

Zero Emission Electric Vehicle Infrastructure Council (ZEEVIC) January Meeting

Meeting Date: January 25, 2024

Meeting Location: Hybrid – Teams Meeting and MDOT HQ

ZEEVIC Members/Appointed Representatives in Attendance:

- Lovaas, Deron (MDOT), ZEEVIC Chair
- Alfred, Joe (Ally Power)
- Amiel, Sari (Sierra Club)
- Bowis, John (Chevy Chase Automotive)
- Cohen, Joshua (SWTCH Energy)
- Edmondson, David (City of Frederick/MML)
- Forsythe, Nina (City of Frostburg/MML)
- Delegate Fraser-Hidalgo, David (MGA)
- Ivey, Jolene (Prince George's County Council/MACO)
- Kaltenbaugh, Ron (EVADC)
- Mosier, Kevin (PSC)
- Shaw, Jeff (SMECO)
- Shepherd, Tim (MDE)
- Verchinski, Paul (Public)
- Wall, Michael (Clinton Electric)
- Wilson, Scott (EVADC)
- Wynne, Vincent (PHI)
- Young, Weston (Worcester County/MACO)

ZEEVIC Member Alternates:

- Buscemi, Natalie (MEA)
- Janaskie, Amanda (BGE)
- Woods, Mollie (OPC)

Other Presenters:

- Baker, Ben (PSC)
- Bankard, Rebecca (MDOT/MBI)
- Coffman, Eric (MEA)
- Duff, Bryan (Sensis)
- Hinh, Amanda (MDOT)

Staff:

- Burke, Virginia (MDOT)
- Cortazzo, Sophia (MDOT)
- Kamara, Hallimah (SensisConnect)
- Sawada, Leo (Jacobs)

Welcome and Announcements

- A new member appointed to ZEEVIC was introduced. Ron Kaltenbaugh, affiliated with Electric Vehicle Association of Grater Washington DC (EVADC), was appointed to one of two seats designated for the environmental community.
- [Maryland By the Numbers](#): 92,722 Registered EVs in Maryland at the end of 2023.
- NEVI Request for Proposals (RFP) was released for the [Round 1 Program](#) on January 16. Proposals are due by April 10. For more information, visit evplan.mdot.maryland.gov.
- [EV Charger Reliability and Accessibility Accelerator Grant](#) MDOT was awarded \$4.36 million in NEVI set-aside funding. Funds are for repair/replacement of 25 EV charging sites.
- [Charging and Fueling Infrastructure Program Grant \(CFI\) Awards](#) The Maryland Clean Energy Center (MCEC) was awarded \$15 million for community EV charging sites and workforce development activities.
- [Electric and Low-Emission School Buses for Montgomery County](#) Montgomery County Public Schools was awarded \$4.7 million by the US EPA Clean School Bus Program, to purchase 50 new

buses. MDE conducted a [webinar](#) in December 2023 for agencies seeking funding to electrify School Bus fleets.

- Baltimore Metropolitan Council (BMC) is launching a new project: EV Community Charging Hubs for Multi-Unit Dwellings in the Baltimore Region. BMC is looking for key stakeholders to join the Steering Committee for this project. Please contact Anna Marshall, Environmental Planner, BMC, at amarshall@baltometro.org with questions or input.

Public Service Commission (PSC) Orders Related to Electric Vehicles

Ben Baker, PSC

- Ben gave an update on recent PSC orders affecting matters related to EVs or EV infrastructure. He will be convening the PSC EV Work Group for ongoing work directed by these orders:
- Recent Orders:
 - Order 90971 – EV Charging Station Reliability and Reporting Standards
 - Order 90984 – EV Demand Charge Relief Program
 - Letter Order – BGE EV Program Phase II
 - Order No.90948 – BGE MYP II
 - Letter Order – School Bus Pilot

Public Comments

- **Robert Borkowski** – Expressed concerns regarding lack of financial support for EV charging installations once they are operational. His condominium board of directors is trying to remove an EV charging installation that has been in operation for multiple years. (<https://ClarksburgCondo2.com>).
- **Emanuel Wagner** – Highlighted advancements in hydrogen fueling infrastructure across the country and in this region. Out of the \$623 million awarded through the CFI program, about \$90 million went to hydrogen fueling infrastructure developments. Federal funds were awarded for Hydrogen Hubs in DE/NJ/PA and in WV/OH/PA/KY.
- **Joyce Breiner**- Highlighted lessons learned from recent news coverage of EV drivers in Chicago facing cold and icy weather, including public education about EVs and cold weather.
- **James Wagner** – Asked about EV charging in snow or rainy weather, is there an electrical hazard or safety risk. Mike Wall and Scott Wilson responded ports are safe during inclement weather due to GFIC protection. Safety mechanisms are in place that will not allow electricity to flow through the charger unless there is a secure connection between the charger and the car, so even in the rain the charger does not pose an electrical hazard to the user.

2024 Legislative Session

Delegate David Fraser-Hidalgo

- Delegate Fraser-Hidalgo summarized several bills being considered in this Legislative Session, including converting the EV excise tax credit to a point of sale rebate; a change to VEIP exemptions and fees; and addressing ‘fair share’ contributions to road maintenance by EVs in lieu of EVs paying gas tax collected at gas stations.

Josh Cohen, Chair, ZEEVIC Legislative Working Group

- Brief recap of bills the Working Group has discussed so far:

- **HB 0064** Motor Vehicle Excise Tax – Tax Credit for Electric Vehicles – Eligibility
- **HB 0159** Common Ownership Communities – Electric Vehicle Recharging Equipment (Electric Vehicle Recharging Equipment Act of 2024)
- **HB 0150** Vehicle Emissions Inspection Program and Diesel Vehicle Emissions Control Program – Fees and Fines
- **HB 0130 / SB 0258** Department of General Services – State Buildings and Facilities – Energy Conservation and Greenhouse Gas Emissions Reductions
- **HB 0156** Transportation – Electric Bicycle Rebate and Voucher Program – Establishment

Market Research Report: Understanding Marylanders’ Perceptions Towards Electric Vehicles

Bryan Duff, Sensis

- Bryan Duff presented market research about Marylander’s perceptions toward EVs. The report included syndicated research from the MRI-Simmons database, as well as a review of the existing literature on EVs in Maryland. Bryan offered recommendations and takeaways, as well as a preview of forthcoming qualitative research through in-depth interviews.
- He requested that anyone interested in participating in interviews contact him via email (bduff@sensisagency.com).

Maryland Energy Administration (MEA) FY 2024 Grant Programs and Rebates

Eric Coffman and Natalie Buscemi, MEA

- Eric Coffman and Natalie Buscemi presented an update on MEA’s Transportation Programs, including the following FY 2024 grant programs and rebates supporting clean vehicle technologies and ZEV infrastructure:
 - EVSE Rebate Program
 - MHD ZEV Grant Program
 - Maryland Smart Energy Communities (MSEC)
 - OPEN Energy Program
 - Resilient Maryland
 - Solar Canopy and Dual Use Program

Closing Remarks – Deron Lovaas, Chair

- New material posted to Mdot.Maryland.Gov/ZEEVIC:
 1. [2023 Annual Report](#)
 2. [2023 ZEV Policy Scorecard](#)
 3. Medium-and Heavy-Duty ZEV Infrastructure [Recommendations](#) (Workgroup Report)

Next ZEEVIC Meeting

April 24, 2024