50x30 Team September Report

Steve and Pat Miller, Co-Leaders

In early August the team finalized a draft of a letter we intend to send to Gov. Murphy with our recommendations on steps to take to reduce GHG emissions in the state by 50% by 2030. The recommendations are the following:

* Define and codify steps required for NJ to achieve 50% GHG reduction by 2030.
* Mandate that each municipality create a 10-year energy and emissions reduction plan, with help from a state-supported resource center.
* Take rapid steps to achieve 100% clean electricity by 2035.

We sent a draft of the letter to Murphy’s Energy and Environment Policy Advisor, Hannah Thonet, with whom we had earlier contact, and asked for her input to clarify the letter, prior to sending the letter to the Governor. On Sept 15, 10AM, our team of authors is meeting with Ms. Thonet to discuss the letter.

The 50x30 Team also planned individual actions for contacting our federal elected officials as part of the “Tell Congress: Build Back BOLDER, Align infrastructure for Climate, Jobs, & Justice!” (Climate Reality Project’s Our Climate Moment). Many environmental organizations demanded “Climate Action Now” be included as part of current Congressional bills. Our “Climate Action” was to distribute and ask about 400 people to send an email letter originated by Sierra Club asking our federal Senators and Representative for big, bold climate action in the infrastructure budget reconciliation bill.

Met Aug 25 with Ron Petherbridge, to advise on how Sustainable Jersey City might achieve 50% GHG reductions by 2030 (on path to NetZero by 2050).

On Sept 3, the “50 x 30 Team” held a “Lobby Meeting” via Zoom with Frank Pallone’s staff member Miranda Peterson. 21 people registered to attend. 12 people attended the Zoom conference. Each of five participants drafted a script, and rehearsed by stating rationale, and then “ASKing” for specific features of the House Energy and Commerce Committee’s “Clean Future Act” be included or enhanced for the budget reconciliation bill (now called “Build Back Better Act”). (Portions of Rep Pallone’s “Clean Future Act” are prime candidates for inclusion in the “Build Back Better Act”.)

The "50 x 30 Team" next monthly meeting is Sep 23, 07:00 PM EDT (all are welcome). <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/86502168329?pwd=RzVJbm9aZGlPOG1TNVh6Ym9EMFU0Zz09>  
Audio-only +1 929 205 6099; Meeting ID: 865 0216 8329 Passcode: 912113

Agenda:

* Review status of our municipal, state, and federal initiatives
* Discuss using highlights of the UN COP26 UN Climate Change Conference, Oct 31-Nov 12, 2021 in Glasgow, UK as a means to recruit people to join our “50 x 30 Team”