



City of Boulder – Xcel Energy Partnership

Community Advisory Panel Quarterly Meeting

Date	May 09, 2022, 5:30pm to 7:30pm
Location	Zoom
Participants	<p><u>Working Group Members</u></p> <p>Present: Andy Sayler, Stephanie Hsiung, Jack Vultaggio, Dennis Arfmann, Wayne Seltzer, Brian Lindoerfer, Julie Zahniser, Ramesh Bhatt, George Craft, Pat Hillmeyer, Emily Swallow, Justin Brant, Peter Lilienthal (left at 6:25pm)</p> <p>Regrets: Bryn Grunwald, Eli Feldman, Erik Abrahamson, Kenny Gillis</p> <p><u>Boulder Xcel Team</u></p> <p>Carolyn Elam, City of Boulder; Emily Sandoval, City of Boulder; Iffie Jennings, Xcel Energy; Matt Lerhman, City of Boulder; Hollie Velasquez Horvath, Xcel Energy (left at 6:00pm); Jonathan Koehn, City of Boulder (left at 6:35)</p> <p><u>Institute for the Built Environment</u></p> <p>Josie Plaut, Facilitator; Tom Hootman, Consultant; Monica O’Reilly, Recorder</p> <p>Members of the public</p>

Meeting Summary

Topic	Notes
Welcome & Agenda	<p>Emily Sandoval briefly welcomed the group, shared the structure of the meeting, and presented Josie Plaut as the facilitator. Josie introduced Brian Lindoerfer as a replacing David Kang on the panel for CU Boulder. Next Josie shared the agenda for the meeting.</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Updates & Dialogue with Xcel Executives 2. Review of 100% Renewable Recommendations 3. Review of Building Electrification Recommendations 4. Next Quarter Look Ahead 5. Advisory Panel Terms

	6. Wrap Up
Updates from Executives	<p>Iffie Jennings to introduce the executive team members Hollie Velasquez Horvath and Jonathan Koehn.</p> <p>Jonathan praised the group for promoting rapid change, challenging the status quo, and forming new ideas. He expressed gratitude for the Working Groups and the staff for their efforts. Additionally, he highlighted that the past year has been spent on building trust between the partnership and discussed on-going activities.</p> <p>Next, Hollie stressed the significance of community input and engagement to the operations and evolution Xcel. She articulated that the regulatory environment is not easy to transform, and Xcel must balance competing priorities of rapid change, reliability, and cost. She highlighted that the working groups are playing an important role to push for change. Finally, Hollie reiterated the importance of delivering on Boulder’s mission and welcomed all feedback and ideas.</p> <p>Discussion</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • What kind of feedback have you heard from other groups regarding the Advisory Panel? <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Jonathan answered that they have heard back from constituents regarding tactics that the City and Xcel should utilize. He acknowledges that the work of the group needs to be better amplified. • One participant acknowledged that an individual in FERC did not want to discuss the partnership. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Jonathan responded that Xcel has been disruptive in systems and stressed they need to continue being provocative and push for action. • What results can you report from your weekly meeting with the City team? <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Hollie shared that through the weekly meetings the City and Xcel have been building trust to ensure open dialogue and feedback. She explained how coordination and communication between the City and Xcel has improved. Lastly, she stated the City pushes Xcel to deliver on their mission. ○ Jonathan added that Xcel is exploring the capabilities of the partnership. He thanked Hollie and Iffie for continuing to bring new ideas forward and keeping on pace. ○ Josie reiterated that the Executive Team is always available to hear comments and concerns from the group.

<p>Recommendations Review Process and Framing</p>	<p>Josie framed how the recommendations move through the Advisory Panel to the executive team and Program Oversight Team, eventually being integrated into the partnership work plan with progress being reported back to the panel. Then she reviewed the process for the working groups development of the recommendations, including the time and effort invested by working group members and staff.</p> <p>Josie outlined the process for presenting the recommendations noting that the full detailed recommendations had been provided to the panel and the public prior to the meeting.</p> <p>For each Working Group, Carolyn, Josie and working members provided a topic overview and presented recommendations followed by questions and discussion among the panel. Finally, the panel conducted a straw poll via an online polling software called Mentimeter for each recommendation to either 1) advance the recommendation as is, 2) advance with modifications, 3) return to working group, or 4) block recommendation.</p>
<p>100% Renewable Recommendations</p>	<p>Carolyn began the presentation by reviewing definitions of renewable energy including 100% renewable annually, 24/7 renewables, and closing the emissions gap.</p> <p>Josie briefly outlined five barriers and challenges identified by the working group related to achieving the renewable energy goals. She then shared a summary of the values and criteria developed through the working group sessions explaining that the values are intended to guide partnership decisions and actions.</p> <p>Peter Lilienthal, a Working Group and Advisory Panel member, provided a brief overview of the Renewable Energy Working Group recommendations:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Develop the Roadmap to Zero Emissions Electricity 2. Drive Local Generation 3. Develop System-level Solutions that Accelerate Grid-Wide Emissions Reduction <p>Josie asked that panel members, particularly those who did not participate in the Working Group to ask questions and open the discussion.</p> <p>Discussion</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The recommendations do not seem to directly address the identified barriers and challenges. Why? <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ George Craft - the summary presented does not capture the detail of the discussions had on these topics. He assured that the Working Group thoroughly addressed all aspects of this objective.

- Another participant emphasized that local generation should be prioritized as soon as possible.
 - Josie – the details of the recommendation there are several on-going strategies that have been identified to drive local generation.
- What is the timeframe of implementing recommendations?
 - Carolyn - the plan is to take the finalized recommendations and develop implementation plan that will be reviewed at the next Advisory Panel meeting.
- One participant stressed the importance of working on a timeframe, bringing up that data is needed by spring of 2025 that will determine whether the partnership will continue.
 - Carolyn - the City is also working on a strict timeframe, including the deadline for the Commission in June.
- Would it be appropriate for Xcel to develop the roadmap to zero emissions?
 - Carolyn and Iffie - developing the roadmap is a partnership task and it needs to be developed as such.
- Could you provide background on the significance of how the June regulatory filing relates to developing a roadmap to zero emissions?
 - Matt and Carolyn responded that the regulatory filing requires them to quantify how they will reduce emissions.

Polling

Josie wrapped up discussion and Emily posted an email in the chat where community members can share additional questions and comments. She continued by explaining the polling process via Mentimeter. For each recommendation, the Advisory Panel voted to either advance the recommendation as written, advance the recommendation with some modifications, or return recommendation to working group.

- A participant acknowledged that it seemed difficult to vote on recommendations given the update on the June regulatory filing.
 - *Carolyn responded that the filing in part one of program implementation and design, which are informed by the Working Groups in an iterative process.*

1. Values & Goals

- Advance as is: 12
- Advance with minor amendments: 2

2. Develop the Roadmap to Zero Emissions Electricity

- Advance as is: 10
- Advance with minor amendments: 2

- Return to working group: 1

Josie asked if the participant who voted to return the recommendation to the working group could share their thoughts.

- This participant shared that they felt the group needed to flesh out the renewable energy component more.
- Another participant shared they would advance but with modifications. They explained the importance of adding concrete data to recommendations.

3. Drive Local Renewable Energy Generation

- Advance as is: 10
- Advance with minor amendments: 3

Josie asked if any participants had any important comments they would like to make regarding this recommendation.

- One participant stated they think this topic should be explored further in another meeting because there is a lot of expertise in the group to draw on.

4. Develop Programs and Models that Accelerate Grid-Wide Emissions Reduction Solutions

- Advance as is: 9
- Advance with minor amendments: 3
- Return to working group: 1

Josie asked that participant follow up on questions and concerns using an offline format and thanks those who participated for their comments.

Building Electrification Working Group

Josie presented slides about the relationship between renewable energy and building electrification. As current electricity needs are met through renewables, the remaining emissions will be primarily caused by transportation fuel and natural gas for residential, commercial and industrial uses (primarily space heating, water heating, and cooking).

Carolyn noted that electric solutions are currently cleaner from an emissions perspective than natural gas and stressed that making changes now impacts emissions overtime. Carolyn shared slide showing the growing natural gas use in the community attributed to population growth and growing commercial and industrial uses. She ended by reiterating that the electric grid must grow to accommodate the shift towards all electric buildings and transportation.

Next, Stephanie Hsiung outlined the four key barriers and challenges to electrification. Finally, Andy Sayler reviewed the working groups recommendations.

Discussion

- Overall approval of recommendations, but we should try to build in encouragement for reuse of renewables in electrification.
- A participant stated that we need to emphasize that renters need to benefit as much as building owners.
 - Josie – a deeper dive is needed into split-incentives for renters ensuring that electrification does not place an unfair burden on renters and noted the health benefits electrification for building occupants.
- Can we look to other places for examples for electrification strategies?
 - Josie – yes, the group reviewed resources on precedent communities and Xcel and the City continue to track progress and approaches in other communities.
- How were the percentages developed for the reduction targets?
 - Carolyn – the numbers reflect what is needed for Boulder to meet its emission goals, assuming the renewable goals are met.
- Participants approved of the recommendations use of metrics.

Polling

1. Develop a Multifaceted Commercial Electrification Strategy
 - Advance as is: 11
2. Expand Residential Electrification Programs
 - Advance as is: 11
3. Address Cost Burden of Service Upgrades for Electrification
 - Advance as is: 10
 - Advance with minor amendments: 1

Look Ahead

Josie thanked participants for the tremendous time, effort, and thought they put into developing the recommendations. She explained that the immediate action items will be finalizing formal recommendations to the Executive team and Program Oversight team. The recommendations will then be integrated into their work plans and Advisory Panel Members will receive updates on the Program Oversight team's progress.

There will be several workshop and meeting opportunities to participant in over the summer. Josie asked if there were any questions regarding these activities.

- Can you explain the Solar Hack- a-Thon?

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ The purpose of this workshop is to get all stakeholders together to look at the whole process of solar and to determine solutions to persistent problems. ● Is the equity group focused specifically on the recommendations or the partnership in general? <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ The group work to develop an equity lens for the partnership in general but will use the current recommendations as a touch point. <p>Group members to indicated which groups, if any, they were interested in participating in over the summer:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Solar Hack-a-Thon: Wayne, Pat, Ramesh, Brian, Julie, and Stephanie ○ Customer Experience / Quick Wins Meetings: Pat, George, Ramesh, Stephanie, Jack, Brian, Justin ○ Equity Lens Development: Jack, Ramesh, Andy, Stephanie, Emily ○ Split Incentive Customer Journey Mapping: Justin, George, Stephanie, Emily
Wrap- Up	<p>Next advisory panel meeting on August 8, 5:30-7:30pm, possibly in person, TBD.</p> <p>The agenda will dive into partnership progress, report back on summer progress, and charter next Working Groups.</p>
Resources	<p>Working Group Recommendations: https://bouldercolorado.gov/media/7896/download?inline</p> <p>Members of the public: Please email contactclimateinitiatives@bouldercolorado.gov with your thoughts.</p>