
MOUNTAIN MARYLAND ENERGY ADVISORY COMMITTEE (MMEAC)

OVERVIEW OF COMMITTEE STRUCTURE AND ACTIVITIES

PRESENTED TO THE GREATER CUMBERLAND COMMITTEE ENERGY WORK GROUP

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October 9, 2014

WHAT IS THE MMEAC?

- ✓ An advisory committee establishing a long-term focus and commitment to explore all available energy production avenues to benefit Mountain Maryland and its citizens, while identifying and mitigating potential risks, represents the charge of the Mountain Maryland Energy Advisory Committee (MMEAC).
- ✓ 12 member committee with representation from:
 - Economic development
 - Planning and permitting
 - Health
 - Academia
 - Citizens
 - Recreation
 - Business
 - Property owners
- ✓ Meetings are held on the 3rd Wednesday of the month from 3-5pm at the GIEC rm 103 on the campus of Garrett College
- ✓ Website: www.garrettcounty.org/energy
- ✓ **The public is encouraged to attend!**

OVERVIEW OF COMMITTEE ACCOMPLISHMENTS

- ✓ Committee members appointed by the Garrett County Board of Commissioners in November 2013
- ✓ Formal meetings have been held each month from December 2013 through September 2014 (10 total)
- ✓ Next meeting is scheduled for Wednesday November 19th from 3-5pm at the GIEC (Garrett College) room 103
- ✓ Committee has engaged in discussions covering a diverse set of energy related topics, established the ideas generation framework, established the idea review process, reviewed legislation, and has offered energy initiative recommendations (first round) to Garrett and Allegany County leadership
- ✓ To date the MMEAC has heard presentations from seven different energy professionals covering a diverse set of topics
- ✓ Next week, representatives of the MMEAC will attend the Maryland Clean Energy Summit

HOW TO SUBMIT IDEAS

- ✓ Energy related ideas for committee consideration and review can be submitted using the 'MMEAC Ideas Form' that can be found digitally on the website or in hard copy at the Garrett County Office of Economic Development
 - Website link: <http://garrettcounty.org/energy/mountain-maryland-energy-advisory-committee>
 - Office of Economic Development location: Courthouse – room 208

- ✓ All energy related ideas are welcomed, examples of topics already submitted include:
 - Energy finance, credits, and incentives (PACE, local tax credit, state incentives)
 - Energy efficiency initiatives (passive homes, energy conservation programs)
 - Alternative fuels (CNG filling stations)
 - Renewable energy (solar, wind, biomass)
 - Waste to energy (biogas from animal waste, landfill gas)

HOW TO SUBMIT IDEAS (CONTINUED)

✓ To submit ideas via email, please send to:

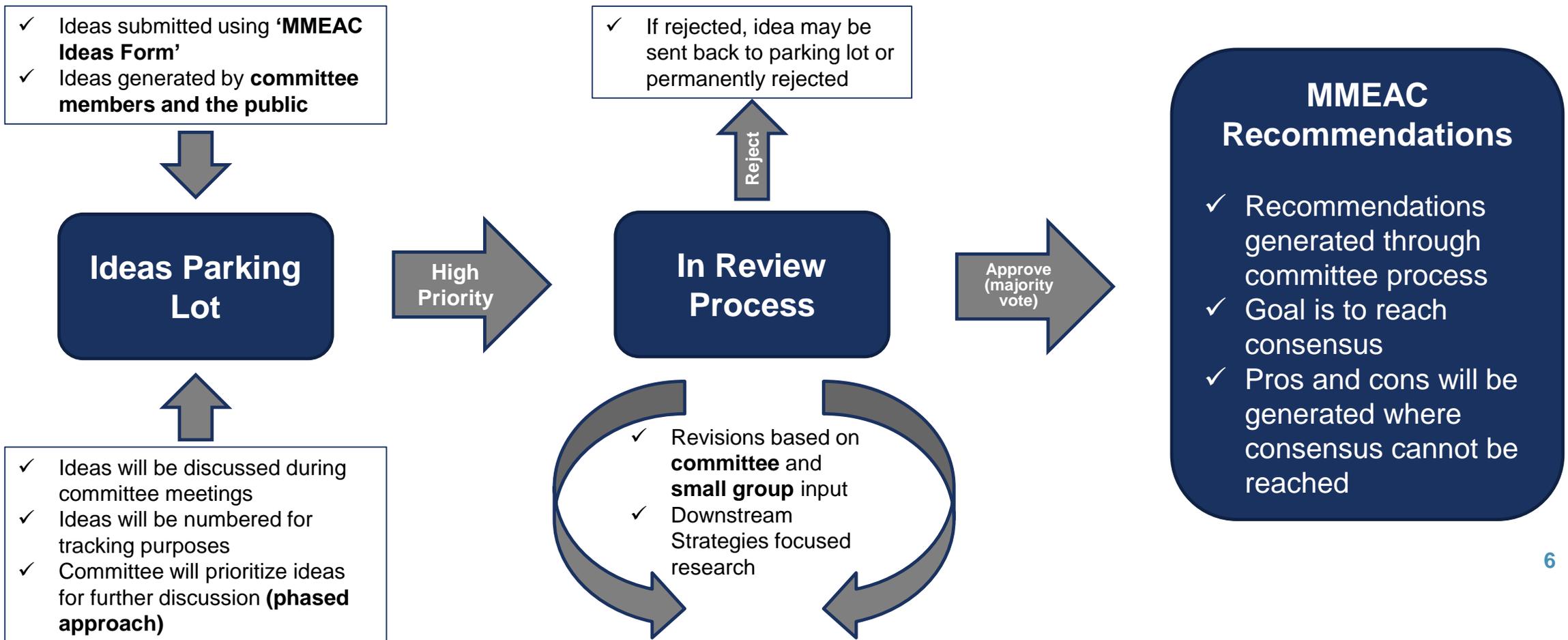
- Jeff Simcoe – jsimcoe@downstreamstrategies.com
- Cheryl DeBerry – cdeberry@garrettcountry.org

✓ To submit ideas by mail, please send to:

Office of Economic Development
Attention: MMEAC Ideas
Frederick A. Thayer, III Courthouse
203 South Fourth Street, Room 208
Oakland, MD 21550

✓ Ideas can also be delivered in person to the Office of Economic Development or directly to the MMEAC during our regularly scheduled monthly meeting

IDEAS FRAMEWORK PROCESS FLOW - EXPLAINED



PRESENTERS TO DATE

Eco Electric – David Fricke

- Sustainable energy solutions provider
Focused on energy efficiency and renewable energy generation
- <http://go-companies.com/>

Hotshotz Inspections – Mark Watkins

- Offers energy audit services
Investigates air sealing and insulation to reduce energy costs
- <http://www.hotshotzinspections.com/>

Tri-state Wind & Solar – Gene Scherrer

- Renewable energy solutions provider
Develops wind, solar, and grid backup projects
- <http://www.tristatews.com/>

Solar City – Lauren Harris

- America's largest solar energy provider
Offers a third party financed tax equity investor solar solution
- <http://www.solarcity.com/>

AFS Energy Systems – Paul Lewandowski

- Develops renewable biomass energy systems
Offers turn-key biomass energy, boiler, and fabrication services
- <http://www.afsenergy.com/>

Mosaic Power – Dan Conant

- Offers an innovative grid frequency control solution
Has developed a virtual power plant / energy storage system utilizing electric water heaters
- <http://mosaicpower.com/>

DERP Technologies – Becky Rush

- Distributed and renewable energy solutions provider
Focused on micro-grids to support community grid resiliency
- <http://derptech.net/index.html>

ENERGY INITIATIVES – FIRST ROUND

BIOMASS ENERGY INITIATIVE

The focus of this initiative involves developing a biomass energy system demonstration project at a publically accessible site.

- ✓ Biomass energy systems use wood chips, sawdust, or other biomass materials as fuel to produce hot water, steam, or in some cases electricity.
- ✓ The expected benefits include reduced fuel costs at the host facility and the establishment of a resource that could be used for education and workforce development.
- ✓ Similar systems have been developed and toured in PA, which have been implemented at schools and hospitals.
- ✓ Northern Bedford School System will be providing a tour of their facility later this month.

COUNTY GOV & SCHOOLS SOLAR INITIATIVE

This initiative involves further exploring an opportunity presented to the MMEAC by Solar City.

- ✓ Solar City is the largest solar installer within the U.S. They currently offer a third party financed (tax equity investor) solar solution.
- ✓ Desired project size is between 500kW and 2MW. Zero money down is required from the project host entity. A 20 yr. PPA agreement is put in place requiring the host entity to purchase all generated electricity from the system. Current offered price is ~5 cents/kWh.
- ✓ Solar City offers a minimum electricity production guarantee.
- ✓ Other counties in MD are currently exploring similar projects (Wicomico County).

ENERGY INITIATIVES – FIRST ROUND (CONTINUED)

ENERGY EFFICIENCY INITIATIVE

This initiative aims to facilitate the understanding and implementation of options that can increase energy efficiency among various stakeholders and across various sectors (residential, commercial, and gov).

- ✓ Energy efficiency can produce immediate energy cost savings and is a cost effective way to address high energy prices, air pollution, and climate change.
- ✓ Energy efficiency may refer to efficient energy use (passive house concept) or energy conservation (programmable thermostat, or light switching).
- ✓ The MMEAC would like to organize an “energy event” sometime in 2015. We suggest leveraging a professional event management group under a success based compensation arrangement in order to reduce costs.

SOLARIZE MOUNTAIN MARYLAND INITIATIVE

The focus of this project involves developing a residential and commercial Solarize or bulk purchase program within the region.

- ✓ The economics associated with distributed energy production continue to improve. These improved economics are associated with currently offered state and federal incentives, grid interconnection and net metering, the decrease in solar hardware costs, as well as, rising energy costs.
- ✓ Solarize programs have had success in NY, MD, DC, and WV. This community purchase model is proven.
- ✓ A basic Solarize effort involves awareness/marketing the program, education, enrollment, site assessment, decision, and installation.

PRIORITY IDEAS – SECOND ROUND

BUSINESS PARK SOLAR IDEA

This idea proposes the development of solar energy projects at regional business parks.

- ✓ One of the ideas recently offered by the committee is focused on offering free or reduced cost electricity as a way to attract new businesses to the region.
- ✓ A first step might involve assessing existing business parks for solar energy system capability and surveying business interest.
- ✓ Another focus point might be to contact the Public Service Commission to determine the legality of such a program.

RUTH ENLOW LIBRARY SOLAR PROJECT

This idea involves exploring the potential to install solar panels at one of the Ruth Enlow public library sites using a crowd funding approach.

- ✓ Secure financing for the project through a crowd funding approach similar to what was discussed with Dan Conant from Mosaic Power (Shepherdstown Presbyterian Church).
- ✓ Next step will involve presenting to the Ruth Enlow Board to gauge interest.
- ✓ Other important considerations include project structure and vendor selection.



THANK YOU! QUESTIONS?

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