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DATE: December 18, 2023
TO: Wade Bryson, Public Works & Facilities Committee Chair
FROM: Gretchen Keiser, Chair, Juneau Commission on Sustainability *Gretchen Keiser*
SUBJECT: Request for Additional GHG Emissions Inventories for 2022 & 2023

The Juneau Commission on Sustainability recommends that the CBJ fund and contract to update Juneau's 2021 Energy/GHG inventory for 2022, and preferably for 2023 as well.

Background

Understanding energy use and GHG emission sources and trends allows Juneau residents, businesses and agencies to identify effective mitigation strategies and track progress over time. A series of annual inventories provides a basis for measuring the success of our climate action initiatives, identifying areas where improvements can be made, prioritizing investments, increasing public awareness and engagement, and justifying and competing for federal grant funding.

The CBJ conducted inventories of energy use and GHG emissions in 2007 and 2010 as a basis for the Juneau Climate Action and Implementation Plan (2011). The plans recommended that updates be conducted periodically. The CBJ attempted to replicate the 2010 analysis several times between 2013 and 2019, but was unable to secure cooperation from fuel oil suppliers. In 2021 the CBJ contracted with Dynamhex (Constellation Energy) to update Juneau's community inventory resulting in a final report, "2021 Energy Use & Greenhouse Gas Emissions Inventory for Juneau, Alaska."

The 2021 inventory showed some areas of significant progress in reducing emissions over the past decade. However, 2021 was an unusual year as Juneau's economy was just coming out of the COVID pandemic and there was very little cruise ship tourism, resulting in lower than usual fuel use in marine and air transportation. Several years' worth of data are needed to accurately identify trends in energy use and GHG emissions and the effectiveness of mitigation efforts and the 2010 and 2021 reports recommended that annual community-wide inventories be conducted for five consecutive years.

Recommendation

At its December 6, 2023 meeting, the Juneau Commission on Sustainability unanimously approved recommending that the CBJ contract for at least one more year of updated data. Given the timing, it would be advisable to conduct inventory updates for both 2022 and 2023.

We understand that the JRES Implementation CIP has enough funding for both 2022 and 2023, as there is a clause in the contract of the 2021 inventory that if CBJ elects to extend the contract for a one-year period for up to four years, the contractor will be paid a single payment of \$10,000 for each one-year period.

JCOS urges you to consider the significance of the inventory and to fund and contract for it to ensure the continued progress towards Juneau's energy and climate goals.

Respectfully submitted,

Gretchen Keiser, Chair, Juneau Commission on Sustainability