

Zero Emission Electric Vehicle Infrastructure Council (ZEEVIC) March Meeting

Meeting Date: March 17, 2021

Meeting Location: Phone/Webinar

ZEEVIC Members/Appointed Representatives in Attendance:

- R. Earl Lewis, Jr. (MDOT), ZEEVIC Chair
- Joe Alfred (API)
- Liam Davis (Baltimore DOT)
- David Edmondson (City of Frederick)
- Kristy Fleischmann-Groncki (BGE)
- Nina Forsythe (City of Frostburg)
- Mike Jones (MEA)
- Kevin Miller (ChargePoint)
- Jeff Shaw (SMECO)
- Hyeon-Shic Shin (Morgan State University)
- Jason Tai (Tai Ginsberg & Associates)
- Elvia Thompson (Annapolis Green)
- Paul Verchinski (Public Representative)
- Mike Wall (Clinton Electric)
- Scott Wilson (EVA DC)
- Bob Wimmer (Toyota)
- Bihui Xu (MDP)
- Weston Young (Worcester County)

ZEEVIC Members/Alternates:

- Joey Chen (PSC)
- Alexis Gallagher (Pepco)
- Tim Shepherd (MDE)

Other Speakers:

- Neil Keating (Potomac Edison)

Staff:

- Virginia Burke (MDOT)
- Carrie Giles (ICF supporting MDOT)
- Haley Erickson (ICF supporting MDOT)
- Rebecca Bankard (MDOT/Baker)

Welcome and Announcements

- MDOT Deputy Secretary, R. Earl Lewis, Jr., welcomed all meeting participants.
- General Motors [announced](#) plans to phase out internal combustion engines and transition to all-electric vehicles by 2035, one of many OEMs announcing their electrification plans.
- Six utilities across the Midwest, South, Mid-Atlantic, Gulf, and Central Plains regions [announced](#) the creation of the Electric Highway Coalition and the development of a network of direct current (DC) fast chargers throughout the region.

Utility Pilot Program Updates and Challenges

- Utility companies were invited to reflect on challenges encountered under the PSC Pilot Program, in particular related to EVSE installation at Multi-Unit Dwellings (MUDs), and also to consider “asks”, ie. ways that ZEEVIC members could assist with challenges encountered.
- PHI
 - Challenges
 - Multifamily properties are concerned about the increased energy usage and additional costs due to the pandemic.

- Properties are finding that after initial inspection, the cost for facility upgrades required for the cost of the station are not a worthwhile investment.
 - Multifamily properties have concerns about the ongoing maintenance and operation of the charging stations and coordinating usage among residents.
 - Some properties cannot handle the additional load required to support an EVSE.
 - “Asks” for ZEEVIC
 - Help with an outreach campaign to promote existing state and utility incentives.
 - Develop educational sessions for multifamily residences to learn about EVSE.
 - Explore policies that provide financial incentives for properties that require upgrades to their facilities.
- BGE
 - Challenges
 - The upfront cost of charging equipment and determining who pays for the electricity. HOAs often have difficulty approving EVSE projects due to cost hurdles and benefits limited to current EV drivers in the community versus long term benefits.
 - Where to build stations in a community with assigned parking.
 - Not being able to do extensive marketing campaigns.
 - “Asks” for ZEEVIC
 - Collaborate on utility suggestions, semi-annual reports, and provide letters of support to PSC.
 - Based on prior suggestion from PSC Chairman, work on coordination with dealerships and MVA to obtain information regarding EV registration at MUD addresses.
- Potomac Edison
 - Potomac Edison has not received any rebate applications for multifamily properties.
 - Challenges
 - There are a small number of EV drivers in Potomac Edison’s service territory.
 - Cost of EVSE hardware and installation.
 - Customers does not understand how electricity and charging technology work.
 - Potomac Edison has a limited education and outreach budget of \$300,000 making it difficult to cover all advertising needed to gain participation.
 - “Asks” for ZEEVIC
 - Promote EV Ownership and multifamily rebates across Potomac Edison’s service territory via advertising, media, events, and webinars.
 - Provide more education and contacts regarding EV Charger purchase, installation, and ongoing utility bills at a multifamily location.
- Discussion:
 - Share a list of contacts or make introductions for all major management companies registered in Maryland.
 - The Frostburg EV Expo will invite multifamily building owners to attend, and will coordinate with Potomac Edison.
 - Help with education and outreach to multifamily properties and customers statewide.
 - MDP will provide a list of local departments of planning contacts, who will likely know multifamily building owners.

- Utility installations of EVSE at multifamily building sites was suggested, to help MUD property managers. (The PSC has approved this approach for BGE to pilot).
- (Discussion will continue at a Communications WG meeting.)

Fuel Cell Electric Vehicle (FCEV) Update

- Earliest opportunities for FCEVs in Maryland may be in Port operations.
- Potential lessons may emerge from FCEV Buses deployed in Japan.
- There may be a FCEV demonstration in Maryland in the Fall. Updates will be shared with ZEEVIC as they become available.

State Agency Updates

- MDOT
 - MDOT submitted a nomination to the Federal Highway Administration for 88 miles of US-15 to be designated as an EV Alternative Fuel Corridor (AFC). The nomination was filed jointly with Virginia and Pennsylvania. Maryland already has 21 other EV AFCs.
 - MDOT will be submitting an INFRA grant application for the I-81 corridor in Western Maryland. The application includes a pilot medium- and heavy-duty charging stations.
 - MDOT is coordinating with the Utilities on EVSE installations on approximately 30 MDOT-owned sites, under the terms of the PSC pilot program.
- Maryland Energy Administration (MEA)
 - MEA has processed \$1,276,978 worth of rebates for 1,211 chargers; \$539,174 for 947 residential EVSE and \$737,804 for 237 commercial EVSE.
 - The Clean Fuels Incentive Program has announced the following awards:
 - Highland Electric Transportation: \$817K for 19 electric school buses for Montgomery County Public Schools
 - Jubb's Bus Service: \$190,850 for 11 propane autogas school buses
 - Peapod Digital Labs: \$100K for 2 electric delivery step-vans
 - EVgo: \$156K for 4 DCFC at 2 locations in Bethesda area
 - EVI: \$109,915 for 2 DCFC in Chestertown
 - The Clean Fuels Technical Assistance Program reports will be released soon.
- Maryland Department of Environment (MDE)
 - In response to round 1 of VW EVSE funding, MDE received a total of 21 proposals (\$1.16 million) for the Charge Ahead Grant Program and 35 proposals (\$10.2 million) for the Electric Corridor Grant Program.
 - See link to [Volkswagen Settlement funding](#).
- Department of General Services (DGS)
 - DGS is continuing to work on building EVSE at state facilities; Eight projects in partnership with BGE are underway.
 - DGS is working on a State-wide EV Infrastructure Strategy.
- Public Service Commission (PSC)
 - The PSC reviewed petitions filed by the utilities during the semi-annual report meeting on March 17. The PSC did not approve all petitions.
 - The PC44 WG is continuing to work on rate design and the cost-benefit analysis methodology for the pilot program.

- Maryland Dept of Planning (MDP)
 - MDP is involved with the Department of Commerce’s Renewable Energy Compatibility Siting Study.
 - See links to the [Renewable Energy Compatibility Siting Study](#) and some [background information](#).

Communications Working Group (WG) Update

- The Communications WG gave a presentation to the Education, Communication, and Outreach (ECO) WG for the Maryland Commission on Climate Change in February, and will look for other opportunities to coordinate outreach efforts.
- The incentives page was the top page visited on MarylandEV.org website in February 2021.
- A StoryMap is in development for the MarylandEV website.

Legislative WG Update

- The Legislative WG will meet again after the opposite chamber bill crossover date on March 22.
- The Legislative WG has written the following 8 letters of support:

Bill #	Bill Title	Sponsor	ZEEVIC Letter Submittal Date
HB0110 (SB0144)	Electric Vehicle Recharging Equipment for Multifamily Units Act	Delegate Korman	1/22/2021
SB0144 (HB0110)	Electric Vehicle Recharging Equipment for Multifamily Units Act	Senator Guzzone	1/22/2021
SB0315	Vehicle Laws - Plug-In Electric Drive Vehicles - Reserved Parking Spaces	Senator Young	1/22/2021
HB480	Plug-In Electric Drive Vehicles – Reserved Parking Spaces	Delegate Barve	1/22/2021
HB0044	Clean Cars Act of 2021	Delegate Fraser-Hidalgo	1/26/2021
HB30	Public Utilities – Office of Climate Counsel (Climate Counsel Act)	Delegate Korman	2/2/2021
HB0784	Residential Construction - EV Charging	Delegate Terrasa	2/12/2021
HB0832	Public Utilities – Electric School Bus Pilot Program	Delegate Fraser-Hidalgo	2/15/2021

Closing Remarks

- The next ZEEVIC meeting is scheduled for May 19, 2021

Next ZEEVIC Meeting
May 2021

