

Accelerating Action on Electric Vehicles Event Highlights

The *Accelerating Action on Electric Vehicles* event was hosted by COG's Climate, Energy, and Environment Policy Committee at the 2023 Washington Auto Show Public Policy Day on January 19. There were over 75 attendees, with representation from different sectors.

REGIONAL AND LOCAL GOVERNMENT POLICY PERSPECTIVE

Moderator: Antione Thompson, Greater Washington Region Clean Cities Coalition

Speakers: Amanda Campbell (City of Rockville), Andrea Crooms (Prince George's County), Matthew Gaskin (District of Columbia), and Demetra McBride (Arlington County).

The panel discussed the challenges and opportunities facing electric vehicles and electric vehicle deployment on the local and regional levels. Multiple jurisdictions shared challenges when choosing locations in an equitable way and ensuring that people feel safe using the public chargers.

PUBLIC UTILITY COMMISSIONER: ELECTRIFYING TRANSPORTATION ROUNDTABLE

Moderator: Walter McLeod, Energy Professor, George Mason University and Managing Director, Grid Innovative

Speakers: Commissioner Ted Trabue (Public Service Commission of the District of Columbia), and former Commissioner Odogwu Linton (Maryland Public Service Commission).

The roundtable discussed the challenges facing regulators, industry, and communities related to electric vehicle infrastructure in the region and opportunities for solutions. Maryland and DC each come with their own unique set of challenges relating to coordination with utilities and private partnerships. In order to successfully push toward electrification, the network of EV charging stations must be safe and affordable, and the electric grid must be more resilient.

MAIN TAKEAWAYS

1. Safety – Concerns over personal safety at EV Charging Stations are a barrier to EV adoption that needs to be made a priority.
2. Education – To increase public adoption of EV's, communities need better access to quality educational resources.
3. Equity – It is the role of local governments to have equity built into every step with the consideration that access to charging isn't equity if the community can't afford to purchase an EV or afford charging fees.

Check out the newly launched [EV Deployment Clearinghouse](#) for resources to support communities with EV deployment.