

1 CITY OF NEWARK
2 DELAWARE

3 NEWARK COMMUNITY SUSTAINABILITY PLAN
4 STEERING COMMITTEE
5 MEETING MINUTES
6 DRAFT

7 APRIL 4, 2019

8 WILMAPCO OFFICE
9 100 DISCOVERY BOULEVARD, SUITE 800
10 TOWER AT STAR
11 NEWARK, DELAWARE 19713
12 4:00 P.M.

13 Present at the 4:00 p.m. meeting:

14 **Committee Members Present:** Michelle Bennett
15 Paula Ennis
16 Tim Filasky
17 Jeremy Firestone
18 Mike Fortner
19 Helga Huntley
20 Sheila Smith
21 Bill Swiatek
22 Bahareh van Boekhold (Chair)

23 **Committee Members Absent:** Vacant (City Manager's Office)
24 Susan Grasso

25 **City of Newark Staff Present:** Planning and Development represented by Mike Fortner

26 **AECOM Staff Present:** Dave Athey
27 Scott Anderson
28 Jennifer Keller

29 Mr. Dave Athey opened the meeting at 4:09 p.m.

30 **1. INTRODUCTIONS**

31 Mr. Dave Athey: Alright, how do you want to do this? Honestly, we still haven't really figured
32 out a great editing platform here. I did distribute the last document in PDF somewhat
33 intentionally and basically what we did since the last meeting, I think we all agreed it was
34 awkward maybe at the beginning. We had the objectives, we kind of had the where we are,
35 blah, blah, blah, so what we've done in the meantime, we're actually starting with Jen and kind
36 of the introductory section and visioning and things like that that obviously still need some
37 refining, and then more Scott and myself for the introductory section for each theme. But then
38 we really, other than maybe making a couple of minor tweaks, we did nothing with the goals or
39 the actions items and I believe that was kind of the intent of this meeting today because I know,
40 Helga, we never really got to your comments, if I recall correctly, and there was just still a lot of
41 . . . so, we can do a number of different things. We can kind of skip over the other stuff that
42 we've done, recognizing that people really only had about two days to look at it which, clearly,
43 isn't ample time for something of this level of complexity, and maybe focus more on the goals
44 and the action items. Really, what would the committee like to do at this point and, obviously,
45 what's the most expedient way to do some of this. We could, I'm sure, just have a very
46 engaging two hours of conversation and we can busily take notes and get another draft out
47 after that. We're open to suggestions, as well.

48 Ms. Bahareh von Boekhold: I want other people to provide feedback. One of the reasons we
49 wanted to meet twice because we thought that we had the vision, like a big picture vision
50 conversation that we haven't done, but also how can we go through this document, make sure
51 that we have everybody's comment and feedback. We started from the end, from the
52 transportation, planning and transportation, so some of the comments were captured. Helga's
53 comments weren't captured. I know that actually Bill provided his detailed comments on the
54 whole report but also very good comments on the planning and transportation section. I'm
55 actually torn of what is the best way of going. I look at the plan, like the two parts that I really
56 dug into were the energy and the green building. I could see that the energy part, compared to
57 the last version, was significantly improved. Actually, things were tighter. It just kind of like it
58 starts falling into pieces, which was really good. But still, I have a lot of comments kind of like,
59 hey, for example . . .

60 Ms. Helga Huntley: Before you get into the examples, maybe we should decide whether we
61 want to go by theme or whether we want to start with the vision statement. I think that was
62 the question raised, right?

63 Ms. van Boekhold: Okay, so that was my, yes, I'm okay with starting with the vision statement
64 and then kind of putting time there, and then deciding that maybe covering one of the themes
65 that we all feel comfortable that we can go around the room and give our feedback and then
66 discussing should we have another meeting, should we all write down our comments, you
67 know, what would be the best? I don't know, I'm open to ideas from other people.

68 Ms. Michelle Bennett: I'm happy going over the vision statement and the values. I thought
69 they came together really well.

70 Ms. Huntley: Okay. So, start from the beginning and just go through in chronological order or .
71 ..

72 Mr. Michael Fortner: Sure. Okay.

73 **2. VISION STATEMENT – INITIAL DISCUSSIONS**

74 [Secretary's Note: The Steering Commission reordered the agenda and discussed the vision
75 statement prior to the discussion of the latest draft of the Sustainability Plan.

76 Mr. Athey: So, I guess technically, the vision statement is on the second page. The first page is
77 just kind of context and some fairly general background.

78 Ms. Huntley: Do you want comments on the first page?

79 Mr. Athey: Sooner or later, I guess we're going to need them.

80 Ms. Huntley: Okay, so the first sentence talks about a sustainability planet. And that's not, the
81 planet is not really sustainable, so that's a poor word choice.

82 Mr. Athey: So, the people . . .

83 Ms. Bennett: Say community.

84 Ms. Huntley: That's what I was going to say.

85 Mr. Fortner: A sustainable community?

86 Ms. Bennett: Yeah, I mean this is a paraphrasing of one of the traditional definitions of
87 sustainability and it's implying that our natural resources ultimately come from natural systems
88 or however you want to phrase that, whether it's plants or something else, and those are the

89 things that do sustain the community, whether it's food, electricity, or atmosphere. I think we
90 could certainly rephrase it but I don't want to divorce the idea of the community from relying
91 on those natural resources, if that makes sense. Like, I don't want to remove the mention of
92 natural resources or the planet, however you want to phrase it, from . . .

93 Ms. Huntley: The natural resources are there, right, in the second half of the sentence. I just
94 think it's not really the planet that is sustainable.

95 Ms. van Boekhold: It's usually the development. A development pattern, like approaches.

96 Ms. Huntley: It's what people do . . .

97 Ms. van Boekhold: Yeah.

98 Ms. Huntley: That is sustainable.

99 Ms. Sheila Smith: A sustainable community, I see it. It's because a community doesn't
100 accommodate . . . within sustainability, accommodations for the basic needs of its present
101 inhabitants.

102 Ms. Huntley: Sustainable practices? Accommodate basic needs?

103 Ms. Bennett: I like that.

104 Mr. Athey: How about a sustainable community assures the basic needs of inhabitants, blah,
105 blah, blah. Or maybe one step shy of assures but . . .

106 Ms. Smith: Or seeks to assure.

107 Mr. Athey: Yeah.

108 Ms. Smith: Let's be forceful. A community can be the Whos in Whoville, all the way up to the
109 planet size. That's a community. Does anybody know who the Whos are?

110 Mr. Fortner: If you don't, let's not get into it.

111 Mr. Athey: That's a separate meeting.

112 Mr. Jeremy Firestone: I wouldn't just say that it preserves resources but you're also preserving
113 resources of a comparable quality. So again, access to resources. So, there are sort of three
114 components.

115 Ms. Huntley: The three components are . . .

116 Mr. Firestone: Well, you've got the preservation of quantity resource, you have the quality of
117 the resource that's preserved, so for climate change, we're changing the quality of the
118 resource, in addition to changing some quantity issues. But we're changing the quality of the
119 resource. And so, ultimately, from intergenerational equity, those are the sort of three pillars,
120 would be the quantity of the resource, the quality of the resource, and that people continue to
121 have access to the resource.

122 Ms. Huntley: I think we're getting too academic for the lead-in sentence of this document. I
123 think if we just talk about the preservation of natural resources, we don't need to go into
124 whether it's quality or quantity.

125 Ms. Bennett: Arguably, preservation covers both, if you really mean it.

126 Ms. Smith: So, is preservation and protection the same within this context? Because you want
127 to protect what exists and perhaps also improve. There's a lot of ways to go with that, but . . .

128 Ms. Bennett: I'm okay with preservation. I mean, I know what you're trying to get at because I
129 feel those words are similar enough that . . .

130 Ms. Smith: Because often they come together – preserve and protect. Jeremy, what was the
131 third component? What was the third tier?

132 Ms. Bennett: Accessibility.

133 Ms. Huntley: Access, right?

134 Mr. Firestone: Access. I think for this purpose, the two most important are the quality of the
135 resource and the resource itself.

136 Mr. Scott Anderson: Could you bring in quality by saying the basic needs and quality of life of
137 the inhabitants, present inhabitants?

138 Ms. Smith: Except you want to qualify quality because you want it to be a good quality of life.

139 Ms. van Boekhold: I have a suggestion. What if we actually look at it like what we want to
140 achieve because there are different ways to go at it. So, let's have language there that we can
141 communicate and it's accurate, but then if it's not 100% of everything that we want to say, one
142 sentence, that's just the nature of it. If we remove the basic needs and say the needs of the
143 present inhabitants while preserving for future generations. You know, again, finite resources,
144 finite objectives, and if we want to keep it or not. But if we remove the basic, then we don't
145 have the problem of is it quality or quantity, and we just kind of say needs, and also for future
146 generations. For our survival makes it, again, a very kind of like, again, at the end, maybe we
147 want to say . . .

148 Ms. Bennett: Prosperity instead of survival. Because in my mind, that gets to two things. When
149 you say basic needs, that implies like a roof, food, and water. Maybe we're missing that quality
150 perspective. But if you were change survival to prosperity, that introduces that . . .

151 Mr. Firestone: Yeah, I like that.

152 Ms. van Boekhold: So, it seems like . . . go ahead . . .

153 Mr. Firestone: The word finite, too, suggests that you're referring to non-renewable resources.
154 Because renewable resources, even trees, are . . .

155 Ms. Bennett: They renew, but they still have a cap.

156 Mr. Firestone: Well, trees aren't a finite resource. They're a renewable resource. I would get
157 rid of the word finite.

158 Mr. Anderson: So long as they have a place to grow.

159 Ms. van Boekhold: I don't mind that because we don't just need to, he's right, we don't need to
160 only worry for the finite one, because if it's finite, then it's a quantity. If we remove that, it
161 includes quantity and quality.

162 Ms. Bennett: But the sense of infinite resources is how we got into this problem in the first
163 place.

164 Mr. Anderson: You can say limited resources or constrained resources.

165 Mr. Firestone: But we don't want to use those resources at all. We're not trying to preserve
166 them for future generations, the use of coal. The objective is to leave it in the ground.

167 Ms. van Boekhold: Can I read it once and see if it makes sense? It says that a sustainable
168 community assures the needs of its present inhabitants, or community maybe, while preserving
169 for future generations the resources in our natural environment that we depend on for
170 prosperity.

171 Mr. Athey: That's what I kind of have here based on what I've heard.

172 Ms. Smith: For prosperity or for a high quality of life.

173 Ms. Huntley: I think we're missing something here. Assures the needs of its present
174 inhabitants are met?

175 Ms. van Boekhold: Yes, you're right.

176 Ms. Bennett: I mean, I think its implied the way the sentence is structured.

177 Ms. Huntley: Assuring the needs?

178 Ms. Smith: Yeah, I had assures and meets the needs.

179 Ms. van Boekhold: Okay, what if we actually don't, instead of assure we say a sustainable
180 community meets its present inhabitants needs while preserving for future generations the
181 resources in our natural environment that we depend on for prosperity? Would that help or
182 not?

183 Ms. Huntley: Yes, that works for me.

184 Ms. Bennett: Sure, let's do it.

185 Ms. van Boekhold: Okay, so we put meet its present inhabitants . . .

186 Ms. Huntley: We've got one sentence.

187 Mr. Fortner: Right, one sentence, alright.

188 Ms. Bennett: To be fair, it's the first thing that most people are going to see. It's like getting
189 dressed up for a first date.

190 Mr. Athey: Okay, should . . .

191 Ms. Bennett: No, we're not doing this for every sentence, guys.

192 Mr. Fortner: No.

193 Ms. Smith: No.

194 Mr. Athey: I think we're good.

195 Ms. Bennett: Or if you want to get that deep in it, go home tonight and just spend a couple of
196 hours . . .

197 Ms. Huntley: I think at some point we should give you some feedback on the exact wording and
198 I don't think today is the day for that, for the majority of this. I think for the vision and for the
199 first sentence, it was appropriate.

200 Ms. van Boekhold: Yeah, let's decide on that. Some of this stuff I could see, I think there are
201 different authors in this document.

202 Mr. Athey: Right.

203 Ms. van Boekhold: I look at it, I mean I think Helga is a good writer. I always go to her so
204 maybe we can actually identify one or two language editors within our community because I
205 don't want, so I nominate Helga if she wouldn't shoot me but we kind of then have them as
206 language advisors. So, it wouldn't be like everybody is having, and if anybody else feels
207 strongly, they should join Helga to kind of together create that language advisor. Because I
208 don't want all of us to provide language edit. I think if you have one or two people, you know,
209 who have skills on it and the knowledge and volunteer.

210 Mr. Athey: I'm not sure that is going to work. This is a compliment what I'm about to say.
211 Everybody on this committee has a strong opinion and has the background, education, or
212 whatever to back that. So, I don't know how you get just one or two people because . . .

213 Ms. van Boekhold: Just on the language. No, it's not about going through the text. It's only the
214 language, not the content.

215 Ms. Bennett: Not content.

216 Mr. Firestone: I think that's what the consultant does. I mean we can all sort of make
217 suggestions on things. But ultimately, we're paying the consultant to produce the report and
218 they're used to writing . . .

219 Ms. Bennett: While I agree with you, one of my concerns is that we're all quite detail-oriented,
220 right, and it would be really easy to get lost in the weeds, really picking apart this word or that
221 word. And then when we come back, we have this conversation all over again because one
222 person wants to use a word that would appear in a thesaurus. So, I'm concerned that it's a lot
223 of time and effort for limited gain.

224 Ms. Huntley: Okay, so like we should number these bullets instead of having them as bullets.
225 Do you want that kind of feedback now? Do you want me to write that kind of feedback up and
226 email it to you? Do you want it at some later draft when it's more finalized? What works best
227 for you?

228 Ms. van Boekhold: Sure, and I want Dave one more time, I actually looked at this and you are a
229 resident of the City, so this is our plan. So, we are, I know that the consultant would do that but
230 if we have a way at one point to make it better, to make it us, I think that would be helpful.
231 That's why I recommended Helga for at least the language, some of the language, that could
232 get improved. If somebody within the, I know that they have it, but if somebody from the
233 community can add on because this is our plan, I don't see why not.

234 Ms. Jennifer Keller: Yeah . . .

235 Mr. Athey: Thank you. I was about to say, let me have Jen, because you're the one who has
236 the tech editors really working for you so . . .

237 Ms. Keller: Sure, I see what you're saying so we have the limitation of not using a document
238 sharing platform because we aren't able to do that, right? So, in the absence of that, we've
239 been trying to do this in this format, where you give us verbal feedback and we go back and try
240 to incorporate it quickly to the best of our abilities. And then we come back and there are still
241 some things that haven't been captured, so we haven't gotten through everyone. So, in the
242 absence of being able to pop the document up somewhere and have everybody go in and drop
243 their comments in, perhaps it is the right idea to assign a single person to sort of represent all
244 of you, if that circumvents the FOIA-related issues of having something out on Google Docs or

245 SharePoint. Because otherwise, we are going to, because I was just sitting here thinking like we
246 could use an all-day workshop to go through this.

247 Mr. Athey: Yeah.

248 Ms. van Boekhold: It is a whole-day thing. And what I was suggesting, Helga, was very much on
249 the language content. Like for example, as you get to it, hey, are we becoming sustainable or
250 are we kind of moving toward sustainability? Its just that, you know, the second bullet. So, I
251 thought that maybe she would be kind of very much on the language, like, advisor. But we are
252 still having that question of how are we going to go through all the comments.

253 Ms. Keller: Right, because I feel like there's still a lot that's been unshared. We haven't
254 gathered everything.

255 Ms. Huntley: I think we should take that time today to talk more about the content than
256 language. All I wanted is some advice on how you want the feedback on things that we don't
257 have time to discuss today.

258 Ms. Smith: Did this work? Bill's email? Was that useful for your considerations?

259 Mr. Athey: Yes, ultimately, I'm sorry, Bill, yes it was. I was also rather, honestly, what I was
260 thinking was how much time and effort it took you to go through. I think if it were me, I'd
261 probably just rather work in tracked changes.

262 Mr. Swiatek: Me, too.

263 Mr. Athey: And, again, that's still an option. I guess I'm also thinking what we could try to do,
264 although, again, back to kind of the subcommittee thing and trying to sift through all those
265 comments was a challenge, of almost making it, Mike, I think you had some concerns on this
266 from the FOIA standpoint of making it a linear tracked change.

267 Ms. Bennett: Yea, are we able to do that?

268 Mr. Athey: You know, Helga, I have no problem whatsoever giving you the Word document and
269 you can, you know, edit it as you so choose but then I think it's likely that everyone else is going
270 to have comments on it. And that's what I really don't know what the right answer is.

271 Mr. Firestone: My main issue is just careful attention to verb tense. So, there are some things
272 that are past, there are some things that are sort of future oriented, and then there are some
273 things that are sort of normative. So, when we're talking about it and we then go oughts or
274 shoulds and that, I think that hasn't quite been worked out. So, I think that's what really needs
275 to happen. Like every sentence, we need to think about is this something past, is this where
276 we're saying something that Newark will do in the future, or something that Newark ought to
277 do.

278 Mr. Swiatek: I think the tracked changes idea is just off the table, right? I mean, we can't . . .

279 Mr. Fortner: We can't all be doing a document. If Helga took a document and did it in tracked
280 changes, that would be fine. I mean, I don't want to spend a lot of time on whether or not that
281 should be bullets or numbers. I think it ultimately doesn't matter. The important thing is the
282 ideas in the document. If there are some tenses that are out of whack, I mean it's a
283 government document to guide Council and the City. It doesn't have to be brilliantly written.

284 Ms. Bennett: And it's not a full plan, it's the framework . . .

285 Mr. Fortner: What's that?

286 Ms. Bennett: It's not a full plan. It's a framework for a plan, ultimately. So, like, ideally there's
287 a follow-up document for this that will have a lot more meat and potatoes in it.

288 Ms. van Boekhold: I don't know. I thought that this is a plan.

289 Mr. Athey: I would see a lot of subsequent other plans or . . .

290 Ms. Smith: Additions or subtractions.

291 Mr. Athey: Yeah, but I don't know if I'd see another plan.

292 Ms. van Boekhold: What if I suggest one thing? Can I suggest, what if we suggest that we all, as
293 we give the content recommendation, if there is anything in that content that you can say, hey,
294 frame it like that, let's tackle that. But anything else on the language and formatting, we hold
295 back until we go through content. Because if you take those content and you update it and you
296 give us a version that the content is there 90%, then everybody can look and say, okay, now the
297 content is there and what are the big issue items. I don't know at what point you want to give
298 it to your editor but maybe if you cover the content, then the report is closer to final and we
299 can talk about language.

300 Mr. Athey: I think that makes sense.

301 Ms. Keller: So, it's gone through the technical editor once at this point because if we sent it
302 through every day . . .

303 Ms. van Boekhold: It doesn't make sense.

304 Ms. Keller: It's inefficient. So, rest assured that grammatical issues and voice and all that will
305 be . . .

306 Ms. van Boekhold: I actually noticed a difference, so it was clear that the language was kind of
307 massaged.

308 Ms. Keller: Yes, but it will be much better than it even is now. So, I think that we were hoping
309 this meeting would be about substantive themes and such. But I think to answer the original
310 question of bullets versus numbers and that sort of thing, you can send us that kind of
311 feedback, in the meantime, in an email. In the absence of having it go to you first in a Word
312 doc for edit and then to the next person, you know, if we're not going to do that, just email it
313 in.

314 Ms. Huntley: Okay.

315 Ms. Keller: Don't you think?

316 Mr. Athey: Sure, I mean you're the one who manages the editors so if you're okay with that . . .

317 Ms. Keller: Yeah, and then I can consolidate that and then figure out, you know, I can sort
318 through and decide if there's anything that is complex and then we'll come back and ask.

319 Ms. van Boekhold: Okay.

320 Mr. Athey: Alright, the second sentence. Sorry.

321 Ms. Huntley: The green box at the bottom of the page is something that looks to me like it
322 grew out of what used to be the values.

323 Mr. Athey: I kind of realized that after I had . . .

324 Ms. Huntley: So, I don't know whether you want to put that back into values. They're not
325 really assumptions or principles. The first one, to me, is an objective. The second one, to me, is
326 a method. The third one is a fact. The fourth one is a goal. So, they don't really fall into the
327 same category of things to me. But the question is, do we want to rework that into the values?

328 Mr. Athey: I was about to suggest in the interest of time wanting to let us take a stab at that.

329 Ms. Keller: But how are we addressing the values? At the last meeting I think we talked about
330 values per a theme and in the sidebar, right? Or is this overarching?

331 Mr. Athey: Well, the way, and this goes back probably even into the fall, but basically, I got the
332 values from some of the comments we got at the public meeting back in October and it kind of
333 just became a little bit of a mish-mash. But I, personally, believe to just have a vision statement
334 and then you move on. It just kind of needs a little bit more oomph to it. So, maybe that green
335 box falls under the vision statement and we kind of blend the mark-up of the values that I sent
336 out as a subsequent with the green box. Is everybody kind of following my suggestion?

337 Ms. van Boekhold: Can you repeat it again? Just the last part.

338 Mr. Athey: Sure. The green box at the bottom of Page 1 would kind of roll under the vision
339 statement at the top of Page 2 and kind of blend it with the subsequent values statement
340 because Helga is right and I didn't realize it. Maybe it was just in the interest of trying to get
341 stuff distributed for this meeting, I kind of overlooked that. It didn't fall through the cracks. As
342 I said, it just got a different form that I failed to realize. So, we'll blend them together and make
343 them, I kind of like the word values, if everybody is okay with that. Okay.

344 Ms. van Boekhold: On Page 1 I have like the bullets that we have, it's just kind of, again,
345 attention to detail that we don't achieve clean energy or energy efficiency. We foster clean
346 energy and promote energy efficiency. They're kind of like what it is that we want to do,
347 because we can't achieve clean energy. So, it's kind of just attention to what is it that we want
348 to do, just framing it and phrasing it correctly. So, it's fostering clean energy and advancing . . .

349 Mr. Anderson: Energy efficiency isn't part of this one anymore.

350 Ms. van Boekhold: I know but it's Page 1.

351 Mr. Anderson: I know, but that's . . .

352 Ms. van Boekhold: Oh . . .

353 Mr. Athey: Oh . . .

354 Mr. Anderson: Is this supposed to be the four themes?

355 Ms. van Boekhold: Yes, okay, sure. So, it goes . . .

356 Mr. Athey: Okay, Scott, thank you. At the risk of, actually Scott had two suggestions. Why
357 don't you go ahead and get them both out now? I kind of vetoed both because I didn't want to
358 propose too many changes but I wanted to have discussions.

359 Mr. Anderson: As I kept going through this, I don't like the word themes. I think they don't
360 foster action or inspiration. I think we should call them paths.

361 Ms. van Boekhold: Okay.

362 Mr. Anderson: It implies a forward motion. Path 1, Path 2, Path 3, Path 4.

363 Ms. van Boekhold: Yeah, we can do that.

364 Mr. Anderson: And the titles of each of them are extremely wordy and big. And, for example,
365 Theme 1, we moved the energy efficiency to Theme 3, so we have to edit it anyway. But I had
366 posed some very short jargon for the paths. Like for Path 3, design buildings that are healthy,
367 efficient, and livable. Design better, waste less.

368 Mr. Fortner: That sounds good.

369 Ms. Huntley: Like slogans.

370 Mr. Anderson: Design better. Yeah, they become slogans. And I forget what I had for the
371 others but like achieving green energy and energy efficiency, I said something like protect the
372 climate, reduce greenhouse gas.

373 Ms. Bennett: Memorable . . .

374 Mr. Anderson: Something quicker to get the idea.

375 Ms. Huntley: Your first one was better. But I think that's actually a good idea. It makes it more
376 readable.

377 Mr. Athey: Okay.

378 Ms. Keller: Where are they?

379 Mr. Anderson: They're in an email.

380 Ms. Keller: Okay.

381 Mr. Athey: It was in one of the earlier emails.

382 Mr. Anderson: I sent it to Dave just before this was finalized. I said, when I did my edits, I said,
383 Dave, I went through this and here's a suggestion. Can we call them paths instead of themes?
384 And then here's some new names.

385 Mr. Athey: Okay.

386 Ms. Smith: What did you say for Theme 4. I know it's not written in stone, I'm just curious
387 what . . . I know, it's not worked out. Don't worry about it.

388 Mr. Anderson: Something like protecting natural resources.

389 Ms. Smith: Okay.

390 Mr. Athey: But I can tell you, it's more of a slogan than a . . . and I think it would, so why
391 wouldn't we kind of work on those for more of a slogan. And again, this is a very broad
392 introduction, so we don't want to get too . . .

393 Mr. Anderson: But I tried to align them toward real content of the paths as we have them now.
394 They're starting to condense and organize themselves into concrete goals. Overall goals,
395 objectives, I don't know, paths, whatever.

396 Mr. Athey: So, then I guess we're at the vision statement. Helga, do you wish to kind of
397 introduce it? I know I did modify it. I took a little bit of literary license, but it is essentially your
398 statement if you wish to read it and inspire us.

399 Ms. Huntley: Sure. Newark strives to be a responsible steward of its natural, human, and
400 economic resources to ensure an equitable and prosperous community by balancing the needs

401 of people and the planet and relying on robust civic engagement to enhance the quality of life
402 for current and future generations.

403 Ms. Smith: It's pretty strong.

404 Ms. Huntley: The one comment that I had sent when I originally put this proposal out to a small
405 subset, I think it was Bahareh and David, and maybe Mike was on there, is that I took out, of
406 the triple bottom line it's always people, plan, and profit, and I took the profit out to leave
407 balancing the needs of people and planet because I felt that doing something for the people
408 and doing something for the planet were goods in and of themselves. Whereas doing
409 something for profit was really just doing something for people. So, that's just a comment in
410 case somebody noticed that there were only two items.

411 Ms. Bennett: I always use prosperity, instead.

412 Ms. Smith: And the word balancing the needs of all three is really important. So, it should not
413 say profit.

414 Ms. Bennett: Well, and profit is tied so much to capitalism and that's just . . .

415 Mr. Anderson: And consumption.

416 Mr. Fortner: Where does this, where do these go in, then? Do these go in under this? A
417 subset?

418 Mr. Athey: Yeah.

419 Ms. Huntley: Some reworking of the green box.

420 Mr. Fortner: So, reworking of the green box. Okay.

421 Mr. Anderson: [inaudible] content and ideas in that box and put that box under the vision
422 statement.

423 Mr. Fortner: Okay.

424 Mr. Athey: Alright, very good. Well, thank you, Helga.

425 Ms. van Boekhold: I think it's very good.

426 Mr. Athey: So, then I'm going to go ahead and kind of go through this. The how we got here
427 clearly needs a little bit of meat on the bones, but I think it's important to document the
428 meetings and there are a couple of paragraphs at the end of it on kind of how we set the
429 priorities, which we haven't really done yet. So, that's clearly going to be a work in progress.

430 Ms. Huntley: Can I comment on this?

431 Mr. Athey: Sure.

432 Ms. Huntley: Is this really important? I always see this in these plans, there are like two pages
433 at the beginning talking about the history of the plan, and I never read these things.

434 Ms. Smith: The only thing I would say about that is it does give anybody who didn't even know
435 this was going on, or in the future . . .

436 Ms. van Boekhold: Context.

437 Ms. Smith: Because people do go, where did this come from? You know, so I . . .

438 Ms. Huntley: But my suggestion is can we move it to the end so that while people are excited
439 about, hey, we have a great vision, how are we going to get there, we don't then talk about we
440 sat in 15 meetings and we had 800 people we interviewed . . .

441 Ms. Bennett: I think it's a good idea for like transparency purposes since it's a government
442 document.

443 Ms. Huntley: I'm not suggesting we should cut it.

444 Ms. Bennett: I know, but I think it should be up front . . .

445 Ms. Huntley: I'm suggesting we should put it . . .

446 Ms. Keller: What I was thinking is that it would become a table and so it could be, it will be
447 separated out, but I still like it up front because it sort of tells the story. I like to read things in
448 like chronological order. But it would be very skippable in that it would be formatted in a way
449 that you could glance at it if you're interested and, if not, keep going.

450 Ms. van Boekhold: I have actually a suggestion like that. We can have it actually blocked and
451 the timeline.

452 Ms. Keller: Yes, illustrated.

453 Ms. van Boekhold: Yes, and say see Appendix A at the end.

454 Mr. Athey: That's a great idea.

455 Ms. van Boekhold: It started here, got a grant, establishment of advisory committee, first
456 meeting, hiring of AECOM, blah, blah, blah. So, it's an image they see of what actually
457 happened and then we say see appendix 1, or whatever it is, for detailed information.

458 Mr. Athey: I think that's a great idea. Do we, then, need or want a couple of paragraphs, you
459 know, I'm not even sure what we, you know, identification of the vision goals. You know, we
460 came up with things, the committee looked at it, we went back and forth, you know, and the
461 setting of priorities. I'm not even sure how we're doing that yet. So, maybe to Helga's point,
462 maybe that doesn't really have a . . .

463 Ms. Bennett: That's a great way to discourage people from [inaudible].

464 Mr. Athey: So, why don't we, I like the idea of making it a graphic and maybe we'll just forget
465 about the rest of it.

466 Ms. van Boekhold: And at the end I think it would be helpful to kind of give the context of how
467 many meetings we had, how many hours. I actually found on thing which is very unique. I
468 don't know if other committees are this active, but I'm actually pretty impressed with how
469 active people have been here, how much time they contributed. It has been something from
470 the community that actually, I think, might get some kudos and accolades for that. But I think
471 the City actually should recognize the people who sat here . . .

472 Mr. Athey: I think that's a great idea.

473 Ms. van Boekhold: So, then we can actually do that, but just a timeline and then at the end, we
474 say this is how many hours we put, this are the meetings we went through, the different
475 generation, the public meeting and how many people came. For example, if you want very
476 little statistic of how many people came . . .

477 Mr. Athey: Oh, and how many people voted at Community Day and things like that.

478 Ms. van Boekhold: Very statistical and then I think there should be a big acknowledgement for
479 this group because people actually are pretty . . . I don't know if any other steering committee
480 is so involved in the state. I mean people are paid to sit on a steering committee, but I found
481 people in this group volunteered . . .

482 Mr. Athey: That's kind of how we would do it, volunteer hours. Basically, you all and how
483 many meetings and certainly the subcommittees . . .

484 Mr. Fortner: So, I track all that so I have that kind of data with the state reporting.

485 Mr. Athey: Right, okay.

486 Ms. Bennett: It's also good to explicitly say they're volunteer hours so people aren't thinking,
487 oh, they just got paid to be there.

488 Mr. Athey: Right. Actually, come to think of it, we were remiss, we really need to put the
489 Steering Committee members in the introduction, too. Sorry.

490 Ms. van Boekhold: So, the next graphic of timeline on kind of a graphic and then at the end,
491 just somewhere, information on how many people came, how many votes we got, you just add
492 some more detail. But I think it still is half a page, bulleted.

493 Mr. Firestone: How many people from the public came . . .

494 Mr. Swiatek: I was just going to mention to put the Steering Committee folks but, yeah, it is a
495 lot different from the work that's going on in Wilmington, particularly around the public
496 engagement. So, that's definitely . . .

497 Mr. Athey: Okay. Yeah, we overlooked the membership.

498 Ms. van Boekhold: Okay, so we can move forward.

499 Mr. Athey: Okay, so . . .

500 Ms. Huntley: The next section? Sorry, can I just comment?

501 Mr. Athey: I'm going to be pushing so . . .

502 Mr. Fortner: We're at coordination.

503 Ms. van Boekhold: Yes, coordination.

504 Ms. Huntley: Coordination with UD, the vast majority of that is about the SCP . . .

505 Mr. Athey: Yeah.

506 Ms. Huntley: Which I think should go into the energy theme because it is very specific to
507 alternative energy. And I think it is appropriate to have coordination with UD in the
508 introductory material because it's really important, but I think we need to phrase it in the
509 context of why is it really important that we can coordinate with UD. And, you know, UD is a
510 large energy user and they take up a lot of our land, so if we don't coordinate with UD, we can't
511 really accomplish our goals. So, I think those points should go here and then the discussion of
512 what we specifically are already doing in partnership and what we might do in partnership, that
513 should go under the individual paths.

514 Mr. Athey: What did we . . .

515 Ms. van Boekhold: We decided to put it on the appendix. So, we said, and you reference it in
516 the energy section, it's referenced actually in two sections. Maybe we can get like one more
517 sentence. But I also agree that it can, SCP can go, it is referenced in the energy section twice, in
518 two of the goals.

519 Mr. Athey: Both details.

520 Ms. van Boekhold: Yes, it is in the details. But this can go in an appendix. So, this is from the
521 two-pager that they sent us?

522 Mr. Athey: Correct.

523 Mr. Anderson: Cut down.

524 Mr. Athey: Well let me ask and this is just personal but, to me, and we talked about
525 appendices, an appendix to me is a lengthy something that doesn't really fit into a document.
526 And this will be a page or two pages.

527 Ms. van Boekhold: That's okay.

528 Mr. Athey: That just kind of seems weird. If it's only a couple of pages, why put it in the
529 appendix?

530 Ms. van Boekhold: I actually have some images to go with it because they did the three
531 buildings that they have, they have actually solar analysis, so we can actually make it a five-
532 pager. So, you see, if you put solar panels on top of the city buildings and on top of the
533 warehouses, we can include that. I'm open to hear from you but . . .

534 Mr. Anderson: My suggestion would be this. Instead of making it a separate document in an
535 appendix, just make it as a break in the document. So, you're going through the Theme 1 and
536 all of a sudden here is a page that is differently formatted, clearly a standout, an insert . . .

537 Mr. Athey: I like that idea.

538 Ms. Smith: Yeah that explains . . .

539 Mr. Anderson: That is just this, it's focused. Here are two pages in here all about this SCP. Oh,
540 and then you fold back and you're right back in Theme 1.

541 Mr. Athey: I like that. It kind of . . .

542 Mr. Anderson: So, you can skip through it . . .

543 Ms. Bennett: Is that still a proposal or has the City moved a bit on that? Because I know they
544 presented some information.

545 Ms. van Boekhold: So, they have not moved on it based on our understanding, but it's a
546 proposal that at least the City is considering.

547 Ms. Bennett: Okay.

548 Ms. van Boekhold: But at the same time . . .

549 Ms. Bennett: Just so we're clear in here so that people aren't expecting it.

550 Ms. van Boekhold: No, but at the same time, if there is a study already done that gives you the
551 financial analysis of like the different models, so if the City wants to actually put it, the study is

552 already there. That's why I thought it should be in the report because you don't need to
553 reinvent the wheel.

554 Ms. Huntley: Are we actually, with this plan, suggesting that as an action item?

555 Mr. Anderson: Yes.

556 Ms. Huntley: What are we suggesting as an action item? That we're implementing it, that
557 we're investigating its feasibility . . .

558 Mr. Anderson: It has to be considered for implementation further. It's a good idea but it has to
559 be taken over the goal line.

560 Ms. Bennett: It needs to be further . . .

561 Mr. Athey: It's an action item.

562 Ms. van Boekhold: It says continue to coordinate with the University plan for potential solar
563 generation and the prioritization that they have. And I will send you the images because we
564 can make the text a little bit smaller or different and add some pictures so the format and
565 everything is different.

566 Mr. Athey: I like that idea.

567 Ms. Bennett: I just want to be cautious with the language because my only concern, I think it's
568 a great idea, but my concern is right now it's a plan for the value of solar energy potential, but it
569 doesn't currently incorporate the cost of engineering studies and the cost of the roof and the
570 warranty. And like really nuts-and-bolts, frankly, boring pieces of information . . .

571 Mr. Anderson: But also critical.

572 Ms. Bennett: Well, they cost a lot of money. And that may be a problem for some of the
573 buildings but probably not all of them. So, my concern is if we put it as a really cool shiny thing
574 in here, if the language isn't explicit that it needs more investigation, I don't want residents two
575 years from now being like where's all the solar panels they promised.

576 Ms. Smith: How far is it? In your meeting, I just had a conversation with Steve Hegedus
577 yesterday or Monday about that they do have students working on the engineering of it now.

578 Ms. Bennett: Great.

579 Ms. Smith: Am I right? Did that come across in your meeting?

580 Mr. Athey: I don't recall that, no.

581 Ms. Smith: Okay.

582 Ms. Bennett: So, further investigation is ongoing, which is fantastic and like that's all really
583 exciting . . .

584 Ms. Smith: Yeah, so maybe . . .

585 Ms. Huntley: So, just be really clear . . .

586 Ms. Bennett: I just want to temper the language to reflect where we are now instead of . . .

587 Ms. van Boekhold: It's a proposal.

588 Mr. Anderson: Yeah, over-promising or . . .

589 Ms. Smith: Well, then that might be another conversation with Chajes or Byrnes.

590 Mr. Anderson: And the City, to be honest. The City is the driver on this.

591 Ms. Smith: And the City, yes.

592 Ms. Bennett: Because the City will be able to tell them if they have students engaged with
593 some of the engineering because the City is sponsoring that, if not paying for it.

594 Ms. van Boekhold: Actually, our taxes are paying for it. It's sponsored by the Delaware budget.

595 Mr. Anderson: So, the state.

596 Ms. van Boekhold: Yeah.

597 Ms. Bennett: But what it does is tell you how serious the City is. Who is going to be the driver?

598 Ms. Smith: We're not there yet. The CAC was waiting for another level of development from
599 Center for Energy Environmental Policy before we made our recommendation that the City
600 adopt the Solar City Project. But we have, it's been on the back burner for a year at least.

601 Ms. van Boekhold: What I hear is that we need to have the language that is clear that it's not
602 promised or it's not, actually it's a project that's going. So, whatever caveat and the great idea
603 of having it as an insert so maybe a reference on having it as an insert.

604 Ms. Bennett: A description.

605 Ms. van Boekhold: And then Helga had this great idea of like framing this section on why the
606 University is important and why we need to coordinate.

607 Mr. Anderson: Yeah, I like that.

608 Mr. Athey: Absolutely.

609 Ms. van Boekhold: Anything else in this section?

610 Mr. Athey: Yes, let's go ahead and get . . .

611 Mr. Anderson: Michelle, do you have input into this coordination thing that might be . . .

612 Ms. Bennett: [inaudible]

613 Mr. Athey: You don't have to . . .

614 Ms. Bennett: Okay, the part down here at the bottom about the University 28%, that \$14
615 million is probably closer to \$15 million on an annual basis. I think some of our energy
616 consumption went up this year because of, what was it, either a new big piece of lab
617 equipment or an upgrade in a building. But it was like 4% or something. Not chump change by
618 any means. These numbers came from the City and I would just stick with them because the
619 University doesn't do a good job of sharing that information, frankly.

620 Mr. Anderson: Yeah.

621 Ms. Bennett: And that's not something I control, so I can't easily get it for you. Anything about
622 Town and Gown is good. The University is actually quite keen to improve that relationship,
623 improve coordination with the City, and be a better neighbor. We do have a new Executive VP,

624 so that will be an ongoing and evolving topic. But my understanding is that the new Executive
625 VP is making a lot of noises that that's going to be a high priority.

626 Mr. Anderson: I guess my point in that regard is since this is a place to highlight the voice of the
627 University, maybe somebody from that group would want to take a spin at this.

628 Ms. Bennett: Right.

629 Mr. Athey: Spin is probably not the best word.

630 Ms. Bennett: I know exactly what you mean. Completely innocent and not nefarious. You're
631 going to have to go through the Office of Communication Marketing and ask them for a
632 statement because I'm not allowed to give those out.

633 Mr. Athey: Do we really want to do that?

634 Mr. Anderson: I'm just saying, does the University want to have this kind of input or not?

635 Ms. Bennett: Well, I think it's worth asking. I think it's worth reaching out to them and saying,
636 hey, this is what this project is. You can throw my name down and say Michelle Bennett is
637 involved. She recommended we ask if you want to put a statement on behalf of the University
638 about this plan, send them a copy . . .

639 Mr. Athey: Okay. I would have no problem asking for any statement. To ask them to help
640 write this, which is what I thought you were kind of, that I'm not comfortable with.

641 Ms. Bennett: But like I can't, I can come through here and edit and say this is good or nitpick
642 words, but as far as a statement from the University, I can't.

643 Mr. Athey: No, but what I, I'm liking this idea actually. If we can get, and I'm liking the sidebar
644 kind of thing as a quote that the University supports blah, blah, blah . . .

645 Ms. van Boekhold: Yeah.

646 Mr. Athey: That I would really . . .

647 Ms. Bennett: If we're extremely lucky, I'll just get an email from my boss saying, hey, write
648 something.

649 Mr. Athey: Could I ask you, or could we ask you to at least find out what, or give me a contact
650 that I could approach?

651 Ms. Bennett: It's something at OCM. It's like OCM at UDEL. Even I don't have a contact with
652 them. They've locked it all down. They really have. I used to be able . . .

653 Mr. Athey: To deal with concerns or . . .

654 Ms. Bennett: Yeah, because I mean they have like media@OCM for media inquiries, so this
655 might be under that category. I would do all of them but, frankly, the last time I reached out to
656 one of my contacts saying, hey, I need a thing, they were just like send it through the . . .

657 Mr. Anderson: Okay, so for example, I was thinking there's all this talk that the University
658 wants to increase enrollment and do this, all these big tickets items which are going to impact
659 the City.

660 Ms. Bennett: Absolutely.

661 Mr. Anderson: And they need to be coordinated.

662 Ms. Bennett: I agree.

663 Mr. Anderson: Is that coordination, I mean, maybe I'm delving into the Planning Department
664 politics, but . . .

665 Ms. Bennett: I mean you're right on point. You're 100% right. We are internally doing a
666 master plan process that we are coordinating with the City, so the consultants on the
667 University's master plan process have been meeting with City officials, etc., etc. So, some of
668 that is ongoing. Like I said, it's already been publicly stated a number of times by the new
669 Executive VP, he started like last week, that that's going to be a top priority because of all this
670 stuff. And then, but that's the thing. Because there are a lot of politics and there's a lot of
671 history there, those are the channels you have to go through because the University has really
672 locked that down.

673 Ms. Huntley: How about approaching Caitlin?

674 Ms. Bennett: You can absolutely approach Caitlin.

675 Ms. Smith: Who is Caitlin?

676 Ms. Bennett: She's the University's . . .

677 Ms. Huntley: Caitlin Olsen.

678 Mr. Athey: I can do that. We pseudo-know each other, so I'm comfortable reaching out to her.

679 Ms. Bennett: Cover your bases and just like send emails to all of them – Caitlin, OCM@udel and
680 Media@udel. Because that will put it through the Office of Communications and Marketing,
681 and those guys, you know, do . . .

682 Mr. Athey: What was the second one? OCM and . . .

683 Ms. Bennett: OCM@udel and Media@udel. I think it's Media@udel. But also to Caitlin. If
684 there's anyone else with the University that you have communicated with that you think would
685 be relevant, like absolutely send it to them.

686 Mr. Athey: Okay.

687 Ms. Smith: Michelle, I may be overly simplifying things but is there any person or two people or
688 department that actually interfaces with the City?

689 Ms. Bennett: That's Caitlin.

690 Ms. Smith: That's Caitlin. And what, again, is her . . .

691 Ms. Bennett: I know what her . . .

692 Ms. Smith: Her title?

693 Ms. Bennett: I have to look it up.

694 Mr. Firestone: What's Caitlin's last name?

695 Ms. Smith: It's Olsen, but do you have a title? Which office does she work in?

696 Ms. Bennett: Let me look it up really quick. She's in the Executive VP's office.

697 Ms. Smith: Oh, okay.

698 Mr. Firestone: She's not in OCM.

699 Ms. Bennett: No, she's not OCM.

700 Ms. Huntley: But we don't really want a marketing statement from the University, right? We
701 want a kind of commitment statement.

702 Ms. Bennett: Well, you can't get a commitment statement for something the City hasn't
703 passed, frankly. Like, they're not going to commit to something unless the City does first.

704 Ms. Huntley: They don't need to commit to the plan. They just need to say that the University
705 is committed to sustainability.

706 Ms. Bennett: Oh, well I've been trying to get them to say that for . . .

707 Mr. Anderson: That's the point here.

708 Ms. Bennett: Isn't it?

709 Mr. Anderson: Yes. It's like you're building the STAR Campus. Is this a green building? Is this
710 the most energy efficient building you could have?

711 Ms. Bennett: Did they want to put standards on STAR Campus when they were desperate for
712 development?

713 Ms. van Boekhold: I have an idea. What is we actually reach out to them and say we
714 understand you're committed your [inaudible] to climate action. We understand that you have
715 an Office of Sustainability. We need something about your sustainability to include in our . . .
716 what is your commitment? And then we approach them . . .

717 Ms. Bennett: I actually don't recommend that. They're going to shut it down immediately.

718 Mr. Firestone: Why don't we go to the faculty?

719 Ms. Bennett: Because if they start speaking for the University, they'll get shut down too.

720 Mr. Firestone: Just the faculty [inaudible].

721 Ms. Huntley: Well, that won't happen.

722 Ms. Smith: Does the faculty set its own . . .

723 Ms. Bennett: How's that working out with the new travel plan? I got in trouble for that, by the
724 way.

725 Ms. van Boekhold: What if we table this and . . .

726 Ms. Smith: Caitlin definitely seems like the right person.

727 Ms. Bennett: Do, yes, Caitlin absolutely . . . the only reason you include OCM is just so it's on
728 their radar. What they'll do is those two groups will talk and they'll decide what they want. But
729 what happens is if it slips through one email inbox, it will get picked up on the other.

730 Mr. Athey: Alright.

731 Mr. Anderson: So, would it help if Dave drafted a note and then sent it to you?

732 Ms. Bennett: Yep, you can absolutely, you can draft something, send it to them, you can copy
733 me in on all these emails.

734 Mr. Athey: Alright, let's . . .

735 Ms. van Boekhold: Yeah, table it.

736 Ms. Bennett: It does help . . .

737 Mr. Anderson: It's a big issue.

738 Mr. Athey: No, it is a big issue.

739 Mr. Anderson: And it was really light, and it's a big issue to coordinate with and how this plan
740 goes together because they're half the city.

741 Ms. Bennett: No, I'm absolutely glad you brought it up because it is important and a lot of what
742 the University does deeply impacts the City.

743 Ms. van Boekhold: In a similar context, I actually put a list of different centers and different
744 groups and the University that we have to reach out in advance of our next public meeting. We
745 have to invite them and ask them to be engaged. So, there are different groups and also the
746 Students for the Environment, the different centers that they have, Center for the Environment,
747 Ocean, what is it?

748 Ms. Bennett: There's a bunch of them.

749 Mr. Anderson: Yeah.

750 Ms. van Boekhold: So, all of them, actually I want to send an official invitation and reach out to
751 them. And I can do it as the Chair . . .

752 Ms. Bennett: That's going to get the faculty involved.

753 Ms. van Boekhold: Yes. So, we do, for the public . . .

754 Mr. Athey: I think it's a parallel effort is what you're saying.

755 Ms. van Boekhold: It's a parallel effort and Jen and I have been talking, actually, Jen, I put the
756 list of different things and we bring in Michelle, we kind of know exactly which department,
757 how to reach out. These people are all on social media. If we go and say there's an event and
758 we want you to be there, are you going to be there? You know, if you kind of give enough
759 nudges, there will be enough people. Because last time we only had Steve and who else?
760 There was one person from the University – Steve Hegedus. Who else came from the
761 University? Nobody else.

762 Mr. Anderson: There was a student.

763 Mr. Athey: There were a few but not many.

764 Ms. van Boekhold: A couple of students.

765 Ms. Smith: Oh, you mean the outreach thing at George Wilson?

766 Ms. van Boekhold: Yeah.

767 Ms. Smith: And Michelle brought four students.

768 Ms. Bennett: I have another one for departments and their various majors but that will give
769 you an idea of what colleges or departments are also directly like, not, I mean for example
770 Geography wanted to be on there and I'm like, there's a strong connection, but sustainability is
771 not in their explicit . . .

772 Ms. Smith: Geography?

773 Ms. Bennett: Education [inaudible].

774 Ms. Smith: Okay, never mind.

775 Ms. Bennett: It's a really tailored list, topic-specific.

776 Ms. van Boekhold: Sounds good.

777 Mr. Athey: And then, I guess, the last, just so we don't, it's a totally unpopulated table at this
778 point, the last thing is on Page 4. I, personally, believe there ought to be some sort of summary
779 table. We've talked about this before, a cross-reference, who is response, so that's probably
780 going to be a fair amount of work to put that together. But, clearly, I'm not going to . . .

781 Ms. Huntley: But that's just going to summarize everything that's in the rest of the plan, right?

782 Mr. Athey: Exactly. I'm sorry, it's just purely the action items.

783 Ms. Huntley: But they are going to appear with more context somewhere else in the plan?

784 Mr. Athey: Totally. Absolutely, yes.

785 Ms. Keller: Is everybody in agreement that that belongs up front?

786 Mr. Fortner: Sure.

787 Ms. van Boekhold: Yeah.

788 Ms. Smith: Actually, the acronym is kind of . . .

789 Ms. Huntley: I like the acronym.

790 Mr. Athey: Yeah, thanks to Jen and her people for putting that together.

791 Ms. Smith: And a lot of acronyms show up before you even get to that table.

792 Ms. Huntley: But maybe not once this text goes . . .

793 Ms. Smith: Yeah, okay. Like Solar, SCP. I was like Solar City?

794 Ms. Huntley: Yeah, that's not going to be in the introduction anymore.

795 Ms. Smith: Is that what they call it?

796 Mr. Anderson: Solar City Plan is what they called it, yeah.

797 Ms. Bennett: I have a side question. When it says Solar City Plan, is that Solar City the
798 company, or just a city with solar?

799 Ms. van Boekhold: It's not Solar City.

800 Ms. Smith: That's the Center for Energy and Environmental Policy's proposal to the City.

801 Ms. Bennett: If that's what they're calling it, that's fine, but when I saw that, I thought Solar
802 City?

803 Ms. Smith: That's exactly what I thought, too. Solar City is a company.

804 Mr. Anderson: I prefer the word program over plan, but whatever. It's still P.

805 Ms. van Boekhold: Did they actually use the acronym? Did they use the acronym CSP in their
806 report?

807 Mr. Athey: SCP.

808 Ms. van Boekhold: Did they use it in their report?

809 Mr. Athey: I don't remember.

810 Mr. Anderson: No, they had plan. I put in partnership.

811 Ms. van Boekhold: But did they actually abbreviate that to SCP?

812 Mr. Anderson: Yeah.

813 Ms. van Boekhold: Okay, perfect.

814 Ms. Smith: They do say partnership.

815 Ms. van Boekhold: So, we move forward.

816 **3. REVIEW AND DISCUSSION OF LATEST DRAFT OF SUSTAINABILITY PLAN (VERSION OF**
817 **VISIONS AND GOALS DOCUMENT) REPORT**

818 **a. PLANNING & TRANSPORTATION**

819 **b. GREEN BUILDINGS**

820 **c. NATURAL RESOURCES AND REDUCE WASTE**

821 **d. CLEAN ENERGY**

822 Mr. Athey: So, I guess we're at a little bit of a decision point, you know, we're halfway through
823 the meeting at this point. You all have only just seen the rewritten, the revised intro sections
824 and, again, that took the objectives, the intro sections, the where we are, and we all tried to
825 put them together into a . . .

826 Ms. Smith: Consistent.

827 Mr. Athey: Right. So, we can do, I guess, a couple of things at this point and I'm going to
828 suggest maybe we kind of skip over them just because I'm guessing most people really haven't
829 had a chance to read the rehashed, that's not a good choice of words, the revised, and then
830 maybe we kind of go to where we left of the last meeting, which is the nitty-gritty of the goals
831 and the actions items and see how far we can get.

832 Mr. Anderson: Starting on another issue. Like planning and transportation is listed first in the
833 agenda.

834 Mr. Athey: Mike had that . . .

835 Mr. Fortner: It doesn't matter.

836 Mr. Athey: We can go in whatever order people would like to. Actually, that's actually an
837 interesting point. Knowing the energy is usually the toughest one to get through . . .

838 Ms. van Boekhold: Actually, you know, there was some discussion, but I thought that it was
839 actually kind of tightening up.

840 Mr. Athey: So, if we think there's gong to be a lot of discussion, maybe we go on to some of the
841 easier ones. Or we can go . . .

842 Ms. Huntley: I would suggest we do the easier ones first.

843 Mr. Firestone: I gave Dave some comments on the fraction of our budget that comes from . . .

844 Mr. Athey: Ah, we need to have that . . .

845 Ms. Huntley: Okay, wait . . .

846 Ms. Smith: Can I ask one question before we go any further? You have green and you have
847 yellow and then there's another color. What do they mean?

848 Mr. Athey: Yeah . . .

849 Ms. Huntley: They're the different themes.

850 Mr. Fortner: No, the highlights.

851 Mr. Athey: The highlights, the yellow is basically stuff that mostly, although not solely, is the
852 info requests with the City and some of it is just placeholders for ourselves. Actually, thank you
853 for asking me that. The blue is additional things we've identified, and I think there's really only
854 two or maybe three of them, other things that we would need from the City. The green are,
855 and that really did come through in the color, didn't it, are things that either was a comment
856 that someone had added through the subcommittees or was just something that came up as
857 we were going through these revisions that I actually wanted the subcommittee to . . .

858 Ms. Smith: So, it's newer content?

859 Mr. Anderson: Newer content and/or questions to be considered.

860 Mr. Fortner: So, should we go to these green? Do you want to hit these green things?

861 Mr. Athey: Yeah, you know, maybe Page 11 is where I'm seeing the first one. It's a great
862 question. There was, and frankly I'm forgetting who commented where, and I believe this was
863 from one of the subcommittees, but it was decrease barriers to small scale wind generation.
864 And I wasn't sure, that's the yellow, what are the barriers. But then Scott chimed in that I guess
865 he did some sort of research into it and you're even questioning whether the wind . . .

866 Mr. Firestone: Yeah, it's not sufficient in this area. It's not economical. D should just be
867 deleted.

868 Ms. van Boekhold: I actually was like well maybe somebody knew something and was like, is it
869 the case?

870 Ms. Bennett: I think at one point I threw it in there because I didn't know what the resources
871 were locally. But it occurred to me that as small-scale wind turbines become more attractive
872 looking, people might want to put them on. But if there's no wind for them, it's not
873 economical.

874 Mr. Firestone: You're much better off putting panels up.

875 Mr. Athey: So, are we all in agreement we just nix Item D, then?

876 Ms. Smith: They have one at the high school down the road. Does anybody know about that?
877 At Glasgow.

878 Mr. Athey: Glasgow? They have a wind turbine? Really?

879 Mr. Filasky: I thought it was at Hodgson.

880 Mr. Athey: Hodgson would make more sense.

881 Ms. Smith: Are they on the same campus?

882 Mr. Filasky: No, it's just down the road.

883 Ms. Bennett: But at a school there can be educational uses . . .

884 Ms. Smith: Sure, that's different.

885 Ms. Bennett: Even if it's not generating a lot of energy.

886 Ms. Smith: I just didn't know.

887 Mr. Athey: Alright, so we're going to take that one out.

888 Ms. Huntley: Can we go back to Goal 1.1?

889 Mr. Athey: Sure.

890 Ms. Huntley: I haven't re-read the new version but in the old version I made a note that Part B
891 is a good thing to do but doesn't help with Goal 1.

892 Mr. Athey: Decrease barriers to private PV and solar?

893 Mr. Fortner: You said Goal 1.1 on Page 10 on the new . . .

894 Ms. Huntley: Yeah. So, the goal is that the City will provide renewable energy, renewable
895 generation sources in its distributed electricity mix.

896 Mr. Athey: Oh, B doesn't really have anything to do with . . .

897 Ms. Huntley: And that's not there, distributed electricity mix, right?

898 Ms. Bennett: Would it make sense to encourage or foster? Or is it like the City is specifically
899 going to pursue . . .

900 Mr. Athey: Well, I think her point is it's a good idea, it's just not in the right place.

901 Ms. Huntley: Right. We could rephrase Goal 1 to include, and we also want people to generate
902 their electricity that they don't distribute to the City.

903 Ms. Bennett: If there's another place for it . . .

904 Mr. Anderson: Goal 1.3.

905 Mr. Athey: Yeah, it seems like we want to move it, not move that first goal.

906 Ms. van Boekhold: I don't think actually it is 1.3. It could be because now we say innovative
907 pilot renewable. So, I remember when we talked about Goal 1.1 to have more renewable if it's
908 PV or not. We said the City can get more, whatever, on their real estate. They can purchase

909 more or facilitate for commercial or homes to have more PV. So, that B is kind of reminiscent
910 of that kind of, hey, and I put there, for example, if you're outside the DEMEC City of Newark
911 area, you get a good rebate. You get 30% of rebate to cost. And in Newark, if you want to
912 install, you don't get the rebate. So, if you want people to have rebate instead of removing
913 barriers, maybe actually looking at kind of including incentives similar to other jurisdiction so
914 people can have it.

915 Ms. Bennett: So, the goal could be like provide or encourage, foster, facilitate . . .

916 Ms. Smith: Incentivize is also a good word.

917 Ms. Bennett: Do you want to limit it to incentivizing or do you want to like, because fostering
918 or . . .

919 Ms. Smith: Put them together. Incentivize and foster interest in individual or private PV and
920 solar hot water generation.

921 Ms. Bennett: Because what I like about a slightly vague [inaudible] is it opens the door for a lot
922 of incentives as opposed to removing barriers. So, you've got the whole kit-and-caboodle in
923 that one word.

924 Ms. Huntley: So, are we talking about rewording Goal 1.3 and then moving the . . .

925 Ms. Bennett: We're talking about rewording Goal 1.1 so it's City of Newark provides and
926 facilitates or encourages. Does that make sense?

927 Ms. van Boekhold: So, what I'm saying is that when the City enables, I know we're talking
928 about a distribution generation list, but then we have a PV in our home, it is a supply, a
929 distributed generation. So, its kind of falls under what you call it there. It's just maybe a little
930 bit unclear. You see when you said that distributed generation, when people put PV on their
931 houses, it's basically distributed generation . . .

932 Ms. Smith: It becomes part of the mix.

933 Ms. van Boekhold: Yes, it's part of the mix. It's not the electricity that the City procures but it is
934 actually distributed generation within the City.

935 Mr. Anderson: It's the word distributed used in two different ways.

936 Ms. van Boekhold: Yes. Exactly.

937 Mr. Athey: Okay.

938 Ms. Bennett: But also, the word provide implies that the City might put a panel on your house
939 for you, which is probably not likely. Like, provide is the word I'm tripping on.

940 Mr. Anderson: Okay.

941 Ms. Huntley: What I understood this goal to mean is that the City is going to buy electricity
942 from renewable sources to then distribute through its electric grid to its customers.

943 Mr. Athey: That's what it's intended to be.

944 Ms. Smith: Okay.

945 Mr. Anderson: So, yeah, just say the City of Newark will buy renewable generation resources . .
946 .

947 Mr. Athey: Or procure sounds a little bit better than buy.

948 Mr. Anderson: Procures a big word but . . .

949 Ms. van Boekhold: Scott, can I add a recommendation?

950 Ms. Smith: It's just four more letter, Scott.

951 Mr. Anderson:

952 Ms. van Boekhold: If you want to keep the first one generation that the City procures, and we
953 think that, let's keep that out there and find a different place for B. I'm like kind of coming back
954 and saying your recommendation for 1.3 could work because it's not . . .

955 Mr. Athey: Yeah.

956 Ms. van Boekhold: Just have to change innovative and pilot, have a title which is inclusive. So,
957 put the innovative and pilot under it, but also, we put the residential and commercial solar . . .

958 Mr. Athey: I'd rather move it to 1.3 actually.

959 Ms. van Boekhold: And then we rework pilot. Like remove the innovative pilot to actually be . .
960 .

961 Mr. Anderson: Yeah, absolutely. This should be a laser goal. It's the City of Newark and buying
962 power.

963 Ms. van Boekhold: Yes. Okay and then we move it to Goal 1.3. Right now, Goal 1.3 reads that
964 will facilitate innovative pilot renewable energy projects such as community solar and other
965 developing renewable energy and energy storage technology.

966 Ms. Bennett: If this one is about removing barriers, would it fit under Goal 1.2? Because 1.2 is
967 all about City code . . .

968 Mr. Anderson: Yeah.

969 Ms. van Boekhold: The barriers which they're incentivizing will fit under 1.3. Because we
970 definitely want to have incentives.

971 Ms. Bennett: I like it. Let's do it.

972 Mr. Athey: Alright, so . . .

973 Ms. Smith: So, where is it going now?

974 Mr. Anderson: B goes into 1.2.

975 Ms. Smith: Oh.

976 Ms. Bennett: Because that one has barriers so it's about code, legal codes, and . . .

977 Ms. Smith: I get it. Yeah.

978 Ms. Bennett: Whereas incentives would go under 1.3 because we have . . .

979 Ms. Huntley: Okay, so removing barriers and providing incentives, for me, should not be split
980 under two different goals. Our goal should be to encourage people to put solar panels on their
981 roof.

982 Ms. Bennett: But you have to do both to achieve that.

983 Ms. Huntley: Those are action items, though, and we shouldn't pull the action items of
984 providing incentives and the action items of taking barriers away into two different goals.
985 Because they work toward the same goal.

986 Ms. van Boekhold: So, I have, sure, so the barriers that are under Goal 1.2, maybe it's because
987 those are the ones that we have in the City code. So, if there is any, I don't think we have any
988 HOA or anything, you can't put solar panels or what do you need to do for solar panels? So, the
989 barriers that fit under 1.2 are those revising City charter, thought it's only referring to Chapter
990 11. I assume that if you want to change any chapter or barriers, there could be other chapters.
991 The barriers, this is anything that's on the City charter. But I agree, if there are other barriers,
992 and I think lack of incentive is a big barrier, you need to have incentives to be able to encourage
993 people to have it.

994 Ms. Huntley: So, I was actually going to suggest that we need to reword Goal 1.2 because
995 revising the Municipal Code is not a goal. That's an action item, right? We are not trying to
996 achieve a revised Municipal Code. We are trying to achieve less barriers. We are trying to
997 achieve better conditions.

998 Mr. Athey: Good point.

999 Ms. Bennett: You could change that one to barriers and incentives whereas 1.3 is a lot more
1000 about innovative technologies, right?

1001 Ms. van Boekhold: I said they should remove the innovative from the title. So, innovative
1002 would be a subcategory of it.

1003 Ms. Bennett: But it's still technology-centric, though.

1004 Ms. van Boekhold: Yes, enable people to put solar panels on their businesses and their homes.

1005 Ms. Bennett: It's also trying, like I thought part of that was to leverage some of the research
1006 and technology going on on the campus. Trying to get it out in the community. But putting
1007 that aside just for a half-second, does it make sense for 1.2 to be more focused on removing
1008 barriers and providing incentives? I mean that's rephrasing it but then a lot of these action
1009 items don't necessarily have to change because a lot of them are still looking at or discussing or
1010 implying Municipal Code. Or you can add like that specific wording to a couple of them.

1011 Mr. Athey: Okay, let us . . .

1012 Ms. Huntley: Work on that.

1013 Mr. Athey: Yeah, I think I understand what we need to do on that.

1014 Mr. Anderson: Does it become an action but this is like the key . . .

1015 Mr. Athey: Yeah, but in a way some of the other goals are kind of action items, too, and we
1016 kind of muddied the clarity between a goal and an action item. But I think we can restructure
1017 1.2 . . .

1018 Ms. Huntley: The other problem with 1.2 is if somebody wants to get a quick idea of what this
1019 plan is about, and they only read the goals, what the goals are of the City, and they read the
1020 goal is to revise Chapter 11 of the Municipal Code to accomplish several strategies . . .

1021 Mr. Athey: It's not very inspiring.

1022 Ms. Huntley: Exactly.

1023 Mr. Athey: I get it.

1024 Ms. Huntley: It's doesn't really . . .

1025 Mr. Anderson: Alright, well how do we get this done because it needs to get done.

1026 Ms. Huntley: But if we're only accomplishing things to support Goal 1, then that's an action
1027 item under Goal 1.

1028 Ms. Smith: Is A what you want to say up there? Provide support and incentives to allow for
1029 community solar/direct investment?

1030 Mr. Athey: Yeah, maybe that's almost more the goal, and then the goal becomes an action
1031 item.

1032 Ms. Smith: Yeah, then how you do it.

1033 Mr. Athey: In a very general sense, I see flipping them.

1034 Ms. Bennett: Sure.

1035 Ms. Smith: Unless provides support is an action.

1036 Mr. Athey: Well, I mean, I . . .

1037 Ms. Smith: Okay.

1038 Mr. Fortner: Tim, have a good one.

1039 Mr. Athey: Thanks, Tim. Now, the only problem, you know, I think we all agreed goals and such
1040 need to be measurable, so that kind of becomes an unmeasurable goal. But it's not a perfect
1041 world.

1042 Ms. Bennett: Well, what could be measured are new incentives, whether that's passed through
1043 City Council or not.

1044 Mr. Athey: You mean like a number thereof?

1045 Ms. Bennett: Yeah.

1046 Mr. Athey: You know, pass five new incentives in the next five years.

1047 Ms. Bennett: Yeah, you know explicitly to support these action items. And then another one
1048 similar to barriers would be, okay, you know this specific Municipal Code is updated to remove
1049 barriers, etc., etc.

1050 Mr. Athey: Well and again, Goal 1.3 isn't really measurable either. Okay, I'm going to kind of
1051 keep pushing a little bit.

1052 Mr. Fortner: So, 1.2 F, that's a green one.

1053 Mr. Athey: Yeah, the reason that's highlighted is it's really for Jen. She and I, I don't know how
1054 many times we've gone back and forth on this. Things that are public outreach, public
1055 engagement oriented, should they stay where technically they go, or should they all get kind of
1056 pulled out into an overall goal of public engagement . . .

1057 Mr. Anderson: Its own section.

1058 Mr. Athey: Its own section. And that's what we kind of started to do either in the intro or in
1059 the conclusion, and we've kind of gone back and forth, so what do you all, where does it fit
1060 best?

1061 Ms. Huntley: I like them staying in their sections where they're relevant.

1062 Mr. Athey: Okay.

1063 Ms. Huntley: In the summary table that you are proposing for Page 4, you might be able to
1064 somehow highlight those differently so that you have category of things City Council has to do,
1065 things City departments have to do, things that are outreach related.

1066 Ms. Bennett: And we do have a section for like what people can do every day. You know, like
1067 on Page 15, what you can do. And I'm not saying we move it to that section but as far as
1068 outreach, which is something the City or some utilities are going to need to do for any good and
1069 effective major change like what we're proposing, I think there's absolutely room to have it up
1070 here where one of the goals is to actually communicate with the community.

1071 Mr. Athey: Okay, so we'll leave it where they are, and I like your idea, Helga, of clarity to kind
1072 of how it's going to come together in the table.

1073 Ms. Huntley: I want to go back, sorry . . .

1074 Mr. Athey: Please, no.

1075 Ms. Huntley: I thought Point C under 1.1 and Point B under 1.2 are redundant as action items.

1076 Mr. Athey: C, provide Electric Department customers with clear, transparent, blah, blah, blah,
1077 easy to read, and then . . .

1078 Ms. Huntley: A method to select how much renewable power they want. And then B says give
1079 them an option to elect 100% renewable power.

1080 Mr. Athey: That's a good catch. They are a little redundant, aren't they?

1081 Ms. van Boekhold: I had a question here. Did you mean that we enable people in the City to
1082 get a third-party supplier? Is that what it meant?

1083 Ms. Huntley: No, so that I can choose I want only renewable power, and so the City has to go
1084 and buy enough electricity to give me 100% renewable.

1085 Ms. Smith: And guarantee it.

1086 Mr. Anderson: Yeah and guarantee it.

1087 Mr. Athey: That's a very good catch, Helga.

1088 Mr. Firestone: But it should be clear when they buy renewable power, and this goes to your F
1089 addition, that they get environmental attributes along with the power.

1090 Mr. Anderson: [inaudible] electrons.

1091 Mr. Firestone: Otherwise, they're not getting the renewable power and . . .

1092 Mr. Athey: What do you mean by the environmental attributes?

1093 Mr. Firestone: The renewable energy credits.

1094 Mr. Athey: Oh, okay.

1095 Mr. Firestone: When you enter a contract for them, they're just called environmental
1096 attributes, so it includes everything, whatever the environment will . . .

1097 Ms. Bennett: Because a lot of times what they'll do is they won't spend the money on it. Or, if
1098 they do, the City will keep the SRECs and so, you know, that supplements their merchant.

1099 Mr. Firestone: So, the solar part is, you know, I bought what I thought was free energy and
1100 what I get instead was that I helped build that park and then the City sold the SRECs to DEMEC.
1101 And so, I didn't get the green energy that I thought I was buying.

1102 Ms. Bennett: He's proposing to retire the SRECs without trading and selling them.

1103 Mr. Firestone: Right.

1104 Mr. Anderson: Or, if a person says I want 100% renewable, that there's something trackable
1105 that they weren't double counted.

1106 Mr. Firestone: It shouldn't count against, if DEMEC has legal obligations to say hit 20, 30, or
1107 40%, if I buy 100%, those RECs are mine. They're not the utility's. The utility doesn't get them.
1108 I basically retire them and the utility still has that obligation to go and get the 20, 30, or 40%.
1109 Because otherwise, all I'm doing is making it so that other people don't have to pay as much on
1110 the collective obligation to meet the REC mandate. So, it's got to be really clear and it's got to
1111 be clear to the City because most people don't really understand how the math works. And
1112 then if you don't account for it, you're not doing anything. I mean I can have 100% renewable
1113 energy but that just means if you don't account for it, then other people . . .

1114 Mr. Anderson: Take credit for it.

1115 Ms. Huntley: Well, no . . .

1116 Mr. Firestone: Everyone else doesn't have to, you know, it's not increasing the total fraction of
1117 renewable energy that's out there unless I retire those RECs.

1118 Ms. Huntley: But can you think of a clear, concise way of stating that to put it in here?

1119 Mr. Firestone: I'll work on language that will be clear and concise and intelligible.

1120 Ms. Huntley: Yes.

1121 Ms. Bennett: Are we happy, just as a philosophical point, but it doesn't need to go in here, is
1122 giving people the option both ways? Where, you know, maybe if you can't afford 100%
1123 renewables, you have one option where you don't get the SREC and you feel a little better
1124 about . . .

1125 Ms. Huntley: But that doesn't do anything, right?

1126 Ms. Bennett: I mean the actual environmental benefits that reduce pollution, what-have-you,
1127 are actually usually local depending on where your pollution is coming from.

1128 Ms. Huntley: But if you would just say I want 60% . . .

1129 Ms. Bennett: The actual environmental benefits exist in the environment around you.

1130 Ms. Huntley: But they don't because it's not changing anything.

1131 Ms. Bennett: It is but it isn't. It's not in the sense of a one-for-one investment, but it does
1132 make a very clear statement to the people investing in solar where the demand is. That's what
1133 they're measuring when they look at demand in the market and they make their investment
1134 decisions – where to put those projects. It's a philosophical point and it doesn't have to go in
1135 here.

1136 Mr. Firestone: It confuses things and most people then will think . . .

1137 Ms. Bennett: Well, that's why I say offer both because then they have to choose between two
1138 things.

1139 Mr. Firestone: You know, I mean if you put solar panels on your roof and you sell the RECs,
1140 you're not really generating green energy.

1141 Mr. Anderson: Right. You can't say I'm green.

1142 Mr. Firestone: I mean you helped along and you, as you said, you spent extra money above
1143 market, then that's good but . . .

1144 Ms. van Boekhold: I have a suggestion. What if you take a stab at writing this paragraph and
1145 what if it would be one of the parking lot items that needs to be figured out?

1146 Mr. Firestone: Yeah.

1147 Ms. van Boekhold: Because there are strong feelings and I think actually it would be helpful to
1148 see what other cities are doing because there are two different ways of going at it, of how to
1149 promote it. Maybe we can have, let's, Jeremy, look at other cities and see what they have in
1150 their charters. What do they do?

1151 Mr. Anderson: Cities with their own electric utility is the key, obviously.

1152 Ms. van Boekhold: Yeah. So, let's see what we find and go from there. Because it would be
1153 helpful to kind of have some more . . .

1154 Ms. Huntley: But, but, okay, I think we should . . .

1155 Mr. Firestone: We know what utilities do.

1156 Ms. Huntley: Move on but I think a lot of cities actually do what Jeremy says, where they let
1157 people pay more to account for renewable energy and it doesn't make a lick of difference in
1158 their portfolio in the end.

1159 Mr. Anderson: And they sell the SRECs somewhere and it's funds to the operations somehow,
1160 and it doesn't have anything to do with more green energy.

1161 Ms. Huntley: Right.

1162 Mr. Firestone: I mean if the objective is to get more green energy, then you want people to
1163 retire the RECs. And we want to educate people that that's what they need to do.

1164 Ms. Bennett: I just see the RECs as a certificate, essentially a piece of paper, and people are
1165 trading them like all sorts of different valuable items. And, in my mind, and maybe this is, like I
1166 said it's a philosophical point and I'm not recommending that we change this. Like, you're
1167 going to edit the paragraph and that's fine.

1168 Ms. van Boekhold: And I can tell you that what, for example, Philadelphia is doing or what
1169 other communities are doing, Helga, they are looking into having community solar. So,
1170 community solar, a group of people will come and say, you know, there will be solar that is

1171 owned by the community or some non-profit and people will go there and say I want that
1172 electricity and the city has to make it work. So, that's a way to go around the way of double
1173 counting is community solar. That's why there is community solar in here because that's a way
1174 to promote it. Let's get community solar. Actually, you can go and get the share and the city
1175 will make the accounting work.

1176 Mr. Fortner: So, we have direction on F. Okay, do we want to go to E?

1177 Ms. Huntley: I have a comment on D. The word perceived has to go . . .

1178 Mr. Athey: I'm sorry.

1179 Ms. Huntley: Sorry, 1.2 D as in dog.

1180 Mr. Fortner: D as in dog? Okay.

1181 Ms. Huntley: We want to account for the perceived net loss as a matter of equity, and I think
1182 perceived has to go out. If there is only a perceived net loss, then we don't need to . . .

1183 Mr. Athey: So, just take out the word perceived?

1184 Mr. Firestone: Yes.

1185 Ms. van Boekhold: Oh, perceived. I have to think of like perceived as kind of like in reality.

1186 Ms. Huntley: Okay, you wanted to move to E?

1187 Mr. Fortner: Is that good?

1188 Mr. Anderson: I think this is stemming from an original discussion with the City with the Finance
1189 and Electrical Departments and there was a concept raised that if all of or a significant portion
1190 of the houses in town, residences in town, start buying solar power and we then can't sell them
1191 power, we're still maintaining the lines, so somehow . . .

1192 Ms. Bennett: So, it's a distribution fee.

1193 Mr. Anderson: Yes, they need to have a distribution fee and a generation fee, which is . . .

1194 Ms. Bennett: I would try to get as close to that phrase, distribution fee, as possible because
1195 that's something a lot of states already do regardless of renewables. They've started doing it in
1196 Maryland just because people won't trim their trees to keep the lines from coming down in
1197 storms and things.

1198 Mr. Anderson: Yes, exactly.

1199 Mr. Swiatek: See I was reading this that it was like a tax and it would discourage people from . .
1200 .

1201 Mr. Athey: I was just going to say this is where we're trying to make Goal 1.2 incentives and
1202 now this doesn't fit under an incentive.

1203 Mr. Swiatek: No, it's a disincentive.

1204 Ms. Bennett: It is, but also if the City can't maintain their lines, then you have a resiliency
1205 problem, as well.

1206 Mr. Athey: So, okay, well I would like to restructure it then to be more like above that. Not
1207 assess a fee but somehow implement something so that . . .

1208 Ms. Huntley: It applies to everyone.

1209 Mr. Anderson: Everybody, not just customers with solar.

1210 Mr. Athey: Take the monetary aspect out of it.

1211 Ms. van Boekhold: Actually, in Delmarva territory you always have generation and distribution.
1212 You get supply and distribution. So, already in other utilities, they divide up the distribution
1213 versus supply.

1214 Ms. Bennett: So, it might not be a huge issue and it might be something the City is worrying
1215 about but they haven't done anything yet. Because if they're already getting some kind of an
1216 existing distribution fee, maybe . . .

1217 Ms. Huntley: They aren't. The City is not splitting it out.

1218 Mr. Anderson: No, they just have one fee per kilowatt and a monthly charge depending on size.

1219 Ms. Huntley: But Delmarva splits is up.

1220 Ms. Bennett: Well, we're already recommending at the heart of this thing that they completely
1221 restructure . . .

1222 Mr. Anderson: Yeah.

1223 Ms. Bennett: So, I think it's fair to say the City has to get the distribution maintenance from
1224 somewhere and this isn't necessarily going to raise everyone's, hopefully it's not going to raise
1225 everyone's bill. But what it is, instead of just being a 1-kilowatt fee with like, well a charge with
1226 a couple of fees attached, you're just reorganizing things.

1227 Ms. van Boekhold: Actually, it would be better because right now if you have a net metering,
1228 basically the solar panel generation is being netted off against more generation and
1229 distribution. But if you are in Delmarva Power, they only pay you for supply. But the whole
1230 kind of equity if you have a solar you have to still pay for the infrastructure and distribution, if
1231 they split it, the income from generation would be less because now you've netted off the
1232 \$0.14.

1233 Mr. Firestone: Well, yeah, but Delmarva Power doesn't make a profit on their sale of electricity
1234 either.

1235 Ms. Bennett: Well, the City is not profiting from the electricity they're selling either. It goes
1236 into the City program.

1237 Mr. Firestone: They're profiting.

1238 Mr. Athey: It's a choice of how you want to define it.

1239 Ms. Bennett: It is an incorrect term for where that money goes. It's not going into someone's
1240 beach house.

1241 Mr. Firestone: Not, it's effectively a tax.

1242 Ms. Bennett: Yes. That's a good word.

1243 Mr. Firestone: They don't want to call it a tax but . . .

1244 Ms. Huntley: Okay, okay, but can we move on because that's beside the point?

1245 Mr. Anderson: But if you look at Item C, it sort of also talks of this idea, that the net metering
1246 program provides values to customers who invest in behind-the-meter generation while
1247 ensuring customers pay their fair share of community distribution grid services.

1248 Ms. Huntley: It's the same thing.

1249 Mr. Anderson: It's the same thing.

1250 Mr. Athey: It's the same thing.

1251 Mr. Anderson: But the point was raised here that they're Municipal Code or their rate structure
1252 should separate a distribution and generation, or supply.

1253 Mr. Firestone: There's actually two issues. There are separate issues. There's the cost and
1254 benefits to the grid putting solar and to the market. And those wash out pretty closely. But the
1255 issue is that the City charges above market rates for electricity and it funds itself through those
1256 above-market rates. And if you're not doing that, then it's like well I'm just not going to count
1257 30% of my property value toward property taxes and I'm going to be charged less.

1258 Ms. Bennett: Then the City is going to have to figure out how it's going to fund public safety and
1259 roads.

1260 Mr. Firestone: So, if they charge the market price for the electricity, then this equity question
1261 would mostly go away because there's peak shaving that solar does. There are some
1262 advantages to the rest of the customers . . .

1263 Ms. Bennett: But, in my mind, part of the equity problem is who puts solar panels on their
1264 house to benefit from those economic benefits? It's wealthier people.

1265 Mr. Firestone: Yes.

1266 Ms. Bennett: So, I think what this one was supposed to get at was that when you restructure
1267 how you're selling electricity, whether it's above market or not, because I think the community
1268 can have a conversation about if they're okay with paying a little more for electricity to fund
1269 public safety and roads. I mean, that's a local issue that's going to have to shake out. But
1270 setting that aside, if only wealthy people are putting solar panels on their house, you have an
1271 equity problem.

1272 Ms. Smith: Unless it's shared.

1273 Ms. Bennett: Unless there's some mechanism to address that in the way you structure the
1274 funding. The fees, the taxes, however you want to call it. So, in my mind, that's what this was
1275 trying to get at because we have this net-metering that gets at the topic but the equity one was
1276 trying to say like this isn't just a solar program for wealthy people who can put solar panels on
1277 their homes.

1278 Ms. Smith: Right.

1279 Mr. Anderson: That's what that phrase [inaudible] is supposed to bring up.

1280 Ms. Bennett: Because when I saw that word equity in there and I was trying to put it together
1281 with the rest of the sentence, I'm like that words not an accident but this is just tres super
1282 wonky. And then when you mentioned Part C, I said, okay, that's the one that's trying to
1283 address the fact that solar panels are expensive and that you can have all these economic
1284 benefits like peak shaving, not just the raw per kilowatt hour . . .

1285 Mr. Athey: Okay, I'm kind of seeing that several of these action items, I think, Michelle, you
1286 might have said we're already recommending a major overhaul of everything anyway and I'm
1287 not really even seeing these as separate action items. And maybe what we should do, and I
1288 know, Scott, you were the one who pulled it out as a goal, but maybe revising of Chapter 11 just
1289 becomes an action item either directly under 1.1 . . .

1290 Ms. van Boekhold: Is that the rate structure?

1291 Mr. Anderson: Yes, the rate structure.

1292 Mr. Athey: Yeah, it's just not . . .

1293 Ms. Smith: It sounds like bankruptcy.

1294 Ms. van Boekhold: But to be honest, I mean I don't know how you can have it as an action, but
1295 C, D, E are getting exactly at that rate structure.

1296 Mr. Athey: Right.

1297 Ms. van Boekhold: They're all like kind of that rate restructuring. And they all actually help
1298 level the market to kind of incentivize solar and EV, but also make them pay their fair share. So,
1299 I think the recommendations for C, D, E are look at them and say have the time-of-day rate, yes,
1300 because that values whatever peak shaving, assess monthly fee will come eventually when they
1301 divide the distribution and supply. There is always a flat distribution cost that comes through.

1302 Mr. Anderson: Yeah, there's always that charge.

1303 Ms. van Boekhold: So, all of these are in that rate restructuring. These are like how to
1304 restructure your rate to do these things. So, the action is restructure . . .

1305 Ms. Smith: So, is that the goal?

1306 Ms. Huntley: But I think it might be, I think the goal is to provide support, facilitate, however
1307 you want to say that, private renewable electricity generation.

1308 Ms. Bennett: Put in community solar.

1309 Ms. Huntley: Community solar is in 1.3. So, as part of that we want to restructure the rates.
1310 And I think we should include the details. I don't think we should replace C, D, and E by saying
1311 restructure the rates. I think we should keep C, D, and E.

1312 Ms. van Boekhold: These are details of how to restructure the rate, so we actually put time-of-
1313 day, net-metering, and divide into supply versus distribution and have a flat rate for your
1314 distribution infrastructure. So, all of that are in our suggestion of how to do that restructuring.

1315 Ms. Bennett: So, you could just say like City of Newark will restructure its rate. You can, you
1316 know, put parentheses Chapter 11, in a way that supports and incentivizes, you know, blah,
1317 blah, blah, blah. Because what it is, is now you're getting at it instead of saying, oh, the
1318 Municipal Code and people are already starting to fall asleep, but you're getting at the heart of
1319 what we're trying to do, right? And I don't mind just putting it out plain. I kind of want one of
1320 the Council members to jump out of their seat when they read that sentence.

1321 Ms. van Boekhold: I agree. And if you frame it the way that it will be incentivize and then this
1322 is our goal, we want to actually see more private solar, one is change your rate structure so it
1323 happens more [inaudible], put some money on the table. Meaning let's make sure we have
1324 incentives similar to other jurisdictions. So, then we can actually say restructure your rate,
1325 action #1. Action #2, make sure we have incentives similar to other jurisdictions.

1326 Ms. Bennett: And remove barriers, just in case.

1327 Mr. Anderson: Remove barriers, incentives, and provide access.

1328 Ms. Bennett: And keep some of that equity in there or it's just going to . . .

1329 Ms. Huntley: Yes, that's important.

1330 Ms. Bennett: It's sustainability . . .

1331 Ms. van Boekhold: This one actually worked out well with all the brain power that was . . .

1332 Ms. Smith: That's a lot of brain power, y'all.

1333 Ms. Bennett: Go team.

1334 Ms. Huntley: This is a really minor point, but I'm going to throw it out there anyway because
1335 otherwise I'm going to forget. In the green box at the bottom about McKees Solar Park, it says
1336 they get a monthly \$1 credit that is attributed to the blah, blah, blah. They get that for ten
1337 years and I think that needs to be specified that there's an end date.

1338 Ms. Smith: Oh, it expires after ten years?

1339 Mr. Firestone: Yeah, and it's non-transferable.

1340 Ms. Smith: You really want to own it.

1341 Mr. Firestone: No . . .

1342 Ms. Bennett: I don't blame you. You want to have that credit in your hands and just like put it
1343 on the bed and roll in them.

1344 Ms. Smith: Ten dollars?

1345 Mr. Anderson: I'm sorry, this McKees Solar Park, I still don't get it. We need to describe it
1346 accurately here because it's a cool thing, but I don't get the community, it's not like a true
1347 community solar.

1348 Ms. van Boekhold: It's not a true community solar power, exactly. It was the City investment in
1349 it. They call it a community solar. It was a City investment, City owned. No, it's not a
1350 community solar. The naming is a little confusing.

1351 Mr. Firestone: And some of it is donated money, as well.

1352 Ms. van Boekhold: Some of it is the money that was supposed to go to incentives, solar rebates
1353 to . . .

1354 Mr. Firestone: No.

1355 Ms. van Boekhold: Yeah . . .

1356 Ms. Huntley: Yes, and some of it came from that and some of it came from private donations.

1357 Mr. Firestone: Private donations. They sought private donations.

1358 Ms. Smith: They did sell a section or a panel or something like that you could buy.

1359 Mr. Anderson: Hey, but it's a good start. I mean we should talk about it.

1360 Mr. Firestone: We should.

1361 Mr. Athey: We are.

1362 Ms. Huntley: Okay.

1363 Mr. Athey: We have a little over 15 minutes left so I just want to make sure everybody is
1364 keeping track. Let's go to Item G on Page 12. This came out of the CAC meeting. Sheila, you
1365 might remember that George was more or less, George Irvine was more or less the only
1366 member who really spoke much at that meeting and he mentioned the purchase power
1367 agreements and possibly a carbon fee which, you know, the whole carbon fee thing, you know,
1368 we can't just say, oh, maybe do a carbon fee. Obviously, that would need a lot of context and I
1369 don't even know if a municipality doing it in the context of where we are is, but you know the
1370 CAC, we're supposed to be coordinating with them, so I didn't want to lose sight of it either.

1371 Mr. Firestone: We effectively have a carbon fee. It's about, I don't know, \$0.05 a kilowatt
1372 hour. I mean that's the . . .

1373 Mr. Athey: That's an interesting way to look at it.

1374 Mr. Firestone: Yeah, but it's used, it's the . . .

1375 Ms. Huntley: What are you talking about?

1376 Mr. Firestone: It's the profit. I mean it's effectively what I attach, or a carbon fee, or whatever
1377 you want to call it. It does work exactly the same way. With a carbon fee, the objective is not
1378 then just to take that money and address inequitable effects of putting that carbon fee on. But
1379 the City, instead, just uses it for general purposes. But it effectively is a carbon fee. I mean
1380 there's . . .

1381 Ms. van Boekhold: I want to say something. Power purchase agreement is a method of . . .

1382 Mr. Firestone: Procurement.

1383 Ms. van Boekhold: Procurement. So, I don't know how, like power purchase agreement, the
1384 individual, like all the solar cities have power purchase agreements. So, the City can't do
1385 anything really. I don't know what is the City's role. And in that proposal that JB and Dr. Chajes
1386 have, they are actually looking at different models, procurement models, including power
1387 purchase agreements. So, I don't know what George actually meant with power purchase
1388 agreement because residential and businesses, that's a way that you go buy a house, you can
1389 get a loan or whatever, and a carbon fee is a progressive idea. I mean I don't know, we want to
1390 put it on the sidebar that some communities look at a carbon fee, but it's very progressive. And
1391 remember we already pay [inaudible], which is a carbon tax. We all actually kind of indirectly
1392 pay. We pay it so we are actually in a region that we are paying some kind of carbon fee.

1393 Mr. Athey: True.

1394 Ms. van Boekhold: So, I don't see an additional benefit of recommending it because power
1395 purchase agreements, I mean there's nothing the City can do. We can all go do it, and then the
1396 consideration of power purchase agreement as a way to get more solar on their properties is in
1397 that recommendation, that proposal that is already being worked on. So, there are different
1398 economic models to go after getting the procurement.

1399 Ms. Smith: That's not a part of the Solar City Plan, a power purchase agreement?

1400 Ms. van Boekhold: My understanding is that they are looking at three different models. One of
1401 them was actually a power purchase agreement and then the other one is like if the City wants
1402 to own it, what would you do. So, my understanding is that's one of the models.

1403 Ms. Smith: So, we are removing this?

1404 Mr. Firestone: I'm real doubtful we're going to have less electric sales.

1405 Mr. Anderson: Me, too.

1406 Mr. Firestone: I mean if we're moving to electrifying our vehicle fleet and electrifying our heat
1407 system, we're not going to have so much rooftop solar that's even going to offset that. So,
1408 electric sales, if this plan is actually implemented fully, should go up . . .

1409 Mr. Athey: The point Scott's been trying to make for a while.

1410 Mr. Firestone: Because we're going to be procuring from distant sources of wind projects and
1411 solar fields.

1412 Ms. van Boekhold: But we are better off.

1413 Mr. Firestone: We are better off. I'm just saying that this is sort of a false premise.

1414 Ms. Huntley: Can we just take this out?

1415 Ms. van Boekhold: Just take it out.

1416 Mr. Athey: Honestly, I have zero problem in taking it out.

1417 Ms. van Boekhold: Let's take it out.

1418 Mr. Athey: I just wanted the committee to see this is what the CAC says so we vetted it and . . .

1419 Ms. van Boekhold: Yes.

1420 Mr. Anderson: The lessened revenue is a fear that percolates up around here and I believe it's
1421 false, like you said.

1422 Ms. Smith: It about scale.

1423 Ms. Bennett: Yeah, and I think that's as much an education campaign for City leadership,
1424 University leaders, and all of the above, more than something that this document is going to
1425 recommend. Now, we can mention it somewhere in there if there's any REC numbers, say
1426 projections for anything like that, whether it's nationwide, maybe not just Newark specific.

1427 Mr. Athey: Let's keep it more focused. The other item in green on Page 12, I highlighted that
1428 for the same reason and we already decided we're going to keep things where they belong and
1429 not pull it out elsewhere, so that's the reason that was highlighted.

1430 Mr. Anderson: Okay.

1431 Ms. Huntley: I have a question about Part A under Goal 1.3. I don't actually understand the
1432 purpose.

1433 Ms. van Boekhold: I actually thought we suggested that we will have a subcommittee of
1434 renewable energy experts, but it's not explained as a subcommittee. Remember we talked the
1435 last time about . . .

1436 Ms. Huntley: But what is it supposed to do?

1437 Ms. Bennett: Subject matter experts.

1438 Ms. van Boekhold: Subject matter experts. So, for example, as you come down, we kind of like,
1439 Conservation Advisory Committee kind of gets or has some control of how the funds, the Green
1440 Energy funds, are allocated. So, if they actually have at least a group that looks at it and says
1441 solar energy or renewable energy was a big part of our plan, kind of just, I think it came up, I
1442 don't know in the context last time . . .

1443 Ms. Bennett: Make sure they have all the expertise they need to pursue what can be a very
1444 complicated topic.

1445 Mr. Firestone: I mean their present expertise is more on nature conservation than it is on
1446 sustainability and . . .

1447 Ms. Huntley: It says to establish a renewable energy electricity commission. I would like to
1448 know what the purpose of this commission is.

1449 Mr. Athey: Yeah, I think that's to do what? That's what she's asking.

1450 Mr. Firestone: I think it's to provide . . .

1451 Ms. Bennett: To advise . . .

1452 Mr. Firestone: To advise the City Council . . .

1453 Ms. Bennett: About subject matter expertise.

1454 Mr. Firestone: I mean I'm sustainable electric transition, you know on the energy transition but
1455 there are other cities in DEMEC that have electric boards where they have people who have
1456 real expertise on utilities. And we just don't have that here.

1457 Ms. Huntley: But don't you think that people . . .

1458 Ms. Bennett: Why the purpose of it is, you know, so it comprises individuals with expertise or
1459 experience. I think we can just put that kind of end part . . .

1460 Ms. Huntley: But don't we have a whole Electric Department that has this expertise? So why
1461 do we need a voluntary body to supplement the paid expertise.

1462 Ms. Bennett: One is community and two is the City electric board may or may not be in
1463 alignment with some of the sustainability goals because some of them are hard. Some of them
1464 are big changes and they're scary. I think it's more to get community input and expertise into
1465 that process to help drive it through the CAC rather than going to the Electric, because if they're
1466 anything like our engineers on campus, they'll come and say, no, you're never going to get that
1467 done. And it's because they know the scale of it but also there's kind of the whole this isn't
1468 how things are done.

1469 Mr. Anderson: Yes.

1470 Ms. Bennett: So, I think the idea is to challenge some of the inertia that sometimes you get
1471 with folk who have been doing it for a really long time but have also run into a lot of problems
1472 and are not so enthused with all these changes.

1473 Ms. Smith: Because it says up here facilitate, innovate, pilot renewable energy projects, and
1474 that's something that a commission like this can do.

1475 Ms. van Boekhold: Can I ask a question? The electric utility board, how does that work? Is it
1476 something that, again, a commission, how does it work? Like, different Council people assign
1477 people to that electric commission?

1478 Ms. Huntley: I'm not aware of any electric commission.

1479 Mr. Anderson: There isn't one.

1480 Ms. Smith: And that's what Jeremy was saying . . .

1481 Ms. van Boekhold: Oh, we don't have one.

1482 Ms. Smith: The closest we get is George talking about that.

1483 Mr. Fortner: We don't have it.

1484 Ms. van Boekhold: Oh, so people from the Electric Department just kind of go to DEMEC and
1485 communicate with them.

1486 Mr. Fortner: It's all administrative . . .

1487 Mr. Anderson: And the City Manager. They're very involved with contracting for power and . . .

1488 Ms. van Boekhold: I see a value in knowing this because if City Manager and everybody is
1489 aligned in kind of getting more renewable, it would be really helpful for City Manager to go and
1490 say there is this board that is pushing, what can you do? It gives some ammunition in the City
1491 Manager's hand to say there is this board that really wants to see what you can do. Actually, I
1492 think I see that empowering to have this board.

1493 Ms. Bennett: That's exactly it. The idea of this commission or this board is to give ammunition
1494 to the CAC and other City institutions to say we need these changes. We need the changes, we
1495 need the changes, we need the changes. We need the innovation, we need the technology . . .

1496 Ms. van Boekhold: They will be the one to blame and hopefully kind of drive the change.

1497 Ms. Smith: Can I ask a question? You guys are clearly more involved in how this was put
1498 together but these are actions. They aren't mandated or anything, are they?

1499 Ms. Bennett: Recommendations.

1500 Ms. Smith: They're recommendations. Yeah, so if you look at the actions as recommendations,
1501 then this, and it might not even look the way that it's described here, but there's something
1502 there. I can say from what we do on the Conservation Advisory Commission, we just don't have
1503 the capacity, or we don't have the expertise in any way, shape, or form. I mean we have
1504 George and Ajay just left.

1505 Ms. Bennett: Yep, and we wanted to provide that. We wanted to give you guys more time
1506 resources, more expertise, more experience for whomever is on that board so that A, it's not
1507 adding to your burdens but B, if you don't happen to have members at any given time that,
1508 because these are very technical and complicated issues, you can go to them for advice, you
1509 can ask them questions. You can go look at this topic we want to look at and then have them
1510 come back and have a really high-quality answer.

1511 Ms. Huntley: So, I would like to remove the alternative of broadening the mandate of
1512 qualification of the CAC. I think this should be a separate body . . .

1513 Ms. Smith: I'm good with that.

1514 Ms. Huntley: That's going to be electrical expertise only. And I think we also should put
1515 something here as to what their mission is going to be.

1516 Mr. Athey: I definitely agree on the latter. Jeremy, you were on the CAC, no I'm sorry, you
1517 were Planning Commission. I'm sorry, I keep getting that confused. Sheila, you're on the CAC,
1518 does that . . .

1519 Ms. Smith: I'm on the CAC but so is Helga now.

1520 Ms. Huntley: I am now, too.

1521 Mr. Athey: Oh, really?

1522 Ms. Huntley: March 15.

1523 Mr. Athey: How many things are you going to serve on?

1524 Ms. Huntley: Well, I was hoping this would end sometime.

1525 Mr. Athey: You're not the only one. Okay, so you're okay with . . . well, you suggested it, so
1526 you must be. So, does that make sense to you, Sheila? Instead of broadening the CAC, that we
1527 would . . .

1528 Ms. Smith: I don't think, well, now we have Helga and she obviously understands it better than
1529 probably, like I said, we just have George and Ajay just left, so in terms of electricity, we've lost
1530 expertise and if it's going to become a broader, I mean if we're really going with this solar thing
1531 and we're looking at models, I can see that we don't have the . . .

1532 Ms. van Boekhold: Can I step back and say, you know, we actually look at this plan and when
1533 we talk about who is actually going to be the holder, who is going to keep the City and all of us
1534 accountable, we all thought the Conservation Advisory Committee is the body that's going to be
1535 the, what is it, the holder of this plan.

1536 Ms. Smith: Sure.

1537 Mr. Athey: Very good point.

1538 Ms. van Boekhold: Yeah, so actually this could be a subcommittee that works very close to CAC
1539 because CAC is going to be kind of like making sure, you know, that body that kind of gets that
1540 and says how are we doing? So, this would be in the service of CAC.

1541 Mr. Athey: You mean like work in conjunction with CAC?

1542 Ms. Bennett: One of the benefits of it staying with the CAC is that there are other sustainability
1543 initiatives aside from electricity and stuff that have really strong connections to what the CAC is
1544 currently doing, and you want the support of that body for all of the initiatives. But, for
1545 something really complicated and technical, a subcommittee that supports and provides those
1546 resources . . .

1547 Ms. Smith: Another level of expertise.

1548 Ms. Bennett: Because you guys could just delegate and be like go answer this question for us,
1549 come back and report. I mean, it's still more work but . . .

1550 Ms. Huntley: Like the Planning Commission did with this Parking Subcommittee.

1551 Mr. Anderson: Sure.

1552 Ms. Keller: That makes sense from a public outreach and engagement perspective, too. So, if
1553 the CAC is the owner and kind of also owning these other initiatives that are complimentary,
1554 then that ensures the engagement compliments it.

1555 Ms. Bennett: And the public doesn't have to dig up six different contacts for all these different
1556 sections.

1557 Mr. Athey: Okay, so in conjunction with or coordinate with, or something.

1558 Ms. Keller: I like that.

1559 Ms. Smith: Something I was thinking about as we were doing this, I was thinking so each one of
1560 these themes should include some form, and maybe it does, I haven't read the whole thing,
1561 some form of public education . . .

1562 Ms. Keller: Yes.

1563 Ms. Smith: Where it is one of the action items. There must be . . .

1564 Mr. Athey: That's a great idea.

1565 Ms. Smith: A public education piece to every one of these themes.

1566 Ms. Bennett: Absolutely.

1567 Ms. van Boekhold: And actually, this is a good one because I think that would with the part that
1568 we can go back to the state and say we need money because we need to hire someone to do
1569 the public education. Because that's a very tangible part of educating people of what these
1570 targets are and how we can achieve it and what we can do in educating them.

1571 Ms. Bennett: And with that role, you can collect a lot of engagement points, information,
1572 feedback . . . like, it's a two-way loop. So, you're putting information out, but you're also
1573 collecting it back.

1574 Ms. Smith: Right. How's it working . . .

1575 Ms. Bennett: And you make sure you're in touch with your community so in five years they're
1576 not like, that's not what we want, or one-year food is all the rage because there's a drought or,
1577 you know . . .

1578 Ms. van Boekhold: And public outreach actually can, if again, everything goes as planned and
1579 we get another back-up, you know, another grant, Michael could get us another grant, but it
1580 could be actually an online portal that also hosts this and communicates with people and
1581 pushes the stuff out there. So, it would be actually one of the most important and . . .

1582 Ms. Bennett: You're not going to be successful without it. Hands-down. It's just not.

1583 Ms. Keller: So, from an organizational perspective then . . . this is going to drive you nuts . . .
1584 maybe we should move the public engagement part back up to the front to sort of set the tone
1585 for what you'll see when you go through the different paths. You know, to say that we're
1586 endeavoring to create forms for two-way communication throughout the life of this process.
1587 Because as we're talking . . .

1588 Ms. Bennett: That's good.

1589 Ms. Keller: We'll talk about what we've done – Community Day, the workshops – and then sort
1590 of set it up. And then the stuff that will be in each of the four sections will be more tactical.
1591 You know, like inserts and, I mean I recognize that inserts . . .

1592 Mr. Anderson: Kind of a [inaudible].

1593 Ms. Keller: Yeah, something like that so that, you know, then they'll know the bigger picture
1594 before they're reading those.

1595 Mr. Athey: I like that.

1596 Ms. van Boekhold: I just want to, I have a couple more on Goal 1.3, on B, it says develop
1597 several models of local utility-scale renewable energy development such as community solar. I
1598 thought maybe it's too broad and maybe say invest in and support a pilot local utility-scale. In
1599 three years or five years, we want to actually see a pilot. So, how can we make that happen?

1600 Mr. Athey: It's certainly more measurable.

1601 Ms. van Boekhold: Yes. And then, like for example, the City would be assessed the feasibility
1602 and then we can say to conduct the study to assess. So, again, that's very specific.

1603 Ms. Smith: That's a good one.

1604 Ms. van Boekhold: And then, again, if there are funds available, if there are anywhere we
1605 know, this is our action item. We need to conduct a study at the three year or five year and we
1606 know, did we conduct the study? This is Option C under, so that was what I had. I also
1607 thought, and this is again you talk about I think it's very good that we have batter over there
1608 and battery back-up. It's one of the definitely more innovative ones. One of the things, again,
1609 because this is my world, too, one of the things that states are doing and smaller, more
1610 progressive cities, are actually giving incentives for battery back-up. So, maybe after three
1611 years, if we see one pilot, somebody is doing it at one of the schools, or I don't know, if the
1612 library . . .

1613 Ms. Huntley: I'm sorry, I missed your point about the study.

1614 Ms. van Boekhold: Number C says assess the feasibility. I said that actually put that as conduct
1615 a study to assess the feasibility.

1616 Mr. Anderson: Publish an assessment. Prepare and publish.

1617 Ms. van Boekhold: So, instead of assess, and we don't know who is doing the assessment, you
1618 know, how are you going to assess, we should say conduct a study . . .

1619 Ms. Huntley: To me, that's redundant. I mean if I'm assessing something, I'm studying the
1620 feasibility . . .

1621 Mr. Bennett: Publish an assessment?

1622 Mr. Anderson: You can study it forever.

1623 Mr. Athey: That's true.

1624 Ms. Huntley: I mean studying and assessing, to me, is sort of the same thing.

1625 Ms. Bennett: So, if you say something like publish a report, publish a . . .

1626 Ms. van Boekhold: Yeah.

1627 Ms. Bennett: Because then you'll have a document that says . . .

1628 Ms. van Boekhold: So, assess and publish, or assess and whatever. So, something that's
1629 deliverable.

1630 Ms. Huntley: Publish a feasibility study of installing blah, blah, blah. So, the key that you
1631 wanted to add is that there is a published document at the end?

1632 Ms. van Boekhold: True, and I thought conduct a study to assess, this will be something that,
1633 again, it could be . . .

1634 Ms. Bennett: Assess strongly implies but doesn't exclusively state that there is a document and
1635 a report analysis.

1636 Ms. van Boekhold: My goal was like kind of having it more solid, as what is it that we're getting
1637 at? And the hope was, again, that would be a need for funding from the state that's going to,
1638 like hey, this is an action item, can we look into that? So, this would hopefully be an action item
1639 that would be picked up with somebody at DelTech or the University, ideally. They actually got
1640 funding, part of the PEPCO merger [inaudible] was some kind of solar education study.

1641 Ms. Bennett: Great.

1642 Ms. van Boekhold: So, again, one thing that I'm almost surprised at how much money is out
1643 there.

1644 Ms. Bennett: Absolutely.

1645 Ms. van Boekhold: So, we do actually have funding.

1646 **4. MEETING RECAP AND NEXT MEETING DATE**

1647 Mr. Athey: Alright, I have a couple of minutes after six. I see a couple of people starting to get
1648 organized so where are we going at this point? Clearly, we still have a way to go. I don't really
1649 feel it would be wise, you know, I don't see us really doing anything at this point and kind of
1650 piecemealing the edits. I think this was a very helpful meeting and I think we're definitely
1651 making progress. It seems to me the best way, although we keep pushing the timeline back, is
1652 to basically arrange another meeting as soon as we can with the goal of getting through the rest
1653 of the document and then we prepare another . . . and hopefully that is really, really close.

1654 Ms. Bennett: Is it possible, and this is as much a question for you as the rest of us, to do like
1655 almost like a retreat? Life a half-day style of thing? I mean is that what you think it's going to
1656 take to get us over the line? We can have snacks.

1657 Mr. Athey: I can almost ask you guys. I think the energy continues to be the tougher one but
1658 we still have the other three to go as well as the rest of energy. I guess I was naively thinking a
1659 two-hour meeting would do it. Maybe that is a little . . .

1660 Mr. Anderson: We almost got through it.

1661 Mr. Athey: We almost did. And then we spent a half-hour on the vision, so . . .

1662 Mr. Anderson: Is there any contention about Goal 1.4?

1663 Ms. Huntley: I have some more comments, but I really have to run. I'm so sorry.

1664 Ms. Bennett: So, let's organize another meeting.

1665 Mr. Firestone: I think [inaudible]. I mean a half-day? Forget it.

1666 Mr. Athey: Could we, just again in the interest of, you know, meet at 3:00 the next time and
1667 whether we end at 5:00 or 5:30, but agree no later than 6:00.

1668 Ms. Smith: Okay.

1669 Mr. Athey: And that would be like a three-hour meeting. Although, seriously, I mean I'm
1670 hoping, and maybe naive, but do you think we could get through the remainder of one and the
1671 other three in a two-hour meeting?

1672 Ms. Ennis: No.

1673 Ms. Bennett: I will say this one has . . .

1674 Mr. Fortner: Paula . . .

1675 Ms. Ennis: And I'm not saying that in a negative way. I'm just saying that I don't think that
1676 you're going to get through three . . .

1677 Mr. Athey: You don't think it's going to happen?

1678 Ms. Ennis: I mean one is the biggest, but . . .

1679 Ms. Bennett: This particular topic is the biggest one so I think that there is a lot, and it's very
1680 complicated, so I think it does get a level of scrutiny. But I think the others are going to take
1681 some time, as well. I will say that you can look through here and there aren't as many of the
1682 green lines. If Helga is going to take a deep dive, she's absolutely going to point out ones that
1683 are repetitive and things like that.

1684 Mr. Athey: Right.

1685 Ms. Bennett: I think she's really keen to.

1686 Mr. Athey: I'll suggest that we try for a three-hour meeting, then. Really, if we do two more
1687 two-hour meetings, we're getting into like July or August now before we wrap this thing up an
1688 we've got to start bringing it to closure one way or the other.

1689 Ms. Smith: It's not sustainable.

1690 Mr. Athey: Mentally or . . .

1691 Ms. Smith: Either way.

1692 Ms. Bennett: Is the May workshop locked in?

1693 Mr. Fortner: No, it's not locked in, no.

1694 Mr. Athey: That's the other thing. We still need, you know, we still need input from the City,
1695 just literally line items, but then the City is really going to have to go through this . . .

1696 Mr. Anderson: There may be resistance on some things.

1697 Mr. Athey: There may be resistance. You know, we haven't even set the percentages yet, so
1698 there's still a ways to go.

1699 Ms. van Boekhold: Let's do three hours.

1700 Ms. Smith: I can do it. I'm going to run but whatever you guys come up with, I'll be able . . .

1701 Ms. van Boekhold: I'm hopeful, and then the transportation, it seems like we went through the
1702 majority of it. So basically, we have two major ones to go through and I'm hoping that
1703 everybody has read and prepared, and we can actually nail it down.

1704 Ms. Bennett: Just bring a lot of coffee.

1705 Mr. Fortner: I can bring coffee. We can do it in the morning, too.

1706 Mr. Smith: Cookies:

1707 Ms. Ennis: Coffee and sugar.

1708 Mr. Fortner: Pizza?

1709 Ms. Bennett: I'm okay with all of those options.

1710 Mr. Athey: Just to clarify, we can kind of be working on the stuff that we went over. I just don't
1711 think we should distribute another . . .

1712 Mr. Fortner: Are we looking at late April or early May?

1713 Ms. van Boekhold: What if we actually do a press release saying that we are working on the
1714 City sustainability plan, show this beautiful picture of what we were doing and just have a little
1715 bit out there that we are doing this?

1716 Ms. Bennett: That's a good idea.

1717 Mr. Athey: That's a great idea.

1718 There being no further business, the Newark Community Sustainability Plan Steering
1719 Committee meeting adjourned at 6:07 p.m.

1720 As transcribed by Michelle Vispi
1721 Planning and Development Department Secretary