

**City of Lake Forest Park
Climate Action Committee
Regular Meeting Summary
September 5, 2023**

CALL TO ORDER: 7:05 P.M.

Climate Action Committee Board Members Present:

Sarah Phillips, Anne Udaloy, Miriam Bertram, Tamara Erickson, Linda Holman, Matt Son, Dana Campbell

Staff and Others Present

Council Liaison - Tracy Furutani
Environmental and Sustainability Specialist - Cory Roche

Member of the Public Present

Uzma Siddiqi – Seattle City Light
Jenny Levesque – Seattle City Light

WELCOME AND INTRODUCTIONS

Round robin on interested current environmental news.

ADOPTION OF AGENDA

The agenda was approved unanimously, no objections.

REVIEW/APPROVE MEETING MINUTES

Minutes for August were approved unanimously, no objection.

CITIZEN COMMENTS

None

PRESENTATION BY SEATTLE CITY LIGHT

Sarah stated the Climate Action Committee (CAC) has been out in public and a lot of questions are wondering if the electrical grid is reliable and will it be able to handle all this new electric push. The group is also curious about solar and community solar.

Jenny gave a background about Seattle City Light and where they serve.

Uzma then went into the topic of the electric grid and its reliability. Stated there are two ways of measurements for this, SAIDI and SAIFI, and went into some detail of how the measurements work. Data shows that Seattle City Light has numbers to show more reliable service. Seattle City Light service is smaller than most so it can be easier to fix.

Load Capacity was talked about as use increases (electric vehicles, appliances, heat humps), City Light worked with EPRI to conduct an electrification assessment. Currently they are at a 9 and is predicted it will need to be at a 16. Viewed the systems capacity from

2019, summer vs. winter, showing there is capacity in Seattle City Light to support expansion.

Load Capacity, used through their IRP, load forecast, and engineering planning studies. Identifies energy needs to generate or buy, this studied transmission and distribution systems, they will consider how to facilitate equitable electrification, equitable distribution.

Undergrounding, is it feasible to underground the electrical system? City Light has poles and overhead lines, older neighborhoods have evolved around overhead lines and new homes offer build out to property line stating its challenging for undergrounding. It is very expensive and takes time to do so. Uzma stated there is a wildlife risk reduction strategy study and document that was recently completed. Vaults are large and underground causing this to be very expensive.

Disadvantages of undergrounding the electrical system is its more expensive to build, causing higher electricity rates. Longer outages, expensive to repair, vulnerable to damage from digging or construction, susceptible to damage from earthquakes.

Advantages of undergrounding include its protection from high winds.

Undergrounding alternate solutions include installing fault location isolation system restoration (FLISR) in neighborhoods, more will be installed in LFP in the next year or two.

Community Solar, City Light has developed a distributed energy resource (DER) strategy, one recommendation is to offer more community solar programs to customers. City Light is developing these programs, there is a lot of work being done to offer a new community solar program to customers. Would like to build out community solar on existing infrastructure like schools and community centers. Miller community center has a solar microgrid, there is a portion of the solar on that project that will supply 48 hrs of electricity to the center. There can be feasible ways to create and implement storage micro solar grids.

Tamara's read a statement from a community member, asking about hydroelectric power, wondered if there any talk of walking away because of dams causing harm to salmon? City Light stated, no they won't be moving away anytime soon. They will look at solar and wind powered options, they won't be building any new facilities but maintain what they have. Relicensing and negotiations take place with Skagit so they are operating in a way they are not harming the fish.

Tracy noted electrical needs are going up 3% to 3.5% a year. Do we have the capacity to get power from areas on the other side of the mountains/hills? City Light is working on this, the system is designed for peak hours and will encourage people not to charge things like cars during peak loads. Will look at time of use rates for incentives to charge at certain times. UV Chargers, KC Bus system, bringing in a managed charging system to even out the load of charging. They will look at how we need to change it to adapt to future needs.

OLD BUSINESS

- **Climate Action Plan Review**

Strategies have all been filled out, will look at format to see what works best. CAC went over the 6 strategies: Transportation, Built Environmental/Land Use,

Consumption and Solid Waste, Natural Environment: Ecosystems and Sequestration, Community Resilience and Preparedness, Municipal.

Group will format and go through narrative of report. Will want to add an executive summary and add graphics/charts into the plan.

- **Picnic in the Park**

Objective is to have conversations with people to see what information they want in the future. Be there to educate the public, gather community input, ask them to follow and signup for the notify me group for future input on the plan.

ADJOURN: 9:00PM