

## **AIMS Coordinators Meeting Minutes**

September 10, 2009

Host: AIMS

Location: Sunset Building

### **Announcements**

- Historical Imagery
  - Availability of new 1954 historic aerial photography. In a joint project, Johnson County AIMS and Public Works were awarded a 2008 Heritage Trust Fund Award by the Board of County Commissioners. As part of the grant, the previously scanned mylar images were georeferenced and mosaiced. The resulting photography from 1954 is available for viewing through the Online Mapping application and for purchase thru Digital Data Request (DDR).
- Kansas City ArcInfo Users Group
  - ESRI will host the meeting on Tuesday, September 15th from 10:00am – 12:00pm. Please sign up in advance.

### **Presentations**

#### **James Joerke – Sustainability Program Director**

- Sustainability committee created in 2004.
- Presented facts and figures on population, census data, oil and water usage.
- What is sustainability?
  - Balancing economic, environmental, and social equity
  - Should be used in analysis and decision making at all levels of government
  - Consider the impact of sustainability on future generations
  - Reduce waste and improve efficiencies
- 2009 Citizen Survey Results
  - Surveyed over 3000 households
  - Received a 41% response rate
  - When asked which issues were most important, protecting water quality and the environment was #1.
  - 91% support sustainability programs
  - However 72% are not familiar with the existing sustainability programs
- BOCC Greenhouse Gas Resolution
  - Resolution passed in December 2007 with 4 goals
    - Greenhouse Gas (GHG) inventory
    - County buildings carbon neutral by 2030
    - Community wide GHG inventory and reduce 80% by the year 2050
    - Provide leadership to encourage reduced GHG emissions in community
- Sustainable Projects already in process/completed at Johnson County
  - Lighting Retrofit project
  - Wastewater co-generation plant
  - Employee ozone reduction campaign

- Currently 41 hybrid vehicles
  - Installed vapor recovery equipment
  - Sponsored change a light bulb campaign
- Next steps (future)
  - Received energy efficiency and conservation block grant
  - Energy audits
  - Recycling and composting
  - LED street/parking lot lights
  - Electric vehicle recharging stations – pilot program will build 3 stations at the 3 main county facilities (Admin building, Sunset and N.E. Offices)
  - Home weatherization assistance
  - Employee energy conservation outreach
- A copy of James' presentation can be found here: <http://aims.jocogov.org/resources/mtgnotes/presentations/2009/Sept/sustainability.ppt>

### **Jim Bills – Johnson County Wastewater**

- Went through the decision process of selecting modifications to the Douglas L. Smith middle basin treatment plant
  - Co-generation will produce enough electricity to make the plant self-sustaining and will reduce waste
  - Fats, Oils, Grease (FOG) treatment will reduce travel to north Kansas City treatment plant
  - Completion of this project will provide a 7.5% reduction in the County's carbon footprint
- Other Sustainable projects
  - Electronic plan review
  - Satellite line cleaning locations
  - Route analysis of cleaning and inspection routes
  - Video conferencing between the 3 wastewater facilities.
- A copy of Jim's presentation can be found here: <http://aims.jocogov.org/resources/mtgnotes/presentations/2009/Sept/jcw.ppt>

### **Travis Smith – Johnson County Transit**

- Re-emphasized the fact the transit uses the same factors of economic, environmental and social equity in their decision making
- Highlighted the trip calculator on MARC's website to determine how your daily travel impacts the environment and how you can save by using bus travel
- Showed two maps relating to the Transit 5 year strategic plan.

### **Julie Coon – Johnson County Environmental**

- Primarily focused on recycling and trash
- Landfills are unsustainable
  - Map showing the landfills in the region and the possible domino effect as they become full and have to close
- Expand residential recycling services
- Analysis of Deffenbaugh routes to improve efficiency
- Performed a waste sort to determine what people were throwing away
  - 42% paper
  - 17% food waste
  - 13% plastic
- Increase awareness for composting
- Future Initiatives
  - Restrict yard waste and encourage mulching
  - Mandatory trash recycling services
  - "Pay as you throw" county wide
- A copy of Julie's presentation can be found here:  
[http://aims.jocogov.org/resources/mtgnotes/presentations/2009/Sept/env\\_solidwaste.ppt](http://aims.jocogov.org/resources/mtgnotes/presentations/2009/Sept/env_solidwaste.ppt)