

# Cambridge Climate Committee Meeting Minutes

October 13, 2022 6-8pm

## ETP Director's Update

Cycling ordinance

Anti-quick build C&D rejected

6-year plan in progress to meet ordinance deadline requires many projects, increasing visibility

Q: Review & evaluation?

A: Feedback from scores of people on each project in public review (opposing and supporting).

Annual modal use counts are back, bikes were just completed.

NZ Transportation Plan

Support from Barr Foundation, USDN

Integrate under-represented/voiced groups

State regulating e-bikes, not e-scooters.

Add to Bluebikes?

BEUDO

More hearings (early Nov, econ dev late Nov?)

NZAP

10/28 morning health & env 5-yr review

New state code

Working to adopt specialized opt-in

Cambridge received special dispensation from state to ban mixed-fuel new construction i.e; require all-electric

DOE grant proposal

MassCEC, NREL, Eversource, BrightCore ... geothermal district heating ("geo-grid") feasibility for Strawberry Hill

## REGULAR BUSINESS

### New membership

Processes are unblocking at city manager's

Soon new applications and reapplications

CDD now has community outreach group, will leverage for recruitment

Be prepared to reach out to your networks

We are all expired, but can we have short renewal for existing members to allow phased transitions?

Do we need to update bylaws to reflect recent desire to focus on broader community involvement?  
May have someone working on a locally-oriented group, but is not a resident.

### **Net Zero Action Plan review**

Streamlined process this year, 2021 was 5-year review

2020/2021 5-year is done

Higher emphasis on equity than previous plans

Q: What are structural barriers to meeting goals? We saw lower-intensity with new construction, but still increased emissions.

A: Many and diverse buildings. Technologies, physical constraints. Labor & supply chain, regulatory but:

- NZ code, BEUDO performance standards (requirements and technical support)
- Many recommendations from last year's letter to city manager were integrated into the report. Others are underway e.g; clarity of timeline

Q: Cambridge has conservative interpretation of anti-aid, is there an opportunity with new city manager to revisit this?

A: Impact of anti-aid regulations on climate programs has been discussed.

- Summary of changes to plan timeline: transaction point requirements, carbon intensity, embodied carbon/reuse, solar requirements (harmonize w/ green roofs), local carbon fund
- Many are accelerated (carbon fund...), some are decelerated (materials)

Q: Require solar ready to eventually install solar?

A: Will consider

Q: Reuse old CEA structure for carbon fund to facilitate separate entity simplicity of implementation?

A: Maybe, but CEA was under CHA and may not be the best option.

Q: How might we access federal funds to insure implementation follows on planning?

Q: How can we ensure to export/share our planning results to increase impact?

- A: Cambridge received \$88 million in ARPA funds, \$4m is allocated to climate/sustainability/transit. Will look into IRA.
- No annual status report yet, preview sketch of new "interactive" version integrated with sustainability dashboard.
- Idea: Include mechanism for exporting data behind graphics

Q: What should CPAC do in the next month or so regarding this?

A: Letter to city manager as before is good, but delayed by change in design. Draft for November meeting, but December feedback then will align with FY24 budgeting process.

Q: Are we making this accessible to wide audiences? On disseminating widely?

A: CDD is committed to plain language communications. How will get the information out is more complex, but working to do that more broadly e.g; urban forest master plan, etc. Also, not everyone goes to the website for info.

Comment: Not all aspects need to be communicated. Composting is an example of good communication.

#### **MEMBER NOTES**

Low-carbon concrete

Description

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Forthcoming recording

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