

Interagency Electric Vehicle Coordinating Council

Sept. 27, 2022

Agenda item: Creation of EV Council committees and workgroups

The Move Ahead Washington transportation package (ESSB 5974 and SSB 5975) requires the EV Council to:

- Develop a statewide transportation electrification strategy
- Identify all electric vehicle infrastructure grant-related funding, including both existing and future opportunities
- Coordinate grant funding criteria across agency grant programs
- Develop a robust public and private outreach plan that includes engaging with:
 - Community organizers and the Environmental Justice Council
 - Local governments
- Direct implementation of the National Electric Vehicle Infrastructure program
- Provide annual reports
- Ensure the activities associated with advancing transportation electrification benefit vulnerable and overburdened communities

To fulfill these responsibilities, the EV Council will need to delegate tasks to workgroups that can be reported back to the full council in the form of presentations and recommendations. Furthermore, ESSB 5974 requires the EV Council to create an advisory committee so stakeholders can provide input on these work products.

The governance workgroup recommends creating two committees and two workgroups to help complete required responsibilities:

- An **Executive Committee**, to steer EV Council processes, set agendas, and manage governance.
- An **Advisory Committee**, to provide regular opportunities to a representative group of stakeholders for providing input on EV Council work products.
- An **Electric Vehicle Charging Infrastructure Workgroup**, to bring together state program managers of funding programs, tools, rulemakings, and policies related to building out the state's electric vehicle supply equipment, associated power supply, standards and consumer protections, and workforce needs.
- An **Electric Vehicle Adoption Workgroup**, to bring together state program managers of funding programs, rulemakings, and policies related to incentivizing or promoting the purchasing, leasing, or subscribing to use of electric vehicles.

1. Create an Executive Committee

The governance workgroup recommend continuing its function of managing EV Council governance issues and steering the council's administrative functions as a permanent Executive Committee.

Membership on this Executive Committee would include:

- Department of Commerce (co-chair)
- Department of Transportation (co-chair)
- Department of Ecology

- Department of Enterprise Services
- Utilities and Transportation Commission

This membership not only includes EV Council members who have been engaged in initiating governance recommendations, but covers the vast majority of the state’s electric vehicles program-level and rulemaking work, the essential connection between electric vehicles and the electric grid, and the state’s leadership in demonstrating transportation electrification is possible through its vehicle fleet.

Under this set-up, the co-chairs will engage with the other EV Council members on a one-on-one basis when the Executive Committee would benefit from the expertise brought by their perspectives. For example, the Department of Health representative will be consulted when planning agenda items on environmental health disparities.

The Executive Committee’s responsibilities include:

- Approving agendas for EV Council meetings
- Working with the co-chairs to provide direction to EV Council staff
- Working with the Department of Commerce to provide direction to EV Council consultants (*refer to agenda item memo on hiring consultants*)
- Working with the co-chairs, Governor’s Office, and Department of Health on coordination with the Environmental Justice Council
- Tracking progress on EV Council responsibilities and making recommendations to full EV Council ensure a path to success
- Making recommendations to full EV Council on matters pertaining to governance, decision-making, committee and workgroup structure, and other administrative actions

The Executive Committee will be staffed by the Departments of Commerce and Transportation.

Governance workgroup recommendation: Create an Executive Committee as described above.

Agency	Consensus	Yes	Yes with concerns	No	Not present/no vote
Agriculture					x
Commerce	x				
DES	x				
Ecology	x				
Health	x				
OFM					x
OSPI	x				
SEEP	x				
Transportation	x				
UTC	x				
Total	Consensus				

2. Create an Advisory Committee

In its role to staff the EV Council, the Department of Commerce will put in place a robust public engagement effort to ensure Washington residents and stakeholders have a voice in the statewide transportation electrification strategy and other EV Council work products. This includes hiring a full-time staff member and hiring consultant support (*refer to agenda item memo on hiring consultants*) for public engagement efforts.

One of the key public engagement strategies staff and consultants will implement is already required of the EV Council: forming an Advisory Committee. The EV Council has received many inquiries since its creation for participation and we expect interest to grow when information on how to join is announced.

The governance workgroup looked at various models for such a committee, especially the recently formed federal Electric Vehicle Working Group. Similar to the federal working group, the governance workgroup is recommending the creation of one Advisory Committee with all important representative perspectives at the same table, though with a membership spectrum broad enough to include all Washington stakeholders.

The Advisory Committee should have no more than 25 members and include at least one participant from each of the following representative perspectives:

- Active mobility advocate
- City government
- Community-based organization
- County government
- Electric vehicle consumer association or advocate
- Electric vehicle manufacturer
- Electric vehicle supply equipment provider
- Environmental advocate
- Environmental justice advocate
- Investor-owned electric utility
- Labor union
- Public electric utility
- Public transit advocate
- Transportation planning organization
- Tribal government

The governance workgroup recommends that the EV Council publish a request for applications to indicate interest and explain how interested participants can best represent their perspective on the Advisory Committee. The Executive Committee, if created, should review applications and recommend a membership roster to the full EV Council during its November meeting.

In the published request for applications, the Executive Committee should clearly explain the role of the Advisory Committee in the EV Council's work. This explanation should include opportunities for the Advisory Committee to:

- Help EV Council members, staff, and consultants gather information and develop recommendations in statewide transportation electrification strategy;
- Provide feedback on draft versions of the statewide transportation electrification strategy during each stage of development;

- Hear updates and provide feedback on agencies’ programs, rulemakings, and other policy development;
- Serve as a partner with EV Council staff and consultants on public engagement strategies, and provide support in communicating EV Council efforts to the public;
- Provide additional feedback and assistance as determined by the Executive Committee or full EV Council.

The Departments of Commerce and Transportation will identify staff to lead development of the request for applications and preparing the Executive Committee for reviewing the submitted applications and determining a recommended membership roster. This includes working with the EV Council co-chairs and other Executive Committee members to create selection criteria that is transparent to applicants.

Governance workgroup recommendation: Direct the Departments of Commerce and Transportation to publish a request for Advisory Committee applications, and request the Executive Committee to propose a recommended Advisory Committee membership roster consistent with the guidance above for approval at a future EV Council meeting.

Agency	Consensus	Yes	Yes with concerns	No	Not present/no vote
Agriculture					x
Commerce	x				
DES	x				
Ecology	x				
Health	x				
OFM					x
OSPI	x				
SEEP	x				
Transportation	x				
UTC	x				
Total	Consensus				

3. Create issue-specific workgroups to begin program and policy coordination

The EV Council must identify “all electric vehicle infrastructure grant-related funding to include existing and future opportunities, including state, federal, and other funds” and coordinate “grant funding criteria across agency grant programs to most efficiently distribute state and federal electric vehicle-related funding in a manner that is most beneficial to the state, advances best practices, and recommends additional criteria that could be useful in advancing transportation electrification” (Sec. 429 of ESSB 5974).

While the EV Council intends for this work to be included in the statewide transportation electrification strategy, the governance workgroup recommends bringing agency program managers and staff together to start coordinating before strategy development begins. This can begin with workgroups on (1) electric vehicle charging infrastructure and (2) electric vehicle adoption incentives and policies.

Electric Vehicle Charging Infrastructure Workgroup

The state has several agencies either funding electric vehicle charging infrastructure or creating policies or requirements pertaining to electric vehicle supply equipment (EVSE). There are also funding programs at various federal agencies that Washington can compete for or receive through formula funding. State agencies have collaborated on programs in the past, and with so much opportunity at the federal level and growth at the state level, now is an important time to bring program managers together to create situation awareness, organization, and collaboration on program criteria and other policies.

This workgroup should at least include agency staff managing and working on the following programs, rulemakings, tools, and regulatory efforts:

- Department of Agriculture's rulemaking on EVSE standards and consumer protections
- Department of Commerce's community-based charging infrastructure funding program
- Department of Commerce's electrification of transportation systems funding program (Clean Energy Fund)
- Department of Commerce's SEEP Office and other state agencies for coordination on funding for EVSE to support Executive Order 21-04 (electrification of state vehicle fleet)
- Department of Ecology's Volkswagen settlement projects
- Department of Health's environmental health disparities map and its connection to transportation-related pollution reduction
- Department of Transportation's National Electric Vehicle Infrastructure (NEVI) funding program
- Department of Transportation's Zero-Emission Vehicle Infrastructure Partnership (ZEVIP) funding program
- Department of Transportation's EVSE mapping and forecasting tool
- Utilities and Transportation Commission's oversight of investor-owned utility transportation electrification plans

Electric Vehicle Adoption Workgroup

In addition to charging infrastructure, state agencies are working to reduce the upfront cost of electric vehicles, require additional supply and selling of electric vehicles in the state, and otherwise encourage the adoption of electric vehicles in the state. Program managers from different agencies often participate together on program review committees and collaborate on rulemakings and other policy development. Creation of this workgroup will provide a more regular and centralized table for agency staff to coordinate together to accelerate electric vehicle adoption.

This workgroup should at least include agency staff managing and working on the following programs, rulemakings, tools, and regulatory efforts:

- Department of Commerce's alternative fuel vehicle incentive program
- Department of Commerce's SEEP Office and other state agencies for coordination on implementing Executive Order 21-04 (electrification of state vehicle fleet)
- Department of Ecology's zero-emission vehicles rulemaking
- Department of Ecology's Volkswagen settlement projects
- Department of Ecology's clean diesel grant program
- Department of Ecology's clean fuel standard rulemaking and implementation
- Department of Health's environmental health disparities map and its connection to transportation-related pollution reduction
- Department of Licensing's administration of alternative fuel vehicles sales tax exemption
- Department of Revenue's administration of relevant tax exemptions and credits

- Department of Transportation’s zero-emissions access program
- Department of Transportation’s green transportation capital grants program
- Washington State University Energy Program’s green transportation program

EV Council co-chairs should ensure staff from their agencies are assigned to facilitate meetings for both workgroups. Both workgroups should invite other agency program managers and staff if perspectives are missing. Workgroups can also invite stakeholders to join meetings or work sessions as needed. Both workgroups should provide regular updates on their work to the EV Council and Advisory Committee.

Governance workgroup recommendation: Direct the Departments of Commerce and Transportation to create and facilitate an Electric Vehicle Charging Infrastructure Workgroup and an Electric Vehicle Adoption Workgroup as described above.

Agency	Consensus	Yes	Yes with concerns	No	Not present/no vote
Agriculture					x
Commerce	x				
DES	x				
Ecology	x				
Health	x				
OFM					x
OSPI	x				
SEEP	x				
Transportation	x				
UTC	x				
Total	Consensus				