



REGIONAL TRANSPORTATION COMMISSION

Metropolitan Planning • Public Transportation & Operations • Engineering & Construction

Metropolitan Planning Organization of Washoe County, Nevada



Sustainability In Action

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2017 Bus & Paratransit Conference
Reno, NV



RTC Background

- Established in 1979
- Serves 3 Major Roles
 - Transit Provider
 - Regional Road Builder
 - Metropolitan Planning Organization (MPO)

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Project Background

- Sustainability Initiatives
 - Warm-Mix Asphalt Technique - 2007
 - LEED Certified Transit Stations - 2008 & 2010
 - Solar Panels Installed - 2011
- Signed APTA Sustainability Commitment - 2011
- Adopted Sustainability Policy - 2011
- Fiscal & Staffing Constraints Disrupted Momentum

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Taking the First Step

- July, 2016 – Began Developing Sustainability Plan
 - Develop Sustainability Inventory
 - Identify Existing Sustainability Efforts Previous 5 Years
 - Create Plan Guiding Next 5 Years
 - Apply for (& Achieve) Higher APTA Recognition Level

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APTA Guidance & Support

- Great Resources Available

- APTA Recommended Practice for Quantifying and Reporting Transit Sustainability Metrics
- APTA Recommended Practice for Quantifying Greenhouse Gas Emissions from Transit
- APTA Transit Emissions Quantifier Tool
- APTA Sustainability Commitment
- APTA Staff (Mark Teschauer)

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Diving In

- Tapping Into Organizational Knowledge
 - Inter-Departmental Working Group
 - Opportunity to Break Down Silos
 - Laundry List of Initiatives – 22 Completed/
On-going initiatives
- Compiling Inventory from Past 5 Years
 - Tons of Data
 - Billing Nuances
 - 1 Year < 5 Years

Making Progress

- Working Group
 - Thinking of Sustainability Differently
- Sustainability Inventory
 - Identifying Achievements in Sustainability
 - 32.3% reduction in Facility Energy Use
 - 15.1% reduction in Criteria Air Pollutants
 - 23.9% reduction in Waste Generation
- Short & Long-Term Goals/Strategies

Short-Term Goal Highlights

- Establish Paperless Proposals Strategy
- Provide Composting Infrastructure at Terminal Facility
- Install Low Impact Development Stormwater Infrastructure at Transit Facilities
- Install Solar Powered Lighting at Transit Stations
- Retrofit Terminal, Sutro, and Villanova Facilities with LED Interior and Exterior Lighting
- Adopt Fleet Electrification Policy
- Adopt Idling Policy

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Reduction Targets

5% - Reduction Targets (2 Required):

- Reduce Facility Energy Use by 5%
- Increase Recycling/Waste Diversion by 5%
- Reduce Criteria Air Pollution by 5%

2% - Reduction Targets (2 Required):

- Reduce GHG Emission and GHG Savings by 2%
- Reduce Operating Expense by 2%

Stretch Goals

Stretch Goals:

- Reduce Paper Use by 10%
- Increase Alternative Mode Split in BRT Corridors by 2%
- Increase Vanpools by 5%
- Increase Energy Efficiency of Facilities by 20%
- Add 15-20 New Electric Buses Over Next 5+ Years
- Implement EMS, SMS and/or ISO 14001 at Major Transit Facilities



Outcomes

- Comprehensive Sustainability Plan Across All Departments
- Quantifiable Achievements
 - Show Environmental & Fiscal Benefits from Efforts
 - Provide Justification for Future Efforts
- APTA Sustainability Commitment Application - Silver (Anticipated Decision in May)



Lessons Learned

- Just Do It
- Inventory is Eye-Opening
- Buy-in From Leadership is Key
- APTA Has Great Resources

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Questions?

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