

Green Building Advisory Council

Meeting Date: 6/2/2021

Meeting Location: Online - WebEx

Attendees (all by Webex/phone): Casey Studhalter (DOEE), Fernando Arias (Clark Construction)*, Andrew Held (DOEE), Cliff Majersik (IMT)*, Mel Pennett (DOEE), Jenn Hatch (DOEE), Stephen Gyor* (OP), Katie Bergfeld (DOEE), Sharon Jaye (DOEE), Connor Rattey (DOEE), MaryLynn Wilhere (DOEE), Maribeth DeLorenzo, Michael Brown (DCRA), Monique Boccock (DCRA), Yue Jiang (DOEE), Michael Feldman-Wiencek (DOEE)

*(*denotes members of the Green Building Advisory Council)*

Administrative Items – Casey Studhalter (DOEE)

- Kate Johnson is out on parental leave for the next couple months.
- Introduction to DOEE new hire – Connor Rattey, Green Building Program Analyst. Taking over for Kathleen Berube.
- Sustainable DC and Climate Ready DC progress reports have been published and are available at <https://sustainable.dc.gov/progress>
- Mayor submitted FY2022 budget to Council on May 27.
 - Budget totals about \$17.5B, which is a big increase over previous years thanks to Federal financial support.
 - Includes significant affordable housing investments, \$400M split between FY22 and supplemental FY21 budgets.
 - \$67 million would be used to buy buildings for deeply affordable housing
 - \$113 million over several years to fund the repair of public housing units

DCRA updates – Michael Brown (DCRA)

- No additional information to provide on the DCRA budget has been approved for release. There is a budget hearing next week.
- DCRA has a Green Building Program Analyst position open. First round of interviews held last week and the Director is expected to interview and select a candidate within the next couple weeks.
 - This position will perform tasks related to green code plan review and inspections. Will create checklists and forms to assist contractors with green code compliance.
 - The selected applicant will also likely be appointed as the designated DCRA representative to the GBAC.
- DCRA's request to fill an open Plan Reviewer position was denied.
- Commercial energy code training to be held tomorrow (6/3).
- Residential Energy TAG completed their work 2 weeks ago and had 6 electrification-related proposals approved by the TAG. The only current issue is with decorative fireplaces.

Building Energy Performance Standard (BEPS) and Benchmarking Updates – *Katie Bergfeld (DOEE)*

- Reporting deadline for CY2020 was April 1, 2021. Currently at a 96% submission rate with high accuracy rate.
- 2020 data has been released and can be seen on benchmarking map at energybenchmarkingdc.org. The raw data can also be downloaded from the same site.
- One round of violation notices has been sent out to buildings that are out of compliance. Another round is planned, and fines will be sent, as necessary, later in the summer.
- DOEE published a BEPS-related disclosure, which shows how each building in the data set compares to the other buildings. This is available at <https://opendata.dc.gov/>.
- Finalized the 2021 BEPS. They were established via emergency rulemaking in January and final rulemaking was published at the end of April.
- BEPS Compliance regulations that spell out how BEPS will be enforced have been published on the website.
- DOEE has finished its updates to the standards. These may either go out for comment or be finalized. They have gone through OAG review and next step is to be reviewed by the Mayor's office.
- BEPS Guidebook will be published and will go out for public comment soon. This Guidebook will describe the regulations in layman's terms.
- BEPS Cost-Benefit Analysis is working through approval process and will hopefully be published soon.
- A preliminary, high-level analysis of the CY2020 data compared to CY2019 data has been completed. This analysis did not show as big of a drop in energy consumption as was expected. The greatest drop was seen in hotels (~40%). Offices showed a 15-20% drop. Only saw a slight uptick in multi-family, which was unexpected. Public buildings had almost no change.
- DOEE is working to reach out to smaller buildings to educate them on benchmarking and convince them to start voluntarily reporting their data before they are required to do so. Have not seen much response to this outreach even though DOEE is offering free benchmarking services performed by a DOEE intern.

Green Building Fund grants awarded – *Casey Studhalter (DOEE)*

- Green Building Fund was created by the Green Building Act of 2006. Some of DOEE's portion of the Fund goes to a grant program. Over the last 3 years, these grant funds have been used to support projects directly, particularly Net-Zero Energy (NZE) projects with pre-design analysis.
- FY2021 grants are meant to be a continuation of this work, but added an option to support measuring/reducing embodied carbon.
- DOEE recently awarded 4 grantees, totaling 5 projects (one grantee has two projects). The total funds awarded are approximately \$73,000.
 - 3 of the projects are NZE design assistance. 2 projects are focused on embodied carbon.
- Information about grantees will be announced in a press release soon.

- Performance period goes through Sept 30, so deliverables should be available in early October and will be shared with GBAC.

Roundtable updates – All

- MaryLynn – Last week, DOEE held a webinar on mold, pests and indoor air quality. Recording is available at: <https://dcnet.webex.com/dcnet/ldr.php?RCID=12f24998961c4c7fa70e1ab5a1c600c1>.
- Fernando – Clark is partnering with the Building Innovation Hub. The new landing page for the BIH partnership project is available at: <https://buildinginnovationhub.org/event/whatittakes/>. The first in a 4-part series of discussion panels will be hosted on June 8. The discussion will give a design perspective on what it will take to achieve building decarbonization. Information on this webinar series is available at: <https://buildinginnovationhub.org/event/what-it-takes-series-designing-carbon-free-buildings/>
- Jenn – DC’s 2019 Greenhouse Gas Inventory was released a couple weeks ago and is available at: <https://doee.dc.gov/service/greenhouse-gas-inventories#:~:text=DOEE%20regularly%20tracks%20the%20District's,measure%20how%20much%20they%20pollute>
- Katie – DOEE currently has a position open on the DCHR careers website until June 14. The position will focus on outreach and building/maintaining key relationships for the BEPS program. The position details are available at: https://careers.dc.gov/psc/erecruit/EMPLOYEE/HRMS/c/HRS_HRAM_FL.HRS_CG_SEARCH_FL.GBL?Page=HRS_APP_JBPST_FL&Action=U&FOCUS=Applicant&SiteId=1&JobOpeningId=13203&PostingSeq=1
- Mel – Green Fellows Collaborative project is to put together green building profiles to add to the existing case study catalog on the DOEE website.
- Maribeth – DC budget is available at: <https://cfo.dc.gov/node/289642>
 - For DOEE-specific sections, see:
 - Vol 3 of the Agency Budget Chapters, pages F23 - F38
 - Operating Budget Appendices, pages F23 - F41
 - Capital Budget, pages 303 – 310
- Sharon – Next BEPS taskforce meeting is on June 22. Will be discussing an analysis of the workforce development gap. Email sharon.jaye@dc.gov for the calendar invite to the BEPS Task Force meeting on June 22. Task force notes and recordings: <https://doee.dc.gov/node/1436891>
- Steven – Comprehensive plan has been adopted by Council.

Meeting adjourned at 4:01pm.

The next meeting will be:

August 4, 2021 at 3pm

WebEx link TBD