

ENVIRONMENTAL SUSTAINABILITY COUNCIL
ENERGY TRANSITION SUBCOMMITTEE

Thursday, February 4, 2020, Virtual Meeting via Microsoft Teams, 7:30 – 9:30 p.m.

APPROVED MINUTES

1. **Attendees:** Jon Ward (Chair), Mike Trauberman (ESC), Stacy Noblet. **City Staff:** Kate Walker (ESC ETS Staff Liaison).

This meeting was held via electronic communications using ‘Microsoft Teams.’ This meeting was held pursuant to and in compliance with the Virginia Freedom of Information Act, Section 2.2-3708.2 and state and local legislation adopted to allow for continued government operation during the COVID-19 declared emergency. (https://fallschurch-va.granicus.com/player/clip/1435?view_id=2&redirect=true)

2. **Voluntary Concessions:** Attendees discussed the amendments to the Special Exception criteria under consideration by City Council (TO26-20) and commented-on via the ESC’s 1/31/2021 memo to the Planning Commission. Kate prioritized getting ‘sustainability’ and ‘resilience’ into the primary criteria. We discussed meeting with City Council to present the idea of more ambitious Voluntary Concessions to meet greenhouse-gas goals and gauge Council’s response.
Action Item #1: Jon will coordinate with the ESC Chair and draft an ETS memo to the appropriate parties to clarify that the ESC’s recommendation for energy efficiency were intended to be relative to the LEED baseline model. He will also discuss the suitability of including the WELL Building Standard.
3. **Electric Vehicles (EVs):** In discussing Voluntary Concessions, Stacy noted that while Level 1 (110 V) chargers for residents in multi-family buildings for overnight charging may be sufficient, newer, longer-range vehicles may need Level 2 to charge fast enough for owner’s needs. Also, utilities are only incentivizing Level 2 chargers, which typically allow internet connectivity for controllability. Attendees preferred separate voluntary concessions for residential and for commercial parking spaces. Mike noted that Arlington’s Green Building criterion requires that 5% of spaces have EVSE (EV Supply Equipment, i.e., charger) installed and another 10% be EVSE-ready; and that these ratios are also from the LEED v4.1 Guidebook.
Action Item #2: Stacy will collect benchmarking info on the fraction of parking spaces with EV requirements that other municipalities are imposing for residential and commercial development.

Attendees felt that a survey of potential vehicle buyers/lessees, discussed previously, would likely be expensive if designed and conducted to obtain unbiased, statistically reliable results, but that it doesn’t hurt to incorporate one into the City’s new EV webpage. Other possible EV-promotion approaches were discussed: organizing a group-buy program; reaching out to local corporate dealerships requesting info on EV-adoption criteria; outreach to learn from other small cities; getting Electrify America or other organization to do outreach.

Action Item #3: Jon will forward a draft survey to ETS members.

Action Item #4: Jon will reach out to Electrify America.

4. **Rooftop PV:** Kate reported that sustainability professionals with several DC-area jurisdictions were discussing regional solar co-ops (e.g., larger than the annual Arlington co-op).
5. **January 2021 ETS Meeting Minutes:** Approved unanimously.
6. **Next Meeting**
 - March 2021 meeting unconfirmed.
 - Thursday, April 1, 7:30 – 9:30 p.m., likely virtual via Microsoft Teams.

Abbreviations / Terminology:

- **LEED:** Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design