

# Xcel Energy Partners in Energy

11/6/14

## Midtown Workshop 2

9:00-11:45am

Greenway Conference Rm

### Attendance

Emma Struss	Center for Energy and Environment, Facilitator
Jenny Edwards	Center for Energy and Environment, Facilitator
Emma Shriver	Center for Energy and Environment, Note Taker
Tami Gunderzik	Xcel Energy, Partners in Energy Program Manager
Tom Julik	Longfellow Community Member
Ross Joy	Community Organizer for Corcoran Neigh. Org
Lee Samelson	Community Activist
Joe Sturm	Housing and Environment Coord. for Longfellow Community Council
Robin Garwood	Aide to Councilmember Cam Gordon
Tim Springer	Community Power, Community Resident, Landlord
Lena Needham	Grand Aspirations
Abbie Plouff	Whittier Alliance
Trevor Drake	Metro CERT
Timothy DenHerder Thomas	Cooperative Energy Futures
Sarah Schaffer	CenterPoint Energy
Faith Cable Kumon	MCW Sustainability Initiative

## Meeting Notes

### Welcome

Overview of the program. Meeting will focus on what planning team members would like to see happen for the Midtown corridor. We will work on a vision of what you want for the program. Then we will get focused on what we actually want to do.

### Timeline

Two more planning workshops after this. No workshop in December. Next workshop January 7<sup>th</sup> from 9:00-11:30am. Following workshop on Feb. 11<sup>th</sup> from 9:00-11:30am.

### Overall Objectives

Planning process: Six months of planning with four workshops.

The Midtown corridor is the first community to participate in the Partners in Energy program.

Energy efficiency and renewables are all topics that we can make part of this process. There are some existing programs Xcel Energy and CenterPoint have. It will be harder to involve programs that don't exist yet, but right now nothing is off the table for discussion.

### Workshop 2 Objectives

**Objective 1:** Have a rough draft energy vision statement.

**Objective 2:** Delve deeper into Midtown energy data.

**Objective 3:** Narrow down focus areas for implementation.

**Objective 4:** Discuss strategies for saving energy.

**Objective 5:** Introduce topics for next time.

### Develop Energy Vision

Background: Two planning team members wrote up draft vision statements to act as launching off points for discussion. The group then read the two proposed vision statements and went around the table to hear what people identified with, would take out, or add to the statements. At the end of the discussion Faith agreed to take back all the ideas from the discussion and wordsmith a statement. Other is the group were interested in assisting her with this process.

### Vision Discussion

- Trying to be a role model and giving access to everyone and community wealth is really important to me.
- Likes the transformative role model piece. Equitable energy future, and community driven process.
- Neighborhood wide action and neighborhood engaged piece of it. What does accessibility means?
- Accessible- reworded to increase EE instead of just provide access
- I envision community owned solar gardens- renters etc. who don't have the opportunity to do solar panels
- A big part of accessibility is financing and making programs things that anyone with any amount of income can do.
- Transforming role model. I liked that you have to show what's possible. Transition towards clean instead of away from dirty. Keep it positive.
- Neighborhoods playing a key role in making sure the programs work with their areas. Highlight how we are going to do what we are doing and then end with an exciting push forward statement.
- I like the sentence focusing on keeping 100% of energy dollars in the local economy
- It's important to keep "how" statements in # 2. I liked the first one b/c it is more specific in identifying a magnitude of change. Need to have some projects and initiatives and examples of carbon neutral. Calling out carbon neutral as a core objective.
- We should think about how this will affect other resources and areas (bike parking)

- Really liked the numbers- who to define “keeping in the local economy”. None say measurable concrete goals for what we will work on right now.
- A little more detailed on community driven. Maybe some reasonable quantitative goals included.
- Midtown corridor will lead a transformative model for job creating and community energy. Wants other neighborhoods to do this and us to be a transformative role model.
- Reduction in energy cost- what communities would like to see. Addressing multifamily and renters. Diversity of users (business owners/ renters, residential)
- Through coordinated action through various neighborhood groups.
- Liked the local components and keeping resources in the neighborhood. Keep it positive. Should have something about a cooperative action and work. Important that a name is chosen that is representative to the group. Include something about resiliency in the face of climate change. Looking at resources that the utilities can provide and be a resource.
- Important role for spelling out not relying on the dirty energy sources
- Lay out what we want it to look like and be doing.
- Making use of objection.
- A vision that helps keep the focus down the line. If objectives help keep the focus then that will work in the vision statement.
- Important to talk about the stakeholders and partners in the statement (neighborhoods, residents, businesses, people who work here)
- Important to have something that you can remember- make it short and tight enough that you can remember what they mean.

**Action Item for Workshop 3: Faith will wordsmith the vision statement. Other planning team members will provide input and support.**

### Data

This is still draft data. We want this to be a collaborative process. Tell us what data you think would help you the best.

- What is the name? Geographic area is the 17 neighborhoods that border the midtown greenway. We will loosely use Midtown area for now.
- Electricity peak in winter? What are the things that cause it? Space heaters, lighting? Furnace fans?
- Industry is low electricity on the map because we just have less of it overall in the area. You are using a lot more per customer with commercial.
- Streetlights, water use and light rail- not included in this neighborhood data.
- Small business is definition of type of tariff they have. This is public assessor data. This does not include multifamily data.
- **Residential data: energy use intensity would be more helpful in the future. # of units and square footage.**
- **List of programs that count towards residential participation?**
- Next steps: use this data to set goals and find the savings are associated with those goals.

Develop strategies:

Split up into groups for 20 minutes-

IDEAS:

*Commercial:*

- Small buildings as having a lot of opportunity
- Challenge= split incentive- needs to be addressed
  - Put some data behind that? How many actually face this as an issue
- Small business coaching model: requires partnering with neighborhood association and businesses.
- One-stop program for businesses that includes renewable and goes beyond lighting.
- Service has to go find the business instead of visa versa.

*Residential:*

- Major opportunity: multi unit- target small-scale owner/ landlords. Highlight as case studies to get that conversations.
- Partner with neighborhood groups- problem with them already being at max capacity
- Address behavior and connecting with affordability
- Focusing on affordability as a hook or a guide.
- Language and cultural barriers as a barrier
- How to streamline all of the programs since there are a lot out there.

*Renewable:*

- Options for renewables. Solar is the main option.
- Pv specifically.
- Community solar gardens
- Eliminating some hurdles- getting out to promote the current programs that are happening (windsource, solar rewards, made in MN)
- Biggest hurdles: upfront cost (on-bill financing so everyone has it right on their utility bill)

Question: How can we all work together and help build that model of coordination among existing programs? From there we will see the weaknesses that we could then be communicated back to the PUC etc.