

GOVERNMENT OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA
Department of Energy and Environment

Green Building Advisory Council

Meeting Date: 12/5/2018

Meeting Location: DOEE, 1200 1st Street NE

Attendees (In person): (**denotes members of the Green Building Advisory Council*)

Bryan Bomer (DCRA), Katherine Johnson (DOEE)*, Casey Studhalter (DOEE), Katie Bergfeld (DOEE), Dave Epley* (DCRA), Anica Landreneau* (HOK), Zach Dobelbower* (DGS), Andrew Held (DOEE), Fernando Arias (Clark Construction), Mark Bryan (USGBC-NCR), Nathan Kron (DOEE), Stephen Gyor* (OP), Joanna Saunders (DOEE), Cliff Majersik* (IMT), Mike Brown (DCRA), Jay Wilson (DOEE), Stacy Mitchell (Akin Gump).

Attendees (by phone):

Jess Zimbabwe* (ULI), Carl Reeverts (EPA)*

Main Points/Discussion:

Introductions (All)

Exemption Request, continued

- Closed door meeting requested by AT&T regarding exemption from compliance with the District's Building Energy Benchmarking program.
- Closed door meeting proposed by Kate Johnson. None opposed. Motion approved.
- Closed door meeting held with GBAC members and Katie Bergfeld, DOEE; Andrew Held (DOEE); Stacey Mitchell, Partner, Akin Gump, representing AT&T.

FY19 Green Building Fund and Green Building Grant Update – Kate Johnson, DOEE

- Green Building Fund Grant update
 - Funding in FY19 will be limited compared to prior years - \$400k last year, only \$120 this year
 - Of that \$120k, \$70k going to carbon neutrality study
 - \$50 remaining for green building grants
 - Currently have access to numerous sources of TA through other avenues
 - DOEE identified need for project assistance with upfront design for NZE
 - DOEE considering a call for applications, similar to Community Stormwater Solutions Grant which allows a pot of funds to support multiple projects.
 - Prior grant, unsure who offered it, provided \$5,000 for charrette work and was well utilized. Also a need for early energy modeling to inform predesign. Anica felt a set amount would be helpful. Patti Rose with Green Spaces was involved at the time and might be good contact to learn more.
 - Most impactful early in the design process. Once have the design team, will be more difficult to have large changes.
 - Should differentiate between commercial and residential, and tie funding levels to

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- building size (and impact).
- Good to tie award to the new code alternative compliance paths – helps to spur use of those. LBC, Passive House, etc.
- Suggested to focus on Top 100 Hours approach. Look at most impactful 10 hours of the year, etc, and focus there. Expand the number of hours in which a building or portfolio achieves NZE performance.
- Green Building Fund overview
 - Operating budget is around \$2.2-2.5 million.
 - Fund balance swept last year.
 - Revenue is approximately \$1.9M annually from permit fees.
 - Fund needs to change or grow in order to stem the deficit spending.
 - Discrepancy exists between the bill and rulemaking in how much is collected by GBF. Correction was submitted but has not been made for two years. Could result in additional \$1M if corrected. Appendix M “Schedule of Fees”, Fee for Major Alterations is where mistake exists – can only be corrected by EOM/OAG. .065 in Green Building Act and .0065 in schedule of fees.
 - Ability to use these special purpose revenue funds for staffing is important in allowing the DCRA green building to grow.

Building Code Update - Dave Epley, DCRA and Casey Studhalter, DOEE

- The first public comment period has closed for the 2018 DC Construction Codes update.
- February targeted for start of the 2nd round of public comment.
- In prior code cycle, one year was allowed to grandfather in to previous version of code if you had signed design contract but not yet pulled permit. If haven't signed a contract, would have to use new code immediately. GBAC membership felt six months is more typical for other jurisdictions. DC should consider shortening implementation that way too given how out of date the current codes are.

American Cities Climate Challenge – Kate Johnson, DOEE

- American Cities Climate Challenge is a \$75M program funded by Bloomberg Philanthropies, supporting 20 cities by targeting near-term climate change solutions through 2020
- Not all cities have been announced, but those that have include good geographic diversity.
- Striking how similar the potential solutions are across disparate cities and geographies.
- No funds are awarded – all support is in-kind. Bloomberg funds a platform of providers and provides a climate advisor who is based at DOEE. NRDC will be posting the job opening for DC soon.
- The [press release for DC's award](#) is available on DOEE website but much of the remaining information is not publicly available yet.
- Large amount of reporting to Bloomberg throughout the program and beyond. Bloomberg will roll up and aggregate the progress to show joint progress towards the national Paris commitments.

Clean Energy DC Act update – DOEE staff

- First vote was November 27th, where it passed unanimously. Next vote anticipated December 18th. Content has changed slightly with latest version available on Council website.
- Most notable change is requirement for all fleets (50+ vehicles) to be electrified. The inclusion

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of rideshare vehicles was removed in final amendment. Also, change allows utility to offer energy efficiency programs as well. Similar allowances in other markets have caused confusion.

- BEPS changes were limited to a one year delay in implementation to 2021.
- Task force will be created by the bill, which includes one representative from the GBAC. Will discuss at next GBAC meeting how to determine that selection.

Roundtable Updates

- Kate Johnson – Most members' terms are due now and GBAC members are asked to come prepared at next meeting to confirm whether they serve another two year term.
- Jay Wilson – DC Green Bank received Smart Cities Dive award.
- Cliff Majersik – Private members of GBAC submitted letter in support of Clean Energy DC act. NY has similar bill which has recently received support of large building ownership group. Law likely to be passed on/before Earth Day.
- Andrew Held – 2017 benchmarking map is now [live](#).

The meeting adjourned at 5:06pm ET.

The next meeting will be:

February 6, 2019

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1200 First Street NE, 5th Floor