

Incorporation of CESMP into 2040 PWC Comp Plan – Energy & Electrification WG

I. HOUSING CHAPTER

H5.3: Promote construction design options to build sustainable, green neighborhoods.

Explore funding opportunities, design implications, and practical solutions to reduce residents' energy cost burden and encourage the housing industry to build environmentally sustainable housings.

Propose new Green Zoning Regulations to encourage energy-and-water-efficient buildings, multifamily and mixed-use areas and transit-oriented developments, Revise current zoning policies to require or encourage developers to abide by sustainable development practices.

H5.7: Support Coordination between County and state departments and agencies and utility companies to improve outreach and access to funding that supports home/improvement and maintenance, including energy efficiency audits, upgrades and retrofits, weatherization assistance, solar panel installation, and age in place maintenance and construction; streamline permitting process. Develop centralized webpage and tools for residents and businesses to identify relevant federal, state, and utility incentives, Commercial Property Assessed Clean Energy (C-PACE) information, County government programs and other resources.

II. ENVIRONMENT CHAPTER

EN13.8 (New): Develop a net-zero emissions building plan for County government facilities, to include an energy benchmarking program and procurement of 100% clean electricity for all County government operations.

EN 13.9 (New): Develop solar projects on County government facilities through direct ownership or third-party ownership models such as power Purchase Agreements (PPAs)

EN-POLICY 14: Provide recognition and incentives for energy conservation and electrification at non-government facilities and residences.

EN14.4 (New): Propose green zoning regulations to encourage energy and water efficient buildings, electrification, multifamily and mixed-use areas, and transit-oriented developments.

EN14.5 (New): Encourage developers to build to a more energy-efficient standard set by County government and use all-electric systems and equipment.

EN-POLICY 15: Provide recognition and incentives for renewable energy application and electrification at non-government facilities and residences.

EN15.1 (New): Encourage the use of renewable energy in energy-intensive commercial buildings, e.g., data centers, through a voluntary reporting program or expedited permitting. As commercial building electricity use is forecast to generate roughly 28% of county-wide emissions by 2030, encouraging emission reductions in this sector is crucial to meeting the county's 2030 GHG reduction target.

EN15.8 (New): Provide outreach and education on programs and incentives for residents and businesses to install renewable energy systems, such as solar tax credits, community solar programs, net metering, the multifamily shared solar program, solar renewable energy certificates, and Solarize NOVA. Develop additional local renewable energy incentives, such as streamlined solar permitting, in partnership with stakeholders such as the Residential Solar Task Force and local utilities. This would include a centralized tool for residents and businesses to reference relevant federal, state, county, and utility incentives and programs.

EN-POLICY 16: Provide leadership by example and education in the areas of energy efficiency, demand response, renewable energy application, and electrification.

EN-POLICY 17: New) Substantially Increase the Availability and Use of Clean Electricity Sources in the County

EN-17.1 (New): Promote existing utility green power options within communities. Green power products allow customers to purchase renewable or clean electricity on a month-to-month basis through an added fee on their utility bill. Both Dominion and NOVEC offer 100% renewable electricity options.

EN-17.2 (New): Investigate offering an opt-out program in which electricity customers would automatically be enrolled in 100% clean electricity programs but can opt-out to revert to a traditional service and electricity energy source mix. This action could significantly reduce countywide electricity emissions, depending on how many customers opt-of the traditional service, and the mix of clean energy in the traditional service.