

# Climate Change, Energy, and Environment Commission (C2E2)

Summary of April 25, 2022

Virtual Meeting

Members Present: Joan McIntyre (Chair), Timothy Effio, Jonathan Morgenstein, John Bloom, Emily Emery, Kevin Vincent, Stephen D'Alessio, Majdi Shomali

Members Absent: Carrie Thompson (Vice Chair), Shawn Norton, Gilbert Campbell, Liliana Duica, Joshua Griset, Mikaila Milton,

Guests: Judy Collins, Katherine Roberts,

Staff Present: Rebecca Moser (DES), Adam Segel Moss (DPR), Rich Dooley (DES), Demetra McBride (DES), Stephen Burr (DES)

## 1. Public Comment on General Topics

None

## 2. New AIRE Staff Introduction

Rebecca Moser is new to the AIRE team and joins as an Environmental Management Associate and Energy Market Specialist. She has been with the County for about 5 years and started at the Solid Waste Bureau, then transitioned to Transportation. She is very excited to begin her new role and support the C2E2 Commission.

## 3. Budget Debrief

First, review of budget outcomes. The big win that came from the budget which will be adopted at the County Board's recess meeting is the creation of a two-person office under the County Manager for climate. This office will be responsible for coordinating policies across the County and helping establish programs and outreach to the general public. There are no specific details as of now regarding position descriptions and what exactly these staff will be doing.

Other issues: pressing the County to formally commit to electrification, especially in County facilities. With CIP discussions coming up soon, this will be a good opportunity to continue to push this.

County Board members were interested in having a study done on community choice aggregation. This would be a way of quickly moving the County towards its 100% renewable energy goal by 2035.

## 4. Commissioner Round Robin on Priority Topics

Work Plan Review on Priority Topics – Joan asked what the importance is within the topics to achieve the County climate goals, and key strategies and actions that would actually fall under those focus areas that would particularly be most important in terms of advancing. For example the equity consideration involved in these issues is something to keep in mind.

The Commission feels they do not have enough information around the kind of energy composition within County facilities, where they use natural gas, the age of the systems, when they are expected

to be replaced, etc. The Commission also notes issues around procurement and policies and ensuring they are aligned to climate goals.

Areas of importance and notes from discussion:

- Implementation of the CEP
- Consumer Choice Aggregation
- Green Bank briefing perhaps in an upcoming meeting.
- County owned EVSE made available to the public. The possibility of curbside charging stations for housing, theoretically, of having privately-owned charging stations in the public right of way. Expands access to residents who do not have a driveway and a house.
- The overlap of County initiatives that can also help reduce carbon emissions.
- Microgrid or some form of resilience additions to low-income areas. The County needs to look at developing projects that would focus specifically on energy retrofits in low-income housing.
- Within the roadmap, identify the areas that are hard to discern, and then identify a handful of specific actions that are feasible and could make a difference to tackle.
- Also create a checklist review approach so that items don't fall through the cracks.
- Ideas around development, and a better development strategy, perhaps something to include more open spaces.
- Balance between high density and open spaces when it comes to development.
- Whole infrastructure to support total electrification.

Multimodal study phase two – upgrade the route 1 to an at grade crossing at Crystal City – C2E2 should be involved and provide input. Need to ask the County what they will do and how they will be involved in this project.

Stephen D'Alessio – SPRC meetings, the environment is last to be discussed and then there's not enough time. Is there a County staff member who can ensure time to talk about these issues and ensure that the information is distributed? More thought on this.

Some discussion of dark sky compliance – might be worth having the County explore in greater detail what can be done to promote the issue and get more lights off.

## **5. Meeting Minutes**

No meeting minutes were available to approve.

## **6. Old/New Business**

Joan requested a volunteer to represent C2E2 at a meeting on Monday to review the return to in-person meetings.

Jonathan Morgenstein suggested that the Commission add to its agenda promoting energy efficiency issues and incentives for single family homes beyond the voluntary green homes program. There's a lot more that the Commission can do to promote energy efficiency for homeowners, for example, a co-op for heat pumps.

The Commission motioned to approve Vasu Nambeesan membership to the Energy Committee.

Meeting ended: 7:26pm