

City of Vaughan Municipal Energy Plan Stakeholder Advisory Group Meeting #1 Summary

Meeting

October 2, 2014

5:00pm – 7:00pm

Maple Community Centre (Vaughan, ON)

Purpose

- “ Understanding of project objectives and anticipated outcomes;
- “ Overview of MEP Planning Process and Data Collection and Analysis stage;
- “ Understanding of SAG framework;
- “ Discussion and generation of ideas to discuss opportunities, challenges and goals associated with the MEP.

Summary of Action Items

1. SAG meetings to occur on Tuesday nights, 5-7pm at Vaughan City Hall moving forward. Address: Vaughan City Hall, Community Room #242, 2141 Major Mackenzie Drive, Vaughan.
2. Lura to prepare agendas and important meeting materials at least one week in advance of SAG meeting.
3. Lura to circulate PowerPoint and meeting summary/action items within a week following the meeting.
4. E-mail is the best form of communication; Dropbox may be used later on if needed for larger files, etc.
5. Paperless meetings - participants to bring their own copies of materials if needing printed versions.
6. Those present agreed to share the SAG e-mail contact list amongst members.
7. Participants invited to send an alternate to meetings if they cannot attend. Please confirm with Jeff and Chris in advance.
8. Lura to distribute full meeting schedule (and Outlook invitation)

Summary of Discussion on Opportunities, Challenges and Goals

Opportunities

- “ Opportunity to have more clarity
 - Identification of important options and issues
 - Chance to fix potential misalignment of who pays the bill vs. who actually benefits
- “ Can educate people, change public perception
- “ Chance to decide where to focus efforts optimally
- “ Chance to align policy objectives with consumer needs/wants
- “ Opportunity to lead and innovate
 - Open doors for Economic Development and more innovation
- “ Leverage existing tools such as LEED, Energy Star, Green plans, etc.

Challenges

- “ Data confidentiality is main challenge
 - Residential data easier to retrieve than commercial and industrial
 - Need to find a way to use individual data anonymously in an advantageous way
 - Can Vaughan find a way to mandate data sharing?
 - Open up opportunities for benchmarking projects, pilot programs, etc.
- “ What are economic impacts? Need to align energy impacts with energy goals
 - Engage residents and business. Communicative effectively to get “buy-in.”
 - Provide incentives for change
- “ Have to engage right stakeholders
- “ Lack of education
- “ “One size does not fit all”
- “ Timelines for new initiatives/developments – have to be able to align

Goals

- “ Identify key geographic areas for action, type of action, allocation of resources
- “ Empowering the right people and creating policies that work
- “ More clarity and public education
- “ Good coordination with other local policy and planning objectives
- “ Have a “menu” with options due to “one size does not fit all” challenge
 - Mix of uses, options, broader objectives
 - Based on user base – residential, commercial, mixed use
- “ Consider new developments vs. existing areas that are experience intensification
 - Have flexibility for both situations