

Committee on the Environment
October 2, 2019

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COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF PHILADELPHIA
COMMITTEE ON THE ENVIRONMENT

Room 400, City Hall
Philadelphia, Pennsylvania
Wednesday, October 2, 2019
10:29 a.m.

PRESENT:

COUNCILWOMAN BLONDELL REYNOLDS BROWN, CHAIR
COUNCIL PRESIDENT DARRELL L. CLARKE
COUNCILWOMAN JANNIE L. BLACKWELL
COUNCILMAN DEREK S. GREEN
COUNCILMAN WILLIAM K. GREENLEE
COUNCILWOMAN HELEN GYM

BILLS 190600, 190636, and 190703

- - -

1 10/2/19 - ENVIRONMENT - BILL 190600, ETC.

2 COUNCILWOMAN BROWN: Good
3 morning, good morning. The hearing of
4 the Committee on the Environment and
5 Sustainability is hereby called to order.
6 Today we will hear testimony on three
7 bills, each of which are designed to make
8 tangible steps forward to further
9 protecting our environment.

10 As the sponsor of these bills,
11 I will share opening remarks. However,
12 first we need to acknowledge that we have
13 members of the Committee here in
14 Councilman Bill Greenlee, Councilman
15 Derek Green, and Council President
16 Darrell Clarke. We now have a quorum.

17 The Clerk will please read the
18 title of the first bill.

19 THE CLERK: Bill No. 190600, an
20 ordinance amending Chapter 9-3400 of The
21 Philadelphia Code, entitled "Energy
22 Conservation," to add a new Section
23 9-3403, entitled "Building Energy
24 Performance Policy," to require owners of
25 certain large buildings to conduct

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2 tune-ups of the energy and water systems
3 in such buildings, under certain terms
4 and conditions.

5 COUNCILWOMAN BROWN: Thank you
6 very, very much.

7 As I please ask the first panel
8 to move to the table, I'll give my
9 opening remarks. Our first panel
10 includes Rich Freeh. And please correct
11 me when you get to the table if I
12 inaccurately pronounce your name. He
13 serves as the Senior Program Manager for
14 the Office of Sustainability. And
15 Francine Locke, Sustainability Director
16 for the School District of Philadelphia.

17 (Witnesses approached witness
18 table.)

19 COUNCILWOMAN BROWN: Bill No.
20 190600 is an outgrowth of the energy
21 benchmarking legislation authored by my
22 office over seven years ago. Back in
23 2011, to help achieve the goal and vision
24 of a more clean and energy efficient
25 city, we began the path to require

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2 buildings over 5,000 square feet to
3 report their energy and water usage.
4 Passing the energy benchmarking bill
5 required months of negotiation,
6 discussion, and compromise, and I in
7 particular want to thank BOMA, who were a
8 part of those negotiations, and their
9 just straightforwardness in us arriving
10 at a mutually acceptable outcome.

11 Because of energy benchmarking,
12 we now know that the 2,000 large
13 non-residential buildings in the City
14 account for less than 0.5 percent of all
15 buildings in the City, but roughly 15
16 percent of the citywide carbon footprint.

17 This legislation calls for
18 those buildings to do more by conducting
19 an assessment and implementing minor,
20 low-cost changes that will improve energy
21 efficiency. The operative words here are
22 "low cost" and "minor," and we know that
23 that's all relative depending upon who is
24 talking.

25 Working in partnership with the

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2 Office of Sustainability, we first tested
3 this program on a City building, the
4 Juvenile Justice Center in West
5 Philadelphia. Through that process, we
6 learned that a building tune-up costs
7 about 5 cents per square feet for a
8 building, but can lead to 12 to 15 cents
9 in savings through lower energy costs.
10 So this legislation today helps the
11 environment and the economic bottom line
12 for more business owners.

13 During the summer, my office,
14 along with the Office of Sustainability,
15 held stakeholder roundtables to solicit
16 needed feedback on this legislation.
17 Remember, where we start out, we seldom
18 end up. It requires a lot of input from
19 a host of stakeholders and ultimately
20 hopefully a better bill.

21 Based on that feedback, we have
22 made edits to the bill to ensure that it
23 provides clear guidelines and is not
24 onerous on business owners. I want to
25 thank the professionals at the Office of

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2 Sustainability for your thoughtful
3 engagement throughout this process, and I
4 also want to acknowledge and say thank
5 you to the School District of
6 Philadelphia and the professionals there
7 working in partnership with my office to
8 achieve the mission of this legislation.

9 We will now move to your
10 testimony. Good morning.

11 MR. FREEH: Good morning, Chair
12 Reynolds Brown, members of the Committee.
13 My name is Rich Freeh and I serve as a
14 Senior Program Manager for the Office of
15 Sustainability of the City of
16 Philadelphia. I'm here to testify in
17 support of Bill No. 190600, which, as the
18 Chair said, would set new requirements to
19 promote energy efficiency in
20 Philadelphia's largest buildings.

21 Our office, the Office of
22 Sustainability, works to improve
23 community quality of life and to prepare
24 Philadelphia for a hotter and wetter
25 future due to climate change. In the

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2 absence of federal leadership on climate,
3 cities like ours are stepping up to cut
4 carbon pollution that's warming our
5 planet. Our Mayor, Jim Kenney, has
6 committed to cutting Philadelphia's
7 carbon emissions 80 percent by 2050 and
8 transitioning our city to 100 percent
9 clean energy.

10 In Philadelphia, almost 80
11 percent of our carbon emissions come from
12 buildings and industry, which is why it's
13 so important to focus our efforts on
14 legislation like this that make our
15 buildings more energy efficient.

16 Last year, our office published
17 Powering Our Future, which is a Clean
18 Energy Vision for Philadelphia, which
19 outlines specific opportunities to slash
20 carbon emissions from buildings citywide.
21 Of the strategies we modeled to improve
22 the efficiency of existing buildings, a
23 tune-up requirement like the one in Bill
24 190600 covering buildings over 50,000
25 square feet was among the most impactful

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2 strategies we modeled as well as the most
3 cost effective.

4 We know that many buildings in
5 Philadelphia are already highly energy
6 efficient. This bill provides a
7 high-performance pathway for those
8 properties, recognizing industry leaders
9 for the hard work they've already put
10 into their properties. For those that
11 have not yet achieved that
12 high-performance status, this bill
13 requires a building tune-up once every
14 five years.

15 What is the tune-up? Just like
16 your car, buildings require occasional
17 tune-ups to ensure that the systems that
18 provide energy and water and tenant
19 comfort are performing at their peak.
20 These tune-ups are small, cost-effective
21 tweaks to existing systems and building
22 controls that will lead to cost savings
23 for building owners and increased comfort
24 for tenants. These tune-ups will be
25 low-cost investments for building owners,

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2 and they'll yield very positive financial
3 returns.

4 As an example, our office
5 recently completed a model tune-up of the
6 City-owned Juvenile Justice Center, which
7 the tune-up cost about \$12,000, but we
8 estimate that the annual energy and water
9 cost savings to the General Fund will be
10 in the range of \$24,000. So that's a
11 return on investment of under six months.

12 Additionally, tune-ups will
13 result in huge benefits for
14 Philadelphia's climate goals. Our office
15 estimates that implementing this
16 legislation will cut carbon pollution
17 citywide by nearly 200,000 metric tons.
18 That's the climate pollution equivalent
19 of taking 40,000 automobiles off our
20 road.

21 To put it even more plainly,
22 this is one of the most impactful and
23 effective pieces of legislation to bring
24 down Philadelphia's carbon footprint that
25 we have ever advanced as a city.

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2 We know that a successful
3 transition to a clean energy future in
4 Philadelphia can't just be about cutting
5 energy waste. We also need new careers
6 for our residents in the clean economy.
7 We worked with our partners at the
8 Philadelphia Energy Authority to model
9 the job creation impact of this
10 legislation, and we determined it could
11 support as many as 600 new job
12 opportunities during the first five years
13 of implementation. That moves us much
14 closer toward the ambitious goals of the
15 Philadelphia Energy Campaign to create
16 10,000 new energy jobs in Philadelphia.

17 And we've met with our close
18 partners at the Energy Coordinating
19 Agency to discuss their new training
20 center and how we can partner to ensure
21 that students through the Philadelphia
22 School District and returning citizens
23 are able to join this new workforce and
24 complete these building tune-ups.

25 Our office has demonstrated

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2 expertise working with building owners to
3 improve efficiency. We have managed the
4 City's energy benchmarking requirement
5 for these same buildings since 2013. In
6 the past five years, that program has cut
7 energy use from large buildings 5
8 percent, with a consistent compliance
9 rate of over 90 percent.

10 Our office will also work with
11 the Department of Public Property and
12 other departments of City-owned buildings
13 to ensure that we complete the necessary
14 tune-ups for the roughly 25 municipal
15 buildings covered under this bill.

16 And, lastly, I'll just say that
17 we will also be sure to work with the
18 School District of Philadelphia, one of
19 our closest partners, to ensure that we
20 are providing technical expertise and
21 resources to help the District comply
22 with this regulation as well.

23 Since the introduction of this
24 bill in June, our office met with
25 stakeholders in the building owner

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2 community, environmental advocates, and
3 energy service professionals who have all
4 provided thoughtful recommendations to
5 strengthen the legislation and guide
6 regulation and enforcement. You can see
7 the result of that work in the amendments
8 to the bill today. We have shared these
9 recommendations with you, Chair Reynolds
10 Brown, and your office, and we are
11 confident that the resulting legislation
12 will be a huge step forward in our city's
13 efforts to curb climate pollution and
14 move towards a clean energy economy that
15 works for all Philadelphians. For these
16 reasons, our office is excited to support
17 Bill No. 190600.

18 Thank you for the opportunity
19 to testify. I'm happy to answer any
20 questions you may have.

21 COUNCILWOMAN BROWN: I thank
22 you too for your very thorough testimony.

23 Let's hear from the School
24 District of Philadelphia and then we will
25 open it up to questions.

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2 Good morning.

3 MS. LOCKE: Good morning, Chair

4 Reynolds Brown, members of the

5 Philadelphia City Council Committee on

6 the Environment, and members of the

7 public who are attending today's hearing.

8 My name is Francine Locke and I serve as

9 the Director of Sustainability and Green

10 Schools for the School District of

11 Philadelphia.

12 In my capacity, I have

13 responsibility for directing the

14 District's sustainability plan,

15 GreenFutures. The plan was shaped in

16 part by the City's Greenworks plan and

17 launched in 2015 with the support of the

18 City's Office of Sustainability and other

19 partners such as the Philadelphia Energy

20 Authority. GreenFutures has been

21 recognized by the U.S. Department of

22 Education with a National Green Ribbon

23 School District Award in 2017 and by the

24 Pennsylvania Governor with an Award for

25 Environmental Excellence in 2018. These

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2 awards were received for our actions in
3 the areas of education for
4 sustainability, consumption and waste
5 reduction, energy and efficiencies,
6 school greenscapes, and healthy schools.

7 The District is dedicated to
8 reducing energy consumption in our
9 buildings. This is demonstrated through
10 recently completed ESCO pilot projects at
11 three schools and committing to
12 completing more guaranteed energy savings
13 projects at 12 to 20 additional schools.

14 The District's Capital,
15 Facilities, and Maintenance Departments
16 have also performed other energy-saving
17 projects throughout the District. This
18 past year, the Facilities Department
19 replaced outdated light bulbs with LEDs
20 at 33 schools. This modest investment
21 cost approximately \$1,300 per school,
22 with the average return on this
23 investment within ten months.

24 The District is supportive of a
25 citywide Building Energy Performance

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2 Policy that would require large buildings
3 to receive tune-ups of their energy and
4 water systems. This aligns with our
5 District's existing sustainability goals
6 to reduce energy consumption. Because 80
7 percent of the citywide carbon footprint
8 is from buildings and the District is the
9 second largest building owner in the
10 City, the District realizes the
11 importance of conducting tune-ups to
12 ensure that existing systems are
13 operating efficiently and to bring our
14 buildings up to a state of good repair to
15 improve energy performance.

16 Although there is no budget
17 allocated for the District's compliance
18 with this mandate, we have completed many
19 energy-saving projects over the past
20 three years, and others are in the
21 workings to produce energy conservation
22 results that comply with or exceed the
23 requirements of this legislation. This
24 includes LED bulb replacements,
25 mechanical system recommissioning, and

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2 capital improvements such as HVAC system
3 replacements and new construction that
4 result in high-performance buildings.

5 The estimated cost for the
6 District to perform tune-ups at 157
7 schools is between \$1.1 to \$2.3 million.

8 Once again, I want to emphasize that
9 there is no budget allocated for this
10 mandate. The immediate cost savings,
11 however, to the District would be \$3
12 million annually in energy costs once
13 these tune-ups are completed. So there
14 is a return on investment from us
15 performing this work.

16 In addition to these energy
17 savings and cost reductions, this work
18 exemplifies the District's commitment to
19 preserving the environment for our
20 children's future, which will be impacted
21 by the actions we take today. We look
22 forward to working with Councilwoman
23 Reynolds Brown and the Office of
24 Sustainability to improve the energy
25 performance of our buildings.

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2 Thank you for the opportunity
3 to provide this testimony. We've also
4 submitted slide decks to the Committee to
5 support this testimony.

6 COUNCILWOMAN BROWN: Thank you
7 very, very much.

8 Please allow me to acknowledge
9 that members of our Committee,
10 Councilwoman Jannie Blackwell and
11 Councilwoman Helen Gym, have joined us.

12 And so Councilwoman Helen Gym,
13 please.

14 COUNCILWOMAN GYM: Thank you
15 very much, Madam Chair.

16 So I just wanted to get some
17 clarity. Did the District say that --
18 you said that you have no budget
19 allocated for compliance, but acknowledge
20 that the cost savings would be more than
21 double, maybe potentially triple, which
22 you would do once you got them underway.
23 So are you saying that the District will
24 comply with the mandate or are you not
25 saying that?

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2 MS. LOCKE: I'm saying that the
3 School District of Philadelphia presently
4 has energy conservation projects that are
5 going on. That is one of the Capital
6 Improvement Program's initiatives. And
7 we also have GreenFutures, our
8 sustainability plan, that has goals and
9 targets for energy conservation.

10 We are going to work closely
11 with the City's Office of Sustainability,
12 particularly Christine Knapp and Rich
13 Freeh, using their expertise and
14 resources to find a way to comply with
15 this regulation, particularly finding
16 assessors who will be able to do this
17 work in our schools and provide us with
18 recommendations that are workable that we
19 can do, similar to what we're already
20 doing, falling in line with the work the
21 District is presently doing for energy
22 conservation.

23 So we're working closely with
24 the Office of Sustainability,
25 Philadelphia Energy Authority, and we

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2 will find a way to comply with this
3 regulation in terms of assessments and
4 the tweaks -- these are supposed to be
5 low-cost tweaks for our buildings.

6 COUNCILWOMAN BROWN: Point of
7 information. My staff and I, in speaking
8 with your colleagues at the School
9 District, acknowledge that there are a
10 gazillion pressures on the School
11 District of Philadelphia and it's, quite
12 frankly, unfair for us to believe, think,
13 or -- believe or think that the School
14 District can walk on water to meet the
15 dictates of this legislation at this
16 hour. And so I am very sensitive to the
17 fact that given the other pressures and
18 demands on the District, there is the
19 commitment to move towards that end, but
20 there's also the awareness that you
21 cannot do that today because you have
22 other priorities in place that you need
23 to honor and check off while you move
24 towards honoring the legislation, and my
25 staff and I are interested in language

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2 that protects you in that way.

3 MS. LOCKE: Thank you. That is
4 very well said.

5 COUNCILWOMAN GYM: But I'm also
6 just trying to understand that if you
7 could achieve triple the amount of
8 savings, wouldn't that be considered an
9 investment and not an expense?

10 MS. LOCKE: Absolutely, but we
11 have to have the cost up front.

12 COUNCILWOMAN GYM: And you
13 don't have \$1.1 million?

14 MS. LOCKE: I can't answer that
15 question directly, other than saying that
16 the amount has been used for capital
17 improvements and other work, but that's
18 been planned and scheduled through the
19 Capital Improvement Program. So we don't
20 have a budget allocated for this
21 particular work.

22 COUNCILWOMAN GYM: That's
23 understood. Right, you may not have a
24 budget directly allocated, but I know
25 that the District has to make decisions,

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2 but I don't think it's that you don't
3 have a million dollars, it's just a
4 question of whether this rises as a
5 priority; is that right? But you are
6 saying on the record that this is at
7 least double the savings, potentially
8 triple?

9 MS. LOCKE: That's what the
10 numbers look like. And Mr. Freeh is
11 really the expert, and the Energy Office
12 has supported us in trying to make these
13 calculations to understand the benefits
14 to the District in terms of finances.

15 I don't know if you want to
16 answer any of that, Mr. Freeh.

17 MR. FREEH: Yeah, absolutely.
18 I can just speak to kind of the process
19 by which we developed those numbers,
20 which was to scale up the estimate from
21 the Juvenile Justice Center pilot that we
22 did to the roughly 150 buildings at the
23 School District that would not kind of be
24 able to comply with the high-performance
25 pathway currently written in the

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2 legislation.

3 COUNCILWOMAN BROWN: Pull the
4 mic closer and repeat those sentences.

5 MR. FREEH: Sorry about that.
6 Yeah, absolutely. So we scaled up the --
7 we basically used the numbers from the
8 Juvenile Justice Center pilot and said if
9 we realize the same savings across the
10 150 or so schools at the District who
11 would be required to comply, separate
12 from those who would be considered high
13 performing because they're already
14 high-performing schools from an energy
15 standpoint, we would be able to see kind
16 of that \$3 million estimated savings, and
17 that's an annual cost savings.

18 COUNCILWOMAN GYM: And how
19 quickly do you achieve those savings?

20 MR. FREEH: You know, the
21 tune-ups can happen within six months.
22 That's roughly the timeline that we're on
23 for the Juvenile Justice Center.

24 COUNCILWOMAN GYM: And then you
25 believe the savings kick in right away,

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2 and when you say like -- so they begin to
3 accrue once the tune-ups --

4 MR. FREEH: Once the work is
5 complete, yeah, absolutely.

6 COUNCILWOMAN GYM: And then you
7 can immediately start seeing significant
8 savings in those buildings?

9 MR. FREEH: That's right.

10 The one caveat that we were
11 actually talking about before we began
12 is, there's another component to this,
13 which is once the tune-up is done, there
14 is a continued training that needs to
15 happen for building operators to ensure
16 that once the tune-up happens, that those
17 systems continue to be optimized and be
18 in a state of good repair. So we're
19 dedicated to working with the District
20 and our partners. Green Building United,
21 who will testify shortly, runs a building
22 operator training program, which we
23 believe would be a great model for
24 something we could work with the District
25 on to ensure that those savings are

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2 persistent.

3 COUNCILWOMAN GYM: Right. So I
4 guess for clarification, I mean, I
5 definitely understand that there's an
6 initial expense up front, but the
7 District does have a capital budget. It
8 also has some urgent needs in other
9 places, but if savings begin to accrue
10 immediately and they begin to deplete the
11 burden on the utilities in particular,
12 I'm trying to understand why this is seen
13 as a burden as opposed to an immediate
14 cost savings. I mean, if they can be
15 achieved relatively quickly, I'm just
16 trying to understand what the problem is.
17 Is it like you don't have enough workers
18 or you don't have enough staff to be able
19 to do it?

20 MS. LOCKE: I think that we all
21 see the benefit of this legislation and
22 we want to be able to do this.
23 Unfortunately, we are not able to commit
24 completely at this time as a School
25 District financially. And if you would

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2 like to know more about how we possibly
3 could fund this or the budget involved
4 with this, we can get back to you if you
5 have any specific questions.

6 COUNCILWOMAN GYM: We know you
7 can always get back to us, of course.

8 MS. LOCKE: But, I mean, we
9 really do see the value in this work. It
10 not only is a fiscal savings and an
11 environment protection factor, but it
12 benefits our students in seeing us as
13 environmental stewards for the School
14 District of Philadelphia.

15 COUNCILWOMAN GYM: And how many
16 schools are we talking about?

17 MS. LOCKE: 157 would fall into
18 the category of greater than 50,000
19 square feet and with an Energy Star score
20 of less than 75.

21 COUNCILWOMAN GYM: Okay. Thank
22 you.

23 MS. LOCKE: You're welcome.

24 COUNCILWOMAN BROWN: Councilman
25 Green.

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2 COUNCILMAN GREEN: Thank you,
3 Madam Chair.

4 And I want to thank
5 Councilmember Brown for the work she's
6 done, not only in this Committee but this
7 legislation.

8 I just have some concerns as I
9 listen to responses to some of the
10 questions. Of the 157 buildings that
11 need tune-ups, how many of those are
12 buildings where there is needed
13 maintenance?

14 MS. LOCKE: We haven't done a
15 formal assessment to say what needs there
16 are for these 157 buildings. That
17 information is based upon an analysis
18 that was provided by energy experts from
19 the Office of Sustainability based on
20 square footage, Energy Star score, and
21 benchmarking data. So we haven't done an
22 analysis to say what is needed, other
23 than the Parsons facility condition
24 assessment information we had from
25 several years ago.

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2 Rich, do you want to share
3 anything on how the --

4 MR. FREEH: No. I think that
5 was a great summary of kind of what we
6 know from our office's perspective.

7 COUNCILMAN GREEN: But it's a
8 pretty -- I would think it's probably a
9 fair assessment that these buildings that
10 need tune-ups also probably have some
11 significant maintenance concerns as well
12 considering that the average age of
13 schools in the City of Philadelphia is
14 about 86 years. So as you're doing --
15 and I think this is kind of a fundamental
16 question and concern that I've had with
17 the District for a number of years, is
18 that we've talked about trying to get a
19 capital master plan on all School
20 District buildings and a prioritization,
21 and there's been some pushback. There's
22 different language that's used in that
23 regard.

24 But this seems to not be -- and
25 I understand resources are a challenge,

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2 but the School District is a -- what's
3 the size of the School District from a
4 capital budget standpoint?

5 MS. LOCKE: We have over a \$4
6 billion need to bring our --

7 COUNCILMAN GREEN: Well, I've
8 heard \$4.5 to \$5.5 billion capital
9 deficit.

10 MS. LOCKE: It's going up every
11 day.

12 COUNCILMAN GREEN: So the
13 annual budget of the School District is
14 about 3 --

15 MS. LOCKE: The annual budget
16 for the School District of Philadelphia
17 in terms of operations and maintenance?
18 I don't have that information with me
19 today.

20 COUNCILMAN GREEN: Okay. Can
21 you give me a range? I mean, I have a
22 sense. Can you give me a range of what
23 that amount is?

24 MS. LOCKE: I can get back to
25 you with that information to provide

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2 accurate --

3 COUNCILMAN GREEN: But you have
4 some type of range of what that amount
5 is.

6 MS. LOCKE: I don't have that
7 with me today.

8 COUNCILMAN GREEN: Is there
9 anyone from the School District that can
10 provide that information?

11 MS. LOCKE: We can bring that
12 back to you so we have accurate
13 information to share.

14 You're asking for the amount of
15 money spent annually on the operations
16 and maintenance of our buildings?

17 COUNCILMAN GREEN: Just
18 generally. Just what's the general -- so
19 you're saying that you don't have a
20 general understanding of what that range
21 is?

22 MS. LOCKE: I can tell you that
23 the financial need is over \$4 billion.

24 COUNCILMAN GREEN: Well, I know
25 that's the capital deficit. I'm not

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2 asking you to give me a specific amount.

3 Just give me the range of capital dollars
4 that's spent on an annual basis for the
5 School District.

6 MS. LOCKE: I don't have that
7 information with me today.

8 COUNCILMAN GREEN: Okay.

9 MS. LOCKE: But I can get back
10 to you.

11 COUNCILMAN GREEN: All right.
12 I mean, we're talking about \$1.1 to \$2.3
13 million, which in -- would you say on the
14 record that the School District spends
15 significant millions of dollars on
16 maintenance and capital projects every
17 year?

18 MS. LOCKE: Yes, I can say
19 that.

20 COUNCILMAN GREEN:
21 Significantly more than 1.1 to 2.3
22 million?

23 MS. LOCKE: Yes.

24 COUNCILMAN GREEN: And as
25 you're doing that significantly more

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2 spending on an annual basis, is it also
3 safe to say that in those buildings where
4 the maintenance is needed, there's also
5 an opportunity to do some of the tune-ups
6 that this legislation calls for?

7 MS. LOCKE: Yes.

8 COUNCILMAN GREEN: Okay. And
9 also based on testimony, what I've
10 already heard today is that when you make
11 this investment, you're also going to
12 have a greater return on investment to
13 the School District in reference to
14 making those buildings spend less money?

15 MS. LOCKE: Agreed.

16 COUNCILMAN GREEN: So
17 considering that the School District
18 spends a significant amount of money per
19 year, the only thing that would make
20 sense, to make an investment to do some
21 of the work that's contemplated by this
22 bill now so you can reduce our
23 expenditures going forward?

24 MS. LOCKE: Yes.

25 COUNCILMAN GREEN: So you're

1 10/2/19 - ENVIRONMENT - BILL 190600, ETC.

2 saying you don't have a budget allocated
3 for it, but I haven't heard any
4 commitment to do this going forward in
5 the upcoming budget process.

6 MS. LOCKE: We can definitely
7 look into that and -- I mean, that's a
8 great idea, and we need to think about
9 putting this into the budget for the
10 upcoming year. As the Chair mentioned,
11 though, there are other priorities
12 that we --

13 COUNCILMAN GREEN: But there's
14 always other priorities, but this to
15 me seems to be --

16 MS. LOCKE: The return on
17 investment for this will pay for it.
18 Agreed.

19 COUNCILMAN GREEN: I mean,
20 there's always other priorities.
21 However, this is something that can have
22 a beneficial impact to the School
23 District by reducing expenses, but also
24 have other greater benefits to not only
25 the School District, not only people that

1 10/2/19 - ENVIRONMENT - BILL 190600, ETC.

2 are working in those buildings but the
3 City as a whole.

4 MS. LOCKE: I agree with you,
5 and I think the District's position is
6 that we want to comply with this
7 regulation. We can't commit today to
8 saying that we have a budget allocated
9 for it.

10 COUNCILMAN GREEN: I'm not
11 asking --

12 MS. LOCKE: But it's
13 legislation that will impact the District
14 and benefit our children. There's a
15 financial return on it, protects the
16 environment. As the Sustainability
17 Director for the School District of
18 Philadelphia, to me it's a win-win
19 situation, but we do have to bring it to
20 the members of the District who make
21 decisions on the budget allocation and
22 also look at the other priorities, as the
23 Chair mentioned. But I am an advocate
24 and a supporter of this legislation.
25 It's a matter of really having the

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2 ability to commit to it with the budget
3 allocation and funding, and I'm not in a
4 position to be able to say that as the
5 Sustainability Director.

6 COUNCILMAN GREEN: Okay. How
7 much money -- let me ask this question:
8 How much money was spent this past year
9 on sustainability initiatives by the
10 School District?

11 MS. LOCKE: That's a very good
12 question. So GreenFutures is a lens for
13 the School District in terms of looking
14 at our operations, maintenance, and
15 capital as well as procurement and
16 academic programs, looking at those from
17 a sustainability perspective, infusing
18 the District with a sustainability
19 mindset. And so capturing that value
20 through dollars is difficult. There's
21 only two people, let's say, offend vista
22 (ph), who are members of GreenFutures who
23 work just for GreenFutures. So our
24 staffing is very limited, and we're
25 trying to actually grow the program,

1 10/2/19 - ENVIRONMENT - BILL 190600, ETC.
2 working with the Office of
3 Sustainability.

4 And so the answer to your
5 question, how much are we spending on
6 sustainability at the School District of
7 Philadelphia, we could break that down
8 into green stormwater infrastructure
9 projects, school gardens that are being
10 constructed, the professional development
11 GreenFutures theories that we are
12 administering to teachers and staff
13 members, the way we're infusing
14 sustainability into our District,
15 changing the organizational culture.
16 It's hard to put a dollar value to that,
17 and I can try to do that.

18 Our goals are to reduce energy
19 consumption, increase our waste diversion
20 rates. So part of sustainability is
21 through a recycling contract and through
22 District programs at specific schools
23 where they're trying to do composting to
24 reduce their waste and, through
25 procurement, green purchasing programs.

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2 The City's Office of Sustainability
3 recently shared with us the policy that
4 they developed on green purchasing.

5 So I'm sorry to give a long
6 explanation, but putting a value on
7 sustainability at the District right now
8 is difficult for me to do at this
9 hearing, if that makes any sense.

10 COUNCILMAN GREEN: And that's
11 because your office does not have the
12 resources to measure the full impact?

13 MS. LOCKE: With the amount of
14 folks that are in the GreenFutures
15 office, it's very difficult to do that.
16 We would need assistance by having
17 someone who is a financial analyst who
18 could work with us on developing the
19 figures that would support sustainability
20 and share and visualize, allow you guys
21 to see how much the District really is
22 spending on sustainability, because there
23 is a lot going on at our District, really
24 positive work that is sustainability
25 infusing our District, and we truly

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2 believe that our students are better in
3 schools that are green. So our goal is
4 to create green schools. Children learn
5 better in schools that are clean, energy
6 efficient, where children are recycling,
7 they see adults doing these things. They
8 become stewards of their environment,
9 global citizens, and community leaders
10 when they see a school doing these very
11 positive things. They bring that home.
12 They bring it to the community. The
13 community joins us. And so not only are
14 we changing the mindset of our students
15 and teachers, but community members.

16 There's so many benefits of
17 green schools, and we work with the
18 National Wildlife Federation Eco-Schools
19 program trying to get our schools
20 registered as eco-schools. I think we
21 have about 38 schools that are registered
22 presently. And through that program,
23 teachers receive curriculum that they
24 bring to students and share with them,
25 climate change lesson plans. They take

1 10/2/19 - ENVIRONMENT - BILL 190600, ETC.
2 them on field trips to learn about the
3 watersheds with the Fairmount Water
4 Works, which is a great partner with us,
5 where they have curriculum that's been
6 developed by teachers in the School
7 District of Philadelphia about
8 sustainability and how we impact our
9 environment, and this actually leads to
10 empathy and this leads to -- our
11 Sustainability Manager, Megan Garner, is
12 here also, and she is an education for
13 sustainability advocate who has worked
14 with many teachers over the past two
15 years on ensuring that we are bringing
16 sustainability to the classroom, and this
17 leads to a lot of side effects too. As I
18 was mentioning, empathy. There is a
19 teacher at a school who has been
20 implementing sustainability practices in
21 her work in the classroom, and she has
22 seen a huge change in classroom culture
23 where children are respecting themselves,
24 their environment, their colleagues, and
25 teachers, and it's all because of this

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2 infusion of sustainability into the work.

3 So I could talk for a long
4 time, Councilman Green, on this because I
5 have a passion for it, but we would love
6 to grow our GreenFutures plan with the
7 District. There's a lot of benefits to
8 it.

9 COUNCILMAN GREEN: So clearly
10 you have a passion and a commitment for
11 sustainability.

12 MS. LOCKE: Yes.

13 COUNCILMAN GREEN: Would you
14 say that the District as a whole has the
15 same commitment?

16 MS. LOCKE: I believe that our
17 leadership is very supportive.

18 COUNCILMAN GREEN: So in that
19 regard, how long have you been in this
20 role at the School District?

21 MS. LOCKE: Three months.

22 COUNCILMAN GREEN: Three
23 months, okay. Gotcha.

24 MS. LOCKE: Prior to that, I
25 was with the District for 14 years in

1 10/2/19 - ENVIRONMENT - BILL 190600, ETC.
2 another role.

3 COUNCILMAN GREEN: So you were
4 with the District for 14 years --

5 MS. LOCKE: Correct.

6 COUNCILMAN GREEN: -- prior to
7 this?

8 MS. LOCKE: But I was here in
9 2015. So we started -- GreenFutures was
10 launched in 2015 after two years of
11 working with stakeholders and partners,
12 including the Office of Sustainability,
13 the Philadelphia Energy Authority,
14 Fairmount Water Works, the Franklin
15 Institute, the Philadelphia Zoo, the
16 Pennsylvania Horticultural Society, the
17 Trust for Public Land. I could name
18 probably a dozen partners that worked
19 with us for about two years to develop
20 GreenFutures, which was launched in 2015
21 actually in City Hall with Mayor Kenney.
22 It was a really wonderful day when we
23 launched that at a press conference, and
24 we had a reception at the Philadelphia
25 Zoo. And it's been three years since we

1 10/2/19 - ENVIRONMENT - BILL 190600, ETC.

2 launched this program, this plan, and we
3 have seen great successes.

4 And so I may have only been in
5 this role for three months, but I have
6 been working on this and I'm the
7 co-founder of the GreenFutures program
8 since 2014.

9 COUNCILMAN GREEN: And so what
10 is your budget for GreenFutures, your
11 departmental budget?

12 MS. LOCKE: We don't have a
13 budget. Our Chief Operating Officer,
14 Danielle Floyd, was kind enough to give
15 us the opportunity to do this work
16 without a budget other than our staff.

17 COUNCILMAN GREEN: So your
18 staff is funded, but your department does
19 not have a specific budget?

20 MS. LOCKE: That is correct.

21 COUNCILMAN GREEN: Okay. And
22 the School District has been working on
23 this for about three years?

24 MS. LOCKE: Correct.

25 COUNCILMAN GREEN: Okay. And

1 10/2/19 - ENVIRONMENT - BILL 190600, ETC.

2 your perspective -- and I definitely hear
3 your passion and your dynamic, but the
4 fact that the District has not budgeted
5 any resources toward initiatives that's
6 been around for three years really begs
7 the question on their level of commitment
8 to this goal of sustainability in the
9 School District and in school buildings.

10 I know through my work -- and I
11 worked closely with the Philadelphia
12 Energy Authority -- for a number of
13 years we were really trying to get the
14 District to move forward on doing some
15 initiatives that they started this year
16 in reference to solar panels and other
17 energy savings concepts that would reduce
18 expenditures at schools, as well as
19 making the environment in schools more
20 conducive for learning, and we really did
21 not get the -- we didn't really get
22 movement on that issue until really the
23 Energy Authority basically took it upon
24 themselves to do the work for the School
25 District, because the District did not

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2 have the resources to commit to doing
3 this.

4 So this kind of begs the
5 question in reference to the commitment
6 that the District has. And I'm just
7 reflecting from my experience working
8 closely with the Energy Authority, and
9 the District stated this is something
10 that we would like to do, but did not
11 have the internal resources to do it, and
12 it really took the Energy Authority to
13 move this initiative forward to get us to
14 the point of where we are now with
15 installing solar panels and other type of
16 environmental efforts in various schools.

17 So I will close with some
18 concerns I have in reference to the
19 commitment. I definitely hear your
20 passion, but to say issues are about
21 resources and priorities, it comes down
22 to whether people want to do and spend
23 the money to do it, and it still begs the
24 question if it's something that the
25 School District wants to do as a whole.

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2 Thank you, Madam Chair.

3 COUNCILWOMAN BROWN: You're
4 welcome. You're welcome.

5 Please, just for clarity, you
6 said that you've been in your current
7 position for three months?

8 MS. LOCKE: Correct.

9 COUNCILWOMAN BROWN: How
10 frequently already have you met with the
11 leadership at the Office of
12 Sustainability?

13 MS. LOCKE: Very frequent. I'd
14 say multiple times per month, maybe even
15 weekly, talking through e-mails and going
16 to meetings.

17 COUNCILWOMAN BROWN: So is that
18 around a specific plan? Is that around a
19 specific strategy? Is it around crafting
20 strategy? What's the focus of the
21 agenda?

22 MS. LOCKE: I'd say two main
23 focuses. One is on the initiatives that
24 we are currently working on through
25 GreenFutures. So they have been with us

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2 from day one with regards to our
3 subcommittee meetings where we are
4 looking at our targets, goals, and
5 actions and how we can attain those
6 things. They've actually helped us --
7 Rich was instrumental in developing
8 GreenFutures, particularly with the
9 energy piece and the overall product
10 itself.

11 And then secondly because of
12 this legislation, we have met with them
13 multiple times to talk about how we can
14 really get there with this legislation,
15 how we can really do it, strategizing,
16 using their energy expertise to calculate
17 numbers and figure out how to
18 logistically do this.

19 Can I just say one more thing?
20 I want to mention something with the
21 Philadelphia Energy Authority. Emily
22 Schapira is one of our best partners, one
23 of our greatest partners. She attends so
24 many meetings with us. We've been
25 working with her for several years. And

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2 we also partnered with the Philadelphia
3 Energy Authority on a student Bright
4 Futures program, which was a green energy
5 pathway program that was spearheaded by
6 PEA with GreenFutures' support, and that
7 actually was such a successful program
8 that it's being expanded now, and we --

9 COUNCILWOMAN BROWN: You say
10 expanded, meaning expanded to other
11 schools?

12 MS. LOCKE: With more students,
13 with an academic program being developed
14 that is going to be sustainable and
15 moving forward as a CTE initiative by the
16 District with PEA. And Emily is here,
17 who can speak more on this than I.

18 COUNCILWOMAN BROWN: We'll
19 invite her up.

20 Please speak to the -- you said
21 you have 38 programs registered so far in
22 the environment and sustainability focus
23 of the School District?

24 MS. LOCKE: Yes. Yes. So our
25 District is attempting to create green

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2 schools. Our goal through GreenFutures
3 is to make every school a green school,
4 and one of the venues by which a school
5 can do that is through adopting or
6 signing up for, becoming a member of the
7 National Wildlife Federation
8 Eco-Schools --

9 COUNCILWOMAN BROWN: Stop right
10 there, because you're giving us a lot of
11 information. What we know is this, is
12 that where you have strong principals,
13 you have better schools. And we all know
14 that there are not 100 percent strong
15 principals across the School District,
16 because I have my own anecdotal
17 experiences. So these 38 schools, how do
18 they become the lucky 38 schools?

19 MS. LOCKE: It's usually by a
20 teacher. So a teacher who -- and it's
21 amazing how attractive sustainability is
22 to teachers. They really have an
23 affinity towards making their schools
24 green through many different ways.

25 COUNCILWOMAN BROWN: So it's a

1 10/2/19 - ENVIRONMENT - BILL 190600, ETC.

2 voluntary --

3 MS. LOCKE: Yes.

4 COUNCILWOMAN BROWN: --

5 option --

6 MS. LOCKE: Correct.

7 COUNCILWOMAN BROWN: -- that

8 teachers or principals can buy into?

9 MS. LOCKE: Correct.

10 COUNCILWOMAN BROWN: Okay.

11 Any more questions for this

12 panel?

13 (No response.)

14 COUNCILWOMAN BROWN: Okay,

15 then. All right. Well, thank you for

16 the testimony. I would suggest that the

17 School District and the Office of

18 Sustainability keep this Committee

19 informed about your progress as it

20 relates to this legislation, because it's

21 clear that it's needed.

22 MS. LOCKE: Agreed.

23 MR. FREEH: Absolutely. Thank

24 you.

25 MS. LOCKE: Thank you so much.

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2 COUNCILWOMAN BROWN: Panel No.
3 2, Julian Boggs, Policy Director for
4 Keystone Energy Efficiency Alliance; Alex
5 Dews, Executive Director of the Green
6 Building United; Megan O'Neil, Manager of
7 City Solutions, Institute for Market
8 Transformation. And we would want Panel
9 3 to tee up. That will be Lindsey
10 Walaski, Project Engineer for Practical
11 Energy Solutions, and Hao-Li Tai will be
12 Panel No. 3.

13 (Witnesses approached witness
14 table.)

15 COUNCILWOMAN BROWN: Good
16 morning, and we'll start off with Julian
17 Boggs, Policy Director for Keystone
18 Energy Efficiency Alliance. Proceed with
19 your testimony.

20 MR. BOGGS: Good morning --

21 COUNCILWOMAN BROWN: Good
22 morning.

23 MR. BOGGS: -- Chairwoman
24 Reynolds Brown, members of the Committee.
25 My name is Julian Boggs. I'm the Policy

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2 Director at the Keystone Energy
3 Efficiency Alliance, or KEEA. KEEA is a
4 Pennsylvania-based trade association
5 representing more than 60 members of the
6 energy efficiency industry, and thanks
7 for allowing me to speak today on the
8 important issue of improving
9 Philadelphia's energy efficiency. Today,
10 the first Wednesday in October, is Energy
11 Efficiency Day, for those of you who
12 don't know, and so it couldn't be a more
13 opportune time.

14 We strongly support Bill
15 190600, the Building Energy Performance
16 Policy. Investments in an energy
17 efficiency policy are a win-win, and I
18 think we heard from the Office of
19 Sustainability and I think we all know
20 the great benefits of energy efficiency.
21 Just one more thing to put out there is
22 that energy efficiency accounts for
23 29,000 jobs just in the Philadelphia and
24 metro area, according to the E2E for the
25 Future annual job census.

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2 I want to talk a little bit
3 about the experience that we have, our
4 members, helping businesses save energy.
5 As energy engineers, consultants, energy
6 service providers, many of our members
7 would be involved in doing the work of
8 the building tune-ups and identifying
9 future projects for deeper energy
10 savings. And we have a breadth of
11 experience working with large commercial
12 buildings and public-sector buildings to
13 improve comfort and performance while
14 cutting energy use.

15 We also have experience with
16 the barriers that these buildings and
17 institutions and companies face in
18 achieving energy efficiency. And so
19 those barriers include facility managers
20 who are not incentivized to save energy.
21 It's their job to keep things working.
22 It's their job to ensure systems are
23 functioning and repairs are made in a
24 timely basis. They don't particularly
25 get rewarded for energy savings down the

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2 line in many institutions.

3 And then as we heard in our
4 previous discussion, capital budgets can
5 prioritize spending on the core business
6 model or core institution functions over
7 energy investments, even if those energy
8 investments pay for themselves over time,
9 and budgets are not always fungible
10 between different programs. So even if
11 those energy investments are contributing
12 positively to the overall financial
13 picture, it can be really difficult for
14 public- and private-sector organizations
15 to make those investments and prioritize
16 them over other investments, because
17 that's what this is all about.

18 Despite these barriers, many
19 large building owners have figured out
20 how to integrate energy management and
21 energy savings into their businesses, and
22 we know this, Chairwoman, as you pointed
23 out thanks to your benchmarking
24 legislation and to the progress that
25 we've had. We can see now this data in

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2 Philadelphia.

3 So if we're going to maximize
4 our energy efficiency potential and meet
5 our climate goals, more large buildings
6 need to commit to and they need to
7 prioritize energy management as a core
8 business factor, and sometimes this
9 involves just changing the culture and
10 changing the practices within
11 institutions and within companies, and
12 that needs policy to help them along the
13 way. And in addition to the tangible
14 benefits that this tune-ups legislation
15 will have, helping shift that culture in
16 more buildings and in more institutions
17 is an important impact that this policy
18 can have.

19 We think that the building
20 tune-ups described in the legislation are
21 a very light-touch requirement, almost
22 the lightest touch one could imagine,
23 that provide building owners with a
24 gateway drug into prioritizing energy
25 management while minimizing the financial

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2 burden. Once building owners take this
3 first step, they can take advantage of a
4 number of other strategies that have
5 financial incentives attached to them.

6 For example, PECO currently
7 offers incentives for
8 retro-commissioning, which is a process
9 similar to the building tune-ups. It
10 requires more commitment from the
11 building. And it might not be
12 appropriate in every place, but it
13 actually has incentives attached to it.
14 And the legislation provides buildings
15 who take advantage of that utility
16 program an exemption from the building
17 tune-ups.

18 Additional incentives for
19 building owners include the full breadth
20 of PECO's Smart Ideas program. So in
21 order to make deeper energy retrofits
22 that can save more energy over time, PECO
23 offers rebates and incentives for HVAC
24 equipment, lighting upgrades, advanced
25 controls for HVAC and lighting, and more.

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2 And then, of course, we've been
3 talking about Philadelphia Energy
4 Authority. The soon-to-be-launched
5 Commercial Property Assessed Clean Energy
6 Program can offer long-term financing for
7 energy efficiency and clean energy
8 measures on the private-sector market.
9 And these, I think, are both programs
10 mostly for deeper retrofits than we're
11 envisioning here in the building tune-ups
12 legislation, but once building owners
13 take those deeper steps, there are
14 incentives and financing available for
15 them.

16 So in sum, we think this
17 legislation is important, necessary, and
18 a reasonable next step, building on the
19 benchmarking legislation and advancing
20 Philadelphia's progress toward meeting
21 its energy efficiency and climate goals,
22 and we would like to thank Chairwoman
23 Reynolds Brown for introducing this
24 important legislation and encourage
25 members of the Committee to vote to

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2 advance the bill.

3 Thank you so much for your
4 time.

5 COUNCILWOMAN BROWN: Thank you
6 for your contribution.

7 Good morning, Alex Dews.
8 Welcome back.

9 MR. DEWS: Good morning. Good
10 morning, Chairwoman Reynolds Brown. My
11 name is Alex Dews. I'm Executive
12 Director at Green Building United, and I
13 want to start this morning by thanking
14 the Chair for her leadership on this
15 Committee for many years. There are a
16 lot of really important sustainability
17 efforts that have come out of this
18 Committee under your leadership, and
19 you've always taken the time to engage
20 with the broader community of
21 stakeholders, even when we don't all
22 agree with each other, to make sure that
23 we get to the best possible outcome. So
24 I really want to applaud that and thank
25 you for all of your support.

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2 COUNCILWOMAN BROWN: I

3 appreciate that.

4 MR. DEWS: So thank you also
5 for the opportunity to provide testimony
6 on behalf of Green Building United in
7 support of Bill No. 190600, entitled
8 "Building Energy Performance Policy,"
9 which requires owners of certain large
10 buildings to conduct tune-ups of their
11 energy and water systems.

12 Under Mayor Kenney's leadership
13 and that of City Council, the City has
14 committed to ambitious goals to cut
15 carbon emissions 80 percent by 2050, and
16 now we must continue to put programs in
17 place that will help Philadelphia to
18 reach those goals. This bill represents
19 an important opportunity to advance
20 commercial building efficiency in
21 particular. And as we've heard already
22 today, buildings and industry make up
23 about 80 percent of the carbon emissions
24 in Philadelphia, and most of this is
25 coming from the building sector, so it's

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2 the biggest piece of the puzzle, the
3 place that we need to focus and a huge
4 opportunity for improvement still in
5 Philadelphia.

6 We can have a direct and really
7 significant impact on reducing local
8 carbon emissions by improving the
9 efficiency of the largest buildings, and
10 doing that through tune-ups is a really
11 sound practice and a great extension of
12 the existing work that's happening with
13 the benchmarking program.

14 It was mentioned earlier that
15 operator training is a really important
16 part of this puzzle. So building
17 operations as much as capital
18 improvements to buildings are a really
19 important place to focus, and this isn't
20 something you can just do once and then
21 walk away from it. A lot of it really
22 does have to do with regular daily
23 engagement with the building and making
24 sure all the systems are functioning
25 correctly. And this is just going from

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2 the snapshot in time that we have from a
3 benchmarking program looking annually at
4 how a building performed to understanding
5 not just how it performs, but why it's
6 performing that way. So it's a really
7 important next step to get that
8 additional information into the hands of
9 owners and tenants.

10 So who benefits from this
11 tune-up policy? The building owners
12 obviously stand to benefit tremendously
13 through the cost savings. We heard a
14 little bit about return on investment
15 already. And I did just want to point
16 out that the case study that was used,
17 the Juvenile Justice Center, is only
18 seven years old and was built to a LEED
19 standard. So buildings that are on
20 average 86 years old are going to have a
21 lot more opportunity for additional
22 savings. So I think that that estimate
23 is actually quite conservative in terms
24 of what the ROI would be across the board
25 for buildings that undergo these

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2 assessments.

3 So owners benefit. Building
4 occupants benefit. And that's meaningful
5 in a lot of different contexts, whether
6 it's a healthcare facility that can
7 shorten the stays of patients because the
8 building is operating more efficiently or
9 schools where students are more
10 comfortable and can have a better
11 learning environment or office buildings
12 where employees can also be comfortable
13 and be more productive and have lower
14 absenteeism. All of these things are
15 backed up by long-term research that
16 really underscores the additional value
17 of building efficiency.

18 The local economy also
19 benefits, and in the City's Office of
20 Sustainability's Powering Our Future
21 report, a building tune-up program was
22 listed as having the potential to save
23 \$55 million citywide annually.

24 So in summary, if we're looking
25 at getting to 100 percent clean energy in

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2 Philadelphia and reducing carbon
3 emissions to stay on target for our 80 by
4 '50 goals, the fastest way to do that is
5 through energy efficiency. Reducing
6 demand is the quickest way to reach those
7 clean energy goals. It's the right step
8 at the right time for Philadelphia,
9 because it moves us from just having all
10 that information about how buildings use
11 energy to, as I said, understanding why
12 they're using energy the way they are.
13 And in working towards the City's really
14 ambitious climate commitments, local
15 government has a lot of influence and
16 control over buildings policy and much
17 less control over the citywide energy
18 supply. So, again, it's a really
19 appropriate place to focus.

20 And as the climate becomes more
21 volatile, we see more extreme
22 temperatures like it being over 90
23 degrees today in October, it's really
24 important to remember that building
25 efficiency is also a resiliency practice.

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2 Our buildings need to be able to
3 withstand the much greater extremes that
4 we can expect as we go forward in this
5 century.

6 And then, finally, as Julian
7 pointed out, I think it's also really
8 important to understand the huge economic
9 opportunity workforce-wise that this
10 represents, and Pennsylvania's clean
11 economy has advanced to the point where
12 we've got almost 100,000 employees across
13 the state working in clean energy. More
14 than 75 percent of those are in energy
15 efficiency, and I would say we're still
16 just scratching the surface, and these
17 are entry-level jobs through senior
18 management jobs. It's a huge sector.
19 It's a huge opportunity to grow the
20 sector. And this, again, I think points
21 in the right direction for all of that.

22 So a lot more detail in my
23 written testimony on some specifics of
24 implementation and some ideas for tweaks
25 and improvements in regulation that we

1 10/2/19 - ENVIRONMENT - BILL 190600, ETC.

2 think could make this even better, but
3 thank you again for the opportunity to
4 testify.

5 COUNCILWOMAN BROWN: You're
6 very welcome. I have some follow-up
7 questions, but we'll first wait to hear
8 from Megan O'Neil, Manager of City
9 Solutions, Institute for Market
10 Transformation.

11 MS. O'NEIL: Good morning,
12 Chairmember Reynolds Brown and members of
13 the Committee. I'm Megan O'Neil, Manager
14 of City Solutions for the Institute for
15 Market Transformation. I am here to
16 testify in support of Bill No. 190600,
17 which would establish a tune-up
18 requirement for large non-residential
19 buildings in Philadelphia. The Institute
20 of Market Transformation, IMT, is a
21 national non-profit organization that
22 promotes energy efficiency in buildings.

23 As you know, the City of
24 Philadelphia is a participant in the
25 Bloomberg American Cities Climate

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2 Challenge, which provides support to 25
3 cities in the United States on enacting
4 programs to reduce carbon emissions. IMT
5 is acting as an advisor to the cities in
6 this challenge program on building energy
7 efficiency performance programs.

8 Philadelphia is a leader in the
9 U.S. when it comes to energy efficiency.
10 You were one of the earliest cities to
11 enact an energy benchmarking and
12 transparency policy, and numerous cities
13 across the country have followed your
14 lead by passing similar policies. The
15 re-tuning policy before you today
16 demonstrates continued leadership in this
17 space.

18 Benchmarking and transparency
19 policies have the benefit of making
20 energy performance data available to the
21 public and providing the City with
22 information on the energy efficiency of
23 its buildings. The logical and
24 reasonable next step is to require
25 buildings to have tune-ups to improve

1 10/2/19 - ENVIRONMENT - BILL 190600, ETC.

2 their energy performance.

3 Cities including Seattle,
4 Washington; Los Angeles, California; and
5 New York City, New York have enacted
6 re-tuning or retro-commissioning policies
7 similar to what you are considering today
8 in recent years.

9 Re-tuning policies focus on
10 low- to no-cost efficiency improvements,
11 which lead to instant costs and energy
12 savings for building owners. Targeting
13 these impactful low-cost improvements
14 will help create a culture of energy
15 efficiency among Philadelphia's building
16 owners by undertaking measures that
17 benefit their bottom line. In the coming
18 years, the City will benefit from that
19 culture to advance energy efficiency and
20 to achieve the City's climate goals.

21 This policy will also help
22 create energy efficiency jobs in the
23 City, helping to build a skilled
24 workforce of professionals to conduct
25 building improvements that lead to energy

1 10/2/19 - ENVIRONMENT - BILL 190600, ETC.
2 savings and climate benefits. Buildings
3 represent the greatest source of carbon
4 emissions in the City, and this bill is a
5 critical step to reducing those
6 emissions. It's for that reason that IMT
7 supports this bill.

8 Thank you very much.

9 COUNCILWOMAN BROWN: You're
10 welcome. You are welcome.

11 Alex Dews, is there any
12 interface with the School District of
13 Philadelphia in the way that you
14 articulated? I'd like to hear from both
15 you and Julian Boggs on --

16 MR. DEWS: Sure. So our
17 organization, Green Building United, has
18 been engaged with the GreenFutures
19 program since its inception, and Francine
20 and Megan's leadership on that has been
21 really impressive, building it from
22 nothing into something that is really
23 impacting a lot of schools and a lot of
24 students.

25 The way that we have interfaced

1 10/2/19 - ENVIRONMENT - BILL 190600, ETC.

2 most recently is really just as an
3 outside advocate. We've had discussions
4 about the opportunity specifically around
5 building operator training and bringing
6 that to the School District if it's
7 something that can fit into the program,
8 you know, finding the right way to make
9 that available.

10 I think it's a huge opportunity
11 to have that workforce that maintains and
12 operates all of the buildings in the
13 District to have that ongoing education
14 opportunity to get the most out of the
15 buildings that they have, and then as the
16 buildings go through regular
17 improvements, to continue to get the most
18 out of them, because there are new
19 technologies and new ways of operating
20 buildings that it's important to stay up
21 to speed on.

22 So in the past, our
23 organization, actually in partnership
24 with IMT, has developed a curriculum --
25 and with the Office of Sustainability --

1 10/2/19 - ENVIRONMENT - BILL 190600, ETC.

2 developed a curriculum that was designed
3 specifically to educate City of
4 Philadelphia building operators on
5 building operations, training, and we've
6 held a number of trainings in
7 Philadelphia as well as outside of the
8 City and in the State of Delaware that
9 have been really well received and are
10 very accessible to building operation
11 staff.

12 Typically a lot of the
13 professional certifications are a week
14 long and very expensive, and we try to
15 tailor our training to the needs and the
16 schedules of people that are actually
17 responsible for keeping the lights on in
18 a building. So we have half-day modules
19 and a one-day training that gets people
20 up to speed on the latest in building
21 science. And I'd be very receptive to a
22 further discussion on how to make that
23 available to as many people as possible
24 and specifically in the School District.

25 COUNCILWOMAN BROWN: I'm trying

1 10/2/19 - ENVIRONMENT - BILL 190600, ETC.

2 to get a handle on whether there's a very
3 structured, intentional effort to train
4 the building operators for the School
5 District of Philadelphia given the return
6 on investment that has been well
7 articulated. So how does it happen?
8 Does a principal call and say I want it?
9 Does the School District division that
10 deals with this call and say we need it?
11 How does it happen?

12 MR. DEWS: I don't think I'm in
13 the best position to answer operationally
14 how that happens for the School District.

15 COUNCILWOMAN BROWN: All right.

16 MR. DEWS: I think, again, as
17 an advocate, it's something that we
18 understand there are cost constraints,
19 but because the opportunity is there to
20 train 30, 40 people at a time, providing
21 some trainings I think could be a small
22 cost/great benefit for the District. And
23 I know that they've got a lot of
24 large-scale efficiency projects happening
25 already, which is fantastic, and I think

1 10/2/19 - ENVIRONMENT - BILL 190600, ETC.

2 this is a really nice, much smaller but
3 really important complement to that.

4 Anything you want to add,
5 Julian?

6 COUNCILWOMAN BROWN: Please,
7 Julian.

8 MR. BOGGS: Just very quickly,
9 as a statewide association, we haven't
10 had much direct interface with the
11 Philadelphia School District on this, but
12 for the last several years we've run a
13 program called the Moving to the Head of
14 the Class Awards where we've highlighted
15 school districts and school facilities
16 across the state who are both either
17 energy efficiency leaders or have made
18 huge strides in advancing energy
19 efficiency, and there have been a couple
20 factors that are common across those
21 school districts, and I think the biggest
22 is just the cooperation from passionate
23 building managers, who are the ones who
24 get this work done but don't get
25 recognized for it and are often working

1 10/2/19 - ENVIRONMENT - BILL 190600, ETC.
2 on their own, without much of a support
3 network, and then support from principals
4 and administration. And it takes -- it
5 really takes everyone, especially those
6 three pieces.

7 COUNCILWOMAN BROWN: It all
8 starts with leadership. That's my
9 training.

10 MR. BOGGS: So that's what
11 we've seen.

12 COUNCILWOMAN BROWN:
13 Recognizing that -- I don't know, except
14 for maybe parts of Allegheny County --
15 there are other districts at the scale of
16 the City of Philadelphia, are there any
17 districts in the southeastern region that
18 are leaders in the way that you just
19 defined in this space?

20 MR. BOGGS: Not off the top of
21 my head, but yes. And, frankly, a lot of
22 them have a lot more money than the
23 Philadelphia School District does, so
24 it's not apples and oranges.

25 COUNCILWOMAN BROWN: Put that

1 10/2/19 - ENVIRONMENT - BILL 190600, ETC.

2 aside. That being what it is.

3 MR. DEWS: There are a few
4 leading districts in Pennsylvania, and
5 also our organization runs a Pathways to
6 Green Schools program in Delaware that is
7 funded by the Sustainable Energy Utility
8 in Delaware that provides audits to
9 schools, and because things need to
10 happen at the district level, we found
11 it's often people on the finance and
12 business management side of the
13 operations that are really focused on
14 implementing the recommendations that
15 come out of the energy audits that we
16 provide, but without that leadership, it
17 can be really difficult.

18 But I'd be happy to follow up
19 with a couple of case studies that are
20 good examples of how districts have
21 embraced this and worked it into their
22 capital planning and budgeting, re-tuning
23 in particular, and continuous
24 commissioning these kinds of things are
25 becoming more and more common practice.

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2 COUNCILWOMAN BROWN: I would
3 welcome that. Given the interest raised
4 by Councilman Green and Councilwoman Gym,
5 there's definitely opportunity to connect
6 the important work that you do with the
7 needed work at the School District, and
8 when you hear from Councilman Green that
9 in many ways efforts or initiatives to
10 uptick the level of engagement, how he's
11 had to sometimes find another means to
12 get it done, you all can be the connector
13 in ensuring that progress along this
14 space happens more aggressively,
15 especially given the return on
16 investment.

17 Thank you for the work that you
18 do.

19 Councilman Green, any comment?
20 No?

21 All right, then. Thank you.
22 Please, Lindsey Walaski,
23 Project Engineer for Practical Energy
24 Solutions, and please help me with the
25 pronunciation of Hao-Li Tai.

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2 (Witnesses approached witness
3 table.)

4 MS. TAI: Hao-Li Tai.

5 COUNCILWOMAN BROWN: Hao-Li
6 Tai. Thank you.

7 Next up will be Pratima
8 Agrawal, Meenal Raval, Dave Moscatello,
9 Jim Wylie.

10 Thank you. Proceed with your
11 testimony.

12 MS. WALASKI: Good morning,
13 Chairwoman Reynolds Brown and the members
14 of the Committee on the Environment.
15 Thank you for the opportunity to provide
16 support for Bill 190600. My name is
17 Lindsey Walaski. I'm a Project Engineer
18 with Practical Energy Solutions. We are
19 a local energy consulting firm working in
20 the Greater Philadelphia area, and we've
21 been around for about 13 years and have
22 within that time been probably within 500
23 buildings. So based on that experience,
24 we have really grown the business of
25 doing re-tuning with the advancement of

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2 control systems. We really see value in
3 making adjustments, making low-cost
4 improvements to the building and really
5 support the tune-up process as a
6 cost-effective investment in existing
7 buildings.

8 Because most of the measures
9 that are achieved through the tune-up
10 process are mainly through existing
11 equipment and existing control systems, a
12 lot of the changes can be implemented low
13 cost with low payback, as mentioned
14 before. There's also a lot of indirect
15 benefits from making these changes. A
16 lot of the changes typically include
17 reducing the operation time for
18 equipment, which is really helpful for
19 business owners because it's a longer
20 replacement time that they would need to
21 replace a lot of these meter equipment
22 systems.

23 Rich had a good analogy of
24 comparing a tune-up of a building to a
25 tune-up of a car. If you were to use

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2 your car more often, you would need to
3 replace it more frequently, and in that
4 same vein, if you're going to use your
5 mechanical systems more efficiently and
6 less often as you would through the
7 re-tuning process, you would need to
8 replace those major equipment less
9 frequently. So we see this as a really
10 good benefit to the business owners.

11 A big focus of the tune-up
12 process is also indoor air quality. So
13 we see a lot of these changes can be made
14 without interrupting the building
15 occupants.

16 The other point I want to make
17 on investment and investing buildings is,
18 the existing building stock that we have
19 in Philadelphia that we'll see by 2050 is
20 pretty much already here. About
21 two-thirds of the existing -- about
22 two-thirds of the buildings that will be
23 around in 2050 are already here. So it's
24 a really, really great investment to make
25 in existing buildings.

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2 As a final note, Practical
3 Energy Solutions is super excited to be a
4 part of the workforce to implement the
5 re-tuning process. We really value the
6 work and making impacts in the City.
7 Something else that we can also do as an
8 added resource is provide training for
9 other tune-up specialists. As mentioned
10 before by Alex and Rich, the building
11 operator training is something that we
12 help partner with them and actually put
13 on for operations and maintenance staffs
14 in Delaware. So it's something that we
15 can also provide as a resource to you to
16 make sure that the tune-ups provided as
17 part of this legislation are done well
18 and meet the standards of the Office of
19 Sustainability.

20 So thank you for your time this
21 morning and for listening to my support
22 for this bill.

23 COUNCILWOMAN BROWN: Thank you.

24 Please state your name for the
25 record and proceed with your testimony.

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2 MS. TAI: Good morning. My
3 name is Hao-Li Tai. I'm with The Climate
4 Mobilization, an organization calling for
5 climate emergencies to be declared across
6 the country and mobilizing the country on
7 a World War II scale in order to reach
8 zero emissions in the next ten years.
9 I'm speaking today in support of Bill
10 190600, indeed all three bills. We
11 support any legislation that will move us
12 along the path of decreasing carbon
13 emissions, and increasing the energy
14 efficiency of City buildings will be an
15 important component of any plan to
16 decrease carbon emissions.

17 The Building Energy Performance
18 Plan is an important step toward reaching
19 the City's Clean Energy Vision and the
20 goals as specified in the Ready for 100
21 resolution passed last Thursday.
22 However, it doesn't go far enough. It
23 doesn't even live up to the City's own
24 2018 Clean Energy Vision timeline for the
25 largest carbon-emitting sector in

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2 Philadelphia - buildings.

3 And the bill is not the only
4 thing that doesn't go far enough. I
5 appreciate the intent of City Council in
6 passing the Ready for 100 resolution last
7 week, but in the face of the climate
8 emergency we are facing, the 12 years
9 that the United Nations'
10 Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change
11 report estimates we have to take urgent
12 action before global warming effects
13 become irreversible. We believe it's
14 time for City Council to declare a
15 climate emergency, like the more than a
16 thousand local governments around the
17 world, and mobilize to decrease emissions
18 to net zero in the next ten years.

19 Hurricane and storm damage in
20 Philadelphia have both taken lives and
21 left thousands of people without power
22 for days on end, not to mention incurring
23 millions of dollars in damages. Multiple
24 heat waves have also taken their toll on
25 lives, not to mention other adverse

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2 health effects on City residents.

3 In 2016, Pennsylvania was
4 fourth in the nation in total amount of
5 carbon emissions. Instead of being one
6 of the most polluting states, a ten-year
7 zero emissions goal and plan will model
8 for the state what is possible in leading
9 the way towards a sustainable future and
10 send a message to those thousands of
11 young people striking two weeks ago
12 Friday that we do care about their
13 future.

14 The alternative is too bleak,
15 given the predictions of scientists
16 worldwide about what our future holds if
17 we don't take urgent action in the next
18 ten years. Philadelphia is a beautiful
19 city. We have big city, big challenges,
20 but we also have so much to treasure.
21 Let's treasure our people, our city, and
22 our planet.

23 Thanks for taking the time to
24 listen.

25 COUNCILWOMAN BROWN: We thank

1 10/2/19 - ENVIRONMENT - BILL 190600, ETC.

2 you both for your testimony.

3 We will now please move to the
4 fourth panel.

5 (Witnesses approached witness
6 table.)

7 COUNCILWOMAN BROWN: Please
8 have a seat at the table. Please
9 pronounce your full names for the record,
10 starting from my extreme right.

11 MS. AGRAWAL: Good morning. My
12 name is Pratima Agrawal.

13 COUNCILWOMAN BROWN: Pull the
14 mic close to you so you can be
15 comfortable. Pull the mic closer to you.

16 MS. AGRAWAL: Good morning.

17 COUNCILWOMAN BROWN: Good
18 morning.

19 MS. AGRAWAL: Good morning,
20 Councilwoman Brown and Committee. My
21 name is Pratima Agrawal. I am a resident
22 of Philadelphia and a volunteer with the
23 Philadelphia Ready for 100 Campaign of
24 the Sierra Club.

25 For the past three years,

1 10/2/19 - ENVIRONMENT - BILL 190600, ETC.

2 Philadelphia Ready for 100 has been
3 advocating for the City to transition all
4 its energy to 100 percent clean renewable
5 sources in an equitable way. Last week's
6 passage of Resolution 190728, which,
7 among other things, sets specific goals
8 for Philadelphia and 100 percent clean
9 energy transition, finally brings our
10 city into an alignment with other major
11 cities across the country who have
12 already passed 100 percent resolutions
13 and makes Philadelphia the 139th city to
14 commit to 100 percent citywide.

15 I want to thank City Council
16 for taking this first step in the right
17 direction and for introducing Bill No.
18 190600, a non-residential building energy
19 tune-up policy, that will help to realize
20 the goals of the resolution. I also want
21 to thank the Office of Sustainability for
22 its leadership in developing the
23 Municipal Energy Master Plan and the
24 Clean Energy Vision, both of which are
25 supported by the 100 percent resolution.

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2 At the same time, I want to
3 reiterate to City Council that the
4 resolution specifically sets a 100
5 percent goal for all energy citywide by
6 2050 or sooner. Those last few words may
7 seem insignificant, but they are
8 representative of the climate emergency
9 that we are in. We do not have 30 years
10 to get ourselves off of fossil fuels. We
11 do not have 30 years to become more
12 energy efficient, and we certainly do not
13 have 30 years for the most vulnerable
14 people in our city to finally have a
15 livable community.

16 It is unjustifiable for the
17 City to ever approve of another fossil
18 fuel project from this day forward.
19 There is a climate crisis at our
20 doorsteps, and thousands of Philadelphia
21 residents and youth stood at your
22 doorsteps on September 20th to demand
23 action. And not just any action, but
24 bold and swift action. We hope that you
25 heard those voices and we hope that you

1 10/2/19 - ENVIRONMENT - BILL 190600, ETC.
2 will work with stakeholders across the
3 City to do what is required to not only
4 meet but exceed the goals of the
5 resolution.

6 Thank you, and I'm going to
7 turn it over to the other members of
8 Ready for 100.

9 COUNCILWOMAN BROWN: Good
10 morning.

11 MS. RAVAL: Yeah. Hi. I'm
12 Meenal Raval, an active member of
13 Philly's Ready for 100. I also write an
14 energy column for Grid Magazine.

15 I feel I have better energy
16 standing.

17 I also write an energy column
18 for Grid Magazine and produce a weekly
19 radio show, Philly Talks Climate.

20 Today is October 2nd. Mahatma
21 Gandhi was born 150 years ago today.
22 Gandhi is known for satyagraha, sticking
23 to the truth, and ahimsa, non-violence
24 towards all living things. In the U.S.,
25 ahimsa, or non-violence, has been used by

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2 many activists. I'd like to expand
3 non-violence to the climate movement to
4 saving the ecosystem that we all call
5 home.

6 In light of this, of course I
7 support Bill No. 190600 known as the
8 Building Energy Performance Policy.
9 Regularly checking on thermostats, motion
10 sensors, HVAC systems, and more could
11 save the owners money, use less energy
12 and water, and reduce emissions. They
13 also make the space more comfortable.

14 How many times have you
15 complained about an auditorium, a
16 library, or an office space being too
17 warm or too cold?

18 In reading this bill, though,
19 it seems the Office of Sustainability
20 would be reviewing the energy usage of
21 2,000 or more large buildings. If you
22 want this bill to succeed, this office
23 may need additional staffing.

24 I'd like to remind this
25 Committee that the Building Energy

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2 Performance Policy is but one component
3 of our bigger ask, to transition our
4 entire city to renewable energy as soon
5 as possible that all of Council voted
6 upon last week, Bill No. 190728, also
7 known as the Ready for 100 resolution.

8 A recent report titled "Halfway
9 There" shows how the U.S. can reduce
10 emissions by 50 percent by just being
11 smart, by focusing on energy efficiency.
12 We'll be looking at the policy
13 suggestions on that report and plan to
14 have a list ready for when this Committee
15 meets again with a new Chair.

16 A hint of what those could be
17 are:

18 Zero energy buildings could
19 reduce emissions by 11 percent. This is
20 for new buildings, whether residential or
21 commercial, which can be built so they
22 don't need much energy. How? Make them
23 tight, make them electric, and what
24 little energy they need would be
25 electricity from rooftop panels.

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2 Policy-wise this translates to all new
3 construction being electric only, with no
4 gas hook-ups and, of course, rooftop
5 solar.

6 Building improvements account
7 for about 14 percent emissions
8 reductions, whether tune-ups like being
9 discussed or smart buildings or heating
10 with electricity instead of gas.

11 About 30 percent of our
12 emissions reductions can be had by
13 encouraging more fuel-efficient cars.
14 The most fuel-efficient cars are, of
15 course, electric cars. Policy-wise this
16 means massive build-out of public EV
17 charging stations at underutilized
18 parking lots, churches, schools, and of
19 course grocery stores and hospitals.
20 Yesterday's article in the Inquirer with
21 me showing off my electric car was a
22 start towards this policy.

23 We could have 16 percent
24 emissions reductions by reducing our
25 vehicle miles traveled and by flying

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2 less. This means encouraging walking,
3 cycling, using SEPTA, and telecommuting.
4 I love those Zoom calls. It also shows
5 calls for being smart about how we move
6 our stuff around.

7 As we loop in other groups, we
8 are hearing that we need to move faster
9 on this timeline. So though we've agreed
10 on 2030, 2035, and 2050 as our
11 milestones, when we put our ear to the
12 ground, we hear that we'll need to move
13 fast, much faster, with sooner timelines
14 like 2030 -- you heard two people just
15 say that -- to do away with all emissions
16 and power only with clean renewable
17 energy sources.

18 Are you ready? We sure are
19 ready for 100 percent.

20 In closing, I'd like to thank
21 you all and all your assistants and teams
22 for running with us, for getting the
23 Ready for 100 resolution introduced and
24 passed in Council. I look forward to
25 working with you all come January.

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2 Thank you.

3 MR. MOSCATELLO: I have to
4 learn to stop following Meenal.

5 COUNCILWOMAN BROWN: Good
6 morning. Good morning. State your name
7 for the record.

8 MR. MOSCATELLO: My name is
9 David Moscatello from West Philly, and
10 I'd like to thank the Committee for the
11 opportunity to testify today.

12 I'd first like to express my
13 thanks again to Council for passing
14 Resolution 190728, setting a 100 percent
15 renewable energy goal by 2050 and,
16 importantly, this 100 percent municipal
17 electricity by 2030, and citywide
18 electricity by 2035. These interim goals
19 are critical, and we'll need to set
20 additional ones as we move forward,
21 because we know that we have to achieve
22 at least a 50 percent reduction of
23 greenhouse gas emissions to have a hope
24 of keeping warming below one and a half
25 degrees Celsius and at least 30 percent

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2 by 2030 to even keep it below two degrees
3 Celsius.

4 We hope that Resolution 190728
5 will also inspire better statewide
6 renewable energy policies, such as
7 community solar, aggregated community
8 choice, extending Act 2029 for improved
9 energy efficiency that can help families
10 reduce their energy bill, create jobs and
11 job training for local residents and
12 impacted communities, and extending and
13 improving the alternative energy
14 portfolio standard. As a result,
15 Philadelphia will be better positioned to
16 achieve the critical goals we've
17 committed to achieve.

18 And regardless of the actions
19 at the state level, setting these goals
20 for transitioning to clean renewable
21 energy makes sense at the municipal
22 level, and not just because it's the
23 right thing to do, but because it will
24 make Philadelphia a better home for all
25 residents.

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2 Regarding Bill 190600, since,
3 as others have noted, buildings consume
4 about 80 percent of the energy used in
5 the City and the EPA reports that on
6 average about 30 percent of that energy
7 is wasted -- and for a lot of our older
8 buildings, it's much worse than that --
9 achieving significant energy savings and
10 greenhouse gas emission reductions must
11 address building energy efficiency. The
12 cheapest source of new energy is still
13 energy efficiency, and efficiency is
14 forever.

15 So we fully support this bill,
16 as it will contribute to the goal of
17 transition to clean renewable energy in
18 the building sector. And of course as
19 also noted, today is Energy Efficiency
20 Day, so it's a perfect time to consider
21 this. And this tune-up is very critical,
22 as has been mentioned. We really don't
23 want to see people having to use space
24 heaters in their offices in the
25 summertime because they're too cold or

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2 open their windows in the winter because
3 they're too hot. That's just -- yeah.
4 My father used to tell me, are you trying
5 to heat the neighborhood or just the
6 house?

7 So we certainly wholeheartedly
8 support this bill and how it may move us
9 forward.

10 I'll just try and wrap things
11 up here. I just want to emphasize that
12 we can achieve the goals that we've set
13 forward given -- and it's getting cheaper
14 all the time. The costs of solar, wind,
15 and energy storage have been plummeting
16 even faster than the biggest boosters of
17 solar power. It was predicted that solar
18 would only achieve 25 cents per watt for
19 a module after we achieved eight
20 terawatts of power. We're at about a
21 quarter of -- or excuse me; 500 gigawatts
22 right now. But it's already there. It's
23 already there. Pennsylvania has plenty
24 of power. Pennsylvania exports more
25 electricity than any other state outside

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2 of our borders. So the closing of Three
3 Mile Island, the smallest reactor,
4 doesn't matter.

5 I'd also note that Pennsylvania
6 also ranks second in the nation after
7 Illinois in nuclear power generating
8 capacity. Not that I'm a big fan of
9 that, but the existing plants will be
10 there to facilitate our conversions to
11 renewable energy. We'll close those coal
12 plants first, then the gas plants, then
13 we'll worry about the nucs.

14 So, again, I'd just like to
15 thank Council for passing the renewable
16 energy resolution and again to express
17 our support for the building energy clean
18 tune-up bill.

19 Thank you.

20 COUNCILWOMAN BROWN: You're
21 welcome. You're welcome. And the
22 enthusiasm of the four of you is
23 contagious. Thank you.

24 Please, sir.

25 MR. WYLIE: Yes. Hello. Good

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2 morning. My name is Jim Wylie. I'm the
3 Chair of the Southeast Pennsylvania
4 Group. I'm a volunteer, as are all of
5 these other yellow-shirted people. I'd
6 like to thank City Council for passing
7 the Ready for 100 resolution last week
8 and thank our volunteers for helping to
9 craft the language that got it over the
10 hill.

11 I help with Ready for 100
12 initiatives in this whole region, and I
13 want to make sure you guys know that of
14 the 140 -- Pratima mentioned that
15 Philadelphia is 139th in the country. So
16 140 across the country, right, have set
17 goals. Twenty-five of them are in
18 Southeast Pennsylvania, so the Greater
19 Philadelphia area. And in those other
20 communities, from Chester County,
21 Delaware County, Montgomery County, what
22 they don't have are an Office of
23 Sustainability like the City of
24 Philadelphia has. They don't have
25 full-time municipal employees working on

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2 planning and looking for opportunities
3 for energy transition and energy
4 efficiency.

5 So I just want to recap the
6 importance of setting goals, making
7 plans, and taking logical action. And
8 the urgency, we've also heard about the
9 urgency of developing solutions in this
10 arena. Not only has the City of
11 Philadelphia developed a vision for doing
12 this transition, they've made concrete
13 plans for the City municipal buildings to
14 do a transition and taken steps, taken
15 actual steps, like the 70 megawatt deal
16 for the solar power plant in Western
17 Pennsylvania.

18 There are going to be other --
19 besides this bill today that we're
20 talking about, there are going to be
21 other proposals to come before you, and I
22 would like to suggest that we need to
23 make sure we listen to all of the voices,
24 all of the stakeholders that are impacted
25 by all of these, what could be,

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2 disruptive actions that we take as we
3 transition and reduce our efficiency.

4 Other cities have created
5 stakeholder groups to kind of get input.
6 Of course, all these stakeholder groups
7 aren't going to agree on what kind of
8 pizza to have for dinner, let alone what
9 kind of legislation we should pass, but
10 it's important that we make sure we try
11 and listen to all of the stakeholders,
12 the City government, residents, the
13 businesses, utilities, developers, labor
14 and, of course, the youth, as we heard
15 last week loud and clear that we're
16 screwing up this planet for the future
17 inhabitants. And then we've got a long
18 list of environmental groups that would
19 like to have a seat at the table.

20 I'd like to start this
21 conversation about how we can facilitate
22 that kind of stakeholder group, whether
23 it's with the Mayor's Office, with a
24 Councilperson's office. We'd be happy
25 to -- the Ready for 100 group would be

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2 happy to take the lead on trying to call
3 some meetings on how we can dedicate
4 resources to facilitate a stakeholders
5 group in Philadelphia. So I'd like to
6 have that conversation with anybody that
7 will listen about who should be at the
8 table, how we convene it, what resources
9 we need. Other cities have done it with
10 third-party groups sponsored by various
11 institutions. They've done it through
12 the Mayor's office, through the Council,
13 or through environmental organizations.

14 Finally, I'd like to end with a
15 little story. A couple years ago I was
16 at a family reunion and we were playing
17 cornhole, and somebody invited one of the
18 five-year-olds to come up and play. And
19 he threw the beanbag like everybody else
20 was, carefully aiming, but it only got
21 halfway to the target, right? So
22 somebody said to him, Johnny, throw it
23 like you mean it. So every time after
24 that, he would stand up straight and say,
25 I mean it, and he would throw the

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2 beanbag. All right. It only got
3 three-quarters of the way after there,
4 but he was five years old.

5 So I just want to make it clear
6 that that's what we're doing today with
7 this resolution, is we are standing up
8 stating our objectives and saying we mean
9 it and we're going to do our best to
10 achieve these goals.

11 Thank you.

12 COUNCILWOMAN BROWN: Well, all
13 of the volunteers need to be celebrated.
14 I had the good fortune to, I'll say, hang
15 out with members of the Sierra Club a
16 year or two ago.

17 MR. WYLIE: Yup, at the Ethical
18 Society.

19 COUNCILWOMAN BROWN: Yes, yes,
20 yes. That was a wonderful, wonderful --
21 it was not an event; it was an
22 experience. So I want to just say how
23 much I completely enjoyed myself.

24 Facts matter, so thank you for
25 the facts and how you've placed and where

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2 you've stacked Philadelphia against other
3 municipalities.

4 And I would like, not at this
5 time but certainly when she is at the
6 table, Christine Knapp to speak to and
7 comment on the interest with regards to
8 us having the 150 -- help me out. What's
9 the full name?

10 MS. RAVAL: Ready for 100.

11 COUNCILWOMAN BROWN: Ready for
12 100. Because of the leadership position
13 that she holds, I believe she's most
14 appropriate and positioned to comment on
15 that very, very legitimate ask. The same
16 with stakeholder groups. That's an
17 opportunity, and I'll look to my
18 colleagues to figure out how and what
19 that looks like.

20 And let me say thank you also
21 for just continuously, consistently being
22 what I call a gnat in a good way, because
23 gnats, ultimately they get the attention
24 they require, in working with my office,
25 bringing issues like this to the table.

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2 Please.

3 MS. RAVAL: I have a comment
4 about the discussion with the School
5 District earlier, and maybe I missed it,
6 but at my bike shop, we called in the
7 PECO Smart Energy guys to look at our
8 lighting, and they changed it, but the
9 financing is what I want to talk about.
10 They offered us a 12-month interest-free
11 loan to do that.

12 Now, my tab was only under
13 \$1,500, but we're talking a million and a
14 half. Maybe they can offer that loan to
15 the School District to implement the
16 savings they were talking about, in which
17 case the 3 million or so that we talk
18 about saving, that's annually, that can
19 go back to future energy efficiency
20 projects and/or solar on the rooftops
21 kind of projects. So don't go spending
22 it for everything else for the School
23 District, but this loan from PECO could
24 be a good first step to get you guys --
25 the School District going.

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2 COUNCILWOMAN BROWN: Where it
3 needs to be.

4 MS. RAVAL: So I just wanted to
5 take a personal example and make it
6 better.

7 COUNCILWOMAN BROWN: And show
8 its application.

9 MS. RAVAL: Yeah.

10 COUNCILWOMAN BROWN:
11 Absolutely. Well, it certainly has
12 value, and I would suggest that you
13 become intimately involved with the
14 project at the School District. I forget
15 what it's called now.

16 MS. RAVAL: I want to meet with
17 Francine, yes.

18 COUNCILWOMAN BROWN: Terrific.
19 Okay, then.

20 Councilman Green.

21 COUNCILMAN GREEN: Thank you,
22 Madam Chair.

23 Thank the panel for your
24 comments. Ms. Raval, your comment about
25 PECO goes back to the crux of what I was

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2 saying regarding the School District
3 where we're trying to get them to move
4 forward on some of the ESCO projects that
5 would save them money. They had an
6 interest, but a reluctance because they
7 couldn't -- was not prioritizing people
8 to work on the project. It wasn't until
9 the Energy Authority got involved to get
10 us to the point we're at.

11 And I think that's part of my
12 challenge and concern regarding the lack
13 of prioritization at times and devoting
14 resources, but we will continue to have
15 that conversation going forward.

16 Mr. Wylie, you talked about a
17 number of jurisdictions in the
18 Commonwealth that do not and probably
19 because of their size do not have an
20 Office of Sustainability. Has there been
21 any conversations with any of the
22 statewide organizations that focus on
23 local municipalities from either the
24 Pennsylvania Municipal League or the
25 County Commissioners Association of

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2 Pennsylvania to see if they can have an
3 office themselves devoted to
4 sustainability that can provide
5 assistance or resources or other help to
6 smaller jurisdictions that don't have the
7 capacity to have a sustainability office?

8 MR. WYLIE: Certainly there is
9 a discussion at the state level about
10 very, very similar goal-setting, not only
11 with the Governor but legislation. It's
12 a tough ask in the State of Pennsylvania,
13 but certainty they're doing that.

14 To your specific question about
15 finding structures that can help us, I
16 live in West Chester, in Chester County.
17 They don't even have an Environmental
18 Advisory Board, let alone an Office of
19 Sustainability, but we have made progress
20 if we frame it in the terms of finding
21 ways to help the municipalities that want
22 to take this step, not mandating what
23 municipalities need to do.

24 So we're making progress on
25 that, yes, but there's certainly not --

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2 nobody is opening up a checkbook and
3 offering to pay for energy transition
4 planning.

5 COUNCILMAN GREEN: Okay. I
6 serve as the Second Vice President for
7 the Pennsylvania Municipal League. This
8 is something that I will bring up with
9 our Executive Director and staff in
10 reference to what steps can we do.
11 Because I know historically Pennsylvania
12 Municipal League, which is our
13 Pennsylvania affiliate of the National
14 League of Cities -- and I'm also very
15 active in the National League of
16 Cities -- they've taken steps in the past
17 to provide resources and ways that
18 smaller municipalities can do things
19 cooperatively, either through the
20 purchasing of goods and services. That's
21 something that the National League of
22 Cities does as a model, and also the
23 Pennsylvania Municipal League does that.

24 So I will see what steps that
25 can be taken at least to have a committee

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2 conversation to start that initiative,
3 because I would venture there are
4 jurisdictions that have an interest, but
5 they just don't have the ability. So if
6 the Pennsylvania Municipal League or
7 through the National League of Cities
8 there's ways that we can start bringing
9 some resources together and at least
10 identifying what other jurisdictions have
11 done in other parts of the country. Also
12 the County Commissioners Association.
13 And Philadelphia being both a city and a
14 county is also part of that organization.
15 I'm not as active in the County
16 Commissioners Association of
17 Pennsylvania, but they're also part of
18 the National Association of County
19 Officers, but I do get some of their
20 correspondence, so that could be another
21 opportunity as well.

22 MR. WYLIE: Awesome.

23 COUNCILMAN GREEN: One other
24 question I had for Mr. Moscatello. You
25 talked about how Pennsylvania is a large

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2 exporter of energy.

3 MR. MOSCATELLO: Of
4 electricity.

5 COUNCILMAN GREEN: Of
6 electricity. Can you --

7 MR. MOSCATELLO: And also
8 actually, of course, now natural gas.

9 COUNCILMAN GREEN: Can you give
10 me on the electricity perspective, give
11 me some more context to that and how can
12 that energy not be exported but kept
13 within the Commonwealth to offset some of
14 those other type of energy uses like coal
15 or fossil fuels.

16 MR. MOSCATELLO: Right. I
17 guess my point about the export is simply
18 that we're already producing much more
19 energy than -- electricity I'm speaking
20 of -- than we use and, therefore, that
21 just makes it easier to achieve 100
22 percent renewables, because we can
23 replace coal plants as they are being
24 closed with wind and solar developments.
25 We don't necessarily have to replace all

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2 of the generation that's being closed.

3 Pennsylvania in 2018 got 39
4 percent, produced 39 percent of the
5 electricity in Pennsylvania was nuclear.
6 So it's already carbon free. As I note,
7 that the Sierra Club is not in favor of
8 nuclear power, but it still exists. They
9 have a license. They're operating.

10 So we're part of the PJM grid,
11 so we're exporting it to other people,
12 but I mentioned this also because we need
13 to shut these coal plants. But being
14 part of the same grid as a lot of other
15 states, everywhere from coastal North
16 Carolina to Chicago is PJM grid, every
17 coastal state from North Carolina to New
18 Jersey is planning huge offshore wind
19 farms, and a couple have already been
20 licensed. The current administration is
21 throwing some roadblocks at them, but
22 that will not last. So we'll readily
23 have other sources of clean renewable
24 electricity being added to the grid that
25 can replace the coal plants that we need

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2 to close as quickly as possible in the
3 state.

4 So the fact that we export
5 electricity just means that we do not
6 have to replace every megawatt that we
7 shut down, and that is made even easier
8 by energy efficiency bills like 190600,
9 which reduces the amount we need in the
10 future essentially forever.

11 Actually, what's going to
12 really happen is that the electric
13 companies are going to get so desperate
14 to sell more electricity, that they're
15 going to get behind and start building
16 out electric vehicle charging stations so
17 they can sell the stuff. Those vehicles
18 will also become part of the grid.
19 Experiments have already been done in
20 California, for example, with BMW
21 electric vehicles showing that the
22 vehicles themselves plug in at home or at
23 work can be grid resources, and then
24 after those batteries don't have enough
25 charge for driving the vehicle, it

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2 doesn't matter if they're down to only 60
3 percent capacity, they can be used as
4 stationary grid resources as well.

5 So I guess the point I'm making
6 is that we can most assuredly achieve
7 these goals without risking the electric
8 supply of Pennsylvania or of the entire
9 grid area. I mean, it's always windy
10 somewhere between Kitty Hawk and the
11 Windy City.

12 COUNCILMAN GREEN: And thank
13 you for that commentary about some of the
14 coastal wind opportunities. Actually, my
15 sister lives in California. She's
16 actually on our second electric car, but
17 it seems like the western part of the
18 country is much further along in
19 reference to the technology, in reference
20 to electrifying everything, especially
21 using some of the technology. I know
22 Tesla and others are trying to do all
23 kinds of concepts in reference to more
24 electric capacity in homes, not only for
25 a car but a whole household.

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2 Do you see some of those other
3 opportunities, especially from a wind
4 perspective, beyond just the coastal
5 areas of North Carolina and further
6 south, moving further north?

7 MR. MOSCATELLO: Well, there
8 are other wind farms being planned for
9 the north. New York has its own plan.
10 They're going to build huge offshore wind
11 farms. They're on a different grid than
12 we are. However, I should note that
13 there's also work being done on
14 high-voltage direct current transmission,
15 which is more efficient than alternating
16 current transmission. That can be used
17 to connect grids that are not
18 synchronized, because say the PJM grid
19 would convert it to DC and then it would
20 transport somewhere else and they'd
21 convert it back to AC. It can work in
22 both directions. So that is what
23 connects the Canadian grid from their
24 hydro up to, say, New England. They can
25 use high-voltage direct current.

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2 And there are also a couple of
3 other lines that are being pushed
4 throughout the nation that may ultimately
5 let us connect the West Coast to the East
6 Coast. It turns out that the practical
7 limit for HVDC is 3,000 miles, California
8 to the East Coast. We could ultimately,
9 in as little as a decade or more, be
10 having California sunshine powering while
11 we're having dinner here by connecting
12 these different grids.

13 And I should also note with
14 respect to the wind development, that
15 Philadelphia has an opportunity to
16 benefit from offshore wind development if
17 we get on the ball soon. That offshore
18 wind development is going to need
19 maintenance. It's going to need ships to
20 take the parts out there. The towers and
21 the rotors are far too large to transport
22 over land, so they have to be constructed
23 on shore. We got a boatyard. We got
24 space that's about to open up for
25 potential manufacturing and so forth, and

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2 we should look very much into seeing if
3 we can get those jobs -- some of those
4 jobs for Philadelphia. Because if we
5 don't, they're going to go to New Jersey
6 or Delaware.

7 MR. WYLIE: Just real quickly I
8 wanted to mention that the role that
9 Philadelphia and Southeast Pennsylvania
10 can play in that kind of transition is
11 choosing to spend our energy dollars on
12 the clean stuff. So instead of just
13 paying our PECO bill every month, we can
14 choose to purchase renewable energy, and
15 that will force those markets to happen
16 that Dave is talking about.

17 COUNCILMAN GREEN: Thank you,
18 Madam Chair.

19 COUNCILWOMAN BROWN: You're
20 very, very welcome.

21 Your knowledge base and your
22 intellect around this issue is quite
23 admirable. So please never say die.
24 Keep fighting. Thank you very much.

25 MR. WYLIE: Certainly treat us

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2 as a resource. And I hope we can get a
3 photo opp after the hearing.

4 COUNCILWOMAN BROWN: Yes, yes,
5 yes, absolutely. As the Clerk reads the
6 title of the next bill, I'll give my
7 opening remarks, call up the first panel.
8 If the members of the Sierra Club would
9 position yourselves over here, then we'll
10 attempt to walk on water and chew gum at
11 the same time. Okay?

12 If the Clerk please read the
13 title of the next bill.

14 THE CLERK: Bill No. 190636, an
15 ordinance amending Section 3-207 of The
16 Philadelphia Code, entitled "Sale of Fuel
17 Oil," to revise the standards for
18 permissible grades and permissible sulfur
19 content of commercial fuel oil, under
20 certain terms and conditions.

21 COUNCILWOMAN BROWN: Bill No.
22 190636 makes a change to our air quality
23 regulations to phase out the use of heavy
24 fuel oils.

25 Thank you, Commissioner.

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2 COMMISSIONER FARLEY: Are you
3 ready for me?

4 COUNCILWOMAN BROWN: I'm not
5 finished yet. I just needed to say thank
6 you.

7 COMMISSIONER FARLEY: Okay.
8 Thank you.

9 COUNCILWOMAN BROWN: Fuel oils
10 are assigned numbers according to their
11 weight. That's an important fact. Fuel
12 oils are assigned numbers according to
13 their weight. No. 2 is the light fuel
14 oil, while Nos. 4, 5, and 6 are heavy
15 oils. Heavy oils contain more sulfur,
16 and burning these oils are linked with
17 asthma, heart disease, and lung disease.

18 In 2011, New York City began to
19 phase out the use of heavy oils, which
20 contributed to 86 percent of the soot
21 pollution in their city. The new rules
22 have been associated with significant
23 improvements in air quality.

24 Thank you again to Health
25 Commissioner Tom Farley for bringing this

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2 new issue to our attention and giving us
3 the opportunity to seize the moment and
4 act on it.

5 And with that, we will move to
6 testimony from Dr. Thomas Farley, our
7 City's Commissioner for the Department of
8 Public Health, and Joseph Minott.
9 Welcome back.

10 MR. MINOTT: Thank you so much.

11 COUNCILWOMAN BROWN: Executive
12 Director and Chief Counsel for the Clean
13 Air Council.

14 Please proceed, Dr. Farley.

15 COMMISSIONER FARLEY: Good
16 morning, Chairwoman Reynolds Brown and
17 members of the Committee on the
18 Environment. I'm Dr. Thomas Farley,
19 Commissioner for the Philadelphia
20 Department of Public Health. Thank you
21 for the opportunity to testify on Bill
22 No. 190636, which would limit the burning
23 of heavy fuel oils in Philadelphia. We
24 support this bill because it would reduce
25 air pollution and protect public health

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2 in Philadelphia.

3 Fuel oils are used to heat
4 buildings and other facilities. Fuel
5 oils are assigned different numbers, No.
6 1 through 6, based on their weight, with
7 the higher numbers indicating heavier
8 oils.

9 No. 4 and heavier fuel oils
10 contain high amounts of sulfur and other
11 impurities that when burned produce
12 higher levels of soot pollution known as
13 particulate matter, or PM2.5, as well as
14 sulfur dioxide, nitrogen oxide, and heavy
15 metals such as nickel and Mercury. These
16 pollutants are hazardous to health and
17 also contribute to the formation of
18 ozone, which itself is a health hazard.
19 In addition, these emissions affect the
20 ability of Philadelphia to attain and
21 maintain national standards for air
22 quality.

23 Exposure to high amounts of
24 these air pollutions is linked to a
25 number of negative health and

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2 environmental effects. In particular,
3 exposure to nitrogen oxide, sulfur oxide,
4 and PM2.5 has been linked to increased
5 rates of heart disease and lung disease,
6 including asthma, and shorter life
7 expectancy.

8 Currently, Philadelphia Code
9 3-207 limits the sulfur content of No. 2
10 fuel oil sold, stored, and used in
11 Philadelphia. Bill No. 190636 would
12 amend this section of the law to prohibit
13 the burning of No. 4, 5, and 6 or heavier
14 fuel oil in Philadelphia, as well as
15 prohibit the sale and storage of these
16 heavy fuel oils if they are to be burned
17 in Philadelphia. Under the bill,
18 facilities that have already purchased
19 these fuel oils would have until July
20 1st, 2024 to use these stocks.

21 There are very few facilities
22 in Philadelphia that currently use these
23 heavy fuel oils. Because of current fuel
24 prices, those that do are likely to save
25 money by switching to natural gas or

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2 other less polluting energy sources.
3 Bill No. 190636 will help Philadelphia by
4 encouraging the few remaining heavy oil
5 users to switch to these cleaner fuels
6 and by preventing any facility from
7 switching back to heavy fuel oils if the
8 price of these fuel oils drops below the
9 price of natural gas in the future.

10 Thank you for the opportunity
11 to testify. I'll be happy to answer any
12 of your questions.

13 COUNCILWOMAN BROWN: Thank you.
14 Welcome back.

15 MR. MINOTT: Well, thank you so
16 much, Councilwoman. I appreciate it.

17 My name is Joe Minott and I am
18 the Executive Director and Chief Counsel
19 of the Clean Air Council, and it is a
20 pleasure to be back before this Committee
21 again. Thank you for the opportunity to
22 testify on Bill No. 190636, which would
23 finally phase out the use of heavy fuel
24 oils in Philadelphia. The Council
25 strongly supports passage of this bill.

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2 The proposed landmark ban on
3 the use and sale of commercial heavy fuel
4 oil in Philadelphia will lead over time
5 to sizable improvements in air quality
6 that will reduce harmful soot and sulfur
7 pollution, as well as maintain reduction
8 in carbon pollution that fuels the
9 climate crisis. This is exactly the type
10 of policy needed throughout all sectors
11 of our economy so that we can rapidly
12 phase out the use of all fossil fuels.

13 Given the lack of leadership in
14 addressing the environmental health
15 issues at the national level, it is up to
16 state and local governments to take the
17 action needed to protect the public from
18 the environmental health impacts from air
19 pollution. Thank you for your leadership
20 on this important issue.

21 Banning No. 4 and heavier fuel
22 for use in any facility in the City will
23 reduce harmful air pollution and ensure
24 that thousands of tons of previous
25 emission reductions stay permanent. It

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2 is important that the City move as
3 quickly as possible to phase out the use
4 of heavy fuel oils to prevent facilities
5 from switching back to these oils should
6 it become less expensive to do so.
7 Harmful pollutants associated with
8 burning 4 and 6 fuel oils used in
9 commercial and residential furnaces,
10 boilers, and other combustion units
11 include sulfur dioxide, particulate
12 matter 2.5, nitrogen oxides, Mercury, and
13 nickel. This pollution negatively
14 impacts our air and quality and the
15 health of Philadelphia residents.

16 The combustion of
17 sulfur-containing commercial fuel oil
18 releases sulfur dioxide emissions which
19 oxidizes in the atmosphere to form
20 sulfate particulates that significantly
21 contribute to the formation of fine
22 particulate matter, PM2.5, and regional
23 haze.

24 I'm going to skip a lot of the
25 medical fart since you have more of an

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2 expert here than me and get to the bottom
3 line.

4 The Philadelphia area is
5 currently in attainment of the National
6 Ambient Air Standards for PM2.5. Phasing
7 out No. 4 and heavier fuel oil will
8 result in emission reductions that will
9 help Philadelphia come into compliance
10 with the National Ambient Air Quality
11 Standards for ozone, smog, that continues
12 to plague the City, the region in
13 summertime; maintain compliance with the
14 National Ambient Air Quality Standards
15 set for other pollutants like PM2.5; and
16 comply with federal regional haze
17 standards.

18 Climate change is an
19 existential threat to our health and
20 quality of life and the most pressing
21 issue for our time. According to the
22 recent IPCC report, we only have 11 years
23 to cut greenhouse gas emissions 45
24 percent to avoid catastrophic climate
25 change. This ban will secure the carbon

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2 reduction the City has already achieved
3 by preventing users of heavy oils from
4 being able to switch from using natural
5 gas, which has lower carbon dioxide, back
6 to heavy oils.

7 The majority of facilities that
8 operate furnaces, boilers, and heaters in
9 Philadelphia do not use No. 4 or heavier
10 oil. This means that the cost of banning
11 these types of fuel oils will be minimal
12 and will help permanently secure the
13 emission reductions that have already
14 taken place. The stock of ultra-low
15 sulfur distillate oil, 15 parts per
16 million, in Pennsylvania has increased
17 significantly over the last decade, so it
18 is currently available to meet these
19 standards.

20 Finally, under this bill,
21 facilities in Philadelphia that have
22 already purchased these heavy fuel oils
23 would have until July 1st, 2024 to use
24 their stocks, and even then, could
25 petition Air Management Services beyond

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2 2024.

3 I would not be the Director of
4 the Clean Air Council if I didn't have
5 one gripe, and that gripe is we think
6 that is too generous a phaseout period
7 and the City Council might want to
8 consider a shorter one.

9 While the Council
10 wholeheartedly supports this ban on heavy
11 fuel oils, it also recognizes that the
12 use of ultra-low sulfur oil and natural
13 gas is likely to marginally increase as a
14 result. While the local air pollution
15 benefits are possible to ignore, the
16 Council urges City Council to continue to
17 pass additional legislation that fully
18 transition all sectors in Philadelphia,
19 all fossil fuel usage, as soon as
20 possible, ideally by 2035, but by no
21 later than 2050.

22 I could be wearing a yellow
23 shirt right now.

24 Thank you for taking this
25 action. I urge members of the

1 10/2/19 - ENVIRONMENT - BILL 190600, ETC.

2 Environment Committee to pass this bill
3 out of Committee and for all of City
4 Council members to support this bill.

5 Thank you very much for your
6 time and consideration. And,
7 Councilwoman, I will truly miss you.

8 COUNCILWOMAN BROWN: That makes
9 my heart very happy. Thank you.

10 MR. MINOTT: Absolutely.

11 COUNCILWOMAN BROWN:
12 Commissioner, how long did it take New
13 York to implement this measure, and do
14 you recall any major hurdle or barriers
15 they had to tackle to put this in place?

16 COMMISSIONER FARLEY: What I
17 remember is there being lots of
18 discussion with current users, current at
19 that time, users of heavy oil about the
20 phaseout period and the phaseout process
21 and the cost of converting, and a number
22 of changes were made to the rule to
23 accommodate that. What they found,
24 though, that once the policy change was
25 put in place and there was an ultimate

1 10/2/19 - ENVIRONMENT - BILL 190600, ETC.
2 end date to when they could use these
3 heavy fuel oils, that they all started
4 switching over, because there was an
5 economic advantage of switching over and
6 they couldn't use their burners forever,
7 so when the opportunities came up, they
8 switched over. And so the ultimate
9 changeover happened before the final date
10 in which they were required to.

11 COUNCILWOMAN BROWN: Is that
12 right?

13 COMMISSIONER FARLEY: And then
14 the changes in New York City, which is
15 different from Philadelphia in air
16 quality, were dramatic. Large reductions
17 in sulfur dioxide, large reductions in
18 PM2.5. There many, many buildings were
19 using these heavy oils at the time, and
20 switching made a big difference. Here we
21 think the difference will be smaller, but
22 still valuable.

23 COUNCILWOMAN BROWN:
24 Absolutely. When you think of the impact
25 it has on little people, let's just start

1 10/2/19 - ENVIRONMENT - BILL 190600, ETC.

2 with them, and those who suffer and
3 adults who are suffering with asthma.

4 So what top three cities in the
5 country are really leaders in this space?
6 I'm always interested to know where does
7 Philadelphia stack. So are we like
8 Neanderthals or are we in the leadership
9 space? What other cities, particularly
10 on this particular measure, are way ahead
11 of us when it comes to clean air?

12 COMMISSIONER FARLEY: I'm not
13 too familiar with what's happening in
14 other cities, but my understanding is
15 that this is a problem that's unusual for
16 many of these older northeastern cities.
17 So it's not so much an issue for cities
18 that are newer like Southwest or
19 California.

20 COUNCILWOMAN BROWN: Sure.

21 COMMISSIONER FARLEY: Which may
22 be why it's become less of a national
23 issue and it's just been addressed
24 locally.

25 So New York City has been

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2 really taking some aggressive action
3 here. I don't know about how many other
4 cities for whom it's a big problem and
5 what their actions have been.

6 COUNCILWOMAN BROWN: Any
7 comment, please?

8 MR. MINOTT: No. I think
9 that's exactly right. It is an issue
10 that is mostly in the Northeast, and New
11 York sort of took the lead, and I think
12 we're following it. I don't know where
13 Boston and other cities like that are,
14 but we're definitely not Neanderthals.

15 COUNCILWOMAN BROWN: Well,
16 that's good news.

17 So in response to your very
18 heartfelt comment, I always like to give
19 credit to former City Councilperson Jim
20 Kenney who saw the need to create a
21 Committee on the Environment and
22 Sustainability. It's really been a
23 growth, and I really want to learn in a
24 new way in moving to serve as Chair of
25 this Committee, and I have in a great

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2 way. I'm actually kind of stupid about
3 recycling and things like that and trying
4 to bring others along, because there's
5 still those who are coming along kicking
6 and screaming. We know that. So it's
7 going to take leaders and those who care
8 to help folks understand that it's really
9 not about us right now. It really is
10 about protecting the planet for the long
11 haul.

12 And be encouraged to know that
13 there are members of this Committee who
14 care as much as I and have put forth real
15 measures that are going to continue to
16 have this Committee have a real solid
17 place and position in leadership when it
18 comes to the environment and
19 sustainability.

20 Thank you very much. It's been
21 a pleasure working with you.

22 MR. MINOTT: Thank you very
23 much.

24 COUNCILWOMAN BROWN: All right.
25 Okay. Now let's move to our last and

1 10/2/19 - ENVIRONMENT - BILL 190600, ETC.

2 final bill, No. 190703.

3 THE CLERK: Bill No. 190703, an
4 ordinance amending Section 20-304 of The
5 Philadelphia Code, entitled "Compensation
6 for Members of Boards, Commissions,
7 Committees and Councils," to provide for
8 compensation for the members of the
9 Environmental Justice Advisory
10 Commission; and amending Section 21-3002,
11 entitled "Environmental Justice Advisory
12 Commission," with respect to membership,
13 timing, and reporting; all under certain
14 terms and conditions.

15 COUNCILWOMAN BROWN: I thank
16 you.

17 Bill No. 190703 makes a change
18 to the environmental justice legislation
19 introduced by my office in 2017 and
20 passed in 2018. That legislation calls
21 for the establishment of an Environmental
22 Justice Commission to provide a data and
23 policy framework for environmental
24 justice decision-making by the City and
25 other stakeholders.

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2 While the Office of
3 Sustainability and the Deputy Director,
4 Saleem Chapman, have been working
5 diligently on this issue, they need more
6 time to ramp up the Commission and
7 complete its work. In the meantime, we
8 are adjusting the rules of the Commission
9 so that it pays the community members who
10 take part, compensates the community
11 members who take part.

12 We also require the Commission
13 to reflect and capture and look like the
14 racial, ethnic, and socioeconomic
15 diversity of the City. I'm going to
16 repeat that. It's a requirement that the
17 Commission reflect and capture the
18 racial, ethnic, and socioeconomic
19 diversity of our city.

20 And with that, we want to call
21 up our last and final panel, Christine
22 Knapp, Director for the Office of
23 Sustainability, and Allison Acevedo,
24 Pennsylvania Department of Environmental
25 Protection, if she's here.

1 10/2/19 - ENVIRONMENT - BILL 190600, ETC.

2 And I would like to trigger my
3 colleagues who are listening in their
4 offices to prepare to rejoin us here at
5 the table so that we can vote on an
6 amendment and move these bills out of
7 Committee.

8 (Witnesses approached witness
9 table.)

10 COUNCILWOMAN BROWN: Thank you.
11 Good afternoon, ladies.

12 (Good afternoon.)

13 COUNCILWOMAN BROWN: Okay.
14 Director of Office of Sustainability,
15 Christine Knapp.

16 MS. KNAPP: Yes. Thank you.
17 Good morning -- or good afternoon at this
18 point, Chairperson Reynolds Brown and
19 members of the Committee. I'm Christine
20 Knapp. I'm the Director of the Office of
21 Sustainability for the City of
22 Philadelphia. I'm here to testify in
23 support of Bill No. 190703, which
24 authorizes Commissioners to receive
25 compensation for their services to the

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2 Environmental Justice Advisory Commission
3 as well as extending the timeline for the
4 Commission to complete its work.

5 I'll skip over some of my
6 testimony since I know we're sort of at
7 the end of this hearing here, but I think
8 we all know the goal of the Kenney
9 Administration. It's been repeated. Is
10 that every Philadelphian, no matter their
11 zip code, should be able to thrive and
12 succeed, and sustainability, we think, is
13 a key part of ensuring that every
14 resident is healthy, lives in a quality
15 neighborhood, and has the opportunity to
16 prosper.

17 And while we know that
18 Philadelphia has made a lot of progress
19 in advancing sustainability in the last
20 decade, we know that not all
21 neighborhoods have equally benefited from
22 this work. One of our goals these last
23 few years has been to pursue a proactive
24 approach to address disparities in health
25 and well-being associated with

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2 environmental factors. We've prioritized
3 our work in neighborhoods where it will
4 make the most difference.

5 For example, we've been working
6 for more than a year in partnership with
7 the Hunting Park community on a Beat the
8 Heat pilot to address the
9 disproportionally high heat experienced
10 in that area and understand how the City
11 and other partners can help residents
12 thrive during periods of high heat.

13 The inside gains through this
14 effort has contributed to the City
15 undertaking a strategic planning process
16 to mitigate the inequitable distribution
17 of the urban tree canopy.

18 Even with this programmatic
19 progress, we recognize that procedural
20 equity, having a substantial voice in
21 leadership and policy-making process, is
22 essential to furthering environmental
23 justice for affected communities. The
24 voices of residents in environmental
25 justice areas are too often not heard

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2 during the decision-making process. It
3 is for this reason that we support the
4 adoption of an Environmental Justice
5 Advisory Commission in the first place.
6 We believe this Commission will help
7 identify neighborhoods with
8 disproportionately high and adverse human
9 health or environmental effects; make
10 data that's available helpful to
11 understanding environmental justice
12 concerns; review existing programs,
13 policies, activities, and processes that
14 may impact environmental justice
15 concerns; and address barriers to
16 meaningful involvement in policy
17 decisions.

18 For the Commission to realize
19 its full promise, we must acknowledge and
20 address the inaccessibility of civic
21 engagement. Resource limitations,
22 whether it be time, money, or other
23 factors, act as a barrier for
24 traditionally marginalized communities in
25 exercising their voices equitably in

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2 these civic environments. When these
3 barriers preclude such communities from
4 telling their own stories, we miss vital
5 perspectives that can point the way to
6 new approaches in addressing disparities.

7 Promoting equitable and
8 inclusive civic engagement means
9 improving the accessibility of civic
10 engagement opportunities to communities
11 most affected by the issues and
12 decisions. Thus, we must ensure that
13 those most affected by environmental
14 justice concerns are able to serve on the
15 Environmental Justice Advisory
16 Commission.

17 It is for those reasons we
18 support Bill No. 190703.

19 I appreciate the opportunity to
20 appear before this Committee and am able
21 to answer any of your questions.

22 However, I do want to also just take a
23 minute to note that this may in fact be
24 the last Committee of the Environment
25 with Councilwoman Reynolds Brown as

1 10/2/19 - ENVIRONMENT - BILL 190600, ETC.

2 Chair, and I do want to just recognize
3 your work over a long period of time in
4 bringing forward so many different pieces
5 of legislation, and I think this
6 Commission sort of being a really nice
7 way to go out ensures that we continue
8 this work after you've moved on. So I
9 just want to recognize and thank you for
10 your leadership over the years.

11 COUNCILWOMAN BROWN: You're
12 very welcome, and I'm confident that the
13 Commission and its configuration will
14 ensure continued action in this space.
15 Thank you.

16 Good afternoon. Welcome back.

17 MS. ACEVEDO: Good afternoon.
18 Thank you so much.

19 Good afternoon, Chairwoman
20 Reynolds Brown and other Environmental
21 Committee members of Council. My name is
22 Allison Anderson Acevedo. I'm the
23 Director of the Office of Environmental
24 Justice for the Pennsylvania Department
25 of Environmental Protection. I'm here to

1 10/2/19 - ENVIRONMENT - BILL 190600, ETC.

2 discuss the importance of the proposed
3 environmental justice legislation.

4 As mentioned in previous
5 testimony before Council, our office has
6 been in existence since 2002 with a
7 mission to work to ensure fair treatment
8 and meaningful involvement of all people
9 with the development, implementation, and
10 enforcement of environmental policies,
11 regulations, and laws, as well as with
12 respect to the identification of
13 environmental issues that affect the most
14 vulnerable communities.

15 In Pennsylvania, environmental
16 justice areas are defined as areas that
17 have 30 percent people of color and 20
18 percent low income, and we want to help
19 to ensure equity and access to engagement
20 with the environment in those areas and
21 throughout the Commonwealth.

22 The Office of Environmental
23 Justice is a vital part of the Department
24 of Environmental Protection and a key
25 component of state government generally.

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2 Our office is able to effectively convene
3 community organizations and residents and
4 provide education and outreach to
5 communities who often lack access to
6 government and offer exposure to
7 environmental education and concepts.

8 Over the past year and a half, we've had
9 seven Environmental Justice roundtables,
10 which have convened and enabled community
11 stakeholders to have interactive
12 engagement with our Secretary and DEP
13 staff around critical environmental
14 justice issues identified by those
15 communities. We firmly believe our work
16 is crucial to government and communities
17 cultivating positive interaction with
18 each other and developing a framework for
19 public participation, education, and
20 outreach about the environment.

21 The Department of Environmental
22 Protection focuses on collaboration and
23 education of communities around
24 environmental justice, and we rely on
25 active and engaged communities and

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2 institutional partners to help advance EJ
3 work in PA. These local partners have
4 on-the-ground knowledge of issues facing
5 a community.

6 So in Philadelphia, legislation
7 around environmental justice will ensure
8 that Philadelphia will, on its own, be
9 able to develop a unique environmental
10 justice blueprint, build its own detailed
11 and tailored data around EJ, and
12 comprehensively analyze environmental
13 justice in the City and work
14 collaboratively and actively with its
15 residents that enhance public
16 participation about government practices
17 and procedures about the environment.

18 This also means that Philadelphia
19 officials will be able to identify
20 critical and relevant EJ problems,
21 integrate EJ principles into City
22 policies, agencies, and practices, and
23 take specific action to address EJ issues
24 that arise in Philadelphia. With the
25 mandated report on environmental justice

1 10/2/19 - ENVIRONMENT - BILL 190600, ETC.
2 and development and operation of an EJ
3 Commission, Philadelphia's government and
4 environmental community and residents
5 will be poised to address EJ concerns of
6 this city.

7 So DEP and the Office of
8 Environmental Justice look forward to
9 continuing our partnership and
10 collaboration with the City to provide
11 resources from DEP and other state
12 agencies that benefit community
13 organizations and ultimately the
14 residents of Philadelphia so that they
15 can participate in the decision-making
16 process on environmental issues and live
17 in and enjoy quality environments.

18 And I too just want to echo the
19 statements Christine made about the work
20 that you've done, Councilwoman, in the
21 environment and really thankful that
22 we've had a champion in you in talking
23 about the environment and really
24 advancing practical solutions to
25 environmental concerns. So thank you so

1 10/2/19 - ENVIRONMENT - BILL 190600, ETC.

2 much for your work.

3 COUNCILWOMAN BROWN: You're
4 welcome. The operative word there is
5 "practical." It's important to be
6 realistic and respect what others bring
7 to the table.

8 MS. ACEVEDO: And I just had
9 one other comment about the stakeholder
10 group.

11 COUNCILWOMAN BROWN: I'm going
12 to say yes, but I want to vote on these
13 bills, because I don't want to lose my
14 quorum. So we are going to go into a
15 meeting, vote on the bills, and then come
16 back to the hearing, because I do want to
17 hear from Christine Knapp, as well as the
18 final comment you want to make.

19 So with that, the City
20 Council -- we will now move into a
21 meeting to take action on these three
22 measures. And so I am first going to
23 call on -- I want to offer an amendment
24 to Bill No -- forgive me.

25 The Chair recognizes Councilman

1 10/2/19 - ENVIRONMENT - BILL 190600, ETC.

2 Green for a motion on the amendment to
3 Bill No. 190600.

4 COUNCILMAN GREEN: Thank you,
5 Madam Chair. I move that Bill No. 190600
6 be amended. This amendment has been
7 circulated to all members of City
8 Council.

9 (Duly seconded.)

10 COUNCILWOMAN BROWN: All right.
11 This amendment has been moved and
12 properly seconded to Bill No. 190600 be
13 approved.

14 All those in favor say aye.

15 (Aye.)

16 COUNCILWOMAN BROWN: All
17 opposed?

18 (No response.)

19 COUNCILWOMAN BROWN: That being
20 said, the motion carries, and Bill No.
21 190600, as amended, has been approved.

22 The Chair now again recognizes
23 Councilmember Green for a motion on Bill
24 No. 190600, as amended.

25 COUNCILMAN GREEN: Thank you,

1 10/2/19 - ENVIRONMENT - BILL 190600, ETC.

2 Madam Chair. I move that Bill No.

3 190600, as amended, be voted out of this

4 Committee with a favorable recommendation

5 so that the rules of Council can be

6 suspended and that this bill could have

7 its first reading at our next session of

8 Council.

9 (Duly seconded.)

10 COUNCILWOMAN BROWN: It has

11 been moved and properly seconded that

12 Bill No. 190600, as amended, be reported

13 from this Committee with a favorable

14 recommendation and further moved that the

15 rules of Council be suspended so as to

16 permit first reading at the next

17 scheduled session of City Council.

18 All those in favor of the

19 motion will signify by saying aye.

20 (Aye.)

21 COUNCILWOMAN BROWN: All those

22 opposed?

23 (No response.)

24 COUNCILWOMAN BROWN: The ayes

25 have it, and so the motion carries. Bill

1 10/2/19 - ENVIRONMENT - BILL 190600, ETC.

2 No. 190600, as amended, will be reported
3 from this Committee with a favorable
4 recommendation and a request that the
5 rules of Council be suspended so as to
6 permit first reading at the next
7 scheduled session of City Council.

8 The Chair now recognizes
9 Councilmember Green for a motion on the
10 amendment to Bill No. 190636.

11 COUNCILMAN GREEN: Thank you,
12 Madam Chair. The amendment for Bill No.
13 190636 has been circulated. I move that
14 this bill be amended.

15 (Duly seconded.)

16 COUNCILWOMAN BROWN: It has
17 been moved and properly seconded that the
18 amendment to Bill No. 190636 be approved.

19 All those in favor of the
20 motion will signify by saying aye.

21 (Aye.)

22 COUNCILWOMAN BROWN: All those
23 opposed?

24 (No response.)

25 COUNCILWOMAN BROWN: The ayes

1 10/2/19 - ENVIRONMENT - BILL 190600, ETC.

2 have it and, therefore, Bill No. 190636

3 has been amended.

4 The Chair again recognizes
5 Councilmember Green for a motion on Bill
6 No. 190636, as amended.

7 COUNCILMAN GREEN: Thank you,
8 Madam Chair. I move that Bill No.
9 190636, as amended, be voted out of this
10 Committee with a favorable recommendation
11 and that the rules of Council be
12 suspended to permit first reading of this
13 bill at our next session of Council.

14 (Duly seconded.)

15 COUNCILWOMAN BROWN: It has
16 been moved and properly seconded that
17 Bill No. 190636, as amended, be reported
18 from this Committee with a favorable
19 recommendation and further moved that the
20 rules of Council be suspended so as to
21 permit first reading of this bill at the
22 next scheduled session of City Council.

23 All those in favor say aye.

24 (Aye.)

25 COUNCILWOMAN BROWN: All

1 10/2/19 - ENVIRONMENT - BILL 190600, ETC.

2 opposed?

3 (No response.)

4 COUNCILWOMAN BROWN: The ayes
5 have it and the motion carries. Bill No.
6 190636, as amended, will be reported with
7 a favorable recommendation and a request
8 that the rules of Council be suspended so
9 as to permit first reading at the next
10 scheduled session of Philadelphia City
11 Council.

12 The Chair again recognizes
13 Councilmember Green for a motion on Bill
14 No. 190703.

15 COUNCILMAN GREEN: Thank you,
16 Madam Chair. I move that Bill No. 190703
17 be voted out of this Committee with a
18 favorable recommendation and that the
19 rules of Council be suspended to permit
20 first reading of this bill at our next
21 session of Council.

22 (Duly seconded.)

23 COUNCILWOMAN BROWN: It's been
24 moved and properly seconded that Bill No.
25 190703 be reported from this Committee

1 10/2/19 - ENVIRONMENT - BILL 190600, ETC.

2 with a favorable recommendation and
3 further moved that the rules of Council
4 be suspended so as to permit first
5 reading of this bill at the next
6 scheduled session of City Council.

7 All those in favor say aye.

8 (Aye.)

9 COUNCILWOMAN BROWN: All
10 opposed?

11 (No response.)

12 COUNCILWOMAN BROWN: The ayes
13 have it and the motion carries. Bill No.
14 190703 will be reported from this
15 Committee with a favorable recommendation
16 and a request that the rules of Council
17 be suspended so as to permit first
18 reading of this at the next scheduled
19 session of City Council.

20 The meeting is adjourned. We
21 will now go back into the City Council
22 hearing.

23 We are back. Thank you very
24 much, colleagues. We're now back into
25 the hearing.

1 10/2/19 - ENVIRONMENT - BILL 190600, ETC.

2 And so thank you so very, very
3 much, Christine Knapp, for hearing the
4 interest raised by the Sierra Club,
5 particularly around the Ready for 100
6 resolution that we passed. I forget when
7 we passed it.

8 MS. KNAPP: I think last week.

9 COUNCILWOMAN BROWN: Oh, my,
10 very recently, which calls to adopt more
11 aggressive goals to reduce the climate
12 change.

13 So just provide your thoughts
14 for all of us and how often does the City
15 actually intentionally walk through, talk
16 through what the climate goals are given
17 the new science? Lastly, do you believe
18 our goals are enough?

19 MS. KNAPP: Sure. Well, thank
20 you again for the opportunity to speak on
21 this, and I'm pleased to see that this
22 resolution has passed. We support it
23 from the Administration perspective.
24 Obviously Mayor Kenney signed on to the
25 Ready for 100 resolution over three years

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2 ago, I think, at this point. So clearly
3 Mayor Kenney was supportive of that
4 measure to move the City towards 100
5 percent renewable energy. He's also made
6 the commitment to reduce carbon emissions
7 80 percent by 2050, and we've committed
8 the City government to move to 100
9 percent renewable electricity by 2030.
10 So an even closer deadline.

11 I think in the conversations
12 around that 80 by '50 goal with Sierra
13 Club and with others, we know that's
14 probably not enough. That sort of was
15 the best standard for a long time for a
16 lot of cities and countries to be
17 committing themselves to. I think more
18 recent science and more recent data is
19 showing us that we need to be doing
20 probably more by sooner. We don't know
21 what that exact number is yet for
22 ourselves, and we're kind of -- this is a
23 global issue, so lots of other people are
24 asking the question as well.

25 I think we continued to use

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2 that 80 by '50 goal as essentially
3 shorthand for whatever it is that we
4 actually need to do until we know what
5 that right goal is, if it's 90 by '40.
6 Whatever the right number is, we'll
7 figure that out. It does not necessarily
8 dramatically change what we need to be
9 doing right now.

10 And so I think we want to
11 continue moving and acting rather than
12 stopping that work to figure out what the
13 right goal is. So we kind of have to try
14 to do both things at once, continue the
15 work that we know we just really need to
16 get done and then we can kind of adjust
17 that timeline slightly as we know sort of
18 what that best science tells us that
19 needs to be.

20 I think, again, we've made a
21 lot of progress collectively over the
22 years. As noted earlier, investments in
23 energy efficiency are super important,
24 even if it's not moving us towards
25 renewables. It's making sure that we're

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2 using less energy of all kinds. That's
3 the cleanest energy, the energy we don't
4 use, and today's bill on building
5 tune-ups is going to contribute to the
6 reduction in that energy use.

7 A lot of work around renewables
8 has also been done. The solar power
9 purchase agreement that Council approved
10 last year will give the City 22 percent
11 of our electricity. That's the largest
12 solar project in the State of
13 Pennsylvania by sevenfold, although Penn
14 State just announced that they're doing
15 one as well that's just a little bit
16 bigger than ours. So we may have to go
17 back and make ours a little bigger just
18 to keep that.

19 We're actually -- and in the
20 theme of friendly competition, when we
21 did our power purchase agreement, we
22 heard from SEPTA that they wanted to do
23 one as well. They called us. We shared
24 information with them. They've announced
25 a power purchase agreement of 35

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2 megawatts, about half the size of ours,
3 still very big. We know several other
4 universities are interested as well. So
5 on October 17th, we're holding a workshop
6 with Rocky Mountain Institute and other
7 experts to come and teach folks, whether
8 they're universities, you know, cultural
9 institutions, other large purchasers, how
10 to do power purchase agreements.

11 So we're spreading the
12 information and the learning that we've
13 gone through so that others can do it,
14 because we need everyone to be taking
15 that kind of action to meet these
16 aggressive goals.

17 We're also pleased with the
18 solar rebate program that Council just
19 approved that we'll be launching in
20 January that we hope will help bring
21 renewables to more people. As part of
22 the American Cities Climate Challenge, we
23 are, with Councilmember Green's support,
24 moving on a PGW business diversification
25 study. We think that's a critical part

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2 of this Ready for 100 commitment, is that
3 it's not just about electricity, it's
4 also about thermal energy. And so we
5 need to be looking at how we're -- what
6 our future is of PGW and how we can
7 diversify their business practices while
8 also meeting our carbon goals.

9 And as Meenal brought up, the
10 cars in our fleet are a super important
11 part of this equation as well. We're in
12 the midst of doing a municipal clean
13 fleet plan right now.

14 COUNCILWOMAN BROWN: Is that
15 right?

16 MS. KNAPP: Also part of the
17 American Cities Climate Challenge work.
18 So we hope to have that plan wrapped up
19 by the end of the year so that the City
20 has a roadmap for how we can move our own
21 fleet towards a cleaner future.

22 So lots underway. More
23 certainly to be done. The stakeholder
24 engagement comments I think I take to
25 heart. I've been making that commitment

1 10/2/19 - ENVIRONMENT - BILL 190600, ETC.

2 since I came into this position, to be
3 more externally engaging and find ways to
4 have those conversations. So always open
5 to figuring out how to do that more
6 often, and I think the EJ Commission,
7 honestly, is a great way to also making
8 sure that we're hearing -- our office is
9 hearing from folks who may not already be
10 traditionally involved in the work that
11 we're doing. So I think that will also
12 help us expand stakeholder engagement.

13 COUNCILWOMAN BROWN: For sure.

14 Two follow-up questions. With
15 regards to the Commission and the
16 interest in having a stakeholders group,
17 do you believe that they are one and of
18 the same or is that two different
19 entities? What are your views about that
20 from the both of you?

21 MS. KNAPP: I would just say,
22 to start off, I think that there's an
23 explicit reason why the EJ Commission
24 needs to exist beyond just any sort of
25 larger stakeholder group, and it's

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2 really, again, because as I said in my
3 comments, there's been barriers to
4 hearing the voices of those that have
5 been most marginalized who are most
6 impacted by disparities, and their voices
7 really need a special place to be lifted
8 up and heard, and we need to take that
9 extra action to make sure that they're
10 being heard, where I think we have other
11 opportunities to engage -- the Sierra
12 Club, they know me. They can contact me.
13 We can talk any time. So I think there's
14 kind of a different level of
15 accessibility that I think makes the EJ
16 Commission important and separate.

17 COUNCILWOMAN BROWN: Okay.

18 Please.

19 MS. ACEVEDO: Yeah, I do agree.

20 I think the EJ Commission is critical
21 just because it's a component of
22 government, and I think that the issues
23 related to environmental justice and
24 environmental justice inequity principles
25 have to be elevated through the

1 10/2/19 - ENVIRONMENT - BILL 190600, ETC.

2 Commission to go through the government.

3 So the stakeholder group is also

4 critical, but it provides opportunity for

5 a broader range of people to be actively

6 involved.

7 So I just wanted to just

8 comment on the stakeholder group, that we

9 have some precedent in Erie. Our office

10 had worked with creating an Erie

11 stakeholder group. It was around a

12 particular issue around Erie code, but

13 we've done that in other places, and we'd

14 be willing to work with the Office of

15 Sustainability, any Council office, and

16 other government to really provide some

17 staff time to support a stakeholder group

18 happening in Philadelphia.

19 COUNCILWOMAN BROWN: I've noted

20 there will be many who will be looking

21 forward to hearing the report on how our

22 city is going to move and engage itself

23 or activate itself around the handling of

24 our fleet and what the future is for our

25 fleet vehicles. I can say for one that

1 10/2/19 - ENVIRONMENT - BILL 190600, ETC.

2 I'll be looking forward to hearing what
3 that is.

4 Let me lean on you both to sit
5 down -- and I know that your office is
6 already intimately engaged with the
7 School District. When you hear the
8 interest raised by Councilwoman Gym and
9 Councilman Green and when I hear the, it
10 appears based on testimony, the limited
11 staffing resources they have there,
12 there's an opportunity for collaboration
13 to push that ball forward faster when it
14 comes to the first bill that we talked
15 about today.

16 So, please, since she has only
17 been there 90 days, have a sit-down with
18 her, because for me there is a tremendous
19 opportunity to help them push that ball
20 more quickly down the road on the
21 environmental issues that have been
22 raised both by Councilman Green and
23 Councilwoman Gym.

24 MS. KNAPP: Yeah. We have
25 definitely promised that we will continue

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1 10/2/19 - ENVIRONMENT - BILL 190600, ETC.

2 to have a conversation with them and
3 figure out ways to support them.

4 I don't think we said it
5 earlier, but we have to tune up our own
6 buildings. The City has several
7 buildings over 50,000 square feet, so
8 we're going to be going through this
9 process ourselves. So if we can be doing
10 that with the School District, maybe we
11 join forces and learn aside each other.
12 I think that's something we're very
13 committed to doing with them.

14 COUNCILWOMAN BROWN: It's
15 called working smarter, indeed.

16 Thank you all very, very much.

17 MS. ACEVEDO: Thank you.

18 COUNCILWOMAN BROWN: The City
19 Council Committee on the Environment and
20 Sustainability is now adjourned.

21 Thank you.

22 (Committee on the Environment
23 concluded at 12:40 p.m.)

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CERTIFICATE

I HEREBY CERTIFY that the
proceedings, evidence and objections are
contained fully and accurately in the
stenographic notes taken by me upon the
foregoing matter, and that this is a true and
correct transcript of same.

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RPR-Notary Public

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