

BOARD OF SUPERVISORS ENVIRONMENTAL COMMITTEE

February 28, 2023

11:00 A.M.

Government Center Conference Room 11

Board of Supervisors Members Present:

Board Chair Jeffrey C. McKay
Committee Chair Daniel G. Storck, Mount Vernon District
Supervisor Walter L. Alcorn, Hunter Mill District
Supervisor John W. Foust, Dranesville District
Supervisor Penelope A. Gross, Mason District
Supervisor Pat Herrity, Springfield District
Supervisor Rodney L. Lusk, Franconia District
Supervisor Dalia A. Palchik, Providence District
Supervisor Kathy L. Smith, Sully District
Supervisor James R. Walkinshaw, Braddock District

Others Present:

Bryan J. Hill, County Executive
Beth Teare, County Attorney

February 28, 2023, Meeting Agenda:

[feb28-environmental-agenda.pdf \(fairfaxcounty.gov\)](#)

February 28, 2023, Meeting Materials:

[Board of Supervisors Environmental Committee Meeting: Feb. 28, 2023 | Board Of Supervisors \(fairfaxcounty.gov\)](#)

The following is a summary of the discussion from the February 28, 2023, Environmental Committee meeting.

The meeting was called to order at 11:15 A.M.



County of Fairfax, Virginia

To protect and enrich the quality of life for the people, neighborhoods and diverse communities of Fairfax County

FAIRFAX COUNTY BOARD OF SUPERVISORS

ENVIRONMENTAL COMMITTEE MEETING

April 25, 2023

1:30 P.M.

Government Center

Conference Room 11

AGENDA

- 1. Opening Remarks – 5 mins**
 - a. Welcome and acceptance of the meeting summary from the February 28, 2023 BOSEC meeting

- 2. Lake Accotink Dredging – 45 mins**
 - a. Discussion on the future of Lake Accotink
 - b. Chris Herrington, Director, DPWES, and Charles Smith, Project Coordinator, DPWES
 - c. Item type: Recommendation
 - d. Meeting materials: Presentation

- 3. Private Stormwater Management Facility Assistance Grant Program Update – 25 mins**
 - a. Update on the Private Stormwater Management Facility Assistance Grant Program under the Local Stormwater Management Fund
 - b. Ellie Coddington, Deputy Director, DPWES and Chad Crawford, Director, Maintenance and Stormwater Management, DPWES
 - c. Item Type: Update & Recommendation
 - d. Meeting Materials: Presentation

- 4. County Response to Bamboo Ordinance on Public Land – 25 mins**
 - a. Presentation on the county's response to the Bamboo Ordinance on public land
 - b. John Burke, Natural Resources Branch Manager, FCPA; Gabe Zakkak, Director, DCC; and Shane Flanigan, Management Analyst, FMD
 - c. Item Type: Update
 - d. Meeting Materials: Presentation and Handout

- 5. Green Bank Update – 5 mins**
 - a. Update on Fairfax County Green Bank
 - b. John Morrill, Acting Director, OEEC
 - c. Item Type: Update
 - d. Meeting Materials: None

Adjournment – The next scheduled Environmental Committee meeting is Tuesday, July 18 @ 3:00 p.m.

Item I Opening Remarks

After a brief introduction from Supervisor Storck, Committee Chair, the Environmental Committee was asked if there were any changes to the meeting minutes of December 13, 2022. With no changes, the minutes were accepted.

Supervisor Storck asked if there were any updates or outstanding items that were owed to the Board members. Hearing none, he moved to the next item.

Item II Green Bank Launch: Progress and Timeline

John Morrill, Division Manager, Office of Environmental and Energy Coordination (OEEC), provided an update on staff's work toward a Fairfax County Green Bank, including information on sources of funding, lessons learned from other jurisdictions, and the project schedule with future milestones.

Mr. Morrill explained that a green bank is a technical and financial resource supporting a substantial increase in the use of clean energy technologies, encompassing improved energy efficiency, the installation of renewable electricity generation, and increased use of electric vehicles. Mr. Morrill mapped the role of a green bank in helping to meet the goals of the Community-wide Energy and Climate Action Plan (CECAP), and the carbon reduction strategies a green bank supports in the building and energy efficiency, energy supply, and transportation sectors. These CECAP sectors address nearly half of the total greenhouse gas emissions in the community, underscoring the essential contribution a green bank can provide.

He summarized the brief history of work to date on the green bank. OEEC staff continues to develop relationships with potential partners and collaborators and is preparing an essential range of legal and operational documents needed to launch the entity.

Mr. Morrill explained that, once established, a green bank will leverage public money with private capital to increase the number of projects in the community that produce energy savings and pollution reduction. An emphasis of most green banks is to make energy improvements accessible to all community members and

grow the clean energy economy throughout the county. The green bank will forge partnerships with a variety of financial institutions to tailor project financing to the various segments of the community, be they residential or commercial. He continued by explaining that as a 501c3 organization, the green bank can receive charitable donations from individuals and businesses, and support for the green bank can raise the visibility of corporate partners.

Mr. Morrill said the Bipartisan Infrastructure Law of 2021 includes federal funding for an Energy Efficiency and Conservation Block Grant (EECBG), and Fairfax County's allocation is just under \$1 million. The U.S. Department of Energy recently provided guidance on the use of those funds, and up to a quarter of a million dollars can be allocated to a nonprofit; in the county's case that amount will be reserved for the green bank's formation. In addition, the Inflation Reduction Act of 2022 includes billions of dollars designated for investments by state and local green banks. The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) has provided limited guidance for those funds, and many details – including application processes – have not yet been disclosed. Nonetheless, Fairfax County's work on a green bank should position the county well for funding, whether from the EPA directly or as a subrecipient to whatever large entities receive the first awards.

OEEC staff remains in touch with regional neighbors, keeping them apprised of progress. The OEEC is exploring various ways in which other localities could join with the green bank and expand the bank's depth, breadth and reach in the region.

OEEC staff benefits from engagement with experienced consultants and green banks elsewhere. Insights from the Montgomery County Green Bank as well as the Philadelphia Green Capital Corporation are very helpful to planning efforts. The Executive Director of the Montgomery County Green Bank notes that financing for clean energy projects is different from routine real estate lending. Mr. Morrill shared that energy projects are often not front of mind for lenders and customers – even though the projects can have a positive economic impact for both. Therefore, a tremendous amount of marketing and education is needed and is an essential role for the Fairfax County Green Bank.

Mr. Morrill presented a chart depicting the strong steady growth in projects and lending by the Montgomery County Green Bank, showing growing momentum each year after modest beginnings. By the end of calendar year 2022, the Montgomery County Green Bank had reached over 1,500 homes, with most of

them being low- and moderate-income households. In addition to creating a pipeline for solar projects with dozens of nonprofits, just last month the Montgomery County Green Bank announced a 2 MW solar system on a 684-unit affordable housing facility. The Montgomery County Green Bank's financial partners were Virginia Community Capital and the New York City Energy Efficiency Corporation.

Mr. Morrill shared future milestones for the Fairfax County Green Bank. Staff is aiming to advertise a public hearing for the ordinance establishing the green bank in the second quarter of calendar 2023. In addition, the organization's bylaws and a county support agreement will be presented for approval as Administrative Items.

Meanwhile, staff will be applying to the U.S. Department of Energy for its EECSBG funding allocation, and carefully monitoring the U.S. EPA for guidance on applying for funding specific to green banks. Once the Fairfax County Green Bank Ordinance passes, the green bank will be incorporated, funds will be allocated, and staff will be hired to launch the bank.

Board Discussion:

Supervisor Storck asked if the county will be ready in time to secure federal funding and when the bank will be ready to issue its first loan.

Mr. Morrill replied that the county will be able to apply for federal funding in time. Staff is monitoring to see how the EPA presents the guidance and application process for applicable opportunities. The first green bank loan will be issued as soon as a project is identified.

Supervisor Storck clarified by asking when the county will be ready to issue the first loan.

Mr. Morrill answered that the entity could be ready to issue its first loan shortly after formation. The amount would depend upon the amount of equity capital the entity has to leverage or provide directly.

Supervisor Storck asked for an estimated timeframe.

Mr. Morrill replied that, if the entity is authorized in July, and an Executive Director has been hired, it could be that summer.

Supervisor Alcorn inquired if there might be a connection at some point between the Fairfax County Green Bank and Charge Up Fairfax to help townhome communities install electric vehicle (EV) chargers.

Mr. Morrill replied that he believes so. He also stated that with the federal Inflation Reduction Act, there are quite a few funding buckets in the pipeline for electrification that staff is monitoring.

Supervisor Walkinshaw expressed his excitement and gratitude for the work and noted that when this project started, the federal funding opportunities Mr. Morrill identified did not exist. It's good that we are prepared to capitalize on that. He asked how the bank will be structured to be most efficacious with the new opportunities that exist, like federal tax credits, and how a green bank can identify the marginal case where our financing can be the tipping point for someone or some entity to decide to proceed with clean energy projects. He explained that the county does not want to finance projects that would happen anyway. He asked how to identify those cases that maybe would not happen if not for the financing a green bank could provide.

Mr. Morrill answered that the market development and federal incentives available for home energy efficiency, electrification and renewable energy will help but some businesses and people will not have the cash to work with partners in the community, housing agencies, and contractors. The green bank will open the door to residential and business customers and clarify that these funds exist through marketing and promotion. However, there could be times where the federal tax credit does not move the needle enough so all of those become opportunities for the green bank.

Supervisor Walkinshaw noted that there may be low- or moderate-income residents who don't have a federal income tax liability large enough to benefit from the federal tax credits and that might be a good group for this kind of financing.

Mr. Morrill replied that a strong low- and moderate- income emphasis for the entity is important. Because of these incentives, we're also mindful to keep the opportunities for business development in opportunity zones and historically disadvantaged communities to join with this clean energy market movement and help grow the market in all respects.

Supervisor Lusk noted that green bank revenue comes from loan fees, and inquired if there is a proposed method for the structure of these fees.

Mr. Morrill answered that this is yet to be determined and that everything is a possibility for the entity to adapt to the market, find its niche, and tailor its approach and fees to gain from market conditions and its lending partners.

Supervisor Lusk asked about partners we can work with for the green bank and if the Board can help promote investment opportunities for the entity.

Mr. Morrill answered that staff is speaking with banking institutions large and small, depository banks and community development financial institutions (CDFIs). Staff welcomes referrals from the Board of those in the financial community.

Supervisor Foust noted his excitement for the program and asked if the OEEC planned to add a consultant to the team for guidance.

Mr. Morrill answered that consultants are involved which have been instrumental in setting up green banks in other localities. They have helped immensely on several of the legal, financial, and organizational aspects. In addition, there is an interagency workgroup with staff from the Department of Finance, Department of Economic Initiatives, and the County's Attorney Office. Learning from our neighbors has also been instrumental.

Supervisor Foust asked if the OEEC has the resources required and requested that staff let the Board know if help is needed.

Supervisor Palchik expressed her excitement for the project and emphasized the need for education, outreach, and partnerships to make sure capacity is built and smaller lenders are supported and engaged.

Chairman McKay noted that the program looks promising and requested that our philanthropic community not be overlooked as investors. He noted that the quicker the county can get this up and running the better, particularly as we sought and received legislative authority from Richmond. He explained that once the green

bank gets moving and projects funded, that will cement future support from Richmond for environmental issues.

Supervisor Storck thanked Mr. Morrill and asked him to let the Board know how to support the project going forward.

Item III CECAP Implementation Update

Dr. Law provided an update to CECAP implementation and 2023-2024 priority actions for implementation that prioritize sectors with the greatest carbon reduction need. She explained that the five CECAP sectors are building and energy efficiency, energy supply, transportation, natural resources, and waste, with more than 90 percent of greenhouse gas emissions coming from commercial and residential buildings and the transportation sector. While the priority for the next three years will be on buildings and energy and transportation, implementation efforts will continue for waste reduction and natural resources.

Dr. Law stated that in order to meet the 2050 goal of carbon neutrality, implementation of CECAP requires a community-based approach to implementation. A community-based approach means collectively working together to achieve a common goal of carbon neutrality and includes individuals, businesses, and organizations along with local government. The CECAP implementation plan identifies many ways in which Fairfax County may support the community in their efforts. Overall, the intent of a community-based approach is to create a multiplier effect to accelerate implementation that is working with and leveraging existing networks through community-based organizations such as homeowner associations and non-governmental organizations.

Dr. Law explained that the emissions reduction potential in the buildings and energy efficiency sector is targeted at 24.7 percent and includes three strategies: Increasing energy efficiency in buildings, electrifying existing buildings and implementing green building standards for new buildings.

Dr. Law shared a table that listed the priority actions where OEEC or its partners are working to ramp up new or expand existing programs to activate the community's potential for decarbonization in the buildings and energy efficiency sector. In addition to the Fairfax County Green Bank, programs such as Carbon-

Free Fairfax, Climate Champions, and the Green Business Partners Program are actively underway to connect with individuals and businesses about climate action. Policies and programs impacting the county as a whole include the Comprehensive Plan amendment process and legislative proposals to modernize the state building codes. Other efforts include continuing to retrofit existing or build new county facilities to increase their energy efficiency. Each of these actions requires an investment at some level, and Dr. Law shared a list of existing incentives available for the community to reduce the costs of implementation from the county, utilities, and federal government.

Dr. Law then explained that the emissions reduction potential in the energy supply sector is targeted at 24.6 percent and includes a strategy to increase the amount of renewable energy in the electric grid. This will be primarily achieved through the Virginia Clean Economy Act along with an off-site solar Virtual Power Purchase Agreement, for which the county is set to issue an RFP later this year. The county's focus in this sector is installing solar on its own facilities and promoting solar in the community by providing solar permit fee waivers and tax exemptions for property owners. She said that the Green Bank, Carbon-Free Fairfax, and Climate Champions are also a means to connect with the community and provide support through education, financing, and incentives and that OEEC is awaiting federal guidance on the Inflation Reduction Act but that there are existing incentives property owners can take advantage of now.

Dr. Law explained that the third priority sector is transportation. It has the largest emissions reduction potential at 32.1 percent and the key to this is to increase EV adoption. She said the county is actively working on this strategy by working to increase EV adoption within the county fleet and in the community. Charge Up Fairfax is a new and seminal program to accelerate EV adoption by providing the needed infrastructure to support EVs in homeowners associations (HOA) and common-interest communities.

Dr. Law then discussed the Climate Champions Program, a new 2023 initiative that has the potential to address all CECAP sectors. She said the overall goal is to amplify climate action by leveraging existing networks and peer-to-peer outreach to expand reach and impact of programs. The initial Climate Champions program will establish solar sanctuaries by working with faith communities to improve energy efficiency and renewable energy sources on their buildings. She explained that this will enable places of worship, trusted places in the community, to provide services before, during, and after climate hazards while also reducing greenhouse

gas emissions. She added that the benefit of this program is that it will act as a multiplier effect to implement and serve as a gateway to residents to accelerate climate action. The OEEC is supporting the Faith Alliance for Climate Solutions (FACS) in the development of this program, and OEEC will be applying for an EPA Environmental Justice Government to Government grant to implement at least one solar sanctuary in Fairfax County as well as serve as a model to implement many others in the county.

The second program Dr. Law shared progress on is Carbon-Free Fairfax. This program continues to be a vital program in CECAP implementation, as it is the climate action education and outreach campaign for county residents. The program was initiated in 2021 with the launch of eight campaigns focusing on three sectors. Staff are currently working on a number of educational and outreach materials for this program. In addition, the OEEC is putting together a Climate Action ‘roadshow’ that will be taken to residents, homeowner associations and other entities to accelerate implementation by engaging with existing networks and associations. Dr. Law then turned the presentation over to Matthew Meyers, Division Director, OEEC.

Mr. Meyers shared additional CECAP implementation programs beginning with Charge Up Fairfax, a community program managed by OEEC to facilitate the installation of EV charging stations to support EV adoption in multifamily residential communities. The program is intended to address the unique challenges these residents face with respect to at-home charging since they do not have driveways or garages. Mr. Meyers explained that multifamily residential housing units represent over a third (137,300 housing units) of the total 425,600 plus housing units in the county. In addition, there are many townhome communities without driveways and garages that have the same challenges for installing EV charging stations. Mr. Meyers shared that the Charge Up Fairfax pilot will start this April. He added that Charge Up Fairfax is one initiative that supports the CECAP sector goal to have a minimum of 15 percent of the registered vehicles in the county be battery electric or plug-in hybrid electric vehicles by 2030.

Mr. Meyers next highlighted the progress in implementing the county’s Operational Energy Strategy (OES) in support of the goal of having county operations be energy carbon neutral by 2040. The county's OES sets ambitious goals and targets to transition the county bus and fleet vehicles to electric or a non-carbon emitting alternative by 2035. Installing EV charging infrastructure is a key action at county facilities and EV charging stations have been installed at 11

county locations serving 91 charging spaces. Mr. Meyers added that charging stations serving up to 116 charging spaces are planned to be installed between 2023-2024 at county facilities.

Mr. Meyers then highlighted the county's progress on solar installations at county facilities. In 2023, solar installations are scheduled to be completed at nine county facilities providing over 1,100 kW of capacity. An additional 17 solar installation sites with over 3,100 kW plus the 5,000-kW project at the I-95 Landfill will be active in 2024 and 2025. Mr. Meyers explained that this is a total of 9.2 MW of renewable energy.

The 2021 Operational Energy Strategy updates along with the supporting Sustainable Development Policy for County Capital Projects has set a target to achieve Net Zero Energy for all new facilities and major renovations. Mr. Meyers explained that eighteen Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design (LEED) projects are currently in construction or final design with silver certifications or higher with eight facilities designed to Gold or Platinum. He added that two of these buildings, the Stormwater/Wastewater Facility and Operational Support Bureau are also designed to be Net Zero Energy. He noted there are other projects that have been designed to the new policy to achieve LEED Gold plus Net Zero Energy. They are also all solar and EV ready. Mr. Meyers shared that the Department of Public Works and Environmental Services (DPWES) Capital Facilities has completed forty-one buildings with LEED or Green Globe certifications.

Additional CECAP priority programs will further bolster the community-based approach to build capacity and accelerate implementation. He mentioned that the Green Business Partners program is being revitalized to encourage and elevate sustainable business and innovation to meet the CECAP goals. A forum is being held on March 31, 2023. The Fairfax Tree Canopy Program supports and expands upon existing tree planting initiatives in the community, building on the Urban Forest Management Division's programs including the Tree Preservation and Planting Program. The OEEC is expanding the HomeWise program to support and accelerate residential energy audits and building retrofits. In addition, the OEEC is coordinating with the Northern Virginia Soil and Water Conservation District (NVSWCD) to support grant programs building on their existing Conservation Assistance Program for homeowner associations and places of worship. Finally,

Mr. Meyers explained that the hospitality sector Climate Champions pilot brings together representatives from hospitality organizations like Visit Fairfax, American Hospitality and Lodging Association, Virginia Restaurant Hotel and Lodging Association, as well as major hotel brands and associations including Hilton and Marriott. A kickoff meeting for a roundtable is scheduled for March 9, 2023. Finally, Mr. Meyers explained that the OEEC is coordinating with the Department of Planning and Development (DPD) to incorporate climate action recommendations and strategies from both CECAP and Resilient Fairfax into future Comprehensive Plan and Policy updates.

Mr. Meyers concluded with an update on the county's new climate action dashboard. The page is intended to be a hub of information related to climate action, bringing together information on CECAP, the Operational Energy Strategy, and Resilient Fairfax. The page includes overall climate action metrics, several of which complement overall county strategic planning. The dashboard is organized by the five sectors laid out in CECAP, as well as resilience, where users can access information and track progress on climate action goals.

Board Discussion:

Supervisor Storck offered his appreciation for the work done on CECAP implementation and praised the icons used on the climate action dashboard.

Chairman McKay also offered his appreciation for the efforts of OEEC staff. He noted that the Climate Champions program will be instrumental in moving the community along with county goals. He asked what assessment has been done about the capacity of these community organizations and how the county can assist them.

Dr. Agazi, Director, OEEC, responded that the OEEC is leveraging the different non-governmental organizations (NGOs) to help each other and the county. Different strengths within businesses and organizations can be utilized to cooperatively achieve our goals.

Chairman McKay expressed concern on whether the Climate Champions have the resources needed to achieve the goals the county is requesting of them. He

requested that if there are needs identified, the county is made aware of those, to identify grant programs available that the NGOs might be able to apply for financial assistance, for instance. The county must anticipate and work with these organizations within their abilities to support our goals, especially in the early stages of the projects.

Supervisor Palchik expressed approval of the project and the consolidation of many different initiatives. She mentioned how the climate action dashboard is very user-friendly and provides the Board with the information needed to see the progress being made. She mentioned she did not see any tax incentives on the HomeWise website and inquired how the county works with homeowners to build capacity in the community. She stressed the importance of both environmental justice and cost savings and how the county can be most proactive in supporting our community on fixed incomes.

Mr. Meyers mentioned that the OEEC is working with other agencies and making those connections and looking at their programs and bringing those nonprofits together to see what is being done in the community, what is their capacity and how to bolster that and achieve more. He explained a more challenging CECAP sector-based goal of retrofitting 100,000 homes by 2030 and expressed the importance of connecting with those groups.

Supervisor Palchik responded by asking how the Board can help OEEC and how the county can really push information out to everyone by making it easier to understand the resources available.

Mr. Meyers stated that a lot of the materials being developed under Carbon-Free Fairfax highlight the available incentive programs and the office will be working to connect the community to them. He added that the website will have information and links to incentives.

To take a proactive role, Supervisor Palchik requested that the OEEC provide this information to the Board so they can share it with citizens.

Dr. Agazi explained that the Supervisor offices are incorporated in the implementation toolkits being rolled out to the community to help promote the incentives and various available programs.

Supervisor Storck reminded the Board to identify an environmental staff member from each of their offices to connect with OEEC and his office to push information out and receive feedback and information from the community, and to address the community's climate concerns.

Supervisor Lusk had a question about the county's Sustainable Development Policy and how to ensure, over time, that county facilities remain LEED-certified. He wondered how the county could achieve the retro-commissioning of the facilities, so they retain their LEED status.

Dr. Agazi answered that OEEC is creating a retro-commissioning program that will be unveiled and presented to the committee.

Supervisor Lusk thanked Dr. Agazi for the update and further inquired how the county can share this with the broader development community.

Dr. Law noted that these concerns are being addressed by the revitalized Green Business Partners program and through the creation of meaningful business partnerships. Dr. Agazi added that the relationship with development associations will aid in the exchange of best practices.

Supervisor Storck added that the Board has had some questions about the schools' focus on these issues.

Supervisor Gross asked for clarification about a Charge-Up Fairfax agreement signed with NVSWCD regarding EV charging installations.

Dr. Agazi explained that the organization has been a great partner in working with OEEC and has experience working on energy conservation through the administration of its Conservation Assistance Program.

Supervisor Gross inquired about the county fleet EV charging stations and if there will be universally designed charging connections, especially in relation to the larger county vehicles.

Dr. Agazi responded that the industry is moving towards more universally designed EV chargers.

Supervisor Gross then mentioned this is something to look forward to and prepare for so everyone can have access to EV charging ports.

Supervisor Walkinshaw mentioned the EV charging protocol is being standardized now at the national level, with Tesla intending to open up its chargers to other vehicle manufacturers. He asked what percentage of the county's fleet that is eligible is electric.

Dr. Agazi answered that as soon as vehicles are ready to be turned over, county agencies are purchasing EVs, if available, with no exceptions. The county currently has twenty-four battery electric vehicles and one plug-in hybrid electric vehicle.

Supervisor Walkinshaw noted the need to prioritize the number of programs coming out of CECAP. He asked if there would be some value in establishing some averages of greenhouse gas emission reduction per action. He stated that this type of measurement would help the Board prioritize actions and provide funding where the most impact can be made.

Mr. Meyers replied that the emissions reduction potential of greenhouse gas emission reduction strategies are included in CECAP. The OEEC uses greenhouse gas inventories information from the Metropolitan Washington Council of Governments which includes information on how reduced auto emissions and building improvements impact greenhouse gas emissions, for example. In addition, the EPA carbon footprint tool is on the climate action dashboard for citizen use, as well as tools from the Department of Energy on retrofits that can be done by homeowners including cost benefits of those actions. Graphics are also on the climate action dashboard to see the cost and the relationship to lowering one's carbon footprint.

Supervisor Walkinshaw explained that although we have the information and tools, he does not see the prioritization reflected in this report. He emphasized that the Board needs that information in order to determine where county funds are best spent to make the biggest impact.

Supervisor Smith expressed appreciation for Supervisor Walkinshaw's comments and expressed her agreement with the need for guidance in making budgetary decisions.

Supervisor Storck concluded by saying that part of having the Climate Champions is also to leverage what the county is doing, and spreading the work the county is doing to achieve the climate action goals. He added that marrying their passions with the county's goals will have a larger multiplier in the things we can do. He urged his fellow supervisors to meet with OEEC staff to learn more about the value and returns of the climate actions. He thanked Mr. Meyers and Dr. Law for the presentation.

Item IV Resilient Fairfax Update

Allison Homer presented a brief update on implementation of Resilient Fairfax and its strategy pillars: Integrated action planning, climate ready communities, resilient infrastructure and buildings, and adaptive environments. Of the forty-eight strategies, 65 percent have started less than four months into implementation.

Ms. Homer highlighted progress on strategy IAP.1a, amendments to the Comprehensive Plan. She stated that the Board authorized a Comprehensive Plan amendment to the Environmental Element of the Policy Plan. DPD and OEEC are working on early tasks for the climate component of the larger amendment. She also reported on strategy IAP.3a, which recommended creation of a county climate fund for resilience projects. Staff now recommend a change in approach from what was originally recommended in the Resilient Fairfax plan by utilizing the Green Bank, which is an existing effort with a similar goal. However, a legislative change would be needed to allow the Green Bank to cover both climate mitigation and climate resilience projects, rather than creating a separate, similar entity.

Ms. Homer highlighted funding being pursued under strategy IAP.3b, including an Environmental Justice Government to Government grant opportunity offered by the U.S. EPA. She also reported on strategy IAP.4a, the interagency collaboration system for climate resilience. She explained that climate action is inherently interdisciplinary and requires the coordination of multiple agencies, with OEEC organizing the agencies into six implementation groups.

Ms. Homer then highlighted progress under strategy CRC.1a, the establishment of Adaptation Action Areas where resilience is prioritized due to higher vulnerability. Ms. Homer shared the development of a network of resilience hubs in climate vulnerable areas within the county to boost a community's resilience before,

during and after severe weather events to meet strategy CRC.1b. Ms. Homer recommended a change in approach due to the availability of unprecedented federal funding. She requested Board approval to apply for an EPA Government to Government grant; an Action Item for that specific need will be coming before the Board at future meeting.

Under strategy CRC.3a, Ms. Homer highlighted efforts implementing a county flood risk reduction plan. This is being led by Land Development Services (LDS) and DPWES with the purpose of reducing flood risk through physical projects, updates to design and development standards and community outreach and education.

Ms. Homer concluded with two strategies: public service and aid (CRC.2a), and climate resilience education and guidance (CRC.2b). These strategies are currently being advanced through the climate action dashboard, a living resource that will continue to be updated and enhanced. Additionally, she explained the ongoing interagency collaboration on community education and guidance, and the expansion of access to services.

Supervisor Storck thanked Ms. Homer for her presentation and noted the upcoming request of the Board of Supervisors approval to apply for the EPA Government to Government Grant for a resiliency hub.

There were no questions for Ms. Homer. Supervisor Storck thanked OEEC staff for their work.

Item V

County Response to Bamboo Ordinance on Public Lands

Due to time constraints, agenda item V was deferred.

Item VI

Review of Staff Reports

Supervisor Storck reminded the Board of two NIPs that the Board had received on plastic bag tax revenue and complaints on litter control and dumpsters. He adjourned the meeting at 12:39 P.M.