

CLIMATE CHANGE, ENERGY, AND ENVIRONMENT COMMISSION

2023 Priorities, Activities, and Assignments

PRIORITY OBJECTIVES

Provide advice, guidance and expertise to the Arlington County Board to:

1. **Accelerate Comprehensive Climate Action** – integrates solutions to the climate crisis into all of its operations, policy, and decision making and makes the County a national leader in reducing Arlington’s carbon footprint – including consumption-based measurements – to sustainable levels.
2. **Integrate Climate Justice and Equity** – promotes policies that will address historical inequities such as excessive energy burden and access to open spaces and guarantee equitable access to climate action initiatives and opportunities for an inclusive transition to a sustainable community.
3. **Advance Climate-related Resilience** – fosters improvements to energy, stormwater and other critical infrastructure to ensure long-term resiliency and reliability to adapt to changing economic, environmental, and social changes and to limit damage from and ensure rapid recovery of critical services following natural or manmade disasters.

PRIORITIES AND ACTIVITIES– 2023

Priority Objectives¹	2023 Outcomes²	C2E2 Priority Actions & Activities³	C2E2 Assignments⁴
<p>Accelerate Comprehensive Climate Action</p>	<p><u>Buildings decarbonized</u> (Buildings account for 58% of County’s GHG emissions, per CEP p. 14)</p>	<p>Call for strong 2023 update of Green Building Incentive program</p> <p>Urge creation of ambitious Climate Action Policy to replace the CEP in 2024</p> <p>Ensure Arlington is benefiting from Inflation Reduction Act (IRA) incentives and those of other federal programs</p> <p>Continue delivering GHG reduction and electrification messaging as part of Site Plan Review Processes and for long term development plans</p> <p>Capitalize on budget cycle opportunities to fund priority programs to assist residents and property owners to save energy and eliminate onsite GHG emissions</p>	<p>Energy Committee Tim Effio Majdi Shomali Gilbert Campbell</p>

¹ Priority Objectives that we have identified above,
² Outcomes that we believe are necessary to achieve the Priority Objectives
³ What we as C2E2 are going to do to try to advance those outcomes
⁴ Who is going to be engaged in the actions and activities

		Encourage creation of Green banks / other financial mechanisms (+ Resilience)	
	<u>Transport decarbonized</u> (Transport accounts for 36% of County's GHG emissions)	<p>Capitalize on budget cycle opportunities to fund priority programs</p> <p>Influence development of Transit Strategic Plan and update of the Master Transportation Plan</p> <p>Encourage electric vehicle acquisition by County and residents</p> <p>Encourage County to expand multi-modal transit to reduce vehicle miles traveled</p>	Energy Committee Kevin Vincent Joan McIntyre
	<u>Renewable energy installed</u> (Fossil-fueled energy systems contribute to all GHG emissions)	<p>Encourage local control over energy sources through creation of a Community Choice Aggregation (CCA), possibly regionally</p> <p>Promote IRA incentives and other strategies to expand renewable energy sources within Arlington</p> <p>Support VA Community Solar program</p> <p>Promote onsite renewable energy (solar panels) combined with battery storage and microgrids (furthers Equity/Resilience)</p>	Energy Committee Tim Effio

	<p><u>County Government is leading by example</u> (County Gov't, including APS, accounts for 4% of County's GHG emissions)</p>	<p>Push County to install electric systems in all new and retrofitted facilities:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Career Center • PFRC Process <p>Push County to procure electric vehicles and adopt strong green purchasing policy</p> <p>Make clear to County Board, staff, and broader community that C2E2 defines climate action more broadly than CEP (thus call for a Climate Action Plan)</p>	<p>Joan McIntrye Carrie Thompson Jonathan Morgenstein</p>
	<p><u>County's 2024 Solid Waste Management Plan & procurements strongly reflect Zero Waste principles</u> (Solid Waste accounts for 2% of County's GHG emissions)</p>	<p>Contribute to development of best-possible Zero Waste Plan that prioritizes reduce and reuse strategies and promotes effective recycling strategies</p> <p>Encourage County to facilitate building and business practices that foster sustainable, low carbon, and inclusive lifestyles</p>	<p>Solid Waste Committee Carrie Thompson</p>
<p>Integrate Climate Justice and Equity</p>	<p>Lower and middle income <u>(LMI) residents have shared their Climate Justice and Equity concerns with County</u></p>	<p>Encourage County – and engage Chief Race and Equity Officer – to survey or otherwise seek input from LMI residents on CJE issues</p> <p>Encourage County to undertake programming that responds to concerns expressed, including:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Advancing energy efficiency and 	<p>Eric Gibbs Stephen D'Alessio</p>

		<p>electrification for new buildings or retrofits of affordable housing to reduce energy burden of LMI residents;</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Promoting onsite renewable energy (solar panels) combined with battery storage and microgrids <p>Engage Chief Race and Equity Officer, Office of Climate Coordination and Policy, and other departments on all of above</p>	
Advance Climate-related Resilience	<u>Watersheds, buildings, and critical infrastructure protected</u> from severe weather, and flooding from 10-year and 100-year storms	<p>Encourage County to do benchmarking of stormwater protection standards, heat island prevention strategies, and metrics adopted by other local jurisdictions</p> <p>Recommend ways the County can better protect watersheds, buildings, and critical infrastructure, and improve its response capability to safeguard health, safety, property & welfare of residents against expected climate impacts</p> <p>Encourage effective nature-based solutions to improve resilience of Arlington’s watersheds, buildings and infrastructure while enhancing the natural environment in the</p>	Mark Greenwood

		<p>County and minimizing loss of mature tree canopy coverage.</p> <p>Encourage development of appropriate metrics and capabilities to measure heat island effects</p>	
	<p><u>Natural ecosystems increasingly healthy and tree canopy coverage steady or increasing</u> to reduce the urban heat island effect, provide restorative access to nature for all residents, and serve as a key element in reducing impacts of extreme weather</p>	<p>Encourage adoption of an ambitious Forestry and Natural Resources Master Plan that will protect and expand Arlington’s natural resources and tree canopy on public and private property</p> <p>Pursue adoption or revision of building codes and sector plans to limit building footprints to preserve and enhance availability of open space, tree canopy, and native landscaping.</p> <p>Promote incorporation of biophilic principles in building design, including bird-friendly glass, dark sky compliant lighting, native plant landscaping, and large canopy trees.</p>	<p>Joan McIntyre Mikaila Milton Shawn Norton</p>

2023 Assignments

ACTIVITY	LEAD COMMISSIONER(S)	OBJECTIVE(S)	MEETING SCHEDULE
Ongoing Committee Memberships (where C2E2 Commissioners are appointed as members)			
Public Facilities Review Committee	Commissioners as assigned	Participate in commission meetings	Varies (usually 1-2 per month) https://commissions.arlingtonva.us/planning-commission/public-facilities-review-committee-pfrc/
Solid Waste Committee	Carrie Thompson	Solid Waste Committee to continue to share information with C2E2	
Energy Subcommittee	EC Chair, Tim Effio Vice Chair: Claire Noakes	Support implementation of CEP and other energy-related items	
Natural Resources Joint Advisory Group	Joan McIntyre, Shawn Norton, Mikaila Milton	Oversee the implementation of the Natural Resources Management Plan and along with the Urban Forestry and Parks and Recreation Commissions, advise more effectively on natural resource issues	First Monday of every month https://commissions.arlingtonva.us/natural-resources-advisory-group/

Committee/Commission Liaisons			
Bicycle Advisory Committee	Primary: Majdi Shomali Alternate:	Identify shared priorities and coordinate on policy/project recommendations when appropriate	First Monday of the month https://commissions.arlingtonva.us/bicycle-advisory-committee/
Pedestrian Advisory Committee	Primary: Cindy Alternate: Timothy Effio	Identify shared priorities and coordinate on policy/project recommendations when appropriate	Second Wednesday of the month https://commissions.arlingtonva.us/pedestrian-advisory-committee-2/
Forestry and Natural Resources Commission	Primary: Shawn Norton Mikaila Milton:	Identify shared priorities and coordinate on policy/project recommendations when appropriate	Fourth Thursday of the month https://commissions.arlingtonva.us/urban-forestry-commission-ufc/
Transportation Commission	Primary: Kevin Vincent Alternate: Jonathan Morgenstein	Identify shared priorities and coordinate on policy/project recommendations when appropriate	First or last Thursday of the month (varies) https://commissions.arlingtonva.us/transportation-commission-tc/
Site Plan Review Committee	Primary: Mark Greenwood	Coordinate C2E2 participation in site plan review process	2-3 total per month, with each project having 3-4 meetings https://commissions.arlingtonva.us/planning-commission/sprc/
Chesapeake Bay Ordinance Review Committee	Primary: Mark Greenwood	Participate in reviews of requests for exceptions to the Chesapeake Bay Preservation Ordinance	Meets as needed to hear exception requests, typically 2-3 times per year
Public Spaces Master Plan Implementation Advisory Committee (PSMP-IAC)	Primary Mikaila Milton Alternate:	Participate in the subcommittee activities, draft report	Generally meets on the second Monday every other month
Administrative Regulation 4.4 Review Subcommittee	Ad Hoc	Work with staff to update Admin Reg 4.4 and the Environmental Assessment checklist.	DES staff revisions to EA process (check in with Rich Dooley, AIRE) may change the process for reviewing EAs
Commissioner Tasked with Meeting Applicants	Primary: Mikaila Milton	Meet with C2E2 applicants to screen them and assist with keeping Commission slots filled.	As needed based on openings, applications, and interest.

Advisory Group Liaisons			
Langston Blvd Community Forum	Joan McIntyre Alternate	Participate in planning process	Launched in 2019
Career Center PFRC	Stephen D'Alessio Joan McIntyre	Participate in planning process	Spring and early summer 2022 with planned follow up meetings into 2023
Stormwater Utility Advisory Group	Stephen D'Alessio	Participate in Advisory Group as the County considers establishing a Stormwater Utility and develops the fee and credit structure	Kicks off February 2022
BioSolids Advisory Committee	Primary		