



EXTRAORDINARY MEETING MINUTES

Thursday, July 19, 2018
100 Cambridge St, 2nd Floor
Conference Rooms B & C
Boston, MA 02114

Councilors Present: Cindy Arcate, Eric Beaton (for Janelle Chan), Amy Boyd, Cindy Carroll, Elizabeth Cellucci, Joe Dorfler, Maggie Downey, Frank Gundal (for Tilak Subrahmanian), Paul Gromer, Elliot Jacobson, Paul Johnson, Judith Judson, Rick Malmstrom, Deirdre Manning, Michael McDonagh, Jeremy Newberger, Laurie Pereira, Cammy Peterson (for Rebecca Davis), , Victoria Rojo, Robert Rio, Mary Wambui, Sharon Weber

Councilors Absent: Michael Ferrante, Andrew Newman, Michael Sommer

Consultants Present: Eric Belliveau, Roo Harcourt, Margie Lynch

DOER Staff Present: Rachel Evans, Ian Finlayson, Emily Powers, Maggie McCarey

1. Call to Order

Commissioner Judson, as Chair, called the meeting to order at 2:41 PM.

2. Overview of Proposed EEAC Resolution Regarding the April 30th Draft of the 2019-2021 Three-Year Energy Efficiency Plan

Boyd introduced the proposed resolution by stating that the intention was to pull together comments from councilors and stakeholders for clear, high level feedback. One of the high-level notes for the PAs is the lack of specifics and details required to evaluate the plan. She suggested the importance of addressing key priorities at the level requested. Additionally, Boyd asked that the list of indicators in the resolution be addressed in the revised plan.

Section i: Overarching Comments on Document

Rio noted that while going through the document, there was not a lot of cost information. He asked that councilors keep costs of the program in their minds, and understand costs of each section within the resolution.

Section 1: Introduction

Boyd raised the date for the Revised Plan into question. She noted that the PAs have said that they would be able to complete the revisions by September 14th. With the current deadline of August 31st, she asked if the date should represent the councilors line in the sand or a fixed date that all parties agree to.

Commissioner Judson noted that picking a date that works for everyone is the best option. If September 14th is the date that PAs can commit to, then it should be delivered then. She added that having a meetable date would be best.

Lyne confirmed that the PAs agree September 14th is a meetable date for delivery.

Johnson commented that the Council needs to have something on August 31st in order to get time to consider what was changed in it. He referenced the last planning cycle, where the councilors received the draft plan with only a week to give feedback on changes, which was not sufficient to make suggestions. He added that out of over one hundred suggestions, only about twenty of the easiest suggestions were incorporated into the plan. For these reasons, Johnson stated that he disagreed with the date change.

Section 2: Savings Goals and Program Costs

Rio noted that the first sentence terminology should change, asking if lifetime savings is the only 'first priority'. He proposed that the revised sentence works in cost-effective to be consistent with the statute.

Gromer requested that an addition be made to address the percent of budget that is allocated to flow directly to customers. He added that this is a priority and was included in the last plan. The Council would like to see something similar in this plan.

Arcate noted concern about supporting electric demand savings goals as recommended by the consultants. She asked that the Council soften the adoption of those hard numbers. Arcate agreed that the savings should be higher than what the PAs proposed but was uncertain about using the numbers provided by the consultants.

Weber proposed that that in addition to calling on the Clean Energy and Climate Plan for 2020, the resolution should mention the 2030 climate plan. She added that measures adopted in this plan will still be around to set a strong foundation for what we can accomplish in the 2030 plan.

Rio countered that it should be clear in the resolution that the driver of energy efficiency is the GCA. Rio proposed that the Council should not fixate on the climate plan, which is an economy wide reduction.

Boyd responded that the Council does not want to spend extra money chasing carbon savings, but noted that since GWSA is economy wide, if the administrator is saving that the cheapest savings are in energy efficiency, then we should be doing more energy efficiency to meet those goals. Boyd also added the importance of specifying the continued use of kWh and therm goals in parallel to the common MMBtu metric.

Commissioner Judson noted that the points raised by Boyd and Rio questioning the extent to which the plan should acknowledge economy wide climate goals. She added that a strong avoided costs study will ultimately determine what gets included.

Boyd suggested that the resolution mention the forthcoming avoided costs of GWSA study.

Section 3: Priorities, Comments, and Recommendations (general)

Johnson noted the use of the word underserved but would change this to say unserved. He would add a reference to those customers that have not yet participated in the program, small businesses, and non-profits.

Boyd clarified that the priority piece is a literal restatement of February's resolution, and that perhaps additional details about the population could be adding into the description paragraph underneath in section 3a.

Peterson would like to see more mention of relationships in programs with cities and towns. She noted that both sectors could be improved through incorporating partnerships with municipalities and marketing. She proposed that an additional indicator to add should be the number of partnerships with municipalities. This proposal was seconded by Commissioner Judson and Rojo.

Section 3b: Active Demand Management

Arcate noted that there should be mention of coordination of existing demand management efforts rather than spending. She noted that she is starting to see a lot of different programs in the ADM field that are doing the same thing. Putting ADM programs out to bid and being technology agnostic were ways that Arcate proposed that would accommodate the existing ADM market. She emphasized that the ADM programs should be market driven rather than PA prescribed.

Boyd noted that Arcate's proposal makes sense but makes the savings target more important. She noted that it conflicts with Arcate's earlier point about a soft target.

Commissioner Judson noted that in terms of targets, it is easy to get worried if a set target seems too high. However, she urged the Council to consider setting high goals and stretching for them. She noted that demand reduction is a priority area due to the concentrated expense and emissions from peak hours, and that programs funded by DOER and PA demonstration shown a lot of potential and reducing these impacts. She added that it is important to remain careful that programs do not end up being double funded. The Clean Peak proposed by Governor Baker can

work alongside PA led ADM programs to possibly reduce costs because of the lower costs of procurement.

Johnson noted the need for innovation in the ADM field. He proposed that the number of new ADM demonstration projects be added as an indicator of innovation.

Arcate disagreed with Johnson, stating that demonstration projects are not the way to get innovation. She would rather let the market determine new innovation opportunities.

Johnson responded that based on his experience on the demand management subcommittee, he has experience with ADM demonstrations and believes these are essential to driving more ADM savings.

Malmstrom added that he commissioned demonstration projects and it was time to move into more expansive mode, where successful demonstrations can be fleshed out and applied statewide. Also agree with Arcate that innovation and demonstration are not tied together.

Section 3c: Fuel Switching

No comments on fuel switching

Section 3d: Integrated Residential Program Design

Johnson suggested that this section include the number of trainings planned and the town and zip code level participation rates.

Boyd added that she had tried to address the first of Johnson's comments about training, while not called out as a key indicator.

Peterson would like to add support and process for municipalities, but 'routine-ize' that support. She proposed that the resolution break out municipal subsector to give it more dedicated support in that section. Commissioner Judson added that coordinating with Green Communities would be very helpful.

Section 3e: C&I Sector Savings Measures

Malmstrom suggested adding commercial real estate as an indicator, noting it should have its own bullet with measurement and tracking criteria.

Rio added that CHP has been a tough area for a long time and asked if there is opportunity to coordinate this with other programs. He wondered about the possibility of using a separate DOER storage program to help CHP. He also added that tracking barriers for CHP projects and conversion rates, so that PAs and others can work to help get CHP installations back on track.

Johnson also proposed adding the number of customers by customer type, using the same business types outline in the customer profile report. He noted that this indicator would help to pinpoint weak areas to target within C&I.

Section 3f: Zero Energy Ready Buildings and Passive House

No comments to add for this section.

Section 3g: Integrated Multi-Family Framework

No comments to add for this section

Section 3h: Low Income Programs

Jacobson stated he is worried about people misunderstanding participation being a negative or positive thing. He urged the Council not to fixate on increasing participation, noting that this focus can lead to lower savings per participant. He also references maps that demonstrate that the low-income program is serving regions and minorities equitably.

Beaton added that federal funding we get is very limiting. Beaton agreed that the low-income program should seek to maximize savings per household rather than break it out among more participants (with lower savings).

Boyd asked if the maps that show the low-income service demographics is also available for moderate income households?

Gundal responded that they will investigate maps to find out more about service to moderate incomes.

Commissioner Judson emphasize the tradeoff between quantity vs quality, and while setting and going for numbers is important, the priority should be driving energy savings by deeper Weatherization and other measures.

Section 3i: Data Management

Peterson suggested considering gathering input from cities and towns about metrics of interest to help drive savings at a municipal level. She proposed having anonymized service activity broken out by zip code at the measure level.

Doefler mentioned that consumer protection issues may arise with increased granularity of data reporting. He added that fully integrated data is important because it can extend beyond energy efficiency. The PAs should ensure they do not duplicate resources, and work towards a data management system that is all encompassing.

Johnson asked about the case before the DPU about getting more detailed information from the PAs.

Lyne responded that the case remains open, no action has been taken on the case.

Section 3j: Performance Incentives

Commissioner Judson noted that this section is meant to be a place holder as the Council has not yet discussed the performance incentives. The section currently expresses council support of adding metrics on performance incentives.

Boyd noted that she is looking forward to revisiting performance incentive options in August, especially given past 10 years of plan experience.

Johnson asked if a subcommittee would be taking this through before the August meeting.

Belliveau noted that the Council can review the base concept of current performance incentives on the Website (From meeting on September 10th, 2014).

Housekeeping

Rio asked about the procedure for proxy voting because he would not be able to attend the next Council meeting.

Evans reminded the Council of an important EEAC housekeeping email, which requested all members to send confirmation of receipt. She summarized the by-laws allowing Council members to appoint a designee if they are unable to attend a meeting.

McCarey reminded the Council to submit additional comments on the resolution by Monday afternoon (7/23/18) to the EEAC address for July 31st meeting. The revised resolution will be posted late next week. Written comments will be taken into consideration, reviewed, and voted on next version on July 31st.

3. Adjournment

Commissioner Judson, as Chair, adjourned the meeting at 4:06 PM.