

Kansas City, MO Climate Protection Steering Committee (CPSC)
Online Meeting Via Microsoft Teams
May 23, 2022

CPSC Members Present: Michael Kelley (Vice Chair), Shirley Mata, Bo Moreno, Ellen Fairchild, Beth Pauley, Bill Griffith, Bridget Sanderson, Angela Crawford, Tom Grever.

CPSC Members Absent: Robin Ganahl (Chair), Kristin Riott.

Staff: Andy Savastino, Lara Isch, Christopher Hays, Marleny Flores, Rachel O'Neal, Matt McKinley, Consuella McCain – OEQ; Delia Heffernan – Water.

Other Attendees: Wesley Jabbar, Raymond Forstater, Wade Kiefer, Karen Uhlenhuth, Ryan Dickey, Allen Dillingham, Kailee Ford, Elizabeth Danforth, Billy Davies, Michael Wolfe, Kelly Gilbert, Kevin Brannan, John Santner.

Introductions & Overview

Michael Kelley opened the meeting at 3:30 pm with a brief welcome; A quorum was present at that time.

Approval of May 02, 2022, Minutes

* Michael Kelley made a motion, seconded by Ellen Fairchild, to approve the minutes of the meeting on May 02, 2022. The motion passed.

Resolution 220442 Re: Balanced Energy

Bridget Sanderson: Stated that the proposed preemption is very similar to the one the state already has in place.

Ellen Fairchild: Recommended more focus on balance, affordability, and liability as part of the resolution.

Bill Griffith: Suggested not to use the word balance in the letter.

Beth Pauley: Supports the letter written by Bridget Sanderson. Agrees with Bill Griffith and would also like to avoid using the term balanced in the letter.

Angela Crawford: Stated that the title of the resolution is the Balance Energy Resolution.

Ellen Fairchild, Bill Griffith, Tom Grever: Recommend an acknowledgement or recognition in the letter that states the commission is not ignorant or dismissive of the potential cost impacts.

Michael Kelley: Volunteered to read the letter from the EMC to the Steering Committee. Andy Savastino emailed the EMC letter to the Steering Committee.

Tom Grever: Urged the committee to use caution when talking about certain health impacts including cancer. Stated the committee is not an authority to be able to use those terms. Recommends wording be modified to say studies suggest or studies have shown or something that qualifies statements like that.

Andy Savastino: Suggests the committee addresses the letter to the City Mayor and all city council members.

Ellen Fairchild: Wants to see the final draft of the letter before voting on it to be sent out. Wants to see how affordability and reliability is address. Wants to the letter to be like the EMC version. States that the Steering Committee letter seems a little more aggressive.

Beth Pauley: States that only changes that were going to be made were those suggested by Tom Grever on the wording for health impacts. Stated that the CPSC has its own agency to make its own recommendations.

Ellen Fairchild: Does not support sending the letter to council.

Tom Griffith: Would prefer to see acknowledgement on affordability in the letter as well.

Bridget Sanderson: Will add an acknowledgement on affordability in the letter. Edited the letter during the Steering Committee meeting.

Building Codes Update:

Andy Savastino: Shared the link to the city's website:

<https://www.kcmo.gov/city-hall/departments/city-planning-development/iecc>.

- Stated we have a proposed ordinance for adoption 2021 IECC for both residential and commercial buildings.
- The Mayor and council held the ordinance from committee so that it would give us time to collect input form the community on the energy code proposal.
- On Wednesday May 25, 2022, at 4:00pm City Planning Development will do a presentation on the energy code.
- Councilman Andrea Bough chair the meeting; City Planning will do the presentation, questions that are directed from council will be answered.
- Will represent the direction of the Climate Protection Resiliency Plan and how the energy code tie together. It is a listening session for the community.
- On June 8th, 2022, at 1:30pm it will go to committee. Testimonials will officially be taken during that committee meeting.

Solarize KC Update:

Andy Savastino: Shared a link: <https://www.solarcrowdsource.com/campaign/kansas-city/>

- A press announcement about Solarize KC went out last week.
- The city along with several of our coalition partners including the Sierra Club, US Green Building council, Westside Housing, My Region Wins! Climate and Energy Project, Metropolitan Energy Center, have helped build out this campaign.
- There are 8 tiers of pricing. After receiving a free evaluation, up to a 20% discount could be received.
- The bulk purchase part comes in were the more kilowatts we contract with the resident and businesses the lower the price goes. It is based on participation of the project, it could go as low as a 25% discount not even factoring your tax credit that you might be able to get.
- The officially launch date is June 6th, 2022, at 6pm. Launch event will be at Operation Breakthrough. The public is invited to be there. There will be a presentation from the Mayor, city

manager, and coalition partners. Will be able to meet the installer and will have a chance to look at the solar panels.

- The campaign will be only through the summer. Tentative end date to sign up is the end of September, 2022.
- We will have a pathway for low- and moderate-income families to participate in this program. The program is available to anybody in the metropolitan area that includes some on the Kansas side as well.

Billy Davies: Added the address of the Operation Breakthrough Ignition Lab in the chat. ([Operation Breakthrough Ignition Lab, 3039 Troost Ave](#)) There will be information at the launch event about Share the Sun resources and session, where we will try to model of the work that OEQ and this committee has done on the state holder engagement through the Climate Plan.

Bo Moreno: Asked who is the solar installer. Andy Savastino: Sun Solar

Bill Griffith: Asked for examples of the PR outreach that the city is going to do for the business and residents on this Andy Savastino: Workshops both virtual and in person on various topics around solar installations. Facebook, Twitter, will be used. The city is also going to do a few additional press announcements. Coalition partners have their own networks, distribution lists.

Shirley Mata: Asked if the energy that is collected off our property roof after we purchased the solar panels the extra goes to the energy company?

Beth Pauley: This is different from Evergy's solar subscription program. Were you basically pay more on your bill and then they will procure a utility scale solar. At some point once that threshold hits a certain mark am not exactly sure what that threshold is. That would be an Ellen Fairchild question. This is specifically for distributed generation and residential solar so that the homeowners and the building owners receive those benefits back on their electricity bill. It is a little bit different Evergy does have a solar subscription service but the way this is set up is that it's bringing down that upfront cost that prevents a lot of folks from installing residential solar and receiving those benefits. It's not to be confused with Evergy's subscription solar program.

Andy Savastino: For the free assessment the solar installer will come out to your residence.

- One year's worth of utility bills is needed upfront
- The installer has a team that will look at your past year utility bills, will look at the orientation of the house and come up with a basically cost benefit analysis for you.
- You will see what percentage of your energy usage will be offset by the use of the solar.
- Battery storage system will also be available.

Angela Crawford: Asked if multifamily homes are going to be part of this initiative? How would that work with the bills with everybody having their own?

- Andy Savastino: Stated it would be up to the building or homeowner to decide to participate in the program and decide how the residents would receive the benefits of solar.

Building Performance Standards Update:

Andy Savastino: Several other cities, us, and organizations meet with folks from the white house periodically to talk about a building performance standard policy. The goal is the implementation of such policy by Earth Day of 2024. Brought in a FUSE fellow. FUSE is an organization that bring on executive fellows.

- Lara Isch: Introduced Consuella McCain the new FUSE fellow.

- Consuella McCain: Is excited about the opportunity to working with building performance standards.

Bridget Sanderson: Share proposed language in the chat.

- Chat inset: [5/23/2022 4:10 PM] Bridget Sanderson (she/her) (guest) (Guest)
Yeah, I sent the letter to the committee and will just highlight the two parts here in the chat
[5/23/2022 4:10 PM] Bridget Sanderson (she/her) (guest) (Guest)
Studies have shown that methane leaks pollute our air leading to worsening asthma, pulmonary heart disease, and cancer.
[5/23/2022 4:11 PM] Bridget Sanderson (she/her) (guest) (Guest)
Through out the drafting process, the steering committee have focused on an equitable climate plan with regards to affordability and reliability during our transition to a cleaner, healthier Kansas City. We understand that the transition from fossil fuels to renewable energy will impact all Kansas Citians, and have put recommendations in the plan that reflect that.

Michael Kelley: Reads the chat inset above aloud to the committee.

*Beth Pauley made a motion, seconded by Bill Griffith, to include this language in the proposed letter and to send it to the TIO Committee. The motion passed.

Ellen Fairchild: Opposed to include this language in the proposed letter and to send it to the TIO Committee.

Andy Savastino: Announced that OEQ will no longer send personal invites to meetings. Informed and referred all non-commissioners to visit the city clerk's page: <https://clerk.kcmo.gov/Calendar.aspx> for public meeting notification.

Lara Isch: Informed everyone that they could sign up for email notification also on the same website. <https://clerk.kcmo.gov/Calendar.aspx>

Public Comment:

Karen Uhlenhuth: Asked if the BPS are like the ones in St. Louis?

- Andy Savastino: Stated that St. Louis is one if the cities used as reference, but Kansas City will have its own BPS that works for the city.

Michael Wolfe: Resident of the 4th district. Thanks, the committee for coming out in opposition in this pro gas resolution from Spire.

Billy Davies: States that this resolution has been rejected twice. Encourage everyone to assist the listening session at 4pm this Wednesday.

Raymond Forstater: Resident of the 4th district. Echo what Billy Davies was saying about the rejection the resolution.

The meeting was adjourned at 4:40pm.