

**MEETING MINUTES OF THE HYBRID MEETING
ARLINGTON COUNTY C2E2 ENERGY COMMITTEE
4/19/2023**

The **C2E2 ENERGY COMMITTEE** convened its hybrid meeting at **7:30 AM** on **April 19, 2023**.

PRESENT (IN-PERSON)

Claire Noakes
Greg Brozak
John Bloom
Stephanie Burns
Jonathan Morgenstein
Doug Snoeyenbos
Scott Sklar
Rick Keller

PRESENT (VIRTUALLY)

Scott Dicke, participated virtually from home (via Teams)
Kip Malinosky, participated virtually from home (via Teams)

ABSENT

Kevin Vincent
Vasu Nambeesan
Aaron Kocian
Scott Brideau

STAFF

Rich Dooley
Demetra McBride
Steve Burr
Charles Njoku
Drew Stilson
Paul Roman
Courtney Chinn

SUMMARY OF PRESENTATIONS/DISCUSSIONS

1. Greetings and introductions (7:30) – Doug Snoeyenbos

- D. Snoeyenbos introduced himself as the new EC Chair. He welcomed everyone to the meeting.
- D. Snoeyenbos mentioned that today the EC members would get to know all of the AIRE Team members.
 - Demetra noted we can send an organizational chart of OSEM once it is ready

2. Review/approve meeting agenda and March meeting summary (7:35) – Doug Snoeyenbos

- The April meeting agenda was unanimously approved.
- The March meeting summary, with a slight revision to note that information from Brett Wallace would be forthcoming to the EC, was unanimously approved.

3. Public Comment on General Topics (7:40)

- None

4. Scheduling future EC meetings (7:45) – **Doug Snoeyenbos**

- D. Snoeyenbos proposed changing the June, July, and December EC meeting dates to the following (all other meeting details and logistics would stay the same):
 - Change to June 14th
 - Change to July 13th
 - Change to Dec. 13th
- All proposed changes were unanimously approved.
- R. Dooley will work with other staff to update the EC webpage and send to EC members the updated Calendar entries.

5. Monthly update from the AIRE team (7:50) – **Rich Dooley**

- R. Dooley provided an update on the AIRE programs and projects (see Attachment 1)
- ARTBus study – will be available in May, but no exact date is available.
 - Could D. Snoeyenbos and C. Noakes be updated verbally in advance of the May 17th meeting?
 - This is a consultant (Kimley-Horn (KH)) and County staff study.
 - Carly has already briefed K-H on the Report and completed her functions and the scope of her duties under the agreement we facilitated between K-H and HDR
 - While Carly has since moved on and no longer works at HDR, transportation experts at K-H, including the manager of the Project who worked closely with Carly, will finalize the study and brief the County on the report.
 - J. Bloom asked about the AOMF project and what electrical capacity will be available for the 63 ART battery electric buses (BEB).
 - A: The electrical capacity will be available at the AOMF. The AOMF will be BEB-ready, and charging equipment will be installed as more buses arrive.
 - In 2025, the AOMF will be able to accommodate the four BEB that are slated to be at the facility by 2025.
 - J. Bloom asked if buses could be ordered in 2024.
 - A: The ordering of BEB will happen as current buses end of useful life comes about and they are ready to be retired. It is expected that more buses will be ordered in FY24.
 - C. Noakes asked if the bus ordering is a financial or budget issue.
 - S. Sklar – Most bus companies have a pay-as-you-go option, which helps lower the financial burden for local governments. Chicago and Birmingham, AL are two examples.
 - A: There is also the issue of demand outpacing supply on a larger scale basis. This make sit difficult to procure electric buses in a timely manner.
 - D. McBride also noted that our ARTBus routes might need to be expanded due to WMATA bus route reduction discussions.

- J. Bloom asked about public engagement and community interest in the topic What is planned for public and commissions engagement?
 - A: D. McBride replied that we will continue to have the level of engagement that we have been having, which has been quite significant on this.
 - A: We are allowing up to July to finalize the draft plan, trying to strike a balance among numerous stakeholders' interests in sustainability, bus route expansions, and bus frequency.
- J. Bloom asked if the CB would vote in July on the report.
 - A: We do not know how the CB will be involved with this project.
- J. Morgenstein has NREL reports on BEB and might be helpful for the County team. He said he would those reports to the AIRE Team.
- S. Sklar noted and then sent information on Washington, DC's expanded use of BEB.
- For the Carbon Neutral Transportation Master Plan (CNTMP) – OSEM is the lead County team on the project.
 - A: Last week we had the first of three internal workshops (Joan McIntyre participated in that meeting as well) – TC, EC, C2E2, and Transit Committee also participated. No EC members were at the last workshop. D. McBride asked if we could have an EC rep at the next workshop.
 - Next meeting will involved mapping for EVSE.
- C. Noakes asked why it is “carbon neutral.” A: This is community-wide effort, and we cannot control all decisions across all interests.

6. Meeting the AIRE Team (8:00) – AIRE staff

- Each AIRE Team member took a few minutes to introduce themselves to the EC.
- Steve Burr:
 - Focuses on energy efficiency and decarbonization in County facilities. He managed the project that created the Decarbonization Tool, and is working with FMB and others on using the tool.
 - Tracking data, how we can reach our 100% renewable electricity community-wide efforts and maintain the County operations 100% renewable electricity goal.
 - S. Sklar – asked about the EV analysis and building optimization analysis and whether other County staff are keeping up on the latest and greatest information.
 - Steve is also working with FMB on EVSE for the County fleet and working with various partners for public-facing EVSE.
 - J. Bloom – about the decarb tool. FMB provides input on what systems are maintainable. For instance, VRF systems are not looked at fondly by some staff because they think those systems are not easily maintained. Is that part of the decarb tool discussion and deliberation?
 - A: The Decarb Tool provides a quantitative analysis, then we work with others on a qualitative assessment on the Decarb Tool output.
 - C. Noakes asked whether Steve would be involved in the Trades Center optimization study.
 - A: Steve has heard about the study, but was not heavily involved in it.
 - D. Snoyenbos asked whether Steve is involved in the on-site solar analysis.
 - Drew will talk about the NREL C2C project efforts. Rich mentioned the grants pursuits.
 - Steve also has leadership roles in VESPN and VEPGA.
- Charles Njoku:
 - Charles is an energy manager and Data Analyst with AIRE.
 - Charles supports multiple efforts in AIRE and across the County

- He tracks CEP goals, and compliance reporting. He was instrumental in the County reaching its DOE BBC goal.
- Q: Do we track energy use, energy savings for optimization and for the EC to help the County save energy and money. Graduate students could help the County with that optimization efforts.
 - A: We have a Senseware pilot project to monitor energy consumption real-time and feed into the BAS we have. We also track our solar panel output.
- C. Noakes – asked Charles to describe his interaction with APS on energy issues.
 - A: Charles knows that we use EnergyCap and APS uses EnergyDude. We use the EnergyDude data to feed into our EnergyCap data input. Our website and the APS website has energy use data. Also, AIRE staff have monthly meetings with multiple departments, including APS, to discuss energy matters.
- Drew Stilson:
 - He has been with the County for a year now.
 - Drew’s background is in GHGe analysis and GHGe reduction work.
 - He manages our Benchmarking program as part of the Green Building Incentive Program (GBIP).
 - He works with Steve on the NREL technical assistance program – C2C.
 - He supports numerous initiatives, including DES-Transportation data.
 - J. Bloom looks forward to additional transportation data in the upcoming GHGe update.
 - A: Demetra noted that we plan to work on that update starting in the next FY.
 - Also, we participate in MWCOG data gathering efforts, such as with the MWAQC. C. Noakes noted that the AQ information is somewhat high-level.
- Paul Roman:
 - Paul’s background is in sustainability; he previously worked at Gensler. Worked on green building certification projects.
 - Paul is working on updating the GBIP together with Vicky Kiechel.
 - He is reviewing site plan projects through the lens of the GBIP.
 - He is leading the LEED for Cities certification – coming up later this year.
 - C. Noakes asked about the LEED for Cities certification. What is in the budget – does not necessarily translate to high-efficiency specs. Are we pursuing IAQ LEED levels, or are we striving for other LEED for Cities goal levels?
 - A: The LEED for Cities certification 4.1 has changed since we last reached Platinum status. 4.1 looks more at other goals, and policies the County has, as a whole.
 - J. Morgenstein – Asked for full electrification of buildings to be part of the GBIP update.
 - A: Demetra noted that we are planning for a bold change to the GBIP. We plan to bring an update status to the EC later this year.
- Courtney Chinn:
 - Courtney joined the County a month ago.
 - She has been doing residential programming in the sustainability realm.
 - She is revisiting the Green Home Choice (GHC) program and supporting the solar co-op program. We are aiming to find the best ways to support all residents and homeowners, including MFH owners and renters.
 - J. Morgenstein – Happy to hear that we are looking at IRA benefits. Are the IRA benefits already available, or do we need to wait?
 - A: Our understanding is that the IRS handles the incentives (which were available as of Jan. 1), and we are waiting to hear about the State efforts about the IRA rebates. We can use our website to help people learn more about the IRA opportunities.

- C. Noakes – Called the gas company and noted hearing a long, defensive message on natural gas prices. The County should take advantage of those high gas prices.
 - S. Burns noted that we need to let folks know about the technologies ahead of when they are in dire need of replacing those units.
- J. Morgenstein is interested in the GHC program. He is interested in what the County is thinking of as it revisits the GHC program.
- D. Snoyenbos is interested in hearing more about the solar co-op program.
- R. Keller – He thinks testimonials from neighbors can be quite powerful.
 - We need to highlight those success stories to residents. Maybe EcoAction Arlington or Sierra Club could develop a database or stories to share this information Countywide.
 - S. Sklar could share his personal efforts and experiences.
 - D. McBride noted that contractors and homeowners are key components to spread the word. The County can facilitate the process and work with partners to help spread the word. Civic Associations – about 40 of them are quite active.
- Demetra:
 - Noted that there are two other open AIRE positions:
 - Rebecca Moser’s old position
 - Another FTE that we plan to fill – energy project mgmt. and energy efficiency capabilities
 - Demetra oversees AIRE and helps the team revolutionize programs and focus on outputs and not only outcomes
 - We want to reach beyond our grasp; for example, see the ACCELERATE report.
 - D. McBride – Said that the EC should look at the recent grant application we filed for the G2G program. That highlighted some changes we envision to help Arlington residents.
 - **ACTION:** Send that G2G application work plan to the EC.

7. Status of EV charging in Arlington County (9:00) – Demetra McBride

- D. Snoyenbos notes that as a SFH homeowner, he has EVSE options, but the majority of Arlington residents do not have such options. So, more public-facing EVSE is needed around the community. He wanted to brainstorm ideas on how more EVSE can be installed.
 - D. McBride replied and provided a big picture view of the EVSE landscape.
- Out of the \$1M CEP Action Fund, \$335k or thereabouts is for public-facing EVSE on County facilities. Two sites, include the Bozman and Central Library surface parking lots – and we are looking at about seven other sites for other opportunities. We also have a second tier of locations for public EVSE. We are looking at IRA and other funding available to help us with those installations.
- We have been talking with Dominion Energy (DOM) about their program:
 - 1) property owner would be on the hook for O&M after DOM installs the unit, or
 - 2) for 28 cents kWh, DOM would install and manage the O&M of the unit. DOM is using ChargePoint as its partner for this approach.
 - DOM has backed away from those talks with Arlington, and is instead pivoting to VEPGA to implement this project consistently throughout the Commonwealth.
- For new construction, the biggest concern is that DOM would reject the Load Letter, which would increase the project’s cost to add to DOM infrastructure.
- J. Morgenstein – Noted that DOM was at a recent EC meeting and the EC would like to pinpoint whether DOM is charging property owners for the property-specific EVSE capacity needs.
 - **ACTION:** Ask DOM if they’d come back for another meeting to discuss that topic.

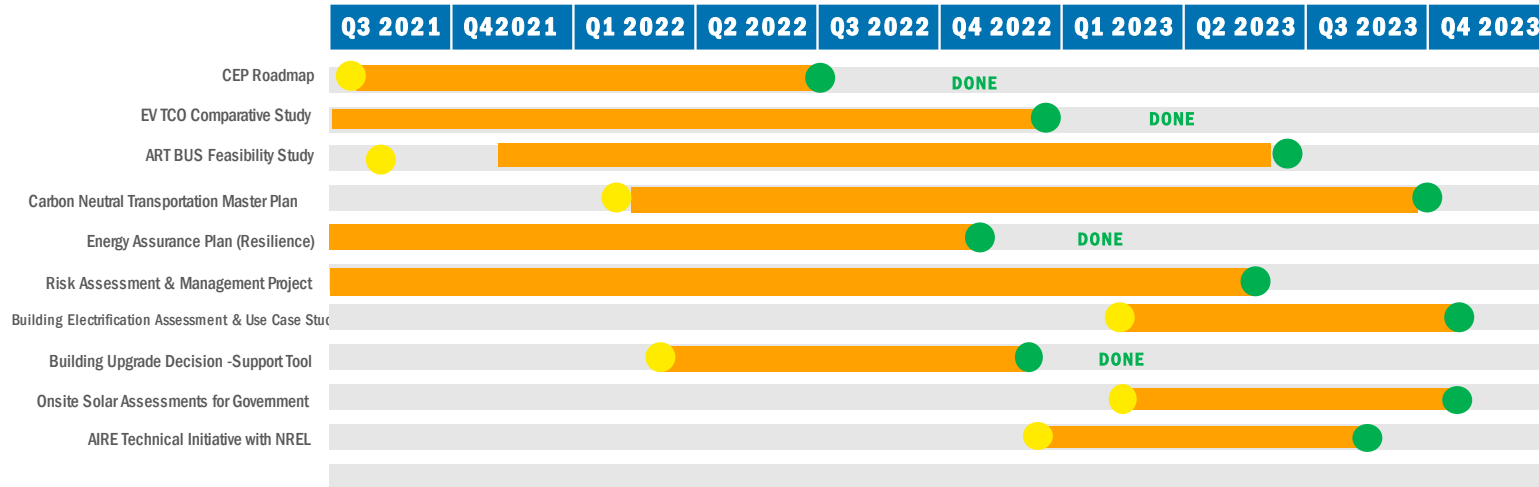
- S. Sklar – in NY, there is a campaign to go to strip malls to let them know about the BIL, IRA opportunities for those parking lots.
 - D. McBride was asked by CPRO how we could enhance CPRO companies and businesses. D. McBride noted there was interest in providing EVSE and perks to come charge at those businesses.
 - D. McBride – said that for instance, a Rosslyn location brought in an electrical contractor – and to add six double chargers into their existing garage, it would cost \$500,000 to make that change. Adding to pre-existing building garages is very expensive.
- G. Brozak – Asked about the budget. Is the \$355k a one-time budget or ongoing?
 - A: We hope there will be an annual appropriation of some amount to help with EVSE installation advancements. We also have \$365k for County fleet EVSE. By 2024 we hope that 50% of our County fleet are EVs.
- G. Brozak – for the \$500k for private buildings, is that Level 2 or 3 chargers?
 - A: That is for Level 2 chargers.
- J. Bloom – Are we looking at level 1 charging where costs are prohibitive?
- D. Snoeyenbos – He noted that we can continue the discussion at the next meeting on May 17th.

8. Adjourn (9:30)

- The meeting adjourned at 9:33 am.

ATTACHMENT 1 AIRE UPDATE

Progress Report on Studies and Plans



Start ● In progress ■ Estimated Completion ●

Note: Years listed above are Calendar Year (CY), not Fiscal Year.

Progress Report Notes

Amendments:

- **CEP Roadmap:** Final Roadmap is on the CEP webpage:
<https://www.arlingtonva.us/files/sharedassets/public/environment/documents/cep-roadmap07-26-2022-with-cover.pdf>
- **EV TCO Comparative study:** Report finished.
- **ARTBus Feasibility Study:** Draft Study Report scheduled for April 2023
- **Carbon Neutral Transportation Master Plan:** Amended SOW Jan 2023 to expand EVSE analysis/siting plan & engagement. Est. completion adjusted to Oct 2023.
- **Energy Assurance Plan (EAP):** Report provided to County staff.
- **Risk Assessment & Management Plan:** RAMP Task 6 (Gap Analysis with Mitigation and Adaptation Strategy Development) County staff & consultant workshop is scheduled for March.
- **Building Electrification Assessment and Use Case Studies:** Builds on previous SWA report. With FY23 funding available, the project will move forward after the Energy Services Contract RFP is completed. Report slated for Q4 CY2023.
- **Building Upgrade Decision-Support Tool:** Tool is being used by the County staff.
- **On-Site Solar Assessments Project:** With FY23 funding expected to be available, the project will move forward after the Energy Services Contract RFP is completed. Report slated for Q4 CY2023.
- **AIRE Technical Initiative with NREL:** NREL providing technical assistance to County staff and Barcroft property owner to enhance project energy efficiency and resiliency.