

Delhi Township  
Community Strategic Energy Plan  
Steering Committee Meeting  
11/4/19 5:00

**Meeting Notes**

**Attendees:**

Cheryl Sieve, President, Board of Township Trustees  
Jack Cameron, Township Administrator  
Greg DeLong, Community Development Director  
Josh Torbeck, Township Parks Director  
Marty Schultes, Delhi Business Association  
Charlie Fehr, Township Zoning Commission  
Andrew Mattei, Township BZA  
Bob Murphy, Resident  
Rob McCracken, Greater Cincinnati Energy Alliance  
Andy Meyer, OKI Regional Council of Governments

1. Introductions

All attendees introduced themselves. Mr. Meyer provided background on the Energy Plan Project and its goals.

2. Outline the Planning Process

Mr. Meyer provided an overview of the process, including public participation, Township facilities assessment, and the process of drafting, reviewing, and adopting the plan.

3. Discussion of Broader Planning Issues in Delhi Township

Mr. Meyer asked those present to talk about the important attributes of Delhi and planning issues it might be facing, whether there might be a connection to energy or not. Those listed were:

- Expecting redevelopment along Delhi Pike. The township is eager to employ better practices, including encouraging development that's energy efficient.
- Delhi has ageing housing stock. The township is looking for ways to encourage improvements that keep houses attractive in the marketplace. The township updated its zoning code to address solar and wind energy. There is some new residential construction, mainly occurring as infill development.
- There is a desire for more walking and biking connections in the township. High on the list is a connection from MSJ campus to the business district. Distance is one mile and MSJ runs a shuttle bus service.

#### 4. Discussion of Energy Plan Materials Packet

Mr. Meyer turned the group's attention to the packet of data and analysis provided to the group prior to the meeting.

There were questions about how the government energy use was categorized – making it difficult to identify an individual building's energy use. There was also the question of whether the streetlight category also included traffic signals.

There was discussion about how the Township can be effective in helping residents reduce energy use. The Township has a utility aggregation program, and recently participated in the GCEA's Get Efficient program. The Township looks to embrace the role of being a conduit of information about programs and information that can help residents and businesses save energy and money.

Mr. Meyer presented that most of the houses in Delhi were built from the 1950's through the 1970's. During this time, a few key changes happened in residential construction. Houses in the 1950's generally did not have air conditioning, and heat was delivered via gas boiler. Also, energy was cheap, so homes of this era didn't feature much, if any insulation. Air conditioning and forced-air HVAC systems became more commonplace in the 1960's. The fuel crisis of the early 1970's began the trend of insulation being an important feature in home construction.

#### 5. Discussion of Options for Public Outreach

Mr. Meyer stated that public outreach will be an emphasis in the planning process, accomplished with a website, with a survey promoted by social media. Ms. Sieve asked about the timing. Mr. Meyer said that the outreach and survey would occur in December, with a draft complete in January. Unfortunately, the schedule is pushing the outreach to occur during the Holidays.

#### 6. Discussion of Focus for Facility Assessment

Mr. McCracken discussed energy use at local government facilities. Mr. Cameron expressed some surprise at the distribution of energy use, particularly at the Administration Building. Mr. McCracken said he would look into it further, but that when he compared the numbers with typical office use, it made sense to him at that time.

#### 7. Final thoughts / questions

Mr. Meyer outlined next steps as beginning the public involvement and drafting a mission statement. Mr. McCracken will provide a more detailed accounting of facility energy use. The full group will meet again to react to the draft plan following the public involvement.