



Takoma Park City Council Meeting – January 25, 2023

Agenda Item 3

Presentation

Update on Sustainability and Climate Action in Takoma Park

Recommended Council Action

Receive presentation

Context with Key Issues

Recent Activities:

1. Electrification and Energy Efficiency Grants program in FY22. The City received 90 applications and awarded 44 grants with a total budget of \$285,000.
 - 10 multifamily grants awarded (\$70,000)
 - 8 business grants awarded (\$120,000)
 - 26 single-family home grants awarded (\$95,000)

2. FY 23 ARPA Electrification and Energy Efficiency Grants, in collaboration with Housing and Community Developments Multi-Family Building Improvements Grants
 - 20 grants awarded for a total of \$500,000
 - | <u>Breakdown by Ward:</u> | <u>Breakdown by # of Units in the Building:</u> |
|---------------------------|---|
| Ward 1 – 1 | 2 - 4 unit - 14 |
| Ward 2 – 0 | 5-6 unit - 4 |
| Ward 3 – 2 | 12 unit - 1 |
| Ward 4 – 1 | 28 unit - 1 |
| Ward 5 - 10 | |
| Ward 6 – 6 | |

Updated Green House Gas Inventory completed for Takoma Park by MWCOG. Report compares emissions from 2005 through 2020. Summary attached.

Participation in the Rocky Mountain Institute Electrification Cohort to develop a comprehensive electrification outreach and education campaign. Takoma Park is working with Montgomery County on the campaign. Part of this work includes reaching out to area contractors to identify BIPOC-owned businesses that can offer residents and businesses electrification and high-efficiency weatherization. Contractors will be encouraged to work with the Montgomery County Greenbank to become a recommended contractor.

3. Key Montgomery County updates:
 - The Building Energy Performance Standard passed in April. Regulations expected by end of 2023. Information sheet attached.

- Gas powered lawn care equipment ban is expected to be introduced to County Council. City staff has not yet received a draft of the law. It is expected to be an amendment to the noise ordinance.
- Montgomery County issued an RFP for electrification contractors to act as an electrification general contractor. Project requires setting up a call center to answer questions and provide guidance. The County will offer rebates for approved work. There will also be a set aside for programs to support Low and Moderate Income property owners.

Planned Programs:

- Development of a City fleet transition plan to all-electric by 2035.
- Development of a comprehensive Electrification Roadmap for Takoma Park to cover all sectors, including transportation, residential buildings, and commercial buildings.
- Development of a voluntary benchmarking program for smaller businesses and multifamily buildings in the city (not covered by the new County law), possibly using a cooperative purchase agreement via MWCOG contracts to expedite the process.

Future consideration:

- Signing on to the Fossil Fuel Non-Proliferation Treaty. Los Angeles, Sydney, Barcelona, and more have signed on.
- Council consideration of a policy to not purchase fossil fuel-based equipment, with exceptions.

Council Priority

Environmentally Sustainable Community. Goal: Climate Change Mitigation: Work towards net-zero greenhouse gas emissions by 2035.

Strategies:

- Prioritize and accelerate policies and programs that implement the 2020 Climate Emergency Response Framework strategies for buildings, transportation, renewable energy, and a fossil fuel-free community.
- Coordinate and advocate for climate change mitigation resiliency and sustainability with county, state, region and federal governments.
- Integrate City climate goals and strategies with other City policies and programs such as urban forest, housing, economic development, and Vision Zero transportation goals.

Environmental Considerations

Greenhouse gas emissions, sustainability, energy efficiency.

Fiscal Considerations

The City has committed to being net zero by 2035. This can be achieved through purchasing offsets, which at current ghg emissions levels would cost at minimum about \$757,000 per year (\$5 per metric ton, 151,435 MTCO₂ per year).

With the electricity grid expected to deliver 100% renewable electricity in the next 5 years through Community Choice Energy, focusing on electrification will greatly reduce the need to purchase offsets in 2035 and beyond in order to meet the net zero goal.

Racial Equity Considerations

Grants programs are including applications in four languages, and assistance is available for all income levels. Research and outreach is being conducted to ensure proposed climate mitigation strategies meet the needs of residents who are low-income, immigrants and/or elderly.

Attachments and Links

- GHG Inventory 2005 – 2020 Summary Factsheet, provided by MWCOG
- Montgomery County Building Performance Standard Fact Sheet
- 2020 Climate Emergency Response Framework Resolution
- Excerpts from Resilience and Adaptation Memo produced by the Cadmus Group for Takoma Park in 2019 listing recommended strategies