



WORKSHOP 3 MEETING NOTES

January 22, 2025

8:30 to 11:30 pm

Location: Erie Community Center, Mitchell Room

Participants

| Name | Organization |
|----------------------|---|
| Ghita Carrall | Boulder Valley School District |
| Curtis Leonard | St. Vrain School District |
| Berenice El Gharamti | Monarca Group |
| Emma Marino | Town of Erie, Sustainability Specialist |
| David Frank | Town of Erie, Environmental Sciences Director |
| Aly Burkhalter | Town of Erie, Current Planning |
| John Firouzi | Town of Erie, Transportation and Mobility Manager |
| Eryka Thorley | Town of Erie, Sustainability Manager |
| MJ Adams | Town of Erie, Affordable Housing |
| Josh Campbell | Town of Erie, Long-Range Planner |
| Julian Jacquin | Town of Erie, Economic Development Director |
| Chad Alexander | Town of Erie, Facilities Manager |
| Nick Cole | Xcel Energy, Area Manager |
| Andrew Andraski | Partners in Energy, Community Facilitator |
| Andrea McCarthy | Partners in Energy, Community Facilitator |
| Sarah Kaye | Partners in Energy, Community Facilitator |

*Note: This participant list includes all who signed in on the sign in sheet. Other participants may have attended.



Agenda

| Time | Item |
|------------------|------------------------------------|
| 8:30-8:40 a.m. | Welcome and Grounding |
| 8:40-9:10 a.m. | Community Focus Area Overviews |
| 9:10-10:00 a.m. | Community Strategy Action Planning |
| 10:00-10:30 a.m. | Report out and target setting |
| 10:30-10:35 a.m. | Wrap Up and Next Steps |
| 10:35-10:45 a.m. | Break |
| 10:45-11:30 a.m. | Town Strategy Action Planning |

Notes

Refer to slides for details.

Introductions

- Sarah Kaye – Partners in Energy Community Facilitator, Lead
- Andrew Andraski – Partners in Energy Community Facilitator, Data
- Andrea McCarthy – Partners in Energy Community Facilitator, Data, support, EV
- Julian Jacquin - Economic Development Director, Town of Erie

Grounding

- Change in the schedule for Council presentation. The February meeting was moved up, but won't be ready for that. More to come.

Goal Discussion

- More conservative GHG Goal
 - To create goals we did a top down and bottom up analysis.
 - In the bottom up analysis we felt the goal was not feasible
 - To keep at net zero over 5 years - same as electrifying 1400 homes
- Community EV Goal
 - Suggestion for a vehicle goal - align with Boulder County
 - Jullian - want the be competitive so don't lose developers to neighboring municipalities so don't want to add in stricter requirements than neighboring municipalities.
 - Eryka - difference from new development and EV adoption
 - EV adoption is happening at high rates and with more expensive vehicles than neighboring jurisdictions
 - Consensus to support overall for aligning with Boulder County's EV goal



Community Focus Area Background

- Existing Residential
 - Energy Use Baseline
 - Premise count is growing faster than energy use
 - Natural gas is heavily used, so reducing natural gas usage will be important.
 - Energy efficiency goes hand in hand with electrification
 - Home Energy Squad
 - Program to help identify energy efficiency.
 - Partners in Energy to share income-qualified requirements.
 - Are home energy squads available in Spanish?
 - Contractor does have ability based on staffing.
 - Residential rebates
 - Many rebates are available through Xcel Energy, United Power, Boulder County, Town of Erie.
 - Is an energy audit required for applying for rebates?
 - United Power?
 - Xcel Energy rebates are increasing soon.
 - Some programs are also incentivizing contractors.
 - Program use
 - Look at slides
 - Strategies
 - Encourage single family residents to get a home energy audit through Town-led incentives and education
 - Connect single family homeowners with information to support them along their electrification journey
 - Targets
 - Short-term 2025
 - Continue Home Energy audit momentum targeting 45 audits in 2025
 - At least five homes install a heat pump (HVAC) or heat pump water heater
 - Medium-term 2030
 - Reduce residential natural gas use in existing buildings by 300,000 therms (~140 homes per year or ~700 total homes) through energy efficiency and efficient fuel switching.
- Existing Commercial and Institutional
 - Includes multifamily family units (>4 units)
 - Unusual trend
 - Seeing an increase in energy use despite a decline in premise count from 2021-2023; increased energy use is not
 - Electricity shows higher cost for a business compared to gas which may cause business owners to be hesitant to electrify
 - Places of worship - this building type is captured in the data
 - Premise count combines total number of accounts from Xcel Energy and United Power



- End use breakout (where is natural gas used in a business): 83% space heating
- Major commercial opportunities
 - Top employers
 - Briggs street
 - Are there other areas or sectors that we need to consider specifically?
- Rebates
 - Utility: Xcel Energy, United Power
 - Town of Erie
 - Boulder County PACE - Partners for a Clean Environment
 - Workforce development, training, and support is an area of importance and risk;
- Program impact
 - Consistent participation for last 3 years in small business solutions
- Draft strategies
 - Conduct foundational research
 - Explore opportunities to support business electrification
 - Partner with local institution to support efficiency and electrification
- Targets
 - Short-Term 2025
 - At least 1 commercial property in Erie completes a space or water heating electrification pilot project in 2025.
 - Stretch goal: 5 commercial properties
 - Medium-term 2030
 - Complete energy efficiency projects with local businesses to maintain energy use at 1,000 MMBtu per premise.
- New Construction
 - A LOT of growth in Erie --> no net increase in emissions is a challenging goal
 - Xcel Energy residential new home construction program
 - Xcel Energy programs
 - Data center assistance
 - Energy design assistance
 - Energy efficiency buildings
 - New construction lighting
 - Transportation Electrification Plan (soft launched, more to come)
 - What is the cost of Xcel Energy programs
 - Much/all are free
 - What are the benefits?
 - Varies but some examples include \$30,000 of free energy modeling services; \$500 per kW saved; etc.
 - United Power program information
 - [will follow up to find this information]
 - Energy use baseline in new construction



- Growth only seen in residential sector so presents largest opportunity
- Energy Star New Homes participation represents 15% of Erie's new premises
- Policies in Erie
 - IECC code work done to date
 - Electric preferred
 - Commitment to updating sustainability plan every 3 years
- Draft strategies
 - Identify opportunities to update building codes to align with Erie's electrification goals
 - Work with horizontal developers (e.g. no gas infrastructure) and / or builders to create pathways for offering energy efficient, all-electric buildings
- Targets
 - Short term 2025 target
 - Connect 1 commercial and 1 residential new development with efficiency design assistance programs
 - Medium-term 2030 target
 - Reduce residential natural gas use in new construction by 300,000 therms
- Questions
 - Police department is just less than 50K sq ft and in early development; will it quality?
- Break out groups
 - See strategies in plan
- Town-led
 - Background
 - Existing or Near-term
 - Using IECC building codes
 - Town Hall all electric for HVAC design
 - Near term - underway
 - Xcel Energy
 - Police department in design
 - Mid-term
 - Funding on secured at this point
 - Feasibility for geothermal
 - Electric HVAC, phasing in solar and battery storage backup
 - Community center
 - Mid-term
 - Chamber of Commerce
 - Mid-term
 - Energy efficiency study
 - Service Center
 - Mid-term/long term
 - Haven't done a deep dive
 - Have solar



- Fleet Electrification
 - 5 leased vehicles
 - More coming in 2025
 - EV-first procurement policy
 - Change to --> 50% of total LDV electric by 2030
 - Lease vehicles with a 5-year replacement schedule
 - Exception criteria
 - Charging
 - Charging policy
 - \$0.15/kWh
 - Parking free
 - Public charging 35 x 2025
 - 2 fleet specific chargers
 - Hard to qualify for Fleet ZERO, b/c not part of DICs
- Strategies
 - Serve as convener for information and resources
 - Decarbonize town of Erie fleet
 - Decarbonize Town of Erie Facilities
 - Strategically invest in Town-owned public charging to fill gaps
 - Can cut strategy
 - Need support from XE for electrical component
 - Erie to apply for EVSI rebates
- Targets
 - Short-Term 2025 Target
 - One new electric facility
 - 35 public chargers by 2025
 - Medium-term 2030 Target
 - Net-zero energy use by 2030
 - 50% of all new light duty vehicles electric by 2030
 - Long-term 2050 Target
 - At least 95% renewable energy sourced "Implementing actions to ensure that, by 2050, renewable energy accounts for at least 95% of all energy use attributable to all sectors in the Town"
- State of Colorado has no new oil and gas regulations for next 3 years
 - Feedback Erie received is that they are so restrictive that oil and gas are in unincorporated Weld County
 - Town is looking at Reg 7 - pipeline - better leak detection
 - Why not measured in GHG
 - In the net-zero energy use by 2030
- Convener strategy
 - Keep resources up to date
- Fleet
 - Town hall fleet charging?
 - Have public charging
 - Don't have fleet-specific



- 1 additional dual port chargers 3 total (church lot)
- 7 ports for town hall lot (8 total)
- Partners in Energy support
 - Fleet analysis
 - Police vehicles
 - How to identify exemptions to fleet policy
 - Scott Brown, Rich Lucas, Chris McDonalds, Chief of Police
- Paige
 - Xcel Energy
 - All electric
- Wastewater Treatment
 - United Power
- Facilities
 - Architect firm scope - programs to support
 - Energy audit
 - Carbon offsets
 - PiE lead marketing the efforts underway, why, benefits
 - Public events to educate about efforts
 - Public TV channel - PiE/ Erie Town Comms
 - Gabi Rae - Communications
 - Tie to residential
 - Provide broad resources for facilities specifically
- Offsets
 - Renewable Connect flex
 - Explore outside for natural gas offsets
 - Engage with solar program - solar gardens for municipal
 - Up to 40% owned by 1 entity
 - Subscription for residents/commercial as well
 - Demand outweighs supply
 - GIS analysis for opportunities

Wrap Up and Next Steps

- Plan review: Beneficial Electrification Action Team to anticipate plan review 3/5-3/19