Session Block #2 – Putting “Action” into your Climate Action Plan: Energy Master Planning

Salon D
Level: All - Track: Implementation

Wednesday, June 26, 2019
4:15 – 5:30 PM

Notes prepared by Dario Bobeda, Corpsmember at California Conservation Corps and Gina Mongiello-Lopez, Undergraduate at University of California, Davis

Speakers:
Ken Loman, City of Woodland
Brian Barnacle, Energy Solutions
Karly Zimmerman Fogg, TerraVerde Energy
Rick Brown, TerraVerde Energy

Session Summary:
Ken Loman, the Environment Sustainability Manager from the City of Woodland, spoke about how Woodland, CA is a case study for Energy Master Planning. Many projects in the city, such as street light retrofits, Water Purification Facility upgrade, solar project construction, need a clear ROI and a plan to bring all of these projects together because local governments are risk averse. Brian Barnacle from Energy Solutions defines the challenges that the procurement of energy assets poses to local governments. While there are lots of procurement pathways and opportunities, the risks associated with those opportunities are just as numerous. Karly Zimmerman Fogg details effective energy planning, the data and investments needed, and stresses that filling knowledge gaps is crucial to a successful energy plan.

Data collection is important in determine where to start, what kind of effort is required, and what other benefits will be felt. Need to figure out how to address challenges faced by cities and counties; how best to do energy projects at facility levels that coincide with climate action plans. Have developed energy master planning approach intended to address those challenges; creates a road map that clearly defines the goal and implementation that will reach that goal. Identify planning and monitoring impacts of projects to control energy costs and optimize existing assets.

What are some words, phrases, or ideas that capture what practitioners need in order to successfully meet California’s energy and climate goals?
Filling knowledge gaps, proactively planning for energy fluctuations and creating innovative master plans. Data collection is what is really going be most crucial in establishing achievable pathways to that ultimate goal.

What was inspirational or hopeful about this session
Being proactive and thinking about future problems instead of reacting to climate issues as they happen, hopefully spreading that mindset to all sections of government to adapt and become more resilient to climate change while being energy efficient.

The most inspirational aspect of this discussion is seeing these companies collaborate to help agencies reach their energy goals. Sometimes we get caught up in what we do as individuals that we forget to extend our hand
to those trying to do the same thing who need help and those extending out their hands to help us. With organizations like these working together, it seems impossible that we as a state won’t get to our emission goals, if not surpass them.

Quotes:
“Hard to make HVAC and other energy utilities other than electricity to look “sexy” but there is work being done.”