

Colerain Township
Community Strategic Energy Plan
Steering Committee Meeting
11/27/17 6:00

AGENDA

1. Introductions

2. Overview of the Planning Process

Andy Meyer introduced what an Energy Plan is, why OKI is involved in this project, and what the expected outcomes of the project will be. He also covered the range of topics the plan would encompass and the expected schedule for each task in the planning process.

3. Community Energy Use Analysis

Andy Meyer showed charts illustrating the overall electric and natural gas use in the Township by land use and business sector. The most significant use of both was residential. There was a question raised if this is typical. It is typical that residential is the largest energy user in a community. The mix of business categories would vary from community to community. Colerain's leading business users for electricity and natural gas is retail, transportation and utilities, and service industries. The only thing of note is the Wholesale Trade category, which wasn't even large enough to register on the electricity chart, made up 5% of the total natural gas use – the fourth highest non-residential user.

4. Drafting a Mission Statement

Andy Meyer led the committee in discussing issues and topics the committee felt were of importance to the Township. Those mentioned were:

- Would like to be a more complete community – live, work, shop play. Would like to see more jobs / manufacturing to balance the retail.
- A big advantage is the Township's relatively affordable housing
- There are areas of ageing housing stock that are inefficient
- Have to drive everywhere – no sidewalks, very limited transit
- Would like to be friendly to alternative energy sources – residential wind and solar, more so wind is difficult to square with the zoning code.
- Energy efficient Township Facilities
- Energy efficient street lighting along Colerain Ave.

5. Facilities Assessment

Rob McCracken of Greater Cincinnati Energy Alliance introduced what is involved in a Facilities Energy Audit. Colerain recently had a Facilities Energy Audit on some of their facilities. Mr. McCracken expressed interest in seeing the results of that audit.

6. Community Involvement

Andy Meyer brought up that part of the planning process would involve reaching out to the public for input through a survey and a public meeting. He then asked for the best avenues to reach out to residents. The Township has an email newsletter and Facebook for communicating with residents. The point was made about how difficult it might be to get residents interested in the energy topic, and perhaps a giveaway could stoke interest in participating. It wasn't determined if a giveaway prize could be offered.

7. Next Meeting

The next meeting would fall the week of 12/18. Some steering committee members noted that Mondays generally aren't convenient for them. It was also noted that Trustee Meetings fall on Tuesdays and BZA on Wednesdays.