Energy Efficiency and Housing Advisory Panel - Friday, October 16, 2020

The Energy Efficiency and Housing Advisory Panel met on Friday, October 16, 2020 for its third meeting. The chair shared feedback on the workplan from Panel members and from the Climate Action Council (CAC) October 8 meeting, which informed adjustments to the Panel's scope. These adjustments included the addition of energy efficiency in building operations and maintenance, site-based solar PV, cross panel work on codes and standards to reduce emissions, enabling policies to advance low-carbon new-construction and retrofits, workforce development, affordability and benefits for disadvantaged communities, and methods and metrics for evaluating building performance. The chair also set parameters and gave guidance on how the Panel should approach work on recommendations. A template for recommendations is being developed. Each subgroup (single family, multifamily, and commercial and institutional) then gave an overview of the current state, key barriers and mitigation strategies for the sectors as well as foundational resources and external engagement needed to inform their recommendations.

In ensuing discussion, Panel members identified cross-cutting themes among the subgroups including coordinating an approach on codes and standards, measuring and providing energy usage information to property owners on emissions, workforce development, addressing affordability, building conditions and housing stability for low-income communities, identifying new and existing funding sources, and incentivizing behavior through public education. NYSERDA's Greg Hale then gave a presentation on a Carbon Neutral Buildings Roadmap for NY, which will inform the work of the Panel. He highlighted the benefits and the need for innovation, market development, and supportive policy to accomplish carbon neutrality in sector. The next Panel meeting is scheduled for October 29, 2020 from 1-3 p.m. Presentations and notes from past Advisory Panels and Working Groups meetings can be found here.