A Tale of Two Programs: Comparing the Policy Process for Outdoor Residential Burning and Radon

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- Sits against the Foothills of the Rocky Mountains
- Population of ~170,000
- Proud home of Colorado State University
- Council-Manager form of government
Fort Collins & Disneyland
Sustainability and the Air Quality Program

➢ Outdoor Air
  ➢ Ozone & particulates
  ➢ GHG
  ➢ Fugitive Dust
  ➢ Mower rebates; Idling
  ➢ Visibility and pollutant monitoring
  ➢ Oil and gas

➢ Indoor Air
  ➢ Healthy Homes Program
  ➢ Radon
Outdoor Residential Burning

➢ Council Priority 2017
  ➢ Protect human health
  ➢ Reduce nuisance concerns

➢ Key policy areas
  ➢ No New Regulations
  ➢ Middle-Ground
  ➢ Ban wood fire pits

➢ Community outreach
  ➢ Community Issues Forum, E-forums
  ➢ Survey

➢ Internal Working Group
Community Engagement
Range of Policy Options

Less regulatory

Status Quo
- Safety response, education, outreach, neighborhood mediation services

Middle Ground
- Regulatory option to address only fires that impact neighbors

More regulatory

Ban
- Prohibit residential wood fires
➢ Decriminalize

➢ Add operational requirements
  ➢ Midnight curfew
  ➢ 15 foot property line setback

➢ Provide education and outreach

➢ Data Collection
Radon

➢ Council Priority 2017
   ➢ Enhance current programs

➢ Key policy areas
   ➢ RRNC
   ➢ Testing Requirements
   ➢ Disclosure & Notification
   ➢ Certification

➢ Community outreach
   ➢ Questionnaires developed

➢ Stakeholder Working Group
Did you choose to mitigate after the radon test came back above the EPA recommended action level of 4pCi/L?

- Yes: 64
- No: 36
General Questionnaire Results

KNOWLEDGE OF RADON

- Very Familiar, 36%
- Somewhat Familiar, 34%
- Little Familiarity, 22%
- No Familiarity, 8%
2018 Radon Working Group

• Stakeholder Working Group met 5 times from Aug-Nov 2018

• 7 members representing different interests
  • Social Sustainability
  • Utilities
  • Realtors
  • Landlord/Property Management
  • Radon Mitigator
  • AQAB Members
Working Group Purpose:
Prioritize list of options to enhance radon program

Testing Requirements
Certification Requirements
Mitigation Assistance
Disclosure & Notification
Education & Outreach
➢ Actions staff can take
  ➢ Increase education and outreach
  ➢ Enhance partnerships internally
➢ Staff memo to Council
➢ AQAB memo to Council
COUNCIL PRIORITY

Air Quality
• Residential Wood Fires
• Radon

STRATEGIC ALIGNMENT

Neighborhood Livability
• 1.6 Quality of Life
• 4.4 Air Quality

BUDGET

• ESD 2017-18 Ongoing Offer
• 2018 resources
Differences

ORB

➢ Pace and level of involvement from leadership
  ➢ Regular updates to Council
  ➢ Presentations at Work Sessions

➢ Type of public engagement
  ➢ Community-wide

Radon

➢ Pace and level of involvement from leadership
  ➢ Progress updates on Council priorities
  ➢ Updates to the AQAB

➢ Type of public engagement
  ➢ Targeted
Be Inclusive

Understand your process

Be Adaptable

Take a Step Back
Thank You!

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