

DISCUSSION NOTES Tuesday, March 19, 2019 @ 5:30pm
COLUMBIA ENVIRONMENTAL ADVISORY COMMITTEE
Adella G. Urban Administrative Offices Conference Room

Members Present: Bryan Tarbell, Carole Williamson, Andrea Drabicki,

Members of the Public Present:

Members Absent: Carol Coley

Guests: Mark Walter

EAC discussed reaching out to Electrify America (EA). As a result of Volkswagen emissions scandal, VW settled for a fine that consists of a 2 billion investment into sustainable infrastructure. The development is being administered by EA. Bryan will reach out to EA to measure potential for electric vehicle charging stations by EA within Columbia. Two locations were considered 1) Rte 6/66 intersection (due to the heavy traffic flow) and 2) a locations more central to Town, possibly at the Beckish Senior Ctr. Residents could charge their vehicles and access amenities within town such as the library, school, fire department, and or banks.

- The Senior Ctr currently uses a van for all of their transportation, including for single passenger medical visits. A dedicated smaller 'Med Car' could be used to transport residents to doctors appointments in the future. Funding source would need to be established for the purpose of the vehicle.
- Could this medical vehicle be purchased with the VW settlement money?

Columbia BOE contracts with First Student??

Steve Piero - PE teacher / recreation committee PE bike safety training

Mark Volza - transfer over bike/walk Columbia website, facebook page.

Striping company - George can help cost out (paint and labor) to stripe Lake Road to Hennequin Road and a portion of Eridoni Road. Wark W. suggested to research narrow sections of road where pedestrians may feel confined to the road / unable to make room for a vehicle (typically where there are sections of guardrail or over drainage culverts). Mark also suggested we research appropriate distances to maintained when planning lines.

Columbia View - April 6th internal deadline. Mark W. encouraged writing an article.

Earth Day event at Senior Center - documentary April 27th? The movie suggested is, Chasing Ice. This is a documentary about photographing glaciers. Bryan T. Discussed event with Bernadette Derring (Beckish Director) who indicated she will schedule a room that the EAC can use for the movie. EAC is free to provide refreshments (pastries and coffee). EAC will offer a follow up discussion regarding movie topics and general sustainability questions (Sustainable CT initiatives?)