

Zero Emission Electric Vehicle Infrastructure Council (ZEEVIC) October Meeting

Meeting Date/Time: October 22, 2025 – 2:00 to 3:30 PM

Meeting Location: Hybrid – Teams Meeting and MDOT HQ

ZEEVIC Members/Appointed Representatives in Attendance:

- Lovaas, Deron (MDOT), ZEEVIC Chair
- Alfred, Walt (Ally Power)
- Amiel, Sari (Sierra Club)
- Bobek, Kelly (Volvo)
- Cohen, Joshua (SWTCH Energy)
- Forsythe, Nina (City of Frostburg/MML)
- Delegate Fraser-Hidalgo, David (MGA)
- Heuver, Marcel (LKQ)
- Kaltenbaugh, Ron (EVADC)
- Mosier, Kevin (PSC)
- Powell, Ryan (Commerce)
- Sharp, Korin (DGS)
- Shepherd, Tim (MDE)
- Verchinsky, Paul (Public)
- Wilson, Scott (EVADC)
- Wynne, Vincent (PEPCO)
- Xu, Bihui (MDP)
- Young, Weston (Worcester County/MACO)

ZEEVIC Member Alternates:

- Buscemi, Natalie (MEA)
- Lindenbaum, Isaak (OPC)
- Sheridan, John (Prince George's County Council/MACO)

Other Presenters:

- Eum, Shawn (MDOT MVA)
- Kailas, Aravind (Volvo)
- Justman, Lilly (Tesla)
- Nies, Tim (Tesla)
- Polster, Mark (Ford)

Staff:

- Burke, Virginia (MDOT)
- Francis, Kameice (MDOT/MBI)
- Rodi, Nicole (MDOT/MBI)

Welcome and Announcements

- **Chair Deron Lovaas** introduced the main meeting topic, Automaker perspectives on the electric vehicle (EV) market and landscape.

Public Comments

- **Robert Borkowski** discussed the Maryland Department of Agriculture's (MDA's) recently launched [EV charger registration program](#). Stated that the new registration fees are expensive and could deter deployment of more EVSE. Is especially concerned about L2 deployments in MUDs and condos. Highlighted the October 30 [EV Charging Stakeholder Briefing](#) by MDA.
- **Paul Verchinski** followed up on Robert Borkowski's comments. Expressed displeasure at the lack of public notice from MDA, given the specific recommendations related to public notice included in the 2024 Report of the EVSE Working Group. (The Report and Working Group were required by 2024 legislation).
 - **Chair Deron Lovaas** stated that MDA was invited, but declined to present at the ZEEVIC meeting. Encouraged participants to attend the October 30 EV Charging Stakeholder Briefing.
- **Lanny Hartman** agreed with Robert Borkowski and Paul Verchinski. Voiced concern that, while more chargers are being installed, there are also chargers disappearing – is aware of two EVSE in

Howard County that were pulled out without explanation. Is encouraged by State investment but need to put claw-back provisions in contracts if chargers aren't functional.

- **Jackie Guild** recently attended a conference held at WISP in Western Maryland and was concerned about the distance gaps between chargers on the journey. Expressed disappointment that there was no charging at the conference location.
 - **Chair Deron Lovaas** responded briefly with details about NEVI-funded installations in Western Maryland.
 - **Nina Forsythe** explained that there are Tesla superchargers on the way that could work with an adapter. Also expressed disappointment that there was no charging at the conference venue.

MDOT Motor Vehicle Administration (MVA) Updates

Shawn Eum

- Discussed the expired [High Occupancy Vehicle \(HOV\) Permit Program](#) and explained that it ended due to a loss of federal authorization. Discussed program's success and public outreach to inform program participants of program's conclusion. Discussed the current [EV Tax Credit program](#). Highlighted the [Maryland EV Data Dashboard](#).

ZEEVIC Future

Chair Deron Lovaas

- Discussed ZEEVIC's June 30, 2026 Sunset dates, and noted that ZEEVIC's directives, as written in 2011, have been fulfilled. Outlined changes in the EV landscape since ZEEVIC's inception.

Questions/Comments

- **Delegate David Fraser-Hidalgo** discussed EV headwinds and proposed introducing a bill to extend ZEEVIC to maintain momentum.
- **Paul Verchinski** noted the greenhouse gas (GHG) reduction goals of the [Climate Solutions Now Act](#) (CSNA) and noted EV growth is necessary to meet the CSNA goals. Acknowledged federal headwinds, but expressed that Marylanders should have a forum for participating in discussions regarding EVs. Raised reliability issue and other issues needing attention and work.
- **Ryan Powell** suggested that more emphasis be placed on the advertisement of how affordable EVs are to operate instead of focusing on incentives.
- **Ron Kaltenbaugh** agreed that we are at a different phase of this effort. May need to either replace or change ZEEVIC.
- **Scott Wilson** explained that ZEEVIC's most useful function is a public forum. Current headwinds could justify a refreshed charge, and could warrant a look at other states' efforts.
- **Delegate David Fraser-Hidalgo** acknowledged that needs are shifting and ecosystem is different than it was at the time ZEEVIC was formed. Changing ZEEVIC's charge would be beneficial. Would be willing to introduce an emergency bill.
- **Lanny Hartman** asserted that ZEEVIC should be focused on infrastructure, as it is in the name.

Automaker Perspectives on the EV Market and Landscape

Ford Motor Company

Mark Polster, Vehicle Environmental Regulatory Strategy Manager

- Discussed sustainability history, achievements, and aspirations. Discussed 'Model T Moment' which includes a new Louisville Assembly Plant and BlueOval Battery Park Michigan. Spoke about the 2027 launch of first midsize electric truck.

Tesla, Inc.

Tim Nies, Project Manager and Design Engineer, and Lilly Justman, Staff Government Program Analyst

- Discussed Tesla's NEVI involvement. Highlighted 2 sites in Maryland that are under construction and should be completed in the next couple of weeks (6 sites total). Explained why Tesla did not participate in Round 2 of the NEVI program. Discussed recommendations and proposed solutions for Maryland's NEVI program.

Volvo Group North America

Aravind Kailas, Advanced Technology Policy Director

- Gave an overview of Volvo Group North America. Reiterated Volvo's commitment to achieving net-zero value chain emissions within the next decade. Discussed navigating policy and market headwinds. Highlighted opportunities for Maryland in zero-emission freight and what the next phase of ZEV adoption will entail.

Questions

- **Ben Baker** asked if the private sector has considered coming together to fund some of the infrastructure necessary.
 - **Aravind Kailas** explained that conversations are happening where there are large deployments of Class 8 BEVs. Using data and overlaying LDV, building electrification, and EVSE deployment to identify freight vehicle hotspots.
 - **Mark Polster** shared that infrastructure has lagged behind vehicles. Explained that there have been occasions when customers have been willing to buy EVs, but have been deterred by the timeline for charging infrastructure installation.

Sneak Peak: Advanced Clean Trucks (ACT) Needs Assessment and Deployment Plan (NADP)

Tim Shepherd, MDE

- Gave an overview of why the NADP was created, and what it entails. Briefly outlined the report contents. Report will be released on December 1, 2025. Willing to do a more thorough presentation after the release of the report.

Zero-Emission Vehicle Infrastructure Plan (ZEEVIP) - Maryland EV Charging Suitability Tool

Amanda Hinh, MDOT

- Amanda Hinh was not able to present due to a lack of time. Presentation slides are available on the [ZEEVIC website](#).

Closing Remarks

Chair Deron Lovaas

- The next ZEEVIC meeting will be held on January 28, 2026.
- To receive ZEEVIC Meeting Notices, email: ZEEVIC@mdot.maryland.gov.

Next ZEEVIC Meeting

January 28, 2026 (subject to change)

