GreenerGovCT

Energy Efficiency Project Team
Meeting #5: May 20, 2020 1:00pm-3:00pm

Attendees: ZOOM meeting

Reading of Previous Minutes/Acceptance of Agenda:

https://portal.ct.gov/GreenerGov/Project-Teams/Project-Teams-Meeting-Minutes

Review Team Deliverables:

A. June 30, 2020 EnergyCAP Level 3 due. Agencies must contact their EnergyCAP Liaison's if they need an extension and aren't allowed in the office due to COVID-19.

B. Ongoing – Make deployment measures replicable and BAU across all state facilities and activities

Definitions and Format for Project Team Strategy Table

The document Definitions and Format for Project Team Strategy Table was distributed prior to the meeting,

Mary Sotos began the meeting by stating we need to work on our strategies. EO#1 has been put on pause and there was no SSO meeting in May, but there will hopefully be one in June. She asked how we will be able to create more formal timelines being pinned down at home. We need to clarify our strategies and determine next step for all committees to move forward; what approaches will work best to meet their committee goals. Trying to create standardized framework.

Mary Sotos went through the document Definitions and Format for Project Team Strategy Table. For the Energy Efficiency committee, how do we scale this up for our buildings? The Co-Chairs want to create a clear plan for funding sources.

If an audit shows which projects are a priority, we need to have a way to hit the higher priority items first. The EEC needs to make suggestions to the Co-Chairs regarding funding: SBEA, bond funding, tax exempt leases, etc. It is important to figure out which funding sources are best matched for each project to maximize ROI while also giving appropriate repayment timelines.

Mary Sotos continued to review the document with the team:

Measures of infrastructure and or behavior based energy conservation practices - we need a strategy to flag that piece. We need thoughts on how to strategize: example – Have a competition between buildings to see who can save the most energy.

John Kibbee has seen this work, but we need to make sure we are comparing apples to apples and have contests between similar buildings; Mary agreed.

John Kibbee – Convert to solar thermal (stored hot water) we probably need to define our expectations so we don't get a survey back and need to ask participants "Why didn't you use solar thermal or XYZ?"

Claire Coleman from OPM: asked if we specified solar thermal? Mary Sotos asked John Kibbee how we can fine tune the analysis.

Mary Sotos finished reviewing the document with the team.

State Energy Audits & Criteria

How do we prioritize our projects after we receive the results of the audit finding and propel that into greenhouse gas emissions reduction? These goals will be collectively for the state.

For each of the three finding types, what amounts will be available and which is best for each project?

John Kibbee made the point that blending several projects together with different payback periods but collectively presenting as one project can make it a more sensible, interactive benefit.

Jon Andrews: Greenhouse gas savings as a percentage is a better way to compare projects. 2) Get clear metrics on age of buildings and HVAC, etc and prioritize by best bang for the buck and what incentives are available. Go after that low hanging fruit. Mary responded good point, try to be smooth as possible to meet all goals.

Clair Coleman, OPM: We need project ID; project financing impacts timing; spreadsheet of what projects should be finalized could be valuable. Cautioned against going too far into the weeds on too many funding sources because ultimately, the Treasury and OPM dictate financing options. What are the next steps in finalizing earlier suggestions?

Joe Danao, DVA: #1) (DRF I missed #1)

#2) Funding – he is unable to order lightbulbs without prior authorization while other agencies have that ability because they have their own sources of revenue and DVA does not. Funding source is relevant; every project requires justification. Is this project worthy of funding by bonding? DVA only can use bonding because of the aforementioned lack of DVA revenue. Joe then went on to say that the spreadsheet the EEC began with is finalized.

Claire Coleman - \$20 million in bond funding was authorized and now being brought to the bond commission over the summer and they will prioritize.

Joe Danao – With Mary's spreadsheets, we're close to having executable data.

Claire Coleman: Please recirculate the final spreadsheet so she can incorporate that into workload decision making process, to which Joe agreed.

Mary Sotos – Please review the document distributed before and at the meeting Definitions and Format for Project Team Strategy Table and offer feedback either by turning track changes on in word or through email so that we have a list of strategies to get to co-chairs.

Next Steps

Next meeting TBD