

**CITY OF PHOENIX  
ELECTRIC VEHICLE AD HOC COMMITTEE**



**Summary Minutes from Friday, November 5, 2021**

Virtual Meeting – Via WebEx

**Committee Member Present**

Councilwoman Ansari

Omar Gonzales

Autumn Johnson

Catherine O'Brien

Clark Miller

Caryn Potter

Delbert Hawk

Kathy Knoop

Lisa Perez

Tim Sprague

Jason Smith

**Ad Hoc Committee Members (Absent)**

Katherine Stainken

Vianey Olivarria

Columbia Sainz

Court Rich

**City Staff Present**

Mark Hartman, Sustainability

Karen Peters, City Manager's Office

Karen Apple, Sustainability

Michelle Litwin, Sustainability

Christine Mackay, Economic Dev

Felissa Washington Smith, Public Works

Ginger Spencer, City Manager's Office

Jesús Sapien, Transit

Joe Bowar, Transit

Joe Giudice, Public Works

John Chan, Phoenix Convention Center

Kini Knudson, Streets

Kimberly Brown, Aviation

Larry Smallwood, City Manager's Office

Lawrence Polk, Parks

Sarah Demory, Aviation

Stephen Dudley, Planning & Dev

David Benton, City Attorney

Sandra Hoffman, Planning & Dev

**1. Call to Order/Roll Call**

Deputy City Manager Karen Peters called the meeting to order at 10:03 am. Karen Apple, the City's Electric Vehicle Program manager performed the roll call.

Councilwoman Ansari reported from Glasgow at the COP26 Climate Change Conference--global leaders discussing domestic climate plans to keep global average temperatures from increasing more than 1.5° Celsius. Councilwoman Ansari highlighted topics from the Conference including a methane pledge that 100 countries signed requiring ambitious goals to reduce methane pollution by 2030 and a deforestation pledge. Councilwoman Ansari continued to state that approximately 2,500 people from across the globe were in attendance from both private and public organizations, as well as youth activists. Transportation was a huge topic as the largest source of emissions worldwide at approximately 16%. She stated that, based

on Phoenix's Climate Action Plan, transportation was the source of 47% of the city's greenhouse gas emissions in 2018 and likely to have risen since then.

Councilwoman Ansari commented that these numbers support the work that this committee is doing and, with the size and growth rate of Phoenix, it is vital to be leaders in making the switch to EVs as fast as possible.

## **2. Approval of Minutes – Sept. 17, 2021 Electric Vehicle Ad Hoc – Public, Workplace and Home Charging Infrastructure Subcommittee Meeting**

Deputy City Manager Peters requested a motion to adopt the minutes, Committee Member Hawk called for a first motion and Committee Member Gonzales called for a second, unanimous pass, motion carried.

## **3. News and Announcements**

Deputy City Manager Peters introduced Karen Apple, EV Program Manager, to discuss recent news in the EV world.

Ms. Apple reported that Tesla aims to triple the Supercharger network in two years, "Stella Vita" is a solar van entirely powered by solar, Stellantis announced partnership with LG Energy and Samsung SDI to build new US battery plants, Toyota will invest \$1.3 billion to new battery plants, sales of EV have jumped 60%, Hertz submitted order to purchase 100 Tesla's by 2022 for Uber drivers to rent, and there is a change to the EV Ad Hoc Committee Sharepoint site; all meeting information can be located at <https://www.phoenix.gov/sustainability/electric-vehicles/ad-hoc-committee>.

Committee Member Johnson asked if there were locations for the battery manufacturers. Ms. Apple stated that the locations were undisclosed but located in the US.

Committee Member Knoop added announcements on GM's co-op program which is offering 10 commercial Level 2 stations to dealerships in North America to supply to community members, which could be cities, parks, churches, retail, or communities. This is an attempt for GM to deploy approximately 40,000 Level 2 stations available for public charging. Additionally, Utah and Colorado both have a 5% EV adoption rate while Arizona is still at 2%.

Committee Member Smith announced that APS launched APS Smart Charge program with Geotab Energy in efforts to gather data on how customers charge their EVs, how they use them, and the state and duration of charging. Additionally, APS will allow customers to access this data to create a baseline to better understand how customers are using charging stations. APS will transition the information to a program to incentivize customers to charge during certain times during the day and night. More information is available at <https://www.smartchargerrewards.com/APS/>.

#### **4. Comparable Cities – Public, Workplace and Home Charging Infrastructure Overview**

Deputy City Manager Peters introduced Caryn Potter to present on the Statewide Transportation Electrification Plan (STEP) and how it can be applied to the City's EV goals.

Committee Member Potter presented on the STEP, which is currently being reviewed with the AZ Corporation Commission (ACC), highlighting how the STEP can impact the City's future as well as a history of the plan including the 2019 ACC approved policy to educate customers, and require APS and Tucson Electric Power (TEP) to work with stakeholders.

Committee Member Potter informed the committee that Phase Two ended with the AZ Transportation Electrification Statewide Plan as the final product. Additionally, the ACC filed a proposed order which recommended adoption of the plan. Furthermore, Committee Member Potter reported that APS and TEP have ongoing initiatives including collaboration on equity in planning, education and outreach, to provide access for underserved communities with insufficient charging infrastructure.

Committee Member Potter presented on other stakeholder recommendations which included an updated plan and the annual report. Additionally, Committee Member Potter stated that partnerships are currently a gray area as it is not clear which model is going to win out for cities (to work with utilities) and how partners will all come together to drive EV adoption. Furthermore, Committee Member Potter recommended that the City and field experts on the committee can provide a specific voice to the utilities to help guide the direction of their programs to ensure the appropriate issues/items are being addressed. The final high-level STEP recommendation included an annual reporting process that would look at progress, collect data from various metrics and provide transparent reporting.

Committee Member Potter presented on future modeling, metrics, and research. Additionally, future modeling and research on Medium Duty and Heavy-Duty Electric Vehicles (MD/HD EV) was not included in the first round of the report. Committee Member Potter reported that there is a 1 million vehicle adoption goal by the State, but the impact/potential of MD/HD EV was not fully explored in this iteration of the report. Utilities have committed to updating modeling annually to stay up to date with the data. Committee Member Potter stated that this model should be done on a microplanning effort to ensure that the committee knows the latest data and plans accordingly. Committee Member Potter provided 5 takeaways for the committee which included the city's critical role in working/creating partnerships, collaborating in statewide TE plan, participating in future EV collaborative meetings, participate in AZTE to address potential gaps in City of Phoenix's EV readiness, and address long-term and short-term planning cycles.

Committee Member Johnson stated that APS and TEP did create 2030 EV adoption goals, with TEP making a 96,000 EV adoption goal and APS made a 450,000-

adoption goal by 2030. Additionally, both have established an AZTE collaborative group. Committee Member Johnson flagged that there were three adoption scenarios, the median adoption rate includes utilities commitments which is approximately 1 million vehicles statewide including SRP service territory. Additionally, several stakeholders pushed for a higher adoption rate scenario which includes approximately 1.4 million vehicles statewide by 2030. However, Committee Member Johnson reports that the high adoption scenario is still not enough to address the 1.5° C goal. Furthermore, the ACC has not yet voted on this, Committee Member Johnson recommends getting involved while there is still an opportunity.

Committee Member Miller stated that he participated in the STEP equity subcommittee/working group and that while the group produced a report and was included in the STEP, the equity discussion did not make it into the modeling or metric in any significance. Furthermore, it was concerning that the equity discussion was not reflected in any serious way in the main body of STEP and did not have much influence on the discussion. Likewise, Committee Member Miller recommended that this committee and ACC do a better job at making sure that equity is fully incorporated/integrated.

Committee Member Potter agreed that there needs to be more consideration of equity and that it be an entire crafted component of transportation electrification portfolio. Furthermore, Committee Member Potter recommended that this Committee take part in the utility collaborative stakeholder meetings to support this movement.

## **5. Salt River Project (SRP) – EV Strategy and Initiatives**

Deputy City Manager Peters introduced Catherine O'Brien, Electric Vehicles Lead from SRP.

Committee Member O'Brien presented on SRP's EV Strategies and Initiatives which included information on the 2035 sustainability and EV goals, EV strategies and initiatives, planning, and collaborative opportunities. Committee Member O'Brien reported that SRP is on track to meet their 2035 goals which include the enablement of 500,000 EVs in SRP service territory (currently at 22,000) and the management of 90% EV charging. Creating the goals helped SRP to outline what programs and initiatives were needed to reach their goals. Committee Member O'Brien reported on how SRP will reach their goals through commercial and residential programs. These programs are an effort to move customers towards EV adoption. SRP has created an EV community of close to 5000 customers that assists SRP and others to collect data. Committee Member O'Brien stated that it is important to note that microchip shortages have created a backlog on orders for charging stations and other EV items. Additionally, Committee Member O'Brien presented on the two types of managed charging: passive and active. SRP is examining how to achieve 90% management of EV and how to expand programs to commercial charging. Committee Member O'Brien reported on current and future research efforts, asking what happens when the 1-2 million SRP customers convert to EV, understanding ways public charging affects EV adoption, barriers to lower income customers as

well as multifamily locations and how to retrofit these to include EV charging. Furthermore, what are the annual reduction emissions from the reduction of tailpipe emissions? Through collaboration, SRP is committed to transportation electrification to benefit their customers and community. SRP reviews their customers' needs and plans for now and in the future as well as policies that can reduce cost barriers to support EV adoption.

## **6. Deliverables – Electric Vehicle Roadmap Example**

Deputy City Manager Peters introduced Caryn Potter to provide an example of a framework for an EV Roadmap.

Committee Member Potter recapped the request for a way to structure and organize deliverables, as well as what the timeline is going to look like and presented a recommended framework. Committee Member Potter reviewed the deliverables reference list which includes recommendations and actions and what the committee needs to achieve, the topics are divided between the 3 subcommittees. Furthermore, Committee Member Potter stated that there may be a lot of overlap and recommend that the members go through the document, review, and determine the timeline. Committee Member Potter shared the deliverables policy and program recommendations template, including action or policy recommendations that will increase rate of implementation. Furthermore, Committee Member Potter proposed suite of actions to rapidly advance adoption, with 1) being subcommittee actions and 2) being City actions. Additionally, recommended that the planning process be updated annually to stay up to date. Committee Member Potter provided an example of how to use the template, which may be subject to change. The template includes subcommittee action, city action, examples, recommended lead departments, additional information needs, timeline, and impact on city EV adoption and equity goals.

Committee Member O'Brien asked what the justification for the years was used in the example.

Committee Member Potter stated that the timeline/years were recommended based on how long that action might take. Likewise, information on the budgetary cycle, items to get accomplished before the budget needs to be made and recommended getting the items completed while there is capacity in the budget.

Committee Member O'Brien asked who the best person would be or how would committee members understand how to make recommendations for the budget.

Mark Hartman, Chief Sustainability Officer stated that he and Ms. Apple would be available to offer coaching and insight and provide necessary connections to departments. City departments meet regularly and will be kept in the loop to provide input and feedback to the committee.

Mr. Hartman asked the committee to practice with the template posted on the Ad Hoc SharePoint page and report back on how well it works and if it clearly articulates the deliverables. Additionally, set a deadline of the end of the month so that there is a uniform template for all subcommittees to use.

Committee Member Potter asked the committee to review duplicated action and amend to appropriate action items to ensure the template best suit each subcommittee and offered to support the groups in using the template.

Deputy City Manager stated to avoid Open Meeting Law (OML) issues that committee members direct questions to staff (Mr. Hartman and Ms. Apple).

## **7. Public Comment**

Deputy City Manger opened the discussion to members of the public. No members of the public commented.

## **8. Future Agenda Items**

Deputy City Manger asked for items that should be included in future meetings, and to send those items to Mr. Hartman or Ms. Apple.

Committee Member Miller suggested monitoring bills that are moving through congress and to have reports on if there are EV components in them.

Deputy City Manger agreed that there should be an agenda item to review and discuss bills including EVs.

Committee Member O'Brien stated that it would be helpful to understand how the funds can be utilized by the City of Phoenix or customers of the city.

Mr. Hartman confirmed that he will provide details of announcements related to EVs.

## **9. Adjournment**

Deputy City Manager Peters adjourned the meeting at 11:26pm. Next meeting is December 3, 2021.