
**Gwinnett County Sustainability Commission
Meeting Minutes**

Wednesday, November 17, 2021

Department of Transportation (DOT) Central Facility
620 Winder Highway, Lawrenceville, GA 30046
DOT Central Training Room

Present: Laura Hernandez, Daniel Hilton, Krupesh Patel, Dr. Marshall Shepherd

Absent: Venus Singh

1. Call to Order

Laura Hernandez, Chairperson, called the meeting to order and welcomed everyone at 4:33pm.

2. Approval of Agenda

{Action: Approved; Patel; Second: Shepherd; Vote:3-0; Hernandez-Yes; Patel-Yes; Shepherd-Yes; Absent: Singh; Hilton}

3. Approval of Minutes

The October 20, 2021, meeting minutes were approved.

{Action: Approved; Patel; Second: Shepherd; Vote:3-0; Hernandez-Yes; Patel-Yes; Shepherd-Yes; Absent: Singh; Hilton}

4. Presentation on Ready for 100

Dr. Scott Presson, Volunteer Environmental Advocate, presented an overview of Ready for 100. Ready for 100 is a movement of people working to inspire local leaders to embrace a vision of a healthier Georgia powered by 100% clean energy.

<https://www.sierraclub.org/ready-for-100>

5. Presentation on The Ray

Allie Kelly, Executive Director, The Ray. Presented an overview of The Ray. GCSC members asked for suggestions how Gwinnett County could participate in the program. Few items suggested: rubberized asphalt, connected road striping, tire safety check station, and right-of-way solar. <https://theray.org>

6. Internal Sustainability Sub-Team Presentations:

Transportation and Air Quality

Tom Sever, Assistant Director, Gwinnett County Department of Transportation, presented an overview of Transportation and Air Quality such as current internal county practices and initiatives.

7. Public Comments

Angela Jiang called in. Request county leaders to consider pursuing public launch of Ready for 100.

8. Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at 6:17pm

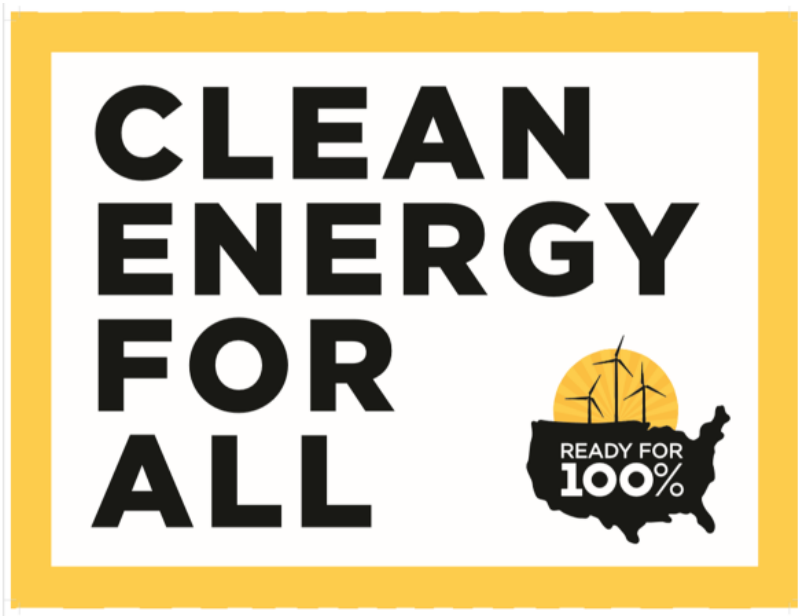
{Action: Approved; Hilton; Second: Patel; Vote:4-0; Hernandez-Yes; Hilton-Yes; Patel-Yes; Shepherd-Yes; Absent: Singh}

Gwinnett Ready for 100 Clean Energy Initiative

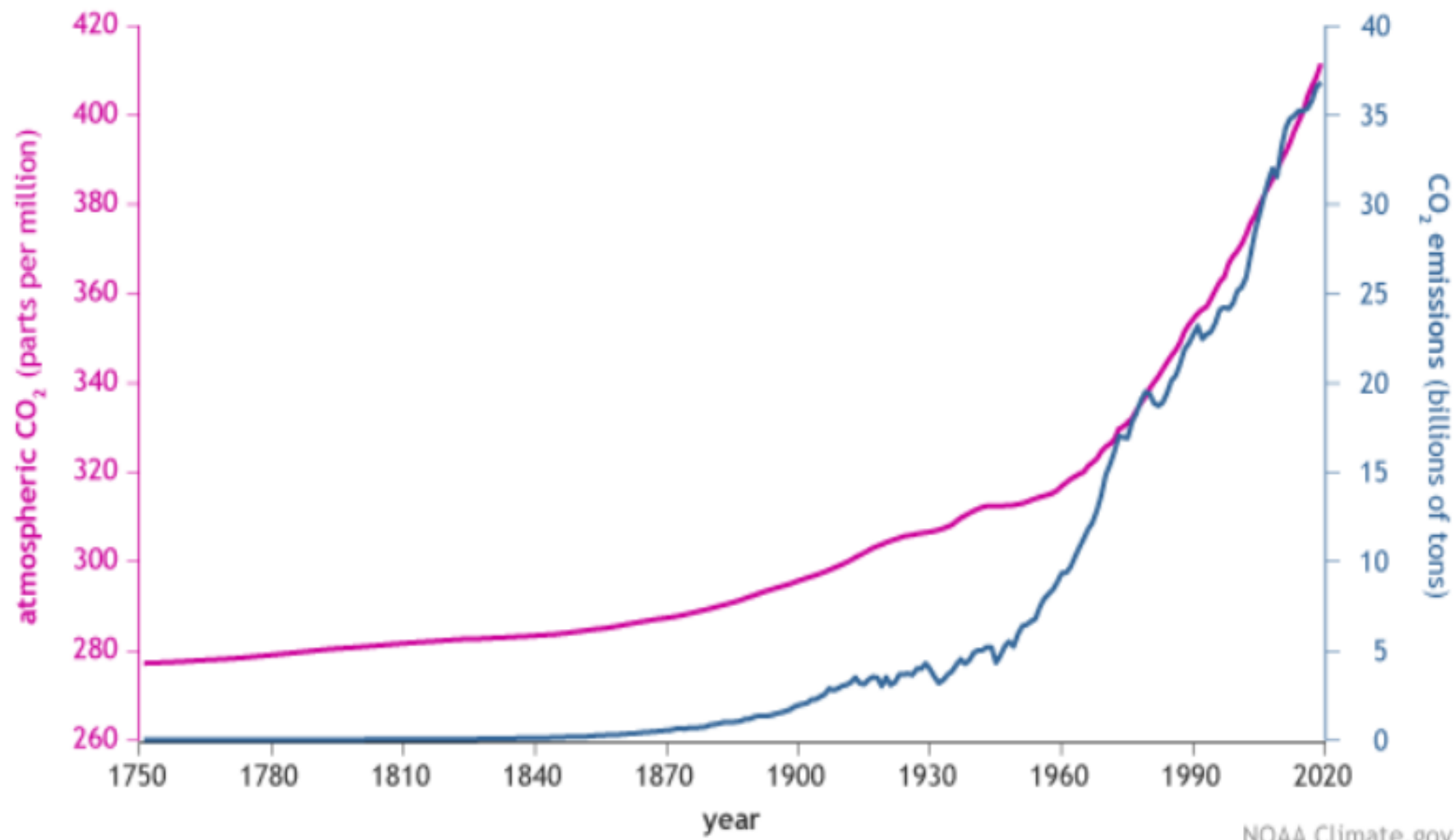
November 17, 2021

Dr. Scott Presson

Volunteer Environmental
Advocate



CO₂ in the atmosphere and annual emissions (1750-2019)



NOAA Climate.gov
Data: NOAA, ETHZ, Our World in Data

Climate Crisis – Code Red

- Scientist are warning us to limit the temperature increase to 1.5 degrees C (2.7 F) to avoid catastrophic impacts to the livability of our planet; we are now at 1.1 C
- We need to begin now
- Change is hard
- We have the solutions to address this challenge. We can do this!

What it will take for us to get there

A commitment to 100% renewable energy should include the following core elements:

- **All Electricity:** A full transition of at least the electricity sector to clean, renewable energy;
- **By 2035:** A target year for when this commitment will be achieved no later than 2035 for electricity and 2050 for all energy sectors;
- **Ensuring Equity, Affordability, and Access:** A commitment to achieving equity, affordability, and access for all members of the community in the transition to 100% renewable energy;
- **Clean and Renewable Resources Only:** A clear definition of clean and renewable resources; and
- **A Transparent and Inclusive Process:** A commitment to a transparent and inclusive process for planning and implementation, ensuring that all members of the community have an opportunity to participate.

National Sierra Club Ready for 100

- Committed to date to 100% clean renewable energy:
- 180+ cities
- 10+ counties
- 10 states, 1 district, 1 territory
 - CA, HI, ME, NM, NV, NY, VA, WA, Washington DC, Puerto Rico

Georgia Ready for 100

- Committed:
 - Atlanta (100atl.org)
 - Clarkston
 - Athens-Clarke County
 - Augusta-Richmond County
 - Savannah
- Campaign Interest
 - Decatur
 - Gwinnett County and Cities in Gwinnett

What Can We Do in Georgia?

- Individuals and Families
- Businesses and Organizations
- Utility Providers: GA Power, EMCs, MEAG
- Local Governments: Cities, Counties, Schools
- State Government: Legislature, Governor, Public Utility Commission
- Federal Government: Executive Branch, Congress

Drawdown Georgia

- Drawdown GA – top priorities for next ten years based on Project Drawdown, specific to Georgia.
- UGA, GSU, Emory, GA Tech, Ray C. Anderson Foundation
- <https://www.drawdownga.org/>

Drawdown Georgia

20 Drawdown Georgia
Solutions for 2030



bringing climate solutions home

www.DrawdownGA.org

Electricity	 Cogeneration	 Large-Scale Solar
	 Demand Response	 Landfill Methane
	 Rooftop Solar	
Buildings & Materials	 Recycling	 Retrofitting
	 Refrigerant Management	
Food & Agriculture	 Composting	 Plant-Forward Diet
	 Conservation Agriculture	 Reduced Food Waste
Land Sinks	 Afforestation & Silvopasture	 Temperate Forest Stewardship
	 Coastal Wetlands	
Transportation	 Electric Vehicles	 Mass Transit
	 Energy-Efficient Cars	 Alternative Mobility
	 Energy-Efficient Trucks	

Electricity



Cogeneration



Demand Response



Rooftop Solar



Large-Scale Solar



Landfill Methane

Buildings & Materials



Recycling



Refrigerant Management



Retrofitting

Food & Agriculture



Composting



Conservation Agriculture



Plant-Forward Diet



Reduced Food Waste

Land Sinks



Afforestation & Silvopasture



Coastal Wetlands



Temperate Forest Stewardship

Transportation



Electric Vehicles



Energy-Efficient Cars



Energy-Efficient Trucks



Mass Transit



Alternative Mobility

What Can We Do in Gwinnett County?

- County commitment to a clean energy transition
- Create Sustainability Office to coordinate within county government and with cities, business, organizations, and residents
- Develop a clean energy action plan as a roadmap for how the county can achieve the clean energy goals
- Implement the plan and monitor progress

Useful links

- Sierra Club and Sierra Club Georgia Chapter
- www.sierracub.org/Georgia
- www.sierraclub.org/ready-for-100
- www.sierraclub.org/ready-for-100-toolkit

- Drawdown GA
- <https://www.drawdownga.org/>

- Legal Pathways to Deep Decarbonization
- www.lpdd.org

THANK YOU !

Scott Presson
spress51@gmail.com

Questions ?



Transportation & Air Quality

Team Lead – Transportation – Tom Sever

Supporting Departments

- Human Resources
- Community Services
- Planning & Development
- Transportation – Transit
- Support Services – Fleet

Transportation & Air Quality

Current Internal County Practices

- Fleet Management Policy
 - Anti-Idling Policy
 - Green Fleet Policy
 - Fuel Station Practices
 - Fleet Maintenance Shop Practices
- Transit Vehicle Idling

Transportation & Air Quality

Current Internal County Practices

- Complete Streets Policy
 - consider bicycle, pedestrian and transit users of all ages and abilities for transportation projects
- Countywide Trails Master Plan

Transportation & Air Quality

Current County Codes

- Community Electric Vehicle Ready Policy

Transportation & Air Quality

Current Initiatives

- Gwinnett County Smart Corridor Program
 - Implement Transit Signal Priority to improve efficiency and reduce the overall environmental impact of the Gwinnett County Transit vehicle fleet
- Safe Trips in a Connected Transportation Network (ST-CTN) project
 - Enhance transit accessibility for travelers in underserved communities

Transportation & Air Quality

Current Initiatives

- Comprehensive Transportation Plan Update
 - Will assess the existing and future needs of the County's transportation system for all users
 - Will gather input from residents, staff and other stakeholders
 - Will result in short-, mid-, and long-range improvement programs

Transportation & Air Quality

Current Initiatives

- Transit Development Plan
 - Will assess the existing and future needs of Gwinnett County Transit
 - Will gather input from transit riders and other stakeholders
 - Will result in short-, mid-, and long-range project list that would increase transit service for residents