Agenda

Welcome & Opening Remarks

Review of May 26, 2021 Meeting Minutes

News from the RIEC4

Discussion of June 3rd Presentation to EC4 and Review of Climate Justice Priorities

Discussion of Dashboard for the Act on Climate

Other Business/Announcements

Public Comment

Future Meetings

Adjourn
REVIEW MINUTES
REPORT FROM EC4
EC4 ADVISORY BOARD

REPORT TO EC4
JUNE 3, 2021
EC4AB Future Priorities

• Continue review of Climate Justice Goals
• Review of dashboards for Act on Climate implementation
• Other Act on Climate implementation
• Climate justice and anti-racism training
• Connect with other state climate programs (MRP, Tree Equity)
• Develop annual report
21 PEOPLE SURVEYED

YOUTH ORGANIZATION, ENVIRONMENTAL GROUPS, ENGINEERS, MUNICIPAL LEADERS, AFFORDABLE HOUSING LEADERS, DEVELOPERS, PLANNERS, FOOD AND FISHERIES, SUSTAINABILITY LEADERS

7 Interviewers

Interviewees:
2 women of color

12 white women

7 white men
Interviewee Recommendations of Organizations Which Should Be Included in Reviewing the State’s Climate Justice Priorities

- Advocacy organizations (NAACP)
- Municipal leaders: League of Cities & Towns, local elected officials, boards and commissions (Newport Energy and Environment Commission, Providence ESTF), the American Planning Association RI Chapter
- Emergency management officials (RI Association of Emergency Managers, RIEMA, PEMA)
- RIPTA users, transit advocates, bike/ped advocates
- Housing justice groups, housing equity, homelessness advocates
- Organizations representing people with low-incomes and people of color (e.g., Progresso Latino)
- Trade/technical schools, environmental education groups
- Environmental justice community members across the state (REJC, Wiley Center, One Square World, Health Equity Zones)
- Youth organizations (Youth In Action, Movement Education Outdoors)
- Environmental organizations (New England Grassroots Environment Fund, WRWC, Save The Bay, Clean Ocean Access, Audubon, Save Bristol Harbor)
- Food sovereignty groups, food policy advocates, farmers
- Workforce development organizations (Groundwork RI)
- First nations
- Academic partners
EARLY THEMES

- Provide clear definitions, values, acknowledgements and principles
- Prioritize this work with staffing and training
- Meet people where they are
- Proceed at the pace of trust
- Address cumulative impacts
- Acknowledge and rectify
- Representation matters on state boards and decision-making groups
- Partner with community-based organizations and compensate them
- Move toward collaborative governance with environmental justice communities
KEY CONSIDERATIONS

- Long term structural and systemic forces at play
- Limitations of the role of the Advisory Board
- Engage expertise needed to center marginalized communities most affected by climate injustice
- Advertise broadly for candidates to appoint to the Advisory Board
- Leverage federal investments and private resources
- Align within and across existing state programs to advance climate justice
- Apply the themes broadly across state government
- Mobilize at a scale adequate to the challenge
STRATEGY TO FINALIZE REVIEW OF DRAFT CLIMATE JUSTICE PRIORITIES
DASHBOARD FOR ACT ON CLIMATE
ACT ON CLIMATE DASHBOARD REQUIREMENT

• Foster public transparency by developing public metrics and an online public dashboard that shall track both emissions reductions and sources of energy consumed by the state.
• The metrics and the dashboard shall be updated at least annually.
Transportation Emissions by County

Year: 2005

Rhode Island is working to combat climate change on many fronts, and this dashboard is designed to highlight a handful of key metrics.

93% toward the goal of increasing RI’s clean energy tented by 2030.

WHY IT MATTERS:
A 400MW offshore wind farm can produce approximately one-quarter of all the electricity used by Rhode Islanders annually—without contributing to climate change through greenhouse gas emissions.

582% Electric vehicles in Rhode Island have increased 582% from 2015 to the end of 2020. There are now 3,028 electric vehicles in Rhode Island.

WHY IT MATTERS:
Electric vehicles (EVs) are powered by electricity, which as an energy source is cleaner than gas. They produce less pollution than a conventional gas-powered vehicle. Reduced harmful tailpipe pollutants is good news for our health—better air quality will lead to fewer health problems and costs caused by air pollution.
OTHER BUSINESS
FUTURE MEETINGS
LAST WEDNESDAYS OF THE MONTH
10:30-NOON

- July 28
- August 25
- September 29
- October 27
- November/December - TBD
Meeting materials will be posted on the EC4 Advisory Board webpage

climatchange.ri.gov/state-actions/ec4/ec4-council/advisory-board.php
PUBLIC COMMENT
- PLEASE COME ON VIDEO OR TYPE COMMENTS IN THE CHAT -
CLOSE