relocated to Section 200 Transportation to aid in readability and compatibility through the standards. Extensive work has been done to update the approved materials list to allow greater number of native species and address operational needs.

Section 700 Longmont Power and Communications: Modifications address current design and construction standards as well as provide guidance for small cell facilities. Changes in the power and communication realm have changed significantly and the revisions represent best practices for layout and installation.

Review Process

The draft Standards have been compiled by review committees made up of staff from across Public Works and Natural Resources. A committee for each section was comprised of a coordinating engineer, a senior engineer in the discipline, a construction inspector and an operations supervisor.

The draft is being reviewed by a third party engineering company for conformance with best practices and uniformity. These comments will be incorporated prior to going to City Council for approval.

The draft will be presented to the Transportation Advisory Board, Parks and Recreation Advisory Board and the Sustainability Advisory Board for comment. These comments will be incorporated prior to being presented to City Council for approval.

Public comment is being sought through a city website. We encourage the public to download the sections of interest and provide comment. These comments can be submitted in writing at the Development Services Center or through an email address on the website.

Comments may be accepted through August 1. At the close of the comment period, staff will evaluate comments and present the final document to City Council for approval and adoption through an ordinance.

Conclusion:

Through the presentation by staff we are seeking further comment from the Board that can be incorporated into the final draft for City Council review and approval.

SUSTAINABILITY ADVISORY BOARD MINUTES

June 19, 2019

**Service Center Conference Room
1100 S. Sherman Street
Longmont, CO 80501**

The June 19, 2019 meeting of the Longmont Sustainability Advisory Board was called to order by Chair Pro-Tem Amy Schmidt at 3:33 pm at the Service Center Water Conference Room.

1. ROLL CALL

Board Members Present at roll call: Kay Vollmayer, Amy Schmidt, Jim Metcalf, Wendy Jones, and Kate Collardson

Board Members Excused: Kai Abelkis

Board Members Unexcused: Violeta Manoukian

City Staff Members Present: Robert Love, Annie Noble, Lisa Knoblauch, Brian McGill, Anne Lutz, and Maureen Wallace. Francie Jaffe arrived at 4:36 pm.

Public in Attendance: Pat Connors from Platte River Power Authority, Trista Fugate from Platte River Power Authority, and Craig Williams. Ginny Black arrived at 3:37 pm.

2. DETERMINATION OF A QUORUM

There was a quorum present with five board members in attendance.

3. APPROVAL OF MINUTES – May 15, 2019

Board member Collardson moved to approve the May 15, 2019 minutes; Board member Jones seconded the motion. The motion passed 5-0.

4. PUBLIC INVITED TO BE HEARD

None.

5. AGENDA REVISIONS AND SUBMISSION OF DOCUMENTS

Staff member Lisa Knoblauch stated that Craig Williams would give a short update at the end of the meeting.

6. GENERAL BUSINESS

A. Renewable Energy Panel and Discussion with Longmont Power & Communications and Platte River Power Authority

Pat Connors from Platte River Power Authority (PRPA) shared an update with the Board on their Integrated Resource Plan, which is done every five years. Each update lays out where they want to go and what the impacts of their direction will be.

Currently PRPA is at thirty percent carbon free energy, a combination of hydro, wind, and solar powered energies. Wind and solar power availability will be ramped up in 2020, with full output in 2021. PRPA is working to get a long-term trajectory in place and is exploring a variety of energy resources for future use, keeping reliability of service as its primary goal.

Due to lack of storage for alternative energy sources and current costs associated with that storage, it is not likely that PRPA will be able to *completely* eliminate fossil fuels, but the Integrated Resource Plan (IRP) does include retiring their last coal plant “Rawhide” by 2030, thus eliminating use of coal. They will still need to use gas to power some of their energy so that they can keep their costs to customers reasonable. PRPA anticipates completing the IRP for the next five years by the end of June.

Longmont Power & Communications (LPC) Staff member Brian McGill explained the current LPC rate structure for customers using renewable energy as compared to the standard energy residential rates, particularly addressing the difference in the significantly higher monthly customer charge for residents using self-generated energy. Since there is no guarantee that self-generating energy customers will purchase energy from LPC, all of their fixed costs have been placed in the standard energy residential service. However, self-generating customers do receive a lower energy rate and LPC does purchase back energy at the retail rate at this time.

LPC is currently conducting a rate study for 2020 rates, which will be finalized and taken to City Council in August. Council will make the final decision on where the rates will be set. Further discussion was had with the Board about the rates and their feasibility compared to other neighboring cities.

7. OTHER BUSINESS

Staff member Knoblauch introduced Craig Williams, a graduate student at CU Boulder working on his graduate capstone project. Craig presented his project to the Board, particularly focusing on his work with Staff member Knoblauch on a progress analysis for the City’s sustainability plan.

8. ITEMS FROM STAFF

Staff member Knoblauch asked for volunteers to help with the Sustainability tent at Rhythm on the River in the evenings of July 12-13.

9. ITEMS FROM BOARD

Board member Collardson asked about the City's policies on watering at City parks. Staff members Knoblauch and Francie Jaffe

10. ITEMS FROM COUNCIL LIAISON

None.

10. ADJOURN

The meeting was adjourned by Chair Pro-Tem Schmidt at 4:47 pm.

The next regular meeting of the Longmont Sustainability Advisory Board is scheduled to be held on Wednesday, July 17, 2019, at 3:30 pm at the Service Center, 1100 South Sherman Street, Longmont, Colorado 80501.

Amy Schmidt, Chair Pro-Tem

Date

Maureen Wallace, Recording Secretary

Date