

**CONNECT Infrastructure and Utilities
Working Group:
Climate Action Planning Subcommittee
Meeting**
Monday | Mar. 14th, 2022 | 12:00pm
Via Zoom



Municipal Attendees: Patty DeMarco, Forest Hills; Andrew Flynn, Mt. Lebanon; Shawn Alfonso-Wells, Swissvale

Other Attendees: Sawyer Sidelinger (Sustainable Pittsburgh), Philip Long (Duquesne Light), Lucyna De Barbaro, Jim Price (Sustainable Pittsburgh)

CONNECT/GSPIA Attendees: Eric Raabe, Sarah Downing, Lydia Morin, Joseph Marlitt

Minutes

1. Introductions & Review Meeting Agenda

- Attendees filled their names, organizations in the chat, CONNECT reviews meeting agenda
- Many of us couldn't make it this month – if you couldn't, view [the recording](#) of the presentations here!

2. Presentation & Discussion: DLC Announcement & New LED Streetlight Info for Municipalities with Philip Long, Duquesne Light Company

- Announced a new customer streetlight outage portal on DLC's website. The portal can be found [here](#). You can enter your street address and fill out a brief questionnaire. Streetlight repairs are currently running at about 7-10 days depending on area.
- Smart Streetlight Program will be a 5–6-year program to change all lights to LED. Lights will be able to be dimmed and metered in the future.
- There have been issues of not contacting DLC when connecting cameras to their grid
- Swissvale: If cameras are already up and need repaired, does DLC need contacted?
- DLC: Yes
- Sustainable Pittsburgh: Possible equity issues of roll-out of new LED streetlights, has that been brought up?
- DLC: Still in discussion on where and when; will work on outskirts of access points and then work in, and focus on smaller communities first
- Sustainable Pittsburgh: LED's had higher tariffs in the past; will changes not occur until new tariff comes out?
- DLC: Yes
- Forest Hills: Converting to LED should draw less power, but the tariff is per streetlight regardless of type, correct?
- DLC: No, an LED will have different costs; there should be decrease in costs
- Sustainable Pittsburgh: Will existing LED lights be removed for newer ones that will dim?
- DLC: No, existing LED lights will not be needed to be replaced
- Sustainable Pittsburgh: Is it possible to connect air quality monitors to DLC light-posts?
- DLC: There are initiatives that we are looking at

3. Presentation & Discussion: Opportunity to Target Residential Areas for Energy Efficiency with Lucyna de Barbaro, Efficiency Advocate

- Energy audits for neighborhoods using aerial snow maps. Homes without snow on the roof can show poor insulation and escaping heat. Air leakage can be responsible for about 30% of energy loss in Pittsburgh homes. Many homes have inadequate attic insulation. Improving air sealing in attic is the best place to

start in improving energy use in older buildings. Impactful for cost savings in unimproved homes, along with comfort and resilience. Snow maps can reveal these issues and help residents find solutions.

- Mt. Lebanon: Interested in how a municipality can make this into a workable program with resources
- de Barbaro: Definitely needs to be developed and strategically planned out
- Forest Hills: Revealing costs and incentivizing participation is a big barrier to making such a program successful, along with properly triaging issues
- de Barbaro: Identifying savings and public engagement will be important
- CONNECT: If a municipality wants to work on snow maps, what are the next best steps
- de Barbaro: Probably best to start with one community; working with appropriate utility companies on efficiency improvements is another way
- Mt. Lebanon: This might be an ideal program for an Ecodistrict
- Can reach out to Lucyna at ldebarbaro@cityofpittsburgh.org

4. **Wrap-Up/Reminders/Other Items**

- Next Meeting: Monday, April 11th, 12-1PM.
- ADJOURN