

## CAMPUS PLANNING COMMITTEE

October 21, 2009

2:30 – 4:00PM

Room 404 Plant Science

Meeting Minutes

**Attendees:** Jim Adams, Mina Amundsen, Steve Beyers, Tom Cole, Jeff Chusid, Jessie Dimick, Ken Downey, Steve Erber, Tanya Husick, Marianne Krasny (Co-Chair), Jason Moore, Don Rakow, Deni Ruggeri, Stephan Schmidt (Co-Chair), Mike Tomlan.

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Marianne Krasny opened the meeting followed by introductions of those present.

### **Cornell's Climate Action Plan (CAP)– Presenter Steve Beyers**

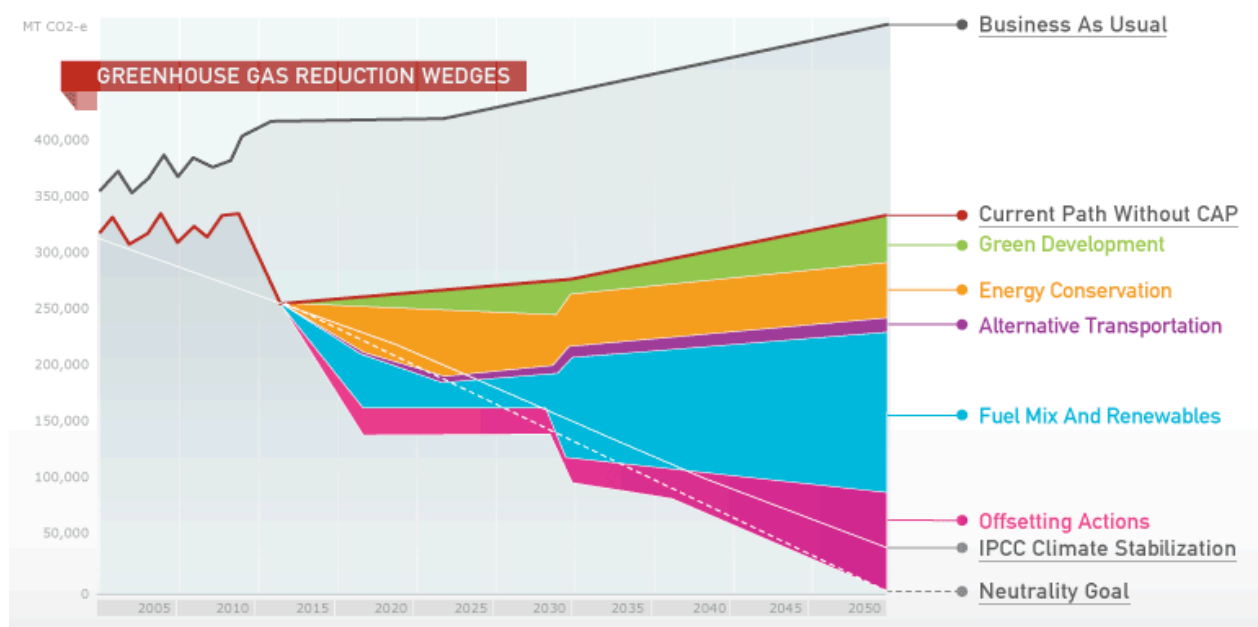
Steve Beyers presented Cornell's Climate Action Plan and walked us through the planning process they used which involve: Discovery, Ideation, Analysis, Plan Creation and Execution.

“Cornell's new Climate Action Plan, released Sept. 15, will not only make the university far more energy efficient but also could save Cornell hundreds of millions of dollars over the next 40 years.

Presented entirely [online](#) in a paperless format, the plan seeks to enhance the university's core mission of academics, research and outreach, while cutting net carbon emissions to zero by 2050. The plan includes 19 specific actions across five key areas -- green development, energy conservation, fuel mix and renewable energy, transportation, and carbon offsetting actions.”(Cornell Chronicle On-line, September 15, 2009)

### **Discussion**

- **Emissions Forecasts:** The slide below was the basis for much discussion.



- Mike Tomlan inquired about the upturn at the year 2030 point on the slide above. Steve Beyers and Jim Adams answered that this is the point where it is projected Cornell would be going off the use of coal completely.

Mike Tomlan also asked if the areas outside the Ithaca campus are included; for example Geneva and Weill Medical College? The Campus Master Plan boundary for the Ithaca campus was used for CAP. Weill is not included in the CAP, however, Geneva is interested in similar planning.

Marianne Krasny asked if the Alternative transportation calculations/estimates included air travel, which it did.

Jeff Chusid asked, in the calculations used for buildings, How far back did the team pool the energy costs? For example, did they take into consideration the energy used in creating materials used in construction of the building? Steve Beyers didn't think that was taken into consideration.

- **Document Updating:** Mina Amundsen asked for confirmation that this is indeed a living document, which it is and can be found at:  
<http://www.sustainablecampus.cornell.edu/climate/index.cfm>

There was a question re: future infrastructure, whether the benefits of net new vs. upgrades to existing had been calculated.

Mike Tomlan inquired if there is a process in place for updating information? Also, How could faculty facilitate research that could assist in quantifying emission forecasts for the Climate Action Plan (CAP)? Steve Beyers indicated that they are working on a process for updating the information, the document will be updated every 2 years. Right now funds are extremely limited so not sure how they would work to facilitate faculty research.

Deni Ruggeri asked how the CAP would get input to avoid mistakes and wrong information?

Jeff Chusid suggested tapping the local resources of faculty for involvement and expertise.

- **Green Development:** Marianne Krasny noted that the Fernow Hall Renovation will actually cause the building to use more energy, what are the plan's expectations for renovation of old buildings. Steve Beyers indicated that their goal is to keep energy usage level on the old buildings, realizing they likely will not be able to lower it.

Jeff Chusid stated that as of 2010 LEED certification will require the monitoring of buildings energy usage, is there currently any means of doing that now. Steve Beyers/Jim Adams stated that there is a link (although somewhat buried) on the Utilities website that currently monitors campus buildings energy usage.

Don Rakow asked whether the CAP considered "Sustainable Sites Initiatives"? Mina said, that it was included in Green Development.

- **Outreach:** Mike Tomlan asked if a presentation about CAP has been made to the various University Assemblies? Faculty Senate? Steve Beyers indicated that presentations had been made to the Student Assembly and the Graduate and Professional Student Assembly.

Jim Adams indicated that they are still working on the outreach piece of the plan.

Marianne Krasny asked if each building has been assigned a CAP compliance representative, to help buildings maintain these sustainable initiatives. Perhaps this could fall under the Building Coordinators position description? At this time, there has been no formal designation.

Jeff Chusid recommended a blog would be a great resource to have on the website for sharing of expertise on sustainable ideas. Many agreed it would be key to sustainability of the plan.

#### **Wrap-Up and Next Steps**

Presentation will be posted on the University Assembly CPC website.