



City of Milwaukee

200 E. Wells Street
Milwaukee, Wisconsin
53202

Meeting Minutes

CITY-COUNTY ADVISORY BOARD ON CLIMATE AND ECONOMIC EQUITY

*Ald. Marina Dimitrijevic and
Sup. Priscilla Coggs-Jones, Co-Chair*

*Andi Elliott, Pam Fendt, Linda Frank, Ted Kraig, Janet
Meissner Pritchard, Supreme Moore Omokunde, Nancy
Retana, Erick Shambarger, Rafael Smith, and Freida Webb*

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*Google documents for this body can be found at :
<http://bit.ly/CCTFCEE>*

Thursday, January 23, 2025

10:00 AM

Virtual

Please join this meeting from your computer, tablet or smartphone.

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Access Code:

776-233-397

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1. Roll call.

Meeting convened: 10:09 AM

Members present: Linda Frank, Erick Shambarger, Sup. Priscilla Cogg-Jones, Ted Kraig, Ald. Marina Dimitrijevic, Rafael Smith, Pam Fendt, Rep. Supreme Moore Omokunde (10:25 AM)

Excused: Janet Meissner Pritchard and Andi Elliott

Unexcused: Nancy Renata and Freida Webb

2. Clarification on Advisory Board Meetings and Reports.

This will be an annual meeting and will go to Steering and Rules Committee for a report. This body is an advisory body and to watch over city staff and make recommendations for improvement. With the new US President, gains are being rolled back. Per Mr. Shambarger, the county is working on its resolutions to switch from a task force to an advisory board. ECO will take the lead on framing the report to Steering and Rules and this body can advise on the report. There will be one annual report done collaboratively with ECO and this Board to Steering and Rules Committee.

Ms. Frank believes the Advisory Board was set up to meet twice annually and that the Board would report to Steering and Rules. Mr. Shambarger believes all Board members will be present at Steering and Rules as part of the annual report to that body. Ms. Jennifer Evans questioned how the Board will give input on the report if it only meets once a year. This meeting is to get feedback before the report goes before Steering and Rules Committee. Pam Fendt understands that the Task Force created the document, but the city staff now drives it. Mr. Shambarger is willing to get feedback from members and have them present at Steering and Rules Committee.

3. Update from Environmental Collaboration Office on grants, project funding, and implementation on each of the 10 Big Ideas.

Mr. Shambarger said that in the last year his office worked hard to secure federal funding to implement all 10 big ideas, which was an incredible job by staff and private partners. The city got over \$3 million in grants from the federal government and DPW also got grants for complete streets work. Mr. Shambarger went through the private organizations and city departments which got grants for each big idea. There will be apprentices on each and every job site to help people advance in their careers as well as workforce requirements for solar work. The first year of one grant will be used to educate housing contractors on what net zero is. Five new positions will be added to the ECO office if they can get some funds finalized. The Mayor's Office is focusing on re-designing streets to curb reckless driving and also adding population and density. The city is also focusing on purchasing electric vehicles and setting up electric charging stations. Money is also being used to plant more trees in Milwaukee County parks and on MPS property. There is now a staff person to lead "Feed MKE" which focuses on food kitchens, food pantries and composting. The city also hired Resilience Ambassadors from the community to educate homeowners on lead abatement, energy efficiency and other city programs they can access. SEWRPC got a grant and money from that went to ECO to write a climate plan for the entire area, which has resulted in other mayors becoming involved.

With the new President, things are up in the air a bit more. Typically if there is a contract, the government tends to honor those, but this may no longer be true. The President is trying to halt all payments for green efforts for 90 days, but that may be illegal. Mr. Shambarger noted that much of what was accomplished is at serious risk. The chair asked for a list of specifics and how the city's work might be impacted and how the city can react.

Mr. Kraig noted how public transportation at the county level is going backwards and there is no intent to increase bus rapid transit.

Mr. Shambarger noted that Grow MKE has not been adopted yet as there has been push back from the community, particularly in adding density.

For the apprenticeships, the ECO staff will be working with high schools to introduce students to green jobs opportunities and encourage them to go into the trades. The office is creating a green jobs guide to get out to young people in the spring. There is a lot of demand for HVAC technicians and electricians.

4. Public-facing dashboard update

Mr. Shambarger said Climate View was hired and the contract is up for renewal, so he would like members' feedback. The dashboard provides status on the progress and is updated about quarterly. ECO does regular newsletters that also update on progress. Climate View is merging with ICLE, so its capabilities will be changing in the future. Ald. Dimitrijevic thought the tool was powerful and transparent. Ms. Jennifer Evans had

some concerns, but she addressed those to Mr. Shambarger, who was very responsive.

5. Public engagement planned for big projects, including but not limited to electric vehicles and building performance standards.

Mr. Shambarger said a public engagement website has been set up for the location of these 53 stations; each will have a minimum of 4 parking stalls. The sites are preliminary and can be changed, so feedback is welcome. There will be at least one public meeting, probably in March, to get further public feedback. They have been working with various neighborhood associations and there must be a network of individuals who support these efforts.

6. Equity-related efforts.

Mr. Shambarger said they have incorporated equity into all their grants and exceed federal equity requirements. Justice 40 was an Executive Order from the Biden administration that a minimum of 40% of all investments go to disadvantaged communities (and "disadvantaged" was defined by the federal government). The city does intend to go forward with an equity focus. Ms. Frank asked about how the results of these efforts will be measured and what metrics will be gathered so those results can be reported out. Both Mr. Shambarger and Ald. Dimitrijevic will continue to work with the Office of Equity and Inclusion. Ms. Evans would have liked to have that Office attend this meeting so members could ask them questions. Mr. Shambarger thanked attendees for their engagement on these issues and wanted to encourage members to stay active on these issues. Ald. Dimitrijevic thanked ECO staff and all attendees as well for their work and should feel proud.

*Meeting adjourned: 11:21 AM
Linda M. Elmer
Staff Assistant*

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Communication relating to the activities of the City-County Advisory Board on Climate and Economic Equity.

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