Climate Preparedness and Resilience

Brief Remarks
Ohio University Voinovich School of Leadership and Public Affairs
2014 CE3 Energy Webinar Series
“THE BIGGER PICTURE: How Global Climate Research Impacts Ohio”
April 16, 2014

Hon. Paula Brooks
Franklin County Commissioner
Member, President’s Task Force on Climate Preparedness and Resilience
Franklin County

Top-Level Commitment to Sustainability

2006: Franklin County Commissioners established County’s commitment to goals of environmental protection and economic growth.

Through resolution and action, County expressed its intention to promote sustainable principles in policy decisions and programs.

2012: Franklin County becomes the fastest growing county in Ohio.
Franklin County

Resolution 683-06: Solidifying Franklin County’s Commitment to the Mutually Compatible Goals of Environmental Protection and Economic Growth and the Commitment to Promote Sustainable Practices in Policy Decisions and Programs

Adopted August 29, 2006

- Promotes the purchase and use of products and services that enhance environmental, social and economic health.
- Develops waste management policies that reduce the amount of materials directed to landfills.
- Improves air quality via fleet management practices concerning vehicle performance and use of alternative fuels.
Franklin County

Green Initiative Contract Language

Section 11.01 – Created as a result of 683.06 for Formal Competitive Bids over $25,000

- Purchase goods that are manufactured using the least amount of new materials, the least amount of energy for their production and which make the least contribution to environmental pollution.
- Intent to do business with providers of goods and service who promote sustainable environmental policies within their own businesses and while doing business with Franklin County.
- Requires vendors provide information concerning manufacturing processes, percentage amount of recycled material, percentage amount of item that can be recycled, and whether product meets EPA standards or has received certification/approval from an independent third party organization.
  *Green Seal, Indoor Advantage, Eco Logo or Energy Star
Franklin County

Resolution 435-08

Adopted May 20, 2008

- Resolution establishing a County policy on recycled paper usage and conservation
- Requires all Commissioner Agencies to purchase paper that contains a minimum of 30% post-consumer recycled content in hopes of reducing the purchase and use of virgin copy paper products.
- The policy also encourages two-sided printing and copying, greater recycling of used paper, preference for electronic transmission of documents to reduce paper consumption.
Franklin County Building Retrofit

• **2009**: $27 million retrofit of facilities emphasizing green tech yielding **$55 million** return on investment.
Franklin County

Resolution 909-11

Adopted December 13, 2011

- Resolution authorizing a purchasing policy regarding the requirements for all purchases made under the authority of the Board of Commissioners
- Built on Resolutions 683-06 and 435-08, as well as Section 11.01
- Requires that all vendor quotes provide information concerning the manufacturing processes used to produce their offered product including:
  - The percentage amount of recycled material contained in the product
  - The percentage amount of the item that can be recycled
  - Whether the product meets EPA standards or has received certification/approval from an independent third party organization such as “Green Seal”, “Indoor Advantage”, “Eco Logo” or “Energy Star”.
Franklin County

Other Examples of Success

- Required vendor to provide E85 and bio-diesel fuel.
- Current Franklin County Fleet makeup:
  - 186 of 420 (44.3%) of all Commissioner-owned vehicles utilize alternative fuels (177 unleaded E85, 8 unleaded hybrid, 1 diesel hybrid).
- **Fuel:** Waste oil helps operate building heating systems saves natural gas.
- **Paint Supplies:** bidders must provide paints and supplies that enhance environmental health where feasible.
- **Furniture:** furniture meets green guard requirements, 70% recycled material.
Franklin County

New Buildings

Common Pleas Courthouse
- Only LEED Gold Courthouse in Midwest
- 314 Jobs Created or Retained
- Opened June 2011

Dog Shelter & Adoption Center
- LEED Silver
- 39 Jobs Created or Retained
- Opened September 2011

Franklin County recently ranked No. 28 nationally for counties with the most ENERGY STAR-certified buildings
Energy Saving Projects

Rooftop Photovoltaic Solar Generating Project:

- Reduces Franklin County’s energy usage as much as taking five homes off the electric grid
- Reduced carbon footprint by more than 35 tons in first five months
- Removed lighting from the grid

Lighting Retrofit Project:

- Lighting upgrades in 5 county facilities
- Estimated annual savings of 2,546,280 kWh

An Alternative Energy County

- Franklin County designated an “Alternative Energy County” under Ohio Law in March 2013. Creating Columbus transportation arrangement.
- Reduces tax burdens on renewable and advanced energy production
- Combined, Columbus/Franklin County has the largest local government solar installation in Ohio
- Your county can become an Alternative Energy County too!
Franklin County Waste

Major Accomplishment:
- More than **46,800 pounds** or **23 tons** of food waste and compostable materials have been diverted from the landfill since the Program’s inception—this is the equivalent of CO2 emissions generated by the consumption of **2,250 gallons of gasoline**.
Presidential Task Force on Climate Preparedness and Resilience

- Franklin County leadership recognized when Commissioner Brooks was appointed to serve on the Bipartisan Task Force on Climate Preparedness and Resilience established Nov. 1, 2013 by President Obama via Executive Order (E.O. No. 13653).
- An initiative with basis in the President’s Climate Action Plan released June 2013.
Bipartisan Task Force Members

Governor Neil Abercrombie (HI)
Governor Jerry Brown (CA)
Governor Eddie Calvo (GU)
Governor Jay Inslee (WA)
Governor Jack Markell (DE)
Governor Martin O’Malley (MD)
Governor Pat Quinn (IL)
Governor Peter Shumlin (VT)

Mayor Ralph Becker (Salt Lake City, UT)
Mayor James Brainard (Carmel, IN)
Commissioner Paula Brooks (Franklin County, OH)
Supervisor Salud Carbajal (Santa Barbara County, CA)
Bipartisan Task Force Members Cont.

Mayor Frank Cownie (Des Moines, IA)
Mayor Bob Dixson (Greensburg, KS)
Mayor Eric Garcetti (Los Angeles, CA)
Mayor George Heartwell (Grand Rapids, MI)
Mayor Kristin Jacobs (Broward County, FL)
Mayor Kevin Johnson (Sacramento, CA)
Mayor Michael Nutter (Philadelphia, PA)
Mayor Annise Parker (Houston, TX)
Mayor Patsy Parker (Perdido Beach, AL)
Mayor Madeline Rogero (Knoxville, TN)
Mayor Karen Weitkunat (Fort Collins, CO)
Mayor Dawn Zimmer (Hoboken, NJ)

Karen Diver, Chairwoman,
Fond du Lac Band of Lake Superior Chippewa (MN)
Reggie Joule, Mayor, Northwest Arctic Borough (AK)

Staffed by the Department of State,
the Department of the Treasury,
the Department of Defense,
the Department of Justice,
the Department of the Interior,
the Department of Agriculture,
the Department of Commerce,
the Department of Transportation,
the Department of Energy,
the Department of Homeland Security,
the Army Corps of Engineers,
the Environmental Protection Agency,
the Office of the Director of National Intelligence,
the Council of Economic Advisers,
the National Economic Council,
the Office of Management and Budget
Task Force Subgroups

• **Built Systems**: Transportation, Water, Energy, and Facilities Infrastructure
  – Commissioner Brooks serving as chair for Energy Sector

• **Natural Resources and Agriculture**

• **Disaster Preparedness and Response**

• **Communities**: Human Health and Community Development

June 2012 derecho featured in AEP & Storm Resiliency: Improving Distribution and Transmission Infrastructure to Better Withstand Severe Weather.
Task Force Mission

Provide the President with recommendations on how the Federal Government can...

- **Remove** barriers
- **Create** incentives
- **Modernize** Federal programs to **encourage investments, practices, and partnerships** that facilitate **increased resilience to climate impacts**.
- **Without more tax dollars!**
More Frequent and More Severe Weather Events

- 2008: Tail of Hurricane Ike
- 2012: Midwest Derecho & Heat Wave
- 2014: Polar Vortex

Flooding from a water main break in January
(Credit: Adam Cairns, The Dispatch)

Downed tree on Franklin Ave. after June 29, 2012 storm.
(Credit: Fred Squillante, The Dispatch)

A man carries a child away from the wreckage after the catastrophic EF5 tornado that stuck Joplin, Mo., in 2011
(Credit: via KOMU NBC 8, Columbia, Mo.)
New Federal Action and Tools

- **Climate Data Initiative (2014)**
  - Collaboration between NASA, National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA) and nation’s top private-sector innovators
• National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA) National Climatic Data Center
  — Provides public access to data on the Nation’s historical weather and climate information.
  — Visit ncdc.noaa.gov
• **Strategy to Cut Methane Emissions (March 2014)**
  
  – Methane is more than 20 times more impactful on climate change than CO\textsubscript{2}
  
  – Reducing methane emissions benefits the economy, climate change, and public health & safety
    
    • Economic: Power generation
    • Climate Change: Near term benefits to the atmosphere
    • Public Health & Safety: Improved air quality and recovery of methane

![Environmental Protection Agency Graphic on Methane Emissions and Trends 1990-2011](image-url)
Timeline

- Dec. 10, 2013: First Task Force Meeting,
- Feb. 13, 2014: Second Task Force Meeting,
- May 14, 2014: Third Task Force Meeting,
- July 2014: Final Task Force Meeting
- November 2014: Final Report Delivered to President

Your Input Needed Now!!
How You Can Help

• Visit: whitehouse.gov/administration/eop/ceq/initiatives/resilience/taskforce
• Submit your recommendations on how the Federal Government can remove barriers, create incentives and modernize programs
• Download and submit surveys for the Built Systems and Natural Resources and Agriculture subgroups.
• Share your story!

We need your fresh ideas!

Submit your recommendations to http://www.franklincountyohio.gov/commissioners/paula-brooks/task-force.cfm
Act Now for our Future Generations!
Paula Brooks
Franklin County, Ohio Commissioner
Member, President’s Task Force on Climate Preparedness and Resilience
Chair, Energy/Renewables Subcommittee for Energy Environment and Land Use Steering Committee, National Association of Counties
Member, Franklin County EMA

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Questions?