

Fairfax County Community-wide Energy and Climate Action Plan (CECAP)

Working Group Meeting
CECAP Report Draft Discussion

Tuesday, June 8, 2021
6:00 pm – 8:30 pm
Held Electronically via WebEx

Welcome & Meeting Overview

Michelle Paul Heelan, Ph.D. – ICF Facilitator



Agenda

- Summary of Public Feedback from May
- Changes Made to Draft Report based on May Meeting
- Natural Resources Goal
- Inclusion of Renewable Natural Gas in Strategy 6
- Revisit Transportation EV Sector-Based Goal Percentage
- Feedback on Draft of Part II of CECAP
- Preview of Designed Templates for CECAP
- Wrap Up and Meeting Feedback

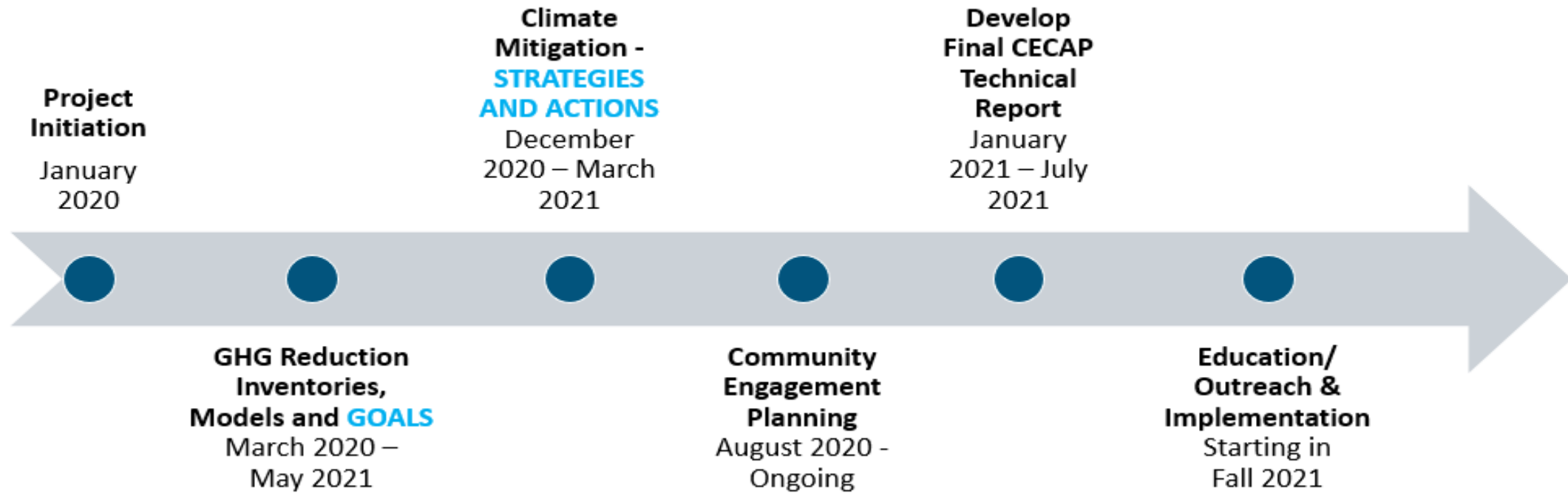
Meeting Objectives

- **Provide a summary** of the public feedback received in May.
- **Provide an overview** of the changes made to the draft report based on the May meetings.
- **Discuss** the natural resources sector-based goal.
- **Discuss** the inclusion of renewable natural gas in Strategy 6.
- **Revisit** the transportation EV sector-based goal percentage.
- **Discuss your feedback** on the draft of Part II of CECAP.
- **Preview** the designed templates for CECAP.

Summary of May Public Feedback

- Interest in process and outcomes
- General support from the public
- Interest in next steps for CECAP adoption and implementation

CECAP Process



Difference between Strategies & Goals

- Goals – set overall targets to reach
 - Long term (2050), Interim (2030, 2040) and sector-based
- Strategies – path to reach those targets
- Actions - specifics of how to travel the path
- Tracking – tracking goals to determine how close we are to target

Difference between Strategies, Actions, Goals & Tracking Metrics

Strategies	Actions	Sector Goals	Tracking
S1: Energy efficiency & conservation	1a-1e	All new, eligible buildings will have a commitment to green building. Retrofit at least 100,000 housing units with energy efficiency measures by 2030.	After the Board votes and decides what Strategies /Actions/Sector Goals they want to implement, metrics for tracking progress will be identified.
S2: Beneficial electrification	2a-2c		
S3: Green building	3a-3d		
S4: Off-site Renewable energy	4a-4c		
S5: On-site renewable energy	5a-5c		
S6: RNG, Hydrogen, Power-to-gas	6a		
S7: Electric vehicles	7a-7c	Increase plug-in electric vehicles (PHEVs) and battery electric vehicles (BEVs) to at least 15% of all light-duty vehicle registrations by 2030.	
S8: Land use, transport & TDM	8a-8c	Increase transit and non-motorized commuting to 30% (including telework) by 2030.	
S9: Fuel economy & low carbon fuels	9a-9c		
S10: Waste reduction & diversion	10a-10b		
S11: Responsible waste management	11a-11c		
S12: Natural systems & green spaces	12a-12b	Natural <u>resources</u> goal is to be determined.	

CECAP Process Timeline



How We Reviewed/Revised the Material

- Consensus of Working Group
- Not verbatim
- Changes to reflect discussions, not necessarily all perspectives

What We Heard

No	Comment	Response
1	Business roundtables	See Section 8, (8-140)
2	How fugitive emissions are discussed in the report, specifically methane	See 5-27, 5-33, others
3	Emphasize strategy of not building new buildings (reuse of existing buildings)	See Action 3d
4	Clear about role of plan where it comes from and the purpose	See Section 3
5	Global warming vs climate change	Information item
6	Add definitions of all words in report	Information item
7	Discussion of social cost of carbon – suggestion to add it to the impact matrix	Information item
8	Cost to community member	Information item
9	Timeframe with action and reduction of GHG	Information item
10	State upfront that plan can't reach its goals	Information item
11	Desire to promote equity and weave throughout report / prioritization –“neutral” → change to “unknown”	Information item
12	Potential cost effects of reduced gas taxes as revenue for the county with a shift to EVs	To be discussed when discuss Strategy 7
13	Concerns about strategy 9 –increasing fuel economy versus reducing emissions	To be discussed when discuss Strategy 9
14	Interest in ensuring a difference between low carbon fuel and clean fuel	To be discussed when discuss Strategy 9
15	Difference between CECAP and Implementation Plan	Upcoming slide
16	More natural resources focus	Upcoming slide
17	RNG / Strategy 6 discussion	Upcoming slide
18	Sector-based goal for waste management and fugitive gases	Group Discussion

How does Implementation Fit In?

- We are in the planning process
- Need to complete planning to turn to implementation
- Next steps:
 - Presenting CECAP to the Board of Supervisors
 - BOS will determine next steps
 - Prepare workplan, develop funding strategies
 - Over time, adjust implementation approaches as needed

Changes that Were Made

- Emphasizing the role of the community – in addition to efforts already underway by the county, state, and federal governments
- Editorial changes, such as links and moving paragraphs for better flow
- Updates to words (e.g. Working Group), including Focus Groups more

Natural Resources Sector-Based Goal Discussion & Vote

Michelle Paul Heelan, Ph.D. – ICF Facilitator

Adam Agalloco – ICF

Maya Dhavale – Fairfax County



Sector goals should be SMART:

- **Specific:**
 - Be specific to **the community's priorities** and **ability to influence** the emissions reduction strategy or action (but not limiting); and
 - Be set for **specific metrics** that are **understood by the public** and would contribute to the overall goal (generally, not specified with a GHG emission reduction target)
- **Measurable:** Be **measurable** based on **available data**
- **Attainable:** Be **attainable** if in the short term
- **Results-Oriented:** Support **target** year goal & focus on **larger sectors** (not strategies)
- **Time-Bound:** Set a specific **timeframe** to achieve the goal

Natural Resources – What We Heard/Proposed New Action

- Natural Resources Goal is a SECTOR BASED goal.
- **Strategy 12, and its Actions 12a and 12b,** are in CECAP regardless of SECTOR BASED GOAL.
 - Strategy 12: Support preservation, restoration, and expansion of natural systems and green spaces
 - Action 12a: Conservation of existing tree canopy and green spaces
 - Action 12b: Expansion of green spaces and tree canopy
 - Natural resource considerations are also woven throughout the report in other strategies and actions.
- **Feedback received:** Desire for comprehensive approach for Natural Resources plan with Climate Focus
- **Suggestion for new Action (Action 12c):** “Cross-disciplinary county staff team to analyze existing programs and policies across county to evaluate where climate change and natural resources intersect, and what can be added or strengthen to create a comprehensive climate (mitigation plus adaptation/resiliency) approach.”

Inclusion of Renewable Natural Gas in Strategy 6 Discussion

Michelle Paul Heelan, Ph.D. – ICF Facilitator

Adam Agalloco - ICF



RNG Discussion

- What is Renewable Natural Gas (RNG)?
 - Pipeline gas that is equivalent to natural gas in its makeup and uses.
 - Common sources are from landfills, animal waste, wastewater plants, food waste and a variety of other feedstocks.
- How does it differ from natural gas?
 - It is derived from organic or biological sources, not fossil sources.
 - Considered carbon neutral (or close to it) because it comes from sources that once absorbed carbon dioxide from the atmosphere during photosynthesis through the natural carbon cycle.
- Other Considerations
 - Uses existing distribution systems and infrastructure. Tends to be a cost-effective way to decarbonize certain types of uses.
 - Some processes are very hard to electrify (industrial uses, heating in some large commercial buildings).

Revisit Transportation EV Sector-Based Goal Percentage

Michelle Paul Heelan, Ph.D. – ICF Facilitator

Adam Agalloco - ICF



Reasons for New EV Percentage

- Modeling originally completed in October/November...since that time
 - New federal administration
 - Several car manufacturer announcements (Ford being the latest)
 - Several states have announced a ban on gasoline car sales by 2035-2040 (California, Massachusetts)
 - Strong post pandemic recover with a strong EV market
- In March 2021, Virginia became a ZEV state.
- Several reports outlined opportunities for larger EV numbers
 - The Virginia EV Incentive Working Group
 - EV adoption
- ICF reviewed modeling following May meeting

[FINAL-EV-Rebate-Report-11.18.pdf \(virginiaev.org\)](#)

[2030: 20 Million More ICE Vehicles Will Be on the Roads in the US Than in 2021 – EVAdoption](#)

Recommendation for New EV Percentage

- **Current Goal:** Increase plug-in electric vehicles (PHEVs) and battery electric vehicles (BEVs) to at least **9%** of all light-duty vehicle registrations by 2030.
- **Recommendation:** Increase plug-in electric vehicles (PHEVs) and battery electric vehicles (BEVs) to at least **15%** of all light-duty vehicle registrations by 2030.

Feedback on Draft of Part II of the CECAP

Michelle Paul Heelan, Ph.D. – ICF Facilitator



Framing Today's Discussion

- We will discuss the remaining sections of the second half of CECAP.
 - Copyediting comments are not the focus for this discussion.
 - Please focus on the *content* so that we can hear from other Working Group members whether they agree or disagree.
- We'll be taking notes on the feedback we receive, and you will see changes reflected in the report that goes to the Board's Environmental Committee in July.

Part II includes:

Section	Materials come from:
Section 7: Emission Reduction Strategies – Strategies 1 through 12	Result of brainstorming sub-group meetings on Dec 1/Dec 2, Jan 27/Jan 28, Mar 24/25, and Mar 30/31
Section 8: Community Engagement	From Fairfax County website
Section 9: Current Programs	This section has background information that comes from Fairfax County policies and website. Links are provided in each section of the report.

*Sections 3-6 were reviewed at the May meetings, but comments can be sent via email.

Section 7 – Strategy 7 & Actions 7a – 7c (starting on pg. 7-94)

1. Does the report **accurately reflect the process, the discussions, and the decisions** of the Task Force/Working Group?
2. Are there any areas that need **additional emphasis or explanation**?
3. Was **anything important left out**?
4. Are there any areas that could be **cut or deemphasized**?

Focus on the content and not the design or editing, as after the Working Group has finalized their changes the entire report will be professionally reviewed and produced.

Section 7 – Strategy 8 & Actions 8a – 8c (starting on pg. 7-100)

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Section 7 – Strategy 9 & Actions 9a – 9c (starting on pg. 7-108)

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Section 7 – Strategy 10 & Actions 10a – 10b (starting on pg. 7-113)

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Section 7 – Strategy 11 & Actions 11a – 11c (starting on pg. 7-118)

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Section 7 – Strategy 12 & Actions 12a – 12b (starting on pg. 7-124)

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Section 7 – Strategy 1 & Actions 1a – 1e (starting on pg. 7-51)

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Section 7 – Strategy 2 & Actions 2a – 2c (starting on pg. 7-59)

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Section 7 – Strategy 3 & Actions 3a – 3d (starting on pg. 7-56)

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Section 7 – Strategy 4 & Actions 4a – 4c (starting on pg. 7-74)

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Section 7 – Strategy 5 & Actions 5a – 5d (starting on pg. 7-80)

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Section 7 – Strategy 6 – 6a (starting on pg. 7-91)

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Sections 8/9 & Appendices: pg. 8-134 to end

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Wrap-up and Next Steps

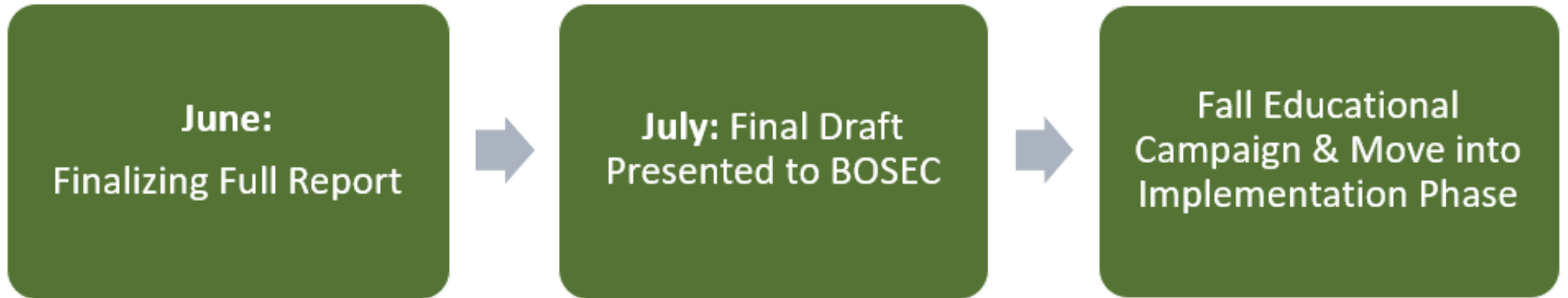
Michelle Paul Heelan, Ph.D. – ICF Facilitator



Review of Meeting Objectives

- **Provided a summary** of the public feedback received in May.
- **Discussed** the natural resources sector-based goal.
- **Discussed** inclusion of renewable natural gas in Strategy 6.
- **Revisited** the transportation EV sector-based goal percentage.
- **Provided an overview** of the changes made to the draft report based on the May meetings.
- **Discussed your feedback** on the draft of Part II of CECAP.
- **Determined and confirmed** to hold the meeting on Thursday, June 10th.

What's Next?



Next Meeting: Thursday, June 10 at 6:00pm

Stay Informed

[CECAP Homepage](#)

[Office of Environmental & Energy
Coordination \(OEEC\) Climate Action
News Blog](#)

Twitter: @ffxgreen / #ffxCECAP

Follow for updates on the CECAP process, as well as information on climate and energy science, policy, and best practices.

Learn about the topics and trends driving the climate conversation in Fairfax County.

Thank You!

For further questions, please contact:

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