

# EAP STEERING COMMITTEE DISCUSSION

AUGUST 1, 2024

Prepared by: Julia Slayden



*Environmental Policy Commission*

# Overview

## Background:

- Alexandria Environmental Action Plan Steering Committee (also called the Eco-City Steering Committee) was established to help implement Phase 2 of the EAP

## Current Members:

- Councilmember Bagley is a member ([link](#))
- Councilmember McPike is a member ([link](#))
- Councilmember Chapman is a member ([link](#))

## Additional Historical Context:

- Previous members included Vice-Mayors, (Vice-Mayor Bennett-Parker was Co-Chair in 2019), minimum of one Councilmember, and City of Alexandria Department Directors (T&ES, Code Administration, Planning & Zoning, etc.)



# Peer City Benchmarking

| Peer Cities <sup>1</sup> | Population | Median Income | Climate Roadmap?   | Steering/Advisory Committee?   |
|--------------------------|------------|---------------|--|--|
| Fairfax, VA              | 1.148M     | \$65k         | ✔ Community-Wide Energy & Climate Plan ( <a href="#">CECAP</a> ) | ✔ Nine ad-hoc focus groups comprised a Working Group that developed the CECAP ( <a href="#">link</a> ) |
| Arlington, VA            | 0.24M      | \$82k         | ✔ Community Energy Plan ( <a href="#">CEP</a> )                  | ✔ Advised by Climate Change, Energy, & Environment Commission ( <a href="#">link</a> )                 |
| Cambridge, MA            | 0.18M      | \$59k         | ✔ Climate Action Plan ( <a href="#">CAP</a> )                    | ✔ Advised by Cambridge Climate Committee ( <a href="#">link</a> )                                      |
| San Mateo, CA            | 0.10M      | \$70k         | ✔ Community Climate Action Plan ( <a href="#">CCAP</a> )         | ✔ Two ad-hoc advisory committees (technical and steering committee) ( <a href="#">link</a> )           |
| Alexandria, VA           | 0.16M      | \$71k         | ✔ Environmental Action Plan ( <a href="#">EAP</a> )              | ✔ Alexandria's EAP Steering Committee is only city to include City Council Members                     |

1. Peer cities determined from the Federal Reserve Bank of Chicago Peer Identification Tool, excluding Fairfax (which was chosen for geographical proximity). Peer cities are determined based on a number of criteria, including unemployment rate, median family income, share of metropolitan area population, homeownership rate, poverty rate, etc.

# Future State Discussion Topics

## Purpose

- What is the proposed purpose of the committee?
  - Do we want to keep the purpose the same as original purpose (i.e., EAP update support?)
- What outcomes do we want the committee to drive towards?
- What asks will we make of the committee members (i.e., bring letters of support to Council, changes to EAP, etc.)

## Members

- Who should be on the committee?
- Which council members should we engage with?

## Logistics

- How often should the committee meet? (*note: Council generally has a meeting about priorities in Nov-Jan*)
- Who should lead the committee?
- What type of materials should we bring to the committee?

# Proposed Next Steps

To be filled out at the meeting on August 1, 2024:

| Action   | Responsible Person     | Due Date     |
|--|------------------------|--------------|
| Develop proposed recommendations based on outcome of discussion today and share for offline feedback | Julia Slayden          | Aug 16, 2024 |
| Outreach to current City Council Members to see if interested in retaining seat                      | <i>Any volunteers?</i> | Aug 30, 2024 |
| Schedule second sub-committee meeting to internally align prior to next EPC meeting on Sept 15, 2024 | Julia Slayden          | Sept 6, 2024 |
| Complete benchmarking of peer cities   | <i>Any volunteers?</i> | Sept 6, 2024 |
| <i>Any other actions?</i>  | ...                    | ...          |

# Questions/Comments