

## Commercial Building Energy Labeling Working Group

3/13/2020

Meeting Notes

### Approval of Minutes from 2/14/20 meeting

- Approved by voice vote without changes

### Residential Building Energy Labeling Working Group Update (Keith Levenson)

- Realtor has provided good feedback on how to present the information on the profile for the average homeowners to understand. Subcommittee updates: Impact subcommittee is collecting national studies, which we could share with CBELWG; Scores and Reporting, discussing requirements for data that would be made available; Assessors Subcommittee, who can input data and what are their certifications.
- Discussed the ability for homeowners to change the data in the tool, even if its from a professional audit. Then it would say that it was homeowner generated instead.

### Report Outs from Subcommittees (Keith Downes)

- Building Performance Reporting Subcommittee
  - Mike Russom – Call with Overley Consulting
    - Vendors are able to provide soups to nuts solution. They have proprietary software that is used for benchmarking/labels. Front end user interface layered over Energy Star Portfolio Manager (ESPM)
    - They have seen increased efficiency work resulting from benchmarking. Just instituting ordinance makes people want to reduce energy use.
    - Concern about privacy – to protect privacy of individual owners/units, many jurisdictions have a 4-unit threshold with no one unit accounting for more than 50% of use for reporting of multi-unit building energy usage.
    - Metrics – EUI, square footage, etc.
    - They will provide a high-level estimate of what a package would cost. (Dan Edson) – recommend we put out an RFI to these vendors to see what the costs are.
    - For next meeting, Mike R was going to talk with ICF consulting, Jen G. will talk to Cambridge consulting
    -
- Building Assessors Subcommittee
  - Did preliminary research on who is doing what. BPI certification good for Multifamily. Do they have analogous certification for commercial?
  - Need to understand timing. Will this be required at point of sale, or required for all multifamily or commercial buildings? Would this be phased in over time? Group agreed that waiting until time of sale to get the building information is too late.
  - Maybe start with owner inputting data, but move towards verification of the inputs at some point? Which service providers would be appropriate candidates to do assessments?
  - Dan E.: A hired service provider that helps building owner to upload data would prime the process.
  - Randy D will be lead in Paul Z's absence.
  - Question for Research Group: How do we get tally of commercial buildings in Vermont?

- Management Subcommittee Mike Crowley lead
  - A lot is dependent on the recommendations of the other subcommittees, e.g. What certification is required to produce label?
  - What level of oversight is occurring in other states? What is the appeal process in other states? (Research group)
  - Will building owners pay for costs? Will costs be subsidized, and if so who will fund?
  - Impact – is there studies elsewhere that speak to this? (Research group?) Recommend a methodology for measuring the impact when implemented.
  - Like the idea of a vendor collating and storing building data.
  - Management group will come up with a Schedule for field testing, reporting back to legislature. Schedule will include phasing, but there won't be dates.
  - Questions for Group 1: what credentials required in other states?
  - Also would like case studies of benchmarking reducing costs. (Dan E. said he could provide several examples)

#### **Review and Refine CBELWG Workplan and Schedule** (Mike Crowley and Keith Downes)

- Each subgroup will need to write up recommendations, narrative to provide for the report. The full group will then need to discuss and decide on what the final recommendations are for the report.
- May shift some of the subcommittee recommendations in the workplan. A revised workplan will be sent out to the group.

#### **Discussion / Next Steps**

- Will the PSD be able to set up a Sharepoint site for document sharing? What about providing access to studies, etc.
  - PSD can post studies, etc. on website
  - Dan E. will set up sharepoint site for use of the group. Will send out and see if everyone can access.
- Will discuss Energy Star Portfolio Manager at next meeting and then updates from subcommittees.
- Given coronavirus concerns will plan on having next two meetings via Skype and not in-person.