

Sustainable Maryland Committee Meeting Minutes September 9, 2024

Attendance

Daryl Braithwaite

Melissa Klein

Janet Owens

Raquel Pichardo

Ian Reichardt

Orissa Samaroo

Jeremy Schwartz

Emanuel Wagner

Joy Togo

Cindy Dyballa, Council Member, Ward 2

Guests:

Walter Mulbry

The Committee met during the second week in September in observance of Labor Day.

The meeting was called to order at 7:15 pm.

The Committee adopted the July 29, 2024 minutes.

Discussion

- (1) The Sustainable Maryland Action Plan: The Committee discussed the action plan that was submitted to Sustainable Maryland in August. As of this meeting Takoma Park had not yet received a formal response/rating from its submission. It was agreed that the Committee would use the next 3 months to develop an implementation that would identify specific actions to take by the Committee and Staff with costing implications. Specifically, the Committee will prioritize four broad actions with members taking the lead actions : (a) Addressing Food Waste (Janet Owens, Jeremy Scwhartz, Ian Reichardt); (b) Improving and Expanding EV infrastructure (Emanuel Wagner, Raquel Pichardo) ; (c) Developing a fleet transition plan (Emanuel Wagner); (d) Addressing Climate Resilience action plan (Melissa Klein).
 - a. Addressing Food Waste: The Committee discussed next actions which would support follow-up to the City Council's draft resolution. Namely the sub-committee would address elements of a public education campaign to identify the negative impacts of food waste, a community-wide questionnaire to collect information on how residents

manage food waste, measures for scaling up the current food waste collection program, and consideration for possible city code changes. The sub-committee will draft a report for discussion with the City Council[s December meeting.

- b. Improving EV Infrastructure: The Committee discussed exploring an education campaign to inform the community of the availability of rebates, and adopting a road map for next steps.
 - c. Fleet transition Plan: The Committee discussed the current actions on the fleet plan but more exploration was needed to determine how best the to aid in this process.
 - d. Climate Resilience: The Committee would serve as an interlocutor with the City Council on its storm water management plan and priorities.
- (2) Takoma Park events
- a. October Street Fest - The City would participate at the Street Fest and there was a request for Committee members to volunteer.
 - b. Earth Day 2025 - Dory will not be available to lead the planning of this event because she will be out on maternity leave. There has been a request for the Committee to take over the planning of this event.

The Committee adjourned at 8:30pm.