
From: Christopher Castro [mailto:chris.castro@cityoforlando.net]

Sent: Friday, December 08, 2017 11:24 AM

To: Bennett, Vicki; Garrett Fitzgerald; Liz Crosson; Erin Gill; Brian Blackmon; Austin Blackmon; Sarah King; Lara - Ara Cottingham; Tinianow, Jerome C. - MO Mayor's Office; Raphael, Deborah (ENV); Chris Menges; Laura Armstrong; Matt Gray; NELSON Ethan A; Daniel Hamilton; Koehn, Jonathan; Barbara Buffalo

Cc: Nils Moe

Subject: Re: WASI Steering Committee Agenda and Read-ahead for Monday, 12.11

I agree with Vicki. I'm beginning to see a bit of "commitment fatigue" from our leadership, and the last thing we want to do is dilute the importance of our efforts and the interest of our leadership with yet another commitment.

We felt WASI aligned directly with the Global Covenant and Under 2 MOU commitments we had previously made, which is the main reason Mayor Dyer decided to move forward. That said, he did ask how this differed from the other commitments we've made and why there seemed to be competing commitments to achieve the same outcomes.

The difference I see with WASI is the multi-sector approach, not just municipal governments, but counties, states, businesses, academia, and other nonprofits. I think this is a great approach to unite all of these actors, but would agree that aligning with the other widely accepted protocols would add value and be more beneficial for cities.

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From: Bennett, Vicki <vicki.bennett@slcgov.com>

Sent: Friday, December 8, 2017 11:01:25 AM

To: Garrett Fitzgerald; Liz Crosson; Erin Gill; bblackmon@knoxville.gov; Austin Blackmon; Sarah King; Lara - Ara Cottingham; Tinianow, Jerome C. - MO Mayor's Office; Raphael, Deborah (ENV); Chris Menges; Laura Armstrong; Matt Gray; NELSON Ethan A; Christopher Castro; Daniel Hamilton; Koehn, Jonathan; Barbara Buffalo

Cc: Nils Moe

Subject: RE: WASI Steering Committee Agenda and Read-ahead for Monday, 12.11

Hi Garrett,

I'm sure you won't be surprised by my reaction – we don't want or need yet another set of commitments. WASI will likely have different commitments for businesses and others that have signed on, but for cities they need to use a protocol that is already in place and widely accepted. My input is that if WASI wants to be relevant, they need to connect with one of the existing groups; my preference would be that for cities, they work with Climate Mayors/Global Covenant. Cities that signed on to WASI can be encouraged to follow the GCM guidelines, and report and follow their protocols.

I'd be happy to talk to them as a part of a local government focus group. Let us know how it goes on Monday!

Thanks,

Vicki



From: [Sarah King](#)
To: [Erin Gill](#)
CC: co-chairscm@climate-mayors.org
Date: Dec 8, 2017 at 12:18 PM
Subject: Re: WASI Steering Committee Agenda and Read-ahead for Monday, 12.11

Thanks Erin. Yes - I'm on Garrett's email chain too, so helpful to see some other city perspectives weigh in on WASI ahead of Monday's meeting. Commitment-fatigue is real! :) I'm still fuzzy on what WASI wants to be (and I think they are still figuring this out too) ... 1) the high level political drumbeat, or 2) facilitator of collaboration between cities, businesses, universities, etc make & achieve goals, 3) or both / something else. To the extent that WASI's strategy ends up feeling aligned with the Climate Mayors mission, then my hope would be that WASI would think of and look to Climate Mayors to essentially be the "cities pillar" of their multi-sector effort (but with us remaining separate and independent) so that we avoid creating another separate but overlapping network of cities coordinating on climate.

Sarah

On Fri, Dec 8, 2017 at 9:00 AM, Erin Gill <egill@knoxvilletn.gov> wrote:

Thanks Sarah. Garrett reached out to several USDN folks in advance of the WASI meeting as well, as WASI had requested input on whether they should ask cities to make yet another set of commitments. For whatever this is worth, I'll share with you (et. al) the feedback I gave him...

My opinion is that WASI should avoid asking cities to make new commitments – it's exhausting and the marginal value seems increasingly negligible at this point. It would be better for them to just reference existing groups like Climate Mayors or Global Covenant. If they are interested in commitment and accountability, Global Covenant is a particularly good partner, as they have clear steps regarding inventorying, goal setting, and reporting, as well as accountability measures in place via CDP. From a Climate Mayors perspective, I wouldn't want WASI to become a "competing" group with a similar but slightly different message. Better to aggregate than differentiate IMO.