



BUILT ENVIRONMENT AND ENERGY ADVISORY COMMITTEE (BEEAC)

Meeting Summary: May 16, 2019

BEEAC Members In Attendance:

Erica Bannerman, Prince George's County*
Jeff Bond, Prince George's County
Bill Eger, City of Alexandria (Co-Vice Chair)
Ellen Eggerton, City of Alexandria*
Jessica Frech, City of Alexandria
Jenn Hatch, DOEE
Joan Kelsch, Arlington County
Emil King, DOEE (Co-Vice Chair)
Jessica Lavender, Fairfax County
Chris McGough, Fairfax County
Kevin Milsted, Prince William County*
Najib Salehi, Loudoun County*
Kate Walker, City of Falls Church

Additional Attendees:

Michael Freeman, Montgomery County Sierra Club
Katy Hatcher, EPA*
Karl Held, Montgomery County Climate Mobilization
Elizabeth Pinnker, GSA*
Bill Prindle, ICF
Kurt Steiner, USGBC
Tim Stevens, Sierra Club Virginia
Hilari Varnadore, USGBC
Sandy Wiggins, Alice Ferguson Foundation

COG Staff:

Doug Abbott, COG DEP
Leah Boggs, COG DEP
Amanda Campbell, COG DEP
Maia Davis, COG DEP
Jeff King, COG DEP*

* Indicates participation by phone

1. CALL TO ORDER AND INTRODUCTIONS

Emil King, District of Columbia, BEEAC Co-Vice Chair
Co-Vice Chair Emil King called the meeting to order.

2. APPROVAL OF JANUARY 17, 2019 DRAFT MEETING SUMMARY

Emil King, District of Columbia, BEEAC Co-Vice Chair

The January 17 meeting summary was approved.

3. COG ANNOUNCEMENTS AND UPDATES

Jeff King, COG

- COG is postponing its work plan and budget to later in the summer. As a high-level overview, the budget contains resources to continue supporting BEEAC and CEEPC. Overall, the budget is likely to remain the same or similar for DEP's programs. The only two major changes are increased funding for an Army Corps of Engineers study and more focus on supporting local efforts for climate action planning and electric vehicle deployment.

Amanda Campbell, COG

- ACPAC is accepting applications for the Climate and Energy Awards through the end of June. Members should apply or nominate organizations with innovative sustainability programs. There is an emphasis in the judging this year on programs that serve marginalized communities. Awardees will be recognized in front of the COG Board.
- The Army Corps of Engineers Coastal Study will assess vulnerabilities of our region to hurricanes. Virginia, Fairfax County, and the Metropolitan Washington Airports Authority provided the funding necessary to move the first half of the study forward, so the study will focus on northern Virginia. There is still a funding shortfall for the second half of the study so ideas to secure the additional money are welcome.

Leah Boggs, COG

- USDOE Advanced Vehicle Technologies Research FOA: USDOE will be announcing its FY 2019 Advanced Vehicle Technologies Research FOA soon and they have six areas of interests. One of the main areas of interest is technology integration. COG is working with VACCC to submit program ideas to DOE to get funding. So far, program ideas include an EV demonstration and a multi-unit dwelling EV workshop.
- Tim Masters will be leading a green energy financing group that will kick off in June or July.

Maia Davis, COG

- COG is part of a USDOE grant-funded Regional Streetlights Project to convert streetlights to LEDs. This grant helps facilitate education and purchasing around LEDs. Northern Virginia members can get involved by sending a letter to NVRC. Maryland communities can get involved through MEA. The team helps facilitates rates, inventory, cost-benefit analysis, and procurement. Interested communities should contact Maia.
- COG's Chief Administrative Officer is launching a racial equity cohort this fall. The cohort will go through a ten-month program culminating in members developing a racial equity action plan. Jurisdictions can still sign up if they want to get involved.

4. JURISDICTION UPDATES AND PEER EXCHANGE ROUNDTABLE

Bill Eger, City of Alexandria –

- Alexandria's Environmental Services team sent green building policies to Council for passage and is also working on the Sustainable Action Plan 2040 which will go to Council in June. The team is implementing its 5th year of Solarize Alexandria which will conclude on June 24 and finishing an electric bus feasibility study. Council approved two actions recently: the development of an electric vehicle strategy for the city which will begin on July 1, and Council approved a C-PACE program that will be implemented in 2020.

Jessica Lavender, Fairfax County

- On May 7th the Board passed a budget which included funding for a new Office of

Environmental and Energy Coordination. There will be 9 staff with Kambiz Agazi serving as the director. The primary focus areas of the office will be implementing the operational energy strategy which was passed in the summer of 2018 and creating a community climate action plan.

Joan Kelsch, Arlington County

- Arlington is updating community energy plan early this summer in hopes of having it to the Board in September. The current goal is 3 mt CO₂e/person/year but the new plan looks lower it 1 mt CO₂e/person/year by 2050. They are also sending Ready for 100 to the Board and are responding to a regional push for net zero energy and zero carbon with building incentive programs for LEED Silver and above. As part of those incentives, the County added a stretch goal that allows net zero energy buildings to get off-site renewables.

Jenn Hatch, DOEE

- The District is working on a strategy to get to its goal of becoming carbon neutral by 2050. They have a plan to get half way there by 2030 but recently kicked off planning to achieve neutrality. Through this process, the DOEE is trying to define what carbon neutrality is, produce model scenarios, and create a policy framework. The plan will be released by the end of 2020.
- Since the last meeting, the City Council passed the Clean Energy DC Omnibus Amendment Act of 2018 which included the country's first building energy performance standard. DOEE launched several projects to support building owners that need to make energy efficiency upgrades. One of these projects is the high-performance building innovation and training hub which will convene building owners, developers, and designers to figure out gaps in energy efficiency upgrades for building owners.

Kate Walker, City of Falls Church

- The City is working on the comprehensive plan, which will go to the city Council in June. They are also working on a contract to get an EVGo Charger through Electrify America. The City is also starting to draft a C-PACE ordinance based on work others have done. Falls Church is a Green Power Partner with the EPA and a Green Power Community. To maintain their Green Power Community status, need to increase green power from 4% to 5% but they are working on outreach.

Jessica Frech, City of Alexandria

- In addition to Bill Eger's comments, Alexandria is trying to get SolSmart Silver certification this year.

Jeff Bond, Prince George's County

- The County is focusing on reducing illegal dumping, implementing its new summer youth employment program to teach students about contamination in the bay, and is rolling out solar compactors around the county.

Erica Bannerman, Prince George's County

- Maryland Public Service Commission ruled that installing electric vehicle infrastructure was in the public interest and indicated that Pepco and other investor-owned utilities would be allowed to install 2000 EV chargers (level 2 and 3) starting in July. Prince George's County attended one of the first implementation meetings on this project last week and Pepco is planning to install 150 level 2 and 3 chargers in PG County on government property.

Emil King, DOEE

- The District is currently wrapping up the first phase of Solar for All which serves low-income households. The goal is to have 14 MW in the city overall installed by the end of 2019. There are a few DOEE solar projects that might be of interest to member jurisdictions: Installed an integrated green roof and solar installation on a commercial building; Multiple installations of bi-facial solar panels and some vertical installations; completed several carport canopy

projects; currently working on a brownfield community solar installation project that will have a 2.5 MW capacity; recently had a ribbon cutting for solar+ battery installation on an affordable housing complex, part of which is for returning citizens; and will complete a solar project on the Anacostia metro station by September.

5. CITY AND COMMUNITY-WIDE SUSTAINABILITY INITIATIVES

Hilari Varnadore, USGBC, LEED for Cities and Communities

- LEED for Cities and Communities (LEED CC) can apply to all cities from brand new like those in China through existing cities and communities. Cities will get the cities designation while counties will get the communities designation. LEED CC is aligned to other rating systems so jurisdictions can work with USGBC to determine overlap with projects already underway. LEED CC measures and requires reporting on energy, water, waste, transportation, human experience, education, equitability, prosperity, and health & safety.
- COG has a lot of the data that is needed for the performance score and can help local jurisdictions register.

Kurt Steiner, USGBC, LEED for Neighborhood Development

- LEED for Neighborhood Development (LEED ND) was the first LEED program to look beyond individual buildings. Most LEED ND projects have covered less than 40 acres. LEED ND measures and requires reporting on smart location & linkage, neighborhood pattern & design, green infrastructure & buildings, innovation & design process, and regional priority credits.

Sandy Wiggins, Alice Ferguson Foundation, Living Community Challenge

- The Living Community Challenge strives to develop communities and cities that work in complete harmony with the natural environment. The program focuses on place, water, energy, health & happiness, materials, equity, and beauty. Certification is based on actual, rather than modeled or anticipated, performance.
 - Full Certification: Meet all 20 requirements
 - Petal Certification: Meet requirements from three petals
 - Zero Energy Certification: All energy is derived from renewable resources
 - Emerging Living Community Certification: Beginning to implement the plan

Discussion:

- What are costs?
 - LEED CC: \$2,500-\$5,000 for registration, Certification is \$8,000. Flexible on payment structure.
 - LEED ND: See the USGBC website.
 - Living Community Challenge: Depends on the path. Registration and certification costs are in \$25,000-\$50,000 by the time the pathway is completed. Costs for implementation tend to be about 16% over market from typical project.
- LEED CC is currently running a 15-member cohort that is designed to fast-track local governments through the process and are open to potential doing the same with COG member communities. COG can provide data and explore securing funding for a cohort of members.
- Government adoption of these types of programs is critically important than helping to drive down cost, so local governments play a huge role in increasing broad adoption of these frameworks and the technology that supports them.

6. FY 2020 REGIONAL ENVIRONMENTAL RESOURCES CLIMATE AND ENERGY WORK PLAN AND

BUDGET

Jeff King, COG

This item was postponed to later in the summer.

7. NEXT BEEAC MEETING DATE AND ADJOURNMENT

Emil King, DOEE, BEEAC Co-Vice Chair

Co-Vice Chair Emil King adjourned the meeting.

All meeting materials can be found on the MWCOG website or by clicking the link -
<https://www.mwcog.org/events/2019/5/16/built-environment-and-energy-advisory-committee-beeac/>

The next BEEAC meeting is July 18.

The next CEEPC meeting is May 22.

Reasonable accommodations are provided upon request, including alternative formats of meeting materials.
For more information, visit: www.mwcog.org/accommodations or call (202) 962-3300 or (202) 962-3213 (TDD)