

Zero Emission Electric Vehicle Infrastructure Council (ZEEVIC) July Meeting

Meeting Date: July 12, 2023

Meeting Location: Hybrid – Teams Meeting and MDOT HQ

ZEEVIC Members/Appointed Representatives in Attendance:

- Lovaas, Deron (MDOT), ZEEVIC Chair
- Edmondson, David (City of Frederick/MML)
- Fleischmann-Groncki, Kristy (BGE)
- Forsythe, Nina (City of Frostburg/MML)
- Koerner, Steve (BP Pulse Fleet)
- Mosier, Kevin (PSC)
- Shaw, Jeff (SMECO)
- Thompson, Elvia (Annapolis Green)
- Verchinski, Paul (Public)
- Wall, Michael (Clinton Electric)
- Wilson, Scott (EVADC)
- Wimmer, Robert (TMNA)
- Xu, Bihui (MDP)
- Young, Weston (Worcester County/MACO)

ZEEVIC Member Alternates:

- Hinh, Amanda (MEA)
- Shepherd, Tim (MDE)

Other Presenters:

- Baker, Benjamin (PSC)
- Janousek, Dan (MDOT)
- Mabrey, Justin (MDE)

Staff:

- Burke, Virginia (MDOT)
- Cortazzo, Sophia (MDOT)
- Lipford, Sharron (Sharp & Co., supporting MDOT)
- Proctor, David (Sharp & Co., supporting MDOT)
- Sawada, Leo (Jacobs, supporting MDOT)

Welcome and Announcements

- Deron Lovaas, Chief of Environment and Sustainable Transportation at MDOT, introduced himself as the new ZEEVIC Chair.
- Maryland surpassed 75,000 registered EVs
- Federal Transit Administration: [FY23 FTA Low-and No-Emission Grant Awards](#)
 - UMD College Park awarded just under \$40 million
 - WMATA awarded \$104 million
- New [HOV Permit Process](#) for Plug-in Electric Vehicles is active.
- [Society of Automotive Engineers \(SAE\)](#) and several large EV and EVSE manufacturers announce adoption of North American Charging Standard (NACS).

Public Comments

- Paul Verchinski – Concerned about Shell Recharge terms of service changes. Asked how non-ZEEVIC members can participate in working group meetings, what is ZEEVIC's position on demand charges, and provided commentary on reliability of Tesla chargers.

- James Wagner – Mentioned a program on PBS called Energy Switch. He would like to know the impact and cost of mining and manufacturing of batteries. Is there a lifecycle, environmental, and energy analysis on the transition to EVs in Maryland?
- Scott Wilson – In response to James Wagner’s comment, he is aware of industry-level studies and analysis, but is not aware of a Maryland focused analysis.
- Chat Comment – Nate Westheimer provided a link in the chat: <https://www.epa.gov/greenvehicles/electric-vehicle-myths>

ZEEVIC Organizational Update: Deron Lovaas, Chair & Virginia Burke, MDOT

- ZEEVIC will move to a quarterly meeting schedule with the next meeting scheduled for October 25, 2023.
- A proposal for working groups and their structure was discussed. Several “Strawman” working group topics were suggested and council members were given the opportunity to provide comments and suggestions.
 1. Updated ZEEVIC Priorities
 2. Legislative Communications: ZEV Policy Scorecard Update
 3. Barriers and Solutions
 4. Trucking and Medium/Heavy Duty Infrastructure Needs

Member Comments Made About Working Group Proposal

- **Elvia Thompson** – Would like to see more prioritization on public engagement.
- **Steve Koerner** – Commended the Medium and Heavy-Duty Vehicle Infrastructure Needs topic as the ZEEVIC representative of fleet operators.
- **Scott Wilson** – Likes the idea of looking at topics with fresh eyes and update outdated goals and priorities. He also had ideas for other topics that the working group could address such as gas super users, multifamily charging, and blue ribbon commission.
- **Paul Verchinski** – Would like to propose another group that would deal with short term issues that have a major impact in the ZEV space. He suggested a review of what other government agencies are undertaking and see how ZEEVIC can weigh in.
- **Nina Forsythe** – Is most interested in participating in the barriers and solutions group to address public doubts and perception of EVs.
- **Chat Comment – Michael Wall** – Expressed interest in the barriers and solutions working group topic to address the electrical installation, permitting, and supply issues.

Maryland EV Tax Credit Explained: David Proctor, Sharp & Co

Information was provided about the Maryland ZEV excise tax credit effective from July 1, 2023, to June 30, 2027. He reviewed the tax credit’s criteria, how to apply, and examples of vehicle stickers detailing the information needed to determine if an EV would or would not qualify. A link to the MDOT EV excise tax credit page was provided in the chat: <https://mva.maryland.gov/vehicles/Pages/27300-71T.aspx>

- **Chat Comment – Elvia Thompson** – Is there a State excise credit for used vehicles?
Response – David Proctor – There is not an excise tax credit for used vehicles from Maryland but there is a credit for used EVs through the federal government.
- **Chat Comment – Bob Erdman** - In the past an individual could only get a tax credit one time. Is that still the case?

Response – Phillip Dacey – Individuals are limited to one lifetime credit and business are limited to ten. If you already received a credit in the past iteration of this program, you are not eligible.

Follow Up Question – Scott Wilson – Asked if he received a credit for a car before and now that the credit is available for motorcycles, would he still be disqualified.

Response – Phillip Dacey – Yes, one individual per vehicle. If you've gotten a credit in the past, you are not eligible for any other vehicle. It's just the way the legislature passed the program.

Advanced Clean Cars II (ACC II): Justin Mabrey, MDE

An update was provided on the Advanced Clean Cars II Program in Maryland and how it applies to new light duty vehicles registered in Maryland. The new standards build off those from the original ACC. The program applies to the purchase of new light duty vehicles from model years 2027-2035. No manufacturer has been fined through noncompliance with the program as many manufacturers have a surplus of credits. The regulation is scheduled to be effective in September 2023.

Advanced Clean Trucks (ACT): Tim Shepherd, MDE

An update was provided on the Clean Trucks Act of 2023. It requires Maryland to adopt California's Advanced Clean Trucks (ACT) Program by the end of the year. It will start with vehicle model year 2027 and increase standards through 2035. A needs assessment study is due by 2024 and based on the conclusions of the study the program implementation may be delayed.

- **Chat Comment – Lindsey Mendelson** – What is the interaction of ACCII and CTA on vehicles between 8501 and 14,000 lbs?

Response – Justin Mabrey – Manufacturers have the option of using the earned credits that overlap the weight ratings for either the ACC II or ACT program. They can't be used in both.

Medium and Heavy Duty ZEV Grant Program: Amanda Hinh, MEA

The MEA is at the beginning stages of the Medium and Heavy Duty Zero-Emission Vehicle Grant Program with an expected launch date of late summer. The Clean Fuels Incentive Program (CFIP) was successful, and lessons learned from this program will be used to implement this new grant program. Feedback on the program was solicited from the audience.

- **Bihui Xu** – Is the MEA going to consider more priorities for trucking companies that may have vehicles that travel through underserved communities?

Response – Amanda Hinh – Yes, in the last fiscal year the evaluation criteria included consideration of what the environmental impacts to communities where these vehicles travel.

- **Chat Comment – Lindsey Mendelson** – Will the grant program also take into account truck safety features like side underride guards?

Response – Amanda Hinh - The side underride guards, to prevent other vehicles from being trapped under the truck. And another feature was being considered that related to the visibility of other cars on the road.

NEVI Planning & Programming Update: Dan Janousek, MDOT

The update began with information about MDOT's attendance at the Charging Forward EV 2023 Charging Symposium and plans to attend the Charging Infrastructure National Conference on July 13, 2023. All 50 states are required to submit an updated plan by August 1, 2023. Maryland's NEVI funding

is approximately \$58,000,000 for EV charger investments. A review of the plan template, components, requirements, and tools used to determine equity in EV charging was provided. At least 40% of the overall benefits of federal investments should go to disadvantaged communities.

- **Comment – Paul Verchinski** – Have any of the additional alternative fuel corridors we submitted been approved?

Response – Rebecca Bankard – All corridors MDOT submitted for designation were approved. MDOT did not submit additional EV corridors in Round 7.

PSC PC44 EV Working Group Update: Benjamin Baker, PSC

An update was provided on work underway by the PSC EV working group (WG). Topics include proposed uptime charging standards, adjustments to comply with recently passed HB 834, and future charging standards. The WG Report will be submitted to the PSC by July 28, 2023. Utilities are scheduled to file their semi-annual report at the beginning of August and will be required to explain MUD program standards compliance. BGE also filed a proposal for a phase two EV program.

“What We Heard at The MarylandEV Booth”; Outreach Season Highlights: David Proctor, Sharp & Co

An overview was provided of observations and notable comments that were made by the public during Maryland EV events conducted during the 2022 outreach season. Comments were broken down regionally by Central, Western, Eastern Shore and Southern Maryland

- **Nina Forsythe** – Thanked Maryland EV for coming out to Western Maryland and commented that the Ford Lightning and Rivian were popular there. We should also investigate improving fast charging in Eastern Shore Maryland.
- **Elvia Thompson** – Based on her experience, events around libraries are good opportunities to speak to people one on one. She recommends library events and having EV owners attend to provide firsthand knowledge and give the public opportunity to see and explore EVs in person.
- **Deron Lovaas** – Based on your outreach, do you have any advice on the best ways to discuss EVs with the public?
Response – David Proctor – We focus on the incentives and cost savings EVs provide. We also relate EVs to something that the public is already familiar with to help explain how they work and make them seem like less of a dramatic change.

Closing Remarks: Deron Lovaas

Next ZEEVIC Meeting

October 25, 2023