

City of Boulder – Xcel Energy Partnership

Community Advisory Panel Quarterly Meeting

Date	August 8, 2022
Location	Zoom Virtual Meeting
Participants	<u>Community Advisory Panel Members</u> Andy Sayler; Brian Lindoefer; Bryn Grunwald; Dennis Arfmann; Emily Swallow; George Craft; Jack Vultaggio; Julie Zahniser; Justin Brant; Pat Hillmeyer; Peter Lilienthal; Ramesh Bhatt; Stephanie Hsiung; Wayne Seltzer <u>Boulder Xcel Team</u> Carolyn Elam; Emily Sandoval; Iffie Jennings; Angie Bedolla; Cheriese Marczyk <u>Institute for the Built Environment</u> Josie Plaut, Facilitator; Monica O’Reilly, Recorder <u>Members of the public</u> Nine members of the public observed at least a portion of the meeting.

Meeting Summary

Topic	Notes
Welcome & Agenda	<p>The meeting began with a review of the agenda.</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none">1. Review the Partnership Work Plan, including the integration of Working Group recommendations2. Partnership project highlights3. Review Working Group recommendations progress4. Discuss Climate Tax5. Next quarter look ahead6. Advisory Panel terms and renewals <p>Angie Bedolla from Xcel introduced herself as a new member of the Project Oversight Team. Angie briefly presented her background and expressed her excitement to work on the project.</p>

<p>Review Partnership Workplan</p>	<p>Iffie Jennings reviewed the partnership's priorities and deliverables for 2022-2023. She provided background information and potential solutions for realizing Zero Emissions Communities, which is a concept that is being explored to close the 20% emissions gap after the electric system is at 80% carbon free electricity by 2030. Iffie explained a possible solution to address the gap with current technology. Next, she reviewed the PSCo (Public Service Company), ERP (Energy Resource Plan), & CEP (Clean Energy Package) procedural timeline, emphasizing that this is the preferred plan to reach 80%. Iffie paused to ask if the Advisory Panel had questions.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Does the recent Inflation Reduction Act affect any of the assumptions, decisions, or timeline for the original proposal? <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ <i>It is still unclear how this will impact any assumptions and will follow-up.</i> • Is the 20% gap going to be included in the phase 2 RFPs? <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ <i>The 20% gap is not included in the phase 2 RFPs. The phase 2 RFPs are looking to target the 80% and the 100%</i> • When will the 20% gap go out for proposals? <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ <i>We are still evaluating what resources we need to address the 20%. We are still developing what the exact product will be.</i> • Will the 20% gap proposal go in the next ERP filing? <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ <i>It will depend on what our next path forward will be, which will depend on what resources are needed.</i> • Are the ERP filings every 5 years? Will the next one be filed in 2026? <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ <i>Yes, but the 20% work on Zero Emissions Communities will not have to wait 4 to 5 years for that. The regulatory team is still working on determining the best path forward to do a filing so it may be separate from the Clean Energy Plan.</i> • My concern is that it is not in everyone's best interest to wait until 2025 or 2026 for an ERP filing. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ <i>The team agrees that we should not wait for that filing and instead do a separate filing.</i> • Are the 450 MW of solar and the 150 MW of battery being treated the same as any other Xcel asset in terms of rate-based treatment? Is that somehow allocated to Boulder and does that affect how it's being financed? How does Boulder differ from the rest of Xcel in terms of allocation of energy and cost? <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ <i>We are still trying to figure out the best way to finance it. We haven't decided if it will be rate-based at this point. We are just figuring out how to offset by 2030 and what technology can be used. The pricing part and how to finance it is still in question.</i>

<p>Partnership Project Highlights</p>	<p>Cheriese Marczyk presented on the on-going work at Chautauqua including project goals, is in the planning phase and described what work is currently being done to meet goals. After, Cheriese outlined the remaining project timeline, providing specific details for each phase.</p> <p>Next, Carolyn discussed the project work being done in transportation electrification and grid resilience. The two major projects explored were the vehicle-to-grid pilot and the transit charging hub. Carolyn asked the group if they had any questions, which are outlined below.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Who gets credit for doing all this work? How does the City of Boulder receive credit? <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ <i>For the vehicle-to-grid project that is going back on as that vehicle reduces demand charges. That's a direct benefit back to the City account for Parks and Recreation for the operation of the Rec center. With the Boulder housing partners CarShare project, the credits for any bill reductions would go back to Boulder housing partners for the affordable housing at that location.</i>
<p>Review Working Group Recommendations Progress</p>	<p>Carolyn Elam from the City of Boulder presented a series of PowerPoint slides based on the Advisory Panel recommendations that were presented in May 2022. The purpose of this section of the meeting is for the Program Oversight Team to report back on progress and plans related to the Advisory Panel recommendations from the May 2022 meeting.</p> <p>A detailed PowerPoint outlining each recommendation and the progress and next steps for those recommendations is available online. Each slide includes the recommendation language from the advisory panel, who is leading the follow up (City of Boulder, Xcel, or Partnership), and how the recommendation was currently being addressed and in future plans.</p> <p>The Commercial Building Electrification recommendations were reviewed first. Questions and comments were as follows:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • How are we going to get the word out about rebate opportunities? How might we incorporate the federal rebates into the existing rebates that the City, county, and Xcel all offer? <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ <i>Outreach will differ between residents and commercial businesses. There is also the new State Tax Credit that goes into effect next year, so we are trying to enhance our existing collaterals such as our emailers and Facebook pages. We are balancing that against supply chain issues and workforce issues. We are trying to avoid creatin expectations or a sense of urgency that's going to cause strain for people trying to</i>

adopt. I do think federal dollars will be helpful in drawing big players in.

- Longmont and Broomfield are gearing up for a home residential heat pump campaign. Could we potentially share best practices or work with them in some capacity?
 - *That's where our work in BEL-CO becomes important. Longmont, Fort Collins, Loveland, and Estes Park are all members of Platte River Power Authority. Platte River Power Authority runs the efficiency works program that then supports utilities in those communities. They sit within the BEL-CO group with Boulder and Xcel, so we have been sharing a lot, particularly on contractor training, best practices, quality installation requirements, as well as educational materials and outreach.*

The residential Building Electrification recommendations were reviewed next. Questions and comments were as follows:

- People often ask me what is going on with the Partnership and we'll look forward to finding ways to get this information to the public. The other thing people ask is, what is Xcel doing to help Boulder? It would be great to have some sort of chart that explains exactly what Xcel is doing specifically. That would bring a lot of community support into the partnership agreement. Also, what can we do or what is being done to make the new permitting system work better?
 - *The Program Oversight team is working to develop better public communication materials to reflect how the partnership is helping to advance Boulder's goals.*
 - *Regarding the reference to the permitting system, the issue referenced in the presentation was not about issues with the current permit system itself or how permits are successfully issued. Our previous work with Radiant Labs pulled data out of our permit system, basically using past permits to identify when previously installed heating and cooling equipment might be approaching end of life, as well as homes likely without cooling. The tool developed to do this was designed around our old permitting system. We would need to develop something different to be able to mine data out of the new system.*

The Service Upgrade Recommendations were presented next. There were no questions or comments share by the Advisory Panel.

The Renewable Electricity recommendations were presented. Questions and comments were as follows:

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Regarding the Solar Hack-A-Thon, the current vision is to look at problems and obstacles in the permitting process. Could it be expanded to include other solar options. It's an opportunity to collect ideas from different people. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ <i>The Solar Hack-A-Thon will be broader than just permitting. It's going to address the barriers to property owners putting solar on their property. We will take your suggestion back.</i>
Discuss Climate Tax	<p>Carolyn acknowledged that the group had not addressed the upcoming potential to put the new Climate Tax on the ballot or how that might relate to the Partnership. The new climate tax would replace and expand two existing two sources of funding (Climate Action Plan Tax and the Utility Occupation Tax). Areas of expansion include resiliency work and natural climate solutions work. Carolyn asked the participants if they had any questions. None were asked.</p>
Next Quarter Lookahead	<p>Josie Plaut shared a summary of the upcoming activities for the coming quarter including activities focused on equity education for the panel and the Equity Working Group, updates on the recent customer experience meeting and recommendation and upcoming workshops focused on split-incentives the solar hack-a-thon. The panel was asked to consider winter working groups, including possibly reconvening the renewable energy and electrification groups as well as adding a group focused on microgrids.</p> <p>Questions and comments from the panel members were as follows.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Given the passage of the IRA it might be a good idea to consider reconvening the Electrification Working Group because there will now be a lot of incentives for things that are important to Boulder in terms of technologies. Talking about it at a group level, we could potentially figure out how to make that accessible and get people to move ahead on some of these things and really understand their impact. Also, to establish ourselves as the lead in the electrification shift. • I really appreciate the idea of helping the community learn more about microgrids and breaking it down into different kinds of formats of microgrids. I think it's a great idea to look at the cost of it and to look at how much carbon reduction would occur. Thank you for considering working on developing a good public education catalogue.
Advisory Panel Terms and Renewals	<p>Advisory panel membership terms and composition were shared.</p> <p>Outgoing: Erik Abrahamson</p> <p>Renewals: George Craft, Wayne Seltzer, Bryn, Peter Lilienthal, Pat</p>

	<p>Up for renewal next year: Dennis, Ramesh Bhatt, Justin, Stephanie, Jack, Andy</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Will we be adding a new Panel member going forward? If so, what does that process look like and is there a chance to get involved with helping onboard?<ul style="list-style-type: none">○ <i>Carolyn explained that originally a panel size of 9-12 people was planned. After the interview and selection process, 18 were selected so there are still more panel members than intended. However, eventually a conversation may need to be had around how to continue to try to engage with more people and bring in direct commercial expertise.</i>
<p>Next Steps and Wrap-Up</p>	<p>The panel voted on the preferred date for the November Advisory Panel Meeting. The preferred date was identified as November 14th.</p> <p>Josie reminded the group that the primary purpose of the Advisory Panel meetings is to allow panel members to interact with the Project Oversight Team and hold the Partnership accountable to the goals that were originally set forth in the partnership agreement. The meetings are open for public observation but are not a place for public engagement. Public comment and questions are welcome through the customer portal.</p> <p>Carolyn acknowledged that a roadmap or work plan effort was not discussed during the meeting. She emphasized that they are prioritizing progress, planning, and resource allocation toward these efforts. Finally, Carolyn allowed participants to voice any remaining questions or comments that were not covered.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• I'm just looking for a lot of details in the roadmap. Thank you.• I'm looking forward to future activities. and could you send an email when we can look at the slides in more detail?<ul style="list-style-type: none">○ Yes. <p>The meeting was adjourned at 7:30pm.</p>