

March 3, 2021

Dear Environment Committee and Energy Subcommittee,

Energy codes are a critical tool that help municipalities reduce energy use and greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions and pave the way for other types of energy policies and renewable energy investments.

The National Renewable Energy Lab (NREL) [identified building energy codes as the most impactful policy action cities can take](#) to meet GHG reduction targets, and the [Focused Acceleration](#) report underscores the value of optimizing building energy efficiency as the most “...significant and impactful step cities can take to meet Paris Accord GHG emission targets.” Our soon-to-be-released [regional climate action plan](#) recommends action on local codes and policies to advance clean energy.

Improving the energy efficiency of newly constructed and existing buildings also provides both immediate and long-term benefits to owners and occupants including cost savings; improved indoor comfort, occupant health and productivity; and increased building and community resiliency.

GRC communities learned about the complex building code development and adoption process while [advocating for the 2021 International Energy Conservation Code](#) (IECC). And some leading cities have implemented progressive building policies, such as [St. Louis’ building performance standard](#) and [Chicago’s benchmarking ordinance](#), which requires owners of large buildings to report their energy use. Though energy policy solutions need to be scaled for smaller suburban communities, there are actions GRC municipalities can take to support efficient, sustainable energy use in buildings.

Join the Environment Committee and Energy Subcommittee to learn about the value and benefits of energy codes, how municipalities can become involved in the Illinois code adoption process, and what policies municipalities in the Midwest, and nationwide, are adopting to benefit their communities.

Meeting Details:

Meeting date: Tuesday, March 16, 2021

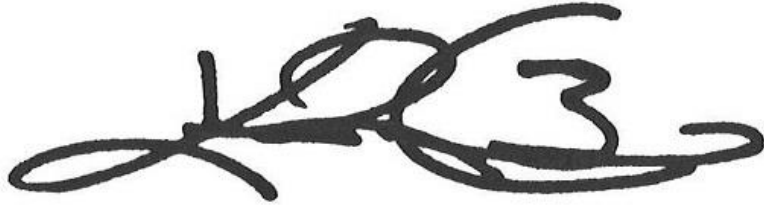
Time: 10-11:30 a.m.

Register: Please register in advance for the Zoom meeting with the link in the calendar invitation we sent. You will receive a unique link for joining.

Speakers:

- [Alison Lindburg](#), Midwest Energy Efficiency Alliance (MEEA)
- [Diana Burk](#), New Buildings Institute (NBI)

Thank you, and we hope to see you at our next meeting!

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be 'KB' followed by a stylized flourish.

Kevin Burns
Mayor, City of Geneva
Environment Committee and Energy Subcommittee Chairman
Metropolitan Mayors Caucus
433 W. Van Buren Street, Suite 450
Chicago, IL 60607
<https://mayorscaucus.org>