



Clean Cities Stakeholder Meeting and Open House Notes

October 10, 2024

10 a.m. – 2 p.m.

Attendees

Finn Roden	AutoPort Inc.	Pamela Keeny	DNREC DAQ
John Moran	AAA Club Alliance	Kathleen Grier	DECS - AECOM
Mike Matskin	AAA Club Alliance	Amy Reardon	DECS
Dave Detrick	Chesapeake Utilities	Suzanne Sebastian	Energize Delaware
Jeff Donovan	Christiana Care	Kristie Arlotta	NCC
Dick Johnson	Borg Warner	Emma Odren	NCCCC
Andrew Cassilly	BioEnergy Devco	Alysse Bortolotto	NCCCC
Stephanie Johnson	DeIDOT	Dan Bent	OMB
Tricia Arndt	DeIDOT	A. Holt	Republic Services
Breanne Preisen	DNREC DCC	Joe Myers	Sea Watch
Sabrina Shultz	DNREC DCC	Eric Mays	Sharp Energy
Susan Love	DNREC DCC	Kelly Hayes	SJG/ETG
Grace Hammond	DNREC DAQ	Marissa McClenton	Sierra Club DE
Taylor Engler	DNREC DAQ		

Next Meeting: Monday, January 13, 2025 via Teams

AutoPort Overview

- AutoPort Inc. processes vehicles from OEMs to send to other countries.
- Vehicle to Grid Technology
 - Began working with the University of Delaware in 2008, piloting the use of electric vehicle battery storage to supply to the electrical grid.
 - In 2024, AutoPort converted 5 Delmarva Utility company vehicle batteries to bi-directional charging.
 - Working on mobile EV charging applications

Delaware Climate Action Plan – Planning Updates

- The Delaware Climate Change Solutions Act of 2023 establishes statewide greenhouse gas emission (GHG) reduction targets of 50% from 2005 levels by 2030, and net-zero by 2050. In 2020, DE had reduced GHG by 30%. This Act also mandates the Delaware Department of Natural Resources and Environmental Control to update its Climate Action Plan (CAP) every 5 years.

- The first Climate Action Plan was published in 2021, and DNREC is now in the beginning stages of developing the 2025 CAP.
 - Development will occur in 3 phases:
 1. Sector-based stakeholder meetings, public workshops, and community meetings.
 2. Modeling Emissions – developing potential strategies.
 3. Recommendations

Climate Pollution Reduction Grant – ZEV Corridor Project

- The EPA Climate Pollution Reduction Grant (CPRG) awarded funding to a multi-state effort to expand ZEV charging for medium- to heavy duty vehicles along the I-95 corridor.
 - The Clean Corridor Coalition includes NJ, MD, CT, and DE, who were collectively awarded \$249M for this project.
 - DE (DelDOT) will receive \$14M to construct charging infrastructure for freight vehicles.
- Key Initiatives:
 - Infrastructure funding for ZEV freight vehicles
 - Technical Assistance
 - Workforce Training
 - Community Engagement and Planning Support
- Where will the infrastructure be located?
 - The rest stop in Newark/Christiana on I-95 has been presented as a feasible location.
 - More engagement and research will be conducted to ensure that the infrastructure is placed in the most effective location.
- Questions? Reach out to DNREC Climate staff – Susan Love or Sabrina Shultz

2024 Activities

- DNREC Workforce Development Assessment for clean energy and climate-related jobs
 - Required as a part of CPRG funding.
 - DNREC held a stakeholder engagement meeting in July 2024 to review initial report findings and provide feedback to consultant, BW Research.
 - Report Findings:

Strengths	Challenges
DE has a strong foundation of workforce programs and assets that target clean energy occupations.	There is a need for wrap-around services including transportation and childcare provided for people who are seeking training and employment. Funding for pathway programs is insufficient

Clean Cities and Communities Business

- The Department of Energy has changed the Clean Cities name to 'Clean Cities and Communities'. The national logo has been updated, but Delaware will retain the same logo and branding materials.

Cooperative Agreement Planning

- Clean Cities and Communities coalitions enter into a cooperative agreement which consists of a 5-year grant period with annual awards (2021-2026)
 - DE is entering its last year of the grant period with existing requirements.
 - The DOE is seeking feedback from coalitions on how they can best invest in them to achieve the mission of Clean Cities and Communities

Strategic Plan Overview

- **Short-term Goals (1-2 years)**
 1. Establish a steering committee to help guide activities and implementation of the strategic plan (Accomplished)
 2. Ensure the DE CCC continues to be fuel neutral and provides supportive programming.
 3. Increase organization capacity to support coalition activities and events. This goal will be reached with engagement from the steering committee and increased commitment from stakeholders.
 4. Build new relationships with non-coalition member fleets and alternative fuel dealerships. Can be accomplished by connecting with 1-2 fleets in the state per year, connecting with AFV dealerships.
 - DE CCC is exploring the launch of a dealer certification program offered by the Center for Sustainable Energy (CSE). The training helps dealers sell EVs and answer questions from the public, which is important as they are the frontline in communicating the benefits of EVs to consumers.
- **Long-term Goals (2-5 years)**
 5. Continue fostering relationships with non-member fleets and AFV dealerships.
 6. Promote market development via communications, workshops, events, and technical assistance.

Can be accomplished through:

 - Keeping the website updated
 - Releasing a quarterly newsletter
 - Hosting information sessions across all alternative fuel types

Roundtable Discussion Ideas

- Talking to mechanic classes in vocational schools to emphasize the importance and prevalence of AFVs.
 - Could include field trips to AutoPort and/or Chesapeake Utilities
 - Transportation stipends for students
- Going into drivers' education classes to talk about public transit, biking, and driving EVs.
 - Getting EVs into drivers' education curriculum
- Expanding education on where to take AFVs for servicing.