

**Baltimore Commission on Sustainability  
August 2014 Meeting Report**

**Date:** Tuesday, August 19, 2014, from 6-8 pm

**Location:** 417 E. Fayette Street, Baltimore MD 21201

**Subject:** Commission on Sustainability August 2014 General Meeting

**In Attendance:** (*Commissioners*) – Miriam Avins, Cheryl Casciani, John Ciekot, Dana Cooper, Fran Flanigan, Earl Johnson, Cindy Parker, John Quinn, Scot Spencer, Tom Stosur (*Staff*) – Alice Kennedy

**Discussion:**

- Baltimore City Energy Office - Strategic Energy Plan
  - Use Less. Buy Smart. Generate Your Own.
  - Why Plan for Energy
    - Directly impacts city's bottom line
    - Clean energy = cleaner air
    - Energy prices predicted to keep on rising
    - City government can be a role model
  - City spending on energy
    - Electricity 60%
    - Fleet fuel 23%
    - Steam 6%
    - Natural Gas 5%
    - Chilled water 5%
    - Oil 1%
  - Electricity use has steadily declined since 2006
  - Energy Office has completed 63 energy efficiency upgrades in 54 City facilities
    - Less than 3 years investment payback
  - Energy Planning
    - Empower Maryland
    - Baltimore Sustainability Plan, Climate Action Plan, DP3, STAR Communities, ACEEE, started to consistently call 311, and have conversations with neighbors.
  - Currently adopted goals
    - Reduce City government electric usage by 15%
    - Increase City government renewable energy use by 20%
    - Reduce petroleum consumption by the City fleet by 20%
  - Proposed New Goal
    - Reduce City government electric usage by 30 % by 2022
    - Build up city government renewable energy capacity 15 MW by 2022
    - Reduce petroleum consumption by the City fleet by 20% by 2017
  - Additional Proposed new goals
    - Reduce GHG emissions from operations, facilities and fleet by 15% by 2020
    - Secure resilient energy sources for city's critical facilities
    - Foster energy efficiency and renewable energy sources among city's non-profits and small businesses
    - Create and implement City government water conservation plan
  - 52 action items that need cross agency cooperation
  - Upcoming projects

- Street and building lights
  - 10 MW solar
  - Combined Heat and Power
- Ensuring success by adopting goals, spreading word, gaining energy champions
- Climate Planning and Implementation
  - Overview
    - Whole Block Approach
    - Baltimore Energy Initiative
    - Solar Grant and Pilot Project
    - Benchmarking
    - Climate Communications
  - Implementation
    - Identify overlaps with existing plan efforts
    - Prioritize strategies and Actions with lead stakeholders
    - Identify timelines and priorities
    - Funding and staff
    - Political support
    - Prioritize actions with connection to mitigation and adaptation
    - Project management and coordination
  - Whole Block approach
    - Energy
    - Stormwater management
    - Baltimore Energy Initiative
    - Solar – battery back up
  - Solar Pilot project
    - Abell Foundation Grant
    - Partners – GRID Alternatives and Civic Works
    - Ten row houses in the CARE Community
    - Critical community facility solar
    - Data gathering with MICA and JHU
    - Tree Species Database – spatial analysis tool and database of trees
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  - Benchmarking
    - ESS 1.B in Climate Action Plan – benchmark and disclose energy performance and improvements of city-owned and privately owned commercial, industrial and institutional buildings.
    - Benchmarking is the ongoing review of energy performance to determine if a building is getting better or worse in comparison to itself, other buildings in the portfolio and/or peers
    - Implementation of Benchmarking in Baltimore City
      - Legislations development process
      - Definition of Structure and Content of Legislation
      - Internal Government Implementation: From Legislation to Law
      - Structure and Content of Baltimore City Benchmarking Law
      - External Implementation of Benchmarking Law Within Baltimore City of Baltimore Benchmarking Education of Baltimore City Building Owners and Operators
      - Cost of Benchmarking in Baltimore City
    - Next Steps
      - Administration Briefing

- Advisory Committee Kick-Off
- BGE Data Integration Pilot
  - City Schools
  - City Government
  - JHU
- Building Stock Analysis
- Survey
- Draft Legislation
- Climate Communications
  - Make a Plan
    - Work with experts from City to create emergency plan at the event
    - Maps with evacuation routes, shelter locations, hospitals, schools, etc
  - Build a Kit
  - Help/Safe signs
    - Builds neighborhood assistance capacity
    - Lets neighbors know if you need assistance by placing appropriate sign in window
  - Small Community Meetings – Help each Other
    - Neighborhoods can sign up to have Make a Plan. Build a Kit, Help Each Other. Meetings with experts
    - Identify Climate ambassadors and CERT leaders at meetings
    - Scheduling more in September and October
- Going beyond
  - Tie climate ambassadors outreach into our Baltimore Energy Challenge network and outreach
  - Create a ninth section of our community emergency response teams training. CERT leaders will be used to go out and engage communities on preparedness and climate change
  - Connect to Public safety Initiatives and Health department initiatives

**Upcoming Events:**

- Next Commission on Sustainability Meeting: Tuesday, September 16, 2014, 4PM.