

EVSE Expedited Permitting Task Force Call #1

11/3/21 2 PM

Meeting Recording: <https://us02web.zoom.us/rec/share/S511vUjSLLL-k-OCBhZ8QLNRiA1RCI22XoVOVJ4SJwhtiJQMT08IN8Q0x3e2i4l.RM1LUdioWiYoA6t1> (Access Passcode: ^JD6Fm8Q)

Attendees

- E4TheFuture: Steve Cowell, Susan Buchan, Rachel (Ehrman) Fishman
- Green Energy Consumers Alliance: Anna Vanderspek
- MAPC: Alison Felix, Jesse Way
- DOER: Amy McGuire, John Liriano
- Eversource: James Cater
- National Grid: Tom Chorman
- Boston Transportation Department: Matt Warfield
- MassCEC: Ariel Horowitz, Rachel Ackerman, Rhys Webb
- SWTCH, Tricia Powers

Resources Shared by Attendees

- https://www.cityofboston.gov/images_documents/Checklist%20-%20Grant%20of%20Location%202012.02_tcm3-33370.pdf
- <https://www.nescaum.org/documents/dcfp-permit-streamlining-whitepaper-final-5-14-19.pdf/>
- <https://www.cityofboston.gov/publicworks/sweeping/Resurfacing.aspx>
- <https://www.granitestatecleancities.nh.gov/happening/documents/20190927-evseplanning-nescaum.pdf>
- <http://www.pvpc.org/sites/default/files/doc-ev-charging-station-plan/guide3215.pdf>
- <https://www.boston.gov/sites/default/files/file/2020/06/How%20To%20Install%20an%20EVSE%20.pdf>

Permitting Challenges Discussed

- All municipalities require a “grant of location,” which requires approval via monthly voting
- After grant of location, 2 permits must be issued (in Boston): street opening permit, then electrical connection permitting
- There is a lack of clarity of different requirements for different jurisdictions. There should be some uniformity.
- Sometimes EVSE requires zoning board approval, and often zoning boards require small, tedious changes and can hold up projects
- There isn’t easy access to a step-by-step guide
 - **A first step to increase transparency would be to have a publicly available flowchart for a few cities/towns**
 - Through the flowchart, the task force can identify where the bottlenecks are and work to create a more streamlined process

- Examples of ways to streamline include: 1) allow “grants of location” to be authorized via an electronic vote instead of at monthly hearings, 2) publicize when/where resurfacing is already taking place, 3) allow concurrent permitting approvals, 4) require administrative approval/avoid “special use permits” unless a health or safety issue
- Ideally, the outcome from this working group will coincide with the start of 2022, when DPU is expected to make its decision on Eversource/National Grid’s expanded Make Ready programs

Action Items for the Next Meeting (11/17)

- James: share dates for next grant of location hearings
- James/Matt, others: bring in the right people/begin working on a flowchart outlining the process for permitting EVSE in multifamily, commercial, and municipal lots in a few municipalities (suggestions include Sean from Maverick (?), someone from Eversource’s rights group, Boston ISD, Todd from PIC). What requires a project to obtain a special use permit?
 - All: If you can get in touch with someone who can help you walk through the process in other jurisdictions, it would be great to have several jurisdictions’ processes to compare during the next meeting
- Matt: Invite someone from Somerville and/or Cambridge that would be appropriate for this task force to bring different municipalities’ perspectives
- All: Think about ways the guides can best be distributed/easily accessible to the public on the web (e.g., Boston’s guide, linked above, isn’t easily accessible via its site search function)

EVSE Expedited Permitting Task Force Call #2

11/17/21 2 PM

Meeting Recording:

<https://us02web.zoom.us/rec/share/WTXvWwhAoSGJ5OF3FtFlqpLwwe5CZ1k3gQBtz6XpHx0UhDDc2bKgZHxu8r1pFFqS.NwIDqkwxZclAMYy> Passcode: ot6%&gcb

Attendees

- E4TheFuture: Steve Cowell, Susan Buchan, Rachel Fishman
- MAPC: Alison Felix, Jesse Way
- DOER: John Liriano, Michelle Broussard
- Eversource: James Cater
- National Grid: Tom Chorman
- Boston Transportation Department: Matt Warfield
- SWTCH: Tricia Powers
- Voltrek: Kathleen Connors

Resources Shared by Attendees

- <https://www.mma.org> their annual conference could be a good way to spread the word – present??
- <https://www.mass.gov/service-details/contact-gc-coordinator> Green Communities Coordinators

Existing Permitting Processes – Findings

- Eversource's Grant of Location experience (all towns):
 - Rights Group submits a package to the town commission (or whoever has authority over the public right of way
 - The municipality reviews the package and makes recommendations to the board. Statue requires a notice 7 days of a public hearing date. Some hearing dates are set weekly, some monthly, some may be quarterly.
 - At the hearing, an Eversource agent attends to advocate for approval, which can be granted that day
 - In **Cambridge**, Cambridge Conduit Commission also needs to meet & approve
 - In **Boston**:
 - Sometimes PIC needs to approve, but typically doesn't take that long
 - The longest part is the permitting process for excavation, then permits for electrical connection. Can these be concurrent?
 - A Boston public project Voltrek worked on required them to hire a civil engineer & lawyer, and still took months to approve.
 - Sometimes WRA needs approval
 - If near MBTA or railroad track, they would need to also approve
- Somerville:
https://www.somervillema.gov/sites/default/files/legacy/documents/Grant%20of%20Location%20Application_0.pdf

- This process underscores need for concurrent review
- Framingham: Nothing online, left voicemails
- Worcester: Nothing online, left voicemails
- Lee/Lenox:
 - Need to obtain permits from Building Inspector & Wiring Inspector
 - If on town property, need written approval from Board of Selectmen
 - Has online permitting portal for submission, but nothing publicly accessible. Portal not available to the public.
- Public vs. Private
 - For private sites (resi and C&I), typically projects just need an electrical permit, but many people don't know that and get the wrong permits
 - The process gets more complicated for public rights of way, new service, wetlands

Model Ordinance Components

- Confirmed elements:
 - Accessibility of information on public facing websites
 - Clarification that private residential & C&I sites only need an electrical permit
 - Expedited process (TBD) for public rights of way
- Elements to be decided:
 - Submitting all documentation at once to one entity/Concurrent permitting
 - “Matricize” the process
 - Electronic, frequent voting of deciding bodies
 - Electronic submittals
 - Municipalities to appoint an ombudsperson to answer questions about the process

Action Items for Next Meeting (12/1)

- Tom: Ask the NG implementation team about public rights of way permitting process & any roadblocks
- Matt: Ask City of Boston folks about whether concurrent permitting would be possible
- Jesse & Alison: Bring the idea of a model ordinance to the 11/18 EV Strategy Working Group Meeting. Ask for feedback on the concept, whether any municipalities have something like this already, and their appetite for adopting an expedited permitting ordinance.
- John: Reach out to Clean Cities partners and see if other places have done something like this & get their feedback (in CA, see whether the state's model ordinance made things easier)
- John: Invite someone from DEP to the next meeting
- Michelle/John: Introduce Alison to Joanne Bissetta at Green Communities; invite her to the next meeting. ***Ultimately, this ordinance could be part of the Green Communities criteria//a vehicle for adoption***
- Susan: Reach out to the building officials trade organization
- Rachel: Start Google doc with model ordinance language; circulate to the group
- All: Begin mapping out who is reviewing what documents, and what can be packaged
- All: Continue documenting and compiling various processes across municipalities

EVSE Expedited Permitting Task Force Call #3

12/1/21 2 PM

Attendees

- E4TheFuture: Steve Cowell, Susan Buchan, Rachel Fishman
- MAPC: Alison Felix, Jesse Way
- SWTCH: Tricia Powers
- Voltrek: Kathleen Connors
- BTM: Matt Warfield
- National Grid: Tom Chorman

Feedback on Model Ordinance

- (Steve) Ensure there are no written laws that establish procedures that prohibit concurrent permitting
- (Matt) Jurisdictions may be hesitant to adopt an ordinance that requires them to do things a certain way (e.g., concurrent permitting), but perhaps the permitting checklist/ombudsman included in the model ordinance may be better received.
 - The group could also create a suggested map for a jurisdiction could streamline their permitting processes
- (Susan) Part of the ombudsman's role could be to ensure that, during concurrent review, copies are distributed to the various appropriate reviewing bodies.
- (Jesse) Include a requirement for pre-permitting meeting as an opportunity for developers to speak with permitters so that the permitters can flag anything that might hold up the process. The ombudsman could coordinate this.

Model Ordinance Adoption Planning

- Model ordinance adoption process:
 - Implement the ordinance in a few jurisdictions first before rolling anything out on a state level (typically, MA is hesitant to mandate all towns do something, plus in CA it took several years for jurisdictions to adopt ordinances after the passage of the expedited permitting law)
 - Potential pilot jurisdictions could include Melrose, Winthrop, MMA conference attendees (not Boston yet)
 - Develop toolkit like CA did?
 - Broader state-wide adoption strategies
 - Green Communities, or legislatively requiring each jurisdiction appoint an ombudsman
- (Alison) In ICF's plug-in best practices compendium, shared by John Liriano via email to the group, there is discussion reducing permitting fees & ensuring appropriate training on EV charging for permitting/inspection (perhaps the ombuds person should be the one trained on this?). The ordinance might not be the right place for this but could be addressed by the group.
 - Putting together a training could be part of what the task force could do? Or looking at CA/NYSERDA as model?

- Tricia attending MMA conference (1/21-1/22) and can get feedback from municipalities when she's there

Action Items for Next Meeting (12/15)

- Alison, Jesse, Susan, Rachel: Meet with Green Communities lead, Joanne Bissetta, on 12/9
- All: Review model ordinance yourselves, plus share the document with any target communities, City Councilors, building officials, planning directors, etc. & provide all feedback to the group.
 - o Tricia: Connect with cities/towns adopting net zero stretch codes
 - o Jesse: Share with Ken Pruitt, Winchester, for his feedback
 - o Susan: share with Martha Glover, Melrose & reach out to/possibly share with folks from the MA code officials organization
 - o Tom: share with NG contacts
- Tricia: Look at funding opportunities for EV permitting trainings

EVSE Expedited Permitting Task Force Call #4

12/15/21 2 PM

Attendees

- E4TheFuture: Steve Cowell, Susan Buchan, Rachel Fishman
- MAPC: Alison Felix, Jesse Way
- SWTCH: Tricia Powers
- DOER: John Liriano
- GECA: Anna Vanderspek

Meeting Notes

- National Grid Feedback
 - Group has decided to not attempt to eliminate or streamline the abutters/easement hearing process at this time (NG also specified it has not been a challenge)
 - NG suggested obtaining feedback EV manufacturers; Tricia will reach out (Kathleen, will you too?)
- Develop an accompanying fact sheet that identifies key resources
 - Include points of contact at utilities
- Green Communities
 - MAPC & E4 had a productive conversation with Joanne Bissetta, Acting Director
 - Green Communities is interested in this space
 - Conversation was geared toward identifying ways to incentivize this type of adoption of EVSE
 - Green Communities Coordinators as the ombudsman may be a challenge, since 1. Any changes to Green Communities must be done legislatively, and 2. not every community has a Sustainability or Energy Director.
 - Often DPW Commissioners are involved. In Topsfield, the GC Coordinator is the Fire Chief!
- Outreach
 - Tricia reached out to Quincy (Shelly Dein), Winchester, Acton, Melrose (Martha Grover; Susan also reached out), Rep. Meschino & her local Senator - waiting to hear back. She is also attending the MA Municipal Assoc. Tradeshow on Saturday
 - Jesse reached out to Winchester (Ken Pruitt) & is connecting with building dept folks.
 - Later outreach can include the MAPC Matters Newsletter
- Group agreed it's OK to circulate the model ordinance

Action Items for Next Meeting (1/5)

- Kathleen
 - would you be willing to reach out to ChargePoint and ask for their feedback on the ordinance?
- Tricia
 - Ask for feedback from:
 - Horizon Solutions

- Municipal DPW Commissioners/Directors
 - Provide feedback from MMA conference
 - Share feedback from any responses from the folks you reached out to already
- Susan
 - Contact John Livermore re: ordinance
 - Write model ordinance cover page (including the importance of the ordinance)
- Jesse
 - Share ordinance with MAPC municipal EV strategy group
- Rachel
 - Edits to ordinance: add a “draft” watermark & add “or appropriate contact” to “chief building official” line
 - Package edited ordinance & Susan’s cover letter; circulate with the task force to share
 - Share ordinance with any municipal contacts who attend AEG
- John
 - Share in the Clean Cities newsletter

EVSE Expedited Permitting Task Force Call #5

1/12/22 2 PM

Attendees

- E4TheFuture: Susan Buchan, Rachel Fishman
- MAPC: Alison Felix, Jesse Way
- SWTCH: Tricia Powers
- Voltrek: Kathleen Connors
- Jon Hamilton (Rep Meschino's Office)
- Sen. Patrick O'Connor & Daria Afshar
- MCCC/DOER: John Liriano

Meeting Notes

- Sen. O'Connor
 - Need to update statute to quickly deploy EVSE
 - Likes language in model ordinance
 - Aligns w/ Municipal Modernization Act & climate goals
 - Weymouth blanket requirement for charging in new construction. Chief of Staff in Weymouth looking to streamline process
 - Use local pilots as examples to pass regulation giving communities the options to do something via legislative intent (regs would be a "check box" rather than communities adopting their own regs)
 -
- Jon Hamilton
 - Have bills about EV charging
 - Starting to hear about EV charging from constituent groups & wants to help municipalities lead on climate
- Susan
 - Submitted to various towns & Assoc. of Building Officials; Assoc of building officials will be running up the ladder
 - Goal is to make things easier for munis in the long run
 - May need to add an amendment in the long turn for pole mounted charging
- Tricia
 - Reached out to light board but likely not enough charging
 - Reached out to a lot of towns – recognize that they will have a problem but haven't encountered them yet
 - MMA may be cancelled b/c of COVID
- MAPC reached out to ChargePoint, EVGo, Cambridge
 - Cambridge said it looks good
 - ChargePoint shared comments with the group
 - Aligning EVSE definition with state definition
 - Waiting to hear back from EVGo
- Kathleen

- Going to be a critical problem in the coming years

Action Items for Next Meeting (1/26)

- Sen. O'Connor
 - Contacting Weymouth for consideration of adoption of model ordinance & arrange meeting with town officials
- Alison
 - Reach out to municipalities via planners' listserv
- Jesse
 - *Action item for 2 meetings from now:* Share ordinance with MAPC municipal EV strategy group, as the meeting will be held 1/27
- John
 - Sharing doc with MCCC Listserv this Fri
- Rachel
 - Update doc & circulate w/ state EVSE definition

EVSE Expedited Permitting Task Force Call #6

1/26/22

Attendees

- E4TheFuture: Steve Cowell, Susan Buchan, Rachel Fishman
- MAPC: Jesse Way
- SWTCH: Tricia Powers
- ENE: Alex Banat
- Medway: Susan Affleck Childs
- Beverly: Erina Keefe
- Harvard: Chris Ryan
- National Grid: Tom Chorman

Meeting Notes

- Tricia reported that Sen. O'Connor setting up a meeting; will set date next week
- A checklist of suggested requirements will be included with the model ordinance
- Susan Affleck-Childs, Medway expressed an interest in addressing advertising/may need to set up a special permit process for EVSE signage with an advertising component
- A member of the group asked if this could be a zoning bylaw, or a general ordinance. While it could be a zoning bylaw with overlay zones, this would typically be a general ordinance
- Susan Affleck-Childs, Medway
 - General EVSE questions
 - Looking for feedback on % of new construction parking that should have EVSE (which could be tied to the parking section of the zoning bylaw)
 - While there is no set standard, in Boston 25% of spaces must have EVSE for new construction of a certain size, or EV carsharing program.
 - Feedback
 - Green Communities has a role in advocating and educating green communities through their regional coordinators (distributing information, model bylaws)
 - Michelle: DOER working through a new related document
 - Some language in the document sounds like a guidance document rather than an ordinance
 - Include a definition of administrative review in the document?
 - MAPC regional coordinators could have this be a topic for a monthly meeting?
- Chris Ryan
 - Harvard would be open to adoption, does not see major impediments. Perhaps Energy Committee or Environment Committee (both active) could sponsor
 - Provisions for EVSE fueling stations (gas station equivalents for EVs)?
 - Suggests MAPC can develop a webpage with useful links and documents, including the model ordinance that people can access as one-stop shop
- The group discussed including language surrounding fire departments/code, and emergency response protocols. This could be included in later editions of the ordinance, and/or a municipality could choose to point to MassEVIP for language around this.

- Erina Keefe, Beverly
 - This could be nested with a mandate with charging stations. If zoning, would have to go through planning board & city council, which only meets a couple times per year.
 - Wants to promote consistent signage; could that be suggested in the ordinance?
 - Should be accessible/visible on plugshare.com? (e.g., must be searchable if public)
 - Reasonable restrictions aren't defined in the model ordinance- what are they?
 - EVSE definition – applies to level 2 and 3?
 - Fire stations asked for protocol about what happens if emergency response is needed?
 - Tricia: Most of the hardware has an emergency shut off button. But some cities require a shut off switch in the line of sight from transformer/panel to the stations.
 - EVIP's accessibility requirement can be a hinderance for smaller lots, since you lose a space
 - Who does load calculations?
 - Alex: utility; utility wants to see what's coming in regardless of L2 or L3
 - Suggests changing clause: you must be able to demonstrate your load calculation?
 - Check with National Grid and Eversource on including load calculations with the application. Would be beneficial on MLP end, according to Alex
 - A next iteration could require laying conduit at the same time as EVSE installation
- Generally, the group will need to decide what should be included in the model vs. what individual municipalities will be able to choose to add in specific to their community's needs and rules.

Resources Shared by the Group:

- Tricia: This is from 2020 but thought page 6 of 18 had some great info on policy (Permitting on here too): <https://theicct.org/sites/default/files/publications/EV-cities-update-aug2020.pdf>

Action Items for Next Meeting (2/9)

- Chris
 - Connect with Harvard's Energy & Environment Committees about their interest in sponsoring
- Alex
 - Invite someone from DEP/MassEVIP to this meeting
- Tricia:
 - Share next steps from Sen. O'Connor
- Susan Buchan
 - Add in additional tweaks suggested by group & circulate

EVSE Expedited Permitting Task Force Call #7

2/9/22 2 PM

Attendees

- E4TheFuture: Susan Buchan, Rachel Fishman
- MAPC: Alison Felix
- SWTCH: Tricia Powers
- Voltrek: Kathleen Connors
- MCCC: John Liriano
- DOER: Michelle Broussard

Resources Shared by the Group

- Mayor's Caucus EV Readiness Summary Actions Checklist: https://mayorscaucus.org/wp-content/uploads/2020/08/EV-Readiness-CHECKLIST-01Jun2020_final.pdf
- EVGo Checklist https://site-assets.evgo.com/f/78437/x/a36897f7b3/connect-the-watts_local-permitting-best-practices.pdf

Meeting Notes

- Steve Conti is likely the new point of contact for Eversource, as James Cater has left.
- Sen. O'Connor arranged a call with the Town of Weymouth this Friday. Weymouth is interested in piloting.
- Kathleen's feedback
 - Likes EVGo's guide, especially the suggestion to require only an electrical permit on private property
 - Inspectors in most towns have had experience with charging stations & installations
- Accessibility language
 - Challenges with EVIP requirements because it's too onerous
 - John Liriano suggested referencing the Montgomery process or NYSERDA report or standard language on accessibility
- Next Steps
 - A graphic checklist accompanying the ordinance
 - Should detail what ordinance is meant to do and how it could improve things
 - It could be a combination of the following, perhaps:
 - Meg Aki developed a 1-page EV charging toolkit available on MAPC's website but is limited to EV charging stations.
 - Alison, is it this one? https://www.mapc.org/wp-content/uploads/2018/01/MAPC-Roadmap-to-Install-EV-Charging-Stations_01-05-18.pdf
 - The EVGo Checklist (see above, in resources shared by the group)
 - Mayor's Caucus EV Readiness Checklist (see above, in resources shared by the group)
 - Mayor listening session

- Joe Curtalone (NECEC prez., former Somerville Mayor) may be able to help coordinate?
 - Or Green Communities Webinar?
- Press (once a town adopts?)
 - MAPC Matters Newsletter & Clean Energy Newsletter
 - E4 blog & E4 email blast
 - Press release, newspaper, etc.

Action Items for Next Meeting (2/23)

- All
 - Review Mayor's Caucus suggested checklist (: https://mayorscaucus.org/wp-content/uploads/2020/08/EV-Readiness-CHECKLIST-01Jun2020_final.pdf), EVGo checklist (https://site-assets.evgo.com/f/78437/x/a36897f7b3/connect-the-watts_local-permitting-best-practices.pdf), and MAPC's graphic (this one? https://www.mapc.org/wp-content/uploads/2018/01/MAPC-Roadmap-to-Install-EV-Charging-Stations_01-05-18.pdf), and see if any of these, and/or a combination might be suitable for the follow-on checklist to share with communities
 - Send suggestions for massaging the accessibility language (and any other ordinance language suggestions) in the model ordinance
 - Add any helpful resources to the "Resources Shared by Task Force Members" Document
- Kathleen
 - Ask Steve Conti (Eversource) if he has capacity to join these meetings.
- Rachel
 - Invite Erin & Haidee from EVIP to the next call
 - Incorporate draft language on accessibility in the model ordinance via Montgomery & NYERDA's language, per John's suggestion
 - Check in with Chris Ryan from Harvard re: their Energy Committee's appetite to consider adopting the ordinance
- Susan
 - Share any news from the 2/11 Weymouth meeting with the group

EVSE Expedited Permitting Task Force Call #8

2/23/22

Attendees

- E4TheFuture: Susan Buchan, Rachel Fishman
- MAPC: Alison Felix, Jesse Way
- Green Communities: Joanne Bissetta
- ENE: Alex Banat
- DOER: Michelle Broussard
- SWTCH: Tricia Powers

Meeting Notes

- Debrief on call with the City of Weymouth & Sen. O'Connor
 - Weymouth understood the need & are taking next steps to prepare ordinance for adoption
 - Will follow up in another week or so
- Hingham
 - A client of ENE, all infrastructure is owned by municipal utility
 - No charging currently, but lots of charging is going in (blank slate)
 - Could be domino effect or could engage separately
- Wellesley
 - Sustainability organization is interested in joining
- Next phase: aiding municipalities in adopting
 - Near term:
 - Create slide deck to accompany ordinance (Susan)
 - Checklist
 - Tricia to start drafting:
 - For towns
 - For businesses
 - Include considerations:
 - Refer to Green Communities model bylaws for suggested possible revisions
 - Fines
 - Lighting
 - Inlay EV charger ready
 - Signage (at the location of the charger, wayfinding, for EV parking & EV charging)
 - Advertising (defining what's treated as a billboard vs. a charging station)
 - ADA accessibility (we recommend it is a requirement for public access, and for private we defer to property owners)
 - For MassEVIP we specify as required by state and federal law. This is the language in our [PAC Requirements](#): *Applicants who are required to provide*

handicapped accessible parking spaces in their parking area as required by the 1991 or 2010 Americans with Disabilities Act Architectural Design Standards and/or the rules and regulations of the Massachusetts Architectural Access Board (521 CMR) must meet the accessibility requirements for EV charging spaces as provided in this section.

- Per NYSERDA: “Federal accessibility requirements set in the ADA stipulate that EVSE available for use by the general public must be accessible for people with disabilities in State and Local Government Facilities, Public Accommodations, and Commercial Facilities. While there are no Federal standards specific to EVSE design, accessibility is still required as per legal examples that, “lack of explicit scoping or technical requirements does not relieve ADA Title II and Title III entities from obligation to provide access.”⁸ The 2016 California Building Code, effective in January 2017, sets California’s accessibility regulations for EVSE.”
 - Will be various processes for municipalities of various sizes. Would require town meeting approval: town council, select board, planning board. If town has an MLP, their buy-in is helpful too (/MLP staff could be ombudsperson)
 - Green Communities could do a webinar to their constituents about this (either standalone or included in broader transportation resources webinar)
 - Green Communities could send an e-blast about this & give our contact if they’re interested
 - Look at which municipalities received DEP’s \$13M for charging stations, they might be receptive
 - Municipalities would vet the model permit with their own attorneys
- Longer term
 - Green Communities being updated so that climate leaders achieve points for funding for electrifying mobility. Having a permitting process for EVSE, deployment plan, including charging in site plan review, etc. will earn municipalities points
 - Green communities are looking at expedited permitting for other things too (e.g., solar) and breaking out into steps
 - Landing page on MAPC website (and share with other regional planning ords)
- For Discussion at Next meeting
 - Slide Deck
 - Checklist/considerations
 - Next steps w/ municipalities
 - Planning a webinar w/ Green Communities

Action Items

- Alex

- Contact Hingham Sustainability Coordinator to join call or take a separate call
 - Invite Wellesley sustainability organization to the task force
- Susan
 - Follow up with Chris from Harvard on adoption
 - Develop slide deck about ordinance
- Alison
 - Follow up with interested municipalities that we'll be developing a slide deck
- Joanne
 - Create email blast to constituents w/ Susan's contact info to join
- Tricia
 - First draft checklist
 - Check with Daria from Sen. O'Connor's office whether she's vetted the ordinance from a legal perspective

EVSE Expedited Permitting Task Force Call #9

3/9/22

Attendees

- E4TheFuture: Susan Buchan, Rachel Fishman
- MAPC: Alison Felix, Jesse Way
- DOER: John Liriano, Michelle Broussard
- SWTCH: Tricia Powers
- ENE: Alex Banat

Resources Shared

<https://www.nj.gov/dca/dlps/home/modelEVordinance.shtml>

- “The law requires that Electric Vehicle Supply/Service Equipment (EVSE) and Make-Ready parking spaces be designated as a permitted accessory use in all zoning or use districts and establishes associated installation and parking requirements related to EVSE in New Jersey’s 565 municipalities. In order to implement this, the bill requires that DCA publish a model statewide municipal EV ordinance on its website.”

Meeting Notes

- Clean Cities featured this initiative in its new
- Alex’s municipal contacts
 - Hingham MLP interested in engaging in adoption once they get funding for new sites
 - Wellesley figuring out who from the town wants to participate
- (Tricia): Sen. O’Connor’s office is working with Weymouth to get a meeting scheduled
- Slide deck
 - Purpose:
 - If task force isn’t there, this is the deck for cities/towns to bring the proposal to their permitting dept
 - Edits Proposed
 - (Jesse): In first two sentences, we should explain what model ordinance does. “This model ordinance does XYZ...” OR create a separate slide (e.g., what’s the problem & what are we providing as a solution – right at the beginning)
 - Some municipalities have had issues installing EVSE. Purpose of this is to simplify the process
 - (John): mention at the **start** of the deck that the ordinance can be revised to meet city/town’s needs
 - Listed people for contacts/resources
 - E4: Process & General Inquiries
 - Alex/ENE contact for MLPs
 - NG (insert)
 - ES (insert)
 - Until (insert)

- Cape Light (insert)
 - Legislative (insert)
 - Municipality (insert)
- Next steps
 - Develop draft language for the task force to put a landing page on their websites
 - (Tricia) Put pilot in title to convey it's a working document?
- Future of the task force
 - After task force developed, distribute & get the word out
 - (Tricia) hoping to lean on Sen. O'Connor to push at State level
 - (Alex) If MA passes, will likely be a domino effect for other states
 - (Alison) Webinars/present on the ordinance at mtgs?
 - E.g. state ZEV commission
 - MAPC
 - Green Communities mtgs

Action Items

- All
 - Send feedback on the slides
 - Final comments on model ordinance before we finalize the (working) document
- Jesse & Alison
 - Decide whether MAPC should be named as point of contact on slide deck
- Susan & Rachel
 - Ask Eversource about who would be a POC
 - Make tweaks to slides based on feedback
 - Draft language for partners to put on their website?
- Tricia
 - Weymouth attorney/Daria Ashfar legal review; to send any comments to the group
 - Continue working on checklist & circulate to group
- Rachel
 - Circulate latest updates to the ordinance

EVSE Expedited Permitting Task Force Call #10

3/23/22

Attendees

- E4TheFuture: Susan Buchan, Rachel Fishman
- MAPC: Alison Felix
- Tesla: Tessa Sanchez, Zach Kahn
- ENE: Alex Banat

Meeting Notes

- Housing the Checklist
 - In NJ, the checklist was developed by NJ's Commissioner of Community Affairs. Would MA DOER house the checklist?
 - DEP could also house it, or Green Communities
 - Could likely be housed by ENE if needed
- Changes proposed in the Model Ordinance
 - Replace "Change charging stations" in the document to "EVSE"
 - Add language:
 - Municipality shall notify applicant if charging station has characteristics that would require signage or lighting review
 - Send a spec sheet along with application
 - Definitions
 - Specify EVSE is level 2 or 3, not level 1, and use National/MA electric code definition
 - Take out reasonable restrictions definition, as it isn't used in the ordinance
 - C.1
 - Tesla and NG aligned with changes proposed. Remove "bear the mark" language and change code requirements to those in the MA electrical code
 - NG editorial edits accepted
 - C.3
 - Suggestions accepted
 - D
 - Add to the end of the first sentence "that requires licensing"
 - E.1
 - Shall adopt checklist and shall be consistent with any comments set forth by DOER (or other applicable state entity). Like in NJ, if Commissioner changes checklist, jurisdictions also have to adopt
 - Projects are often impacted by setbacks
 - F.1
 - Administrative review & limiting comments to health & safety will help eliminate comments related to aesthetics
 - Larger solid chargers (e.g., Volta) treated as a marketing site/billboard?
- Additional comments from Tesla

- Prior to NJ expedited permitting, NJ had longest timelines & this work has sped things up a lot
- Give Volta oppty to weigh in?
- San Francisco had an ordinance about advertising in the right of way, so if cities in MA have similar types of ordinances that might address it

Action Items

- Susan & Rachel
 - Edit ordinance & circulate latest model ordinance with Tesla and NG's edits incorporated
 - Add to slides guidance on view-blocking chargers
 - Connect with DOER & Green Communities about whether they might publish the checklist (as NJ's Commissioner of Community Affairs did), could be worth a convo with NJ?
 - Accept Alison's changes to website landing page
- Tessa
 - Send over more suggestions for checklist in a bullet, for example:
 - Charging stalls not counting toward parking count minimums
 - Up to 3 parking stalls able to be permitted for EVSE use without detriment to parking count minimums
 - Ask internal team & get back to Alison about whether there's any existing guidance on aesthetics in existing ordinance
- Alex
 - Forward next round of model ordinance language (when circulated) to the Hingham Select Board

EVSE Expedited Permitting Task Force Call #11

4/20/22

Attendees

- E4TheFuture: Susan Buchan, Rachel Fishman
- MAPC: Alison Felix
- ENE: Kayla Tavares
- DOER: John Liriano
- Eversource: Sean Tully
- BRPC: Justin Gilmore

Meeting Notes

- BRPC just finished EV planning process / working group
 - In beginning stages of consolidating group, IDing charging priorities
 - Might be oppty to see if any Berkshire towns might be interested in adoption
- Package is complete: Model Ordinance, Slide Deck, Website Landing Page Template (template to come, maybe?)
 - Next steps:
 - E-blast to parties we've communicated / connected with throughout the planning process to let them know it's available
 - Make inquiries to municipalities with interest to see if they might consider adopting (e.g., the 10 municipalities on the MPA Listserv that expressed interest to Alison)
 - List members of the task force ask acknowledgement of their contribution
- Next meeting: 6/1, 2 PM with ad hoc meetings moving forward as things come up/municipalities want to adopt

Action Items

Susan & Rachel

- Check with Tricia on checklist, then decide whether to include in package
- Circulate package to group (model ordinance, landing page, slides)

Sean

- Talk to rights supervisors to see if they have ideas of other venues to post the landing page w/ resources

John

- Run by Joanne & other higher ups whether it's OK to post landing page on Mass.gov
- Share package via newsletter

Alison

- Make landing page on MAPC website (in a few weeks, after finalizing language/links, then running by gov affairs dept)

- Send MPO transp. Directors' contact info and send to Susan (Susan to connect with them once we're ready for implementation)
- Share with working group that model ordinance is in more final form

Justin

- Will post landing page on EV section of BPRC website & share via monthly newsletter