



Minutes

EPC MONTHLY MEETING

January 23, 2023

City Hall, Conference Room 2000

[Zoom Meeting Recording](#)

7:30 – 9:30 p.m.

Attendance

EPC Members (13)	Status	Staff
Dan Beattie	P	Jessica Lassetter, T&ES
Eldon Boes	PR	Melissa Atwood, T&ES
Edith Cecchini, Secretary	P	Ryan Freed, Climate Action Officer
Alexander Clark	PR	Dustin Smith, P&Z
Benjamin Cuddy	P	
Jennifer Debias	P	Public
Cynthia Elliott	E	Steve Walz
Oleksandr Faryga	P	Scott Barstow
Kathie Hoekstra, Chair	P	Bill Pugh
Michael Olex, Vice-Chair	P	
Teresa Romanosky	PR	
Marta Schantz	P	

P: Present; **PR:** Present Remotely; **A:** Absent - Unexcused; **E:** Absent – Excused; **N:** Not a Member

1. Welcome & Introductions

Chair Kathie Hoekstra called meeting to order; introductions were done for all attendees.

2. Public Comment

Steve Walz – speaking on Climate Change. Strongly support letter for climate plan; green building, getting to net zero, and stated that ECCAP team voted to advance plan to public comment.

Bill Pugh – speaking on ECCAP. Applaud city for moving to update this plan. Identified areas that can be improved, which included Area of Transportation section to include reducing vehicle miles traveled and electrifying modes; possible typo for EV goals; and discussion on mode shift in travel demand strategies showing three-dollar signs (high relative cost).

Scott Barstow – added overall thoughts.

1. Administrative Items

a. Meeting Minutes

Vote on December 19 meeting minutes for approval. **Motion:** Mr. Dan Beattie; **Second** = Ms. Edith Cecchini; **Vote:** Unanimous approval, with Ms. Marta Schantz abstaining because she was not present for the meeting.

b. Reports from Commissioners

- Flood Mitigation Advisory Group (Ms. Jennifer Debias): nothing new to report.
- Transportation Commission (Mr. Oleksandr Faryga): nothing new to report.
- ECCAP Task Force (Ms. Marta Schantz): had final meeting and opened final draft for public comment. Public comments extended a few extra weeks. Discussions this week with modeling consultant to determine cost-benefit and our path-forward to determine their role moving forward.
- Waterfront Commission (Mr. Eldon Boes): steadily moving toward identifying a contractor for the design/build flood mitigation contract downtown to raise barrier between Duke St and Queen St. Has been in design phase about a year. Possible presentation to Waterfront Commission about the ECCAP since it will be a pervasive issue for decades.
- Open Space Steering Committee (Mr. Michael Olex): nothing new to report.
- EPC-PC Small Working Group (Chair Hoekstra): see agenda items below for EPC review of latest draft of proposed letter to Council on linking EAP2040 targets and Emergency Climate Declaration to Planning's entitlement processes.

c. Earth Day Actions

POC from City will be Melissa Atwood. Starting to plan - Bill Skrabak is generating ideas with vision similar to last year, where it was more of an Earth Month with a calendar of different activities, but no big Earth Day event. Keep EPC informed of plans; bring more details on plans to February meeting.

- Discussion on idea of an induction cooking event and "Rewiring America" handout or something to highlight rebates and incentives for residents replacing HVAC equipment, clothes dryers, hot water heaters, and stoves.

d. Set Date for EPC Saturday Retreat (April 29 or May 6)

EPC agreed to April 29 from 8:30am – 2:30pm. *NOTE: May need an exemption if bylaws/rules say should be in May/June.* Will most likely be held at AlexRenew.

EPC requested to get City's progress on EAP2040 before the retreat. Last update was February 2022.

e. 6-month Checkup on EPC goals from FY23

- No noted failures
- Successes: highlighted seven different successes achieved over the last 6 months.

2. Update and Discussion of any Concerns from EPC Members on Latest Draft Letter from EPC-PC Small Working Group

Clarifying language around Energy Use Intensity (EUI) with reference to air tightness by adding a unit for measuring air tightness.

Consider adding line of total embodied carbon – for DSUP, green building – as well as in CDD (regulatory document), it would be forward thinking and advantageous to City. Tools available to estimate embodied carbon could be used to determine current estimates.

Announcement: 1.30.23 EPC-PC Joint meeting at Charles Houston Recreation Center @ 7:30pm.

3. Discussion of Comments on the Task Force Energy and Climate Change Action Plan (ECCAP)

Addressed concerns with plan.

Motion (Mr. Michael Olex): Motion for Kathie to write a short draft letter of EPC's overall views of the plan by Monday's Joint meeting where EPC can vote/approve letter. Letter should go to City Council, with CC to City Manager and Ryan. Should include that EPC hopes to jointly work with Ryan to work on the *How*. **Second** (Ms. Marta Schantz). **Vote:** unanimous approval.

Motion (Mr. Michael Olex): Motion for Kathie to assimilate the detailed comments made verbally and in writing to submit to the City as public comments on the ECCAP. **Second** (Ms. Edith Cecchini). **Vote:** unanimous approval.

4. Adjourn

Motion to Adjourn: Ms. Marta Schantz; **Second:** Ms. Jennifer Debias; **Vote:** unanimous approval.

The meeting adjourned at 9:30 p.m.

FY2023 Attendance

Member	Sep 19, 2022	Oct 17, 2022	Nov 21, 2022	Dec 19, 2022	Jan 10, 2023	Jan 23, 2023	Jan 30, 2023	TOTALS
Eldon Boes	P	P	P	P	P	P		100.0%
Edith Cecchini	E	E	E	P	P	P		50.0%
Kathie Hoekstra	P	P	P	P	P	P		100.0%
Marta Schantz	P	P	P	E	E	P		66.7%
Jennifer Debias	P	P	P	P	E	P		83.3%
Benjamin Cuddy	P	P	E	P	P	P		83.3%
Michael Olex	P	P	P	P	P	P		100.0%
Cynthia Elliott	P	P	P	P	P	E		83.3%
Oleksandr Faryga	P	P	A	P	P	P		83.3%
Dan Beattie	E	P	P	P	P	P		83.3%
Theresa Romanosky			P	P	E	P		75.0%
Alexander Clark	P	P	P	P	P	P		100.0%

DRAFT