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PRESS RELEASE

Schenectady and National Grid Announce Dates for Upcoming Smart City Open House Events

Public invited to upcoming open house series on Smart City REV Demonstration Project

SCHENECTADY – Mayor Gary McCarthy announced dates for upcoming open house events on the National Grid Smart City Reforming the Energy Vision (REV) Demonstration Project in Schenectady. REV is part of Governor Andrew Cuomo’s climate change strategy to grow New York’s economy while building a cleaner, more resilient and affordable energy system.

The project was conceptualized in partnership with Mayor McCarthy’s Smart City Advisory Commission and received approval from the New York State Department of Public Service (DPS) in June 2018. For the complete list of REV Demo Projects, please visit the [DPS website](#).¹

The upcoming open house events in Schenectady will be:

- **Tuesday, December 3rd, 5:30pm – 7:30pm**
Mont Pleasant Library, 1036 Crane Street
- **Thursday, December 5th, 6:30pm – 8:00pm**
Electric City Barn, 400 Craig Street
- **Tuesday, December 10th, 5:30pm – 7:30pm**
McChesney Room, Schenectady County Public Library, 99 Clinton Street
- **Thursday, December 12th, 5:30pm – 7:30pm**
Walter Robb Auditorium, McClellan Street Health Center, 600 McClellan Street

In Schenectady, the City has partnered with National Grid to pilot a REV Demo Project, where National Grid will replace 4,200 high-pressure sodium streetlights with energy-efficient LED streetlights across the entire city over a three-year period. These LED lights will be outfitted with advanced network lighting controls that will enable improved lighting services, automatic outage detection, and the creation of dimming schedules during off peak hours to enable additional energy savings.

In November 2018, the City and National Grid tested two separate LED lighting temperatures in the Stockade neighborhood and conducted community surveys and outreach to determine residents preferred lighting temperature. The results of the survey showed that residents preferred the warm-white 3,000 kelvin LED streetlights over the cool-white 4,000 kelvin LED streetlights.

While National Grid replaces streetlights across the city with advanced LED streetlights – which have the potential to reduce energy costs by 50 percent – the City will utilize the enhanced streetlight infrastructure to evaluate how smart technology can improve quality of life for residents and increase the efficiency of municipal services. The City will also expand its public Wi-Fi network – which is currently only available in Downtown Schenectady – throughout the City’s neighborhoods.

“Schenectady has received wide recognition for numerous Smart Cities initiatives and this demonstration project not only builds on our history but has extraordinary potential to position our community as a global leader in municipal sustainability and innovation,” **said Mayor McCarthy**. “Public engagement will play a critical role in this project as we evaluate new technologies and

¹ <http://www3.dps.ny.gov/W/PSCWeb.nsf/All/B2D9D834B0D307C685257F3F006FF1D9?OpenDocument>

solutions to determine what options best serve the needs of the public as we build a smarter, safer, and more sustainable Schenectady for the 21st century.”

National Grid and the City will be implementing the project using a phased approach over three years. The first phase will see streetlight replacement in [Zone A and Zone B](#)² of the City, and is scheduled for completion by the end of 2019. Phase Two will cover the remaining zones of the City and is scheduled to be completed in the summer of 2020. During Phase Three, the City and National Grid will continue evaluation of the REV Demo Project into 2021.

In addition to advanced LED streetlights, National Grid will install the Cimcon NearSky node in Zone A, and the GE-AT&T City IQ node in Zone B. These Smart City technologies have the potential to enhance municipal services through improved transportation and mobility, public safety, and environmental sustainability. Some of their potential Smart City use-cases include: gunshot detection that immediately alerts law enforcement; pedestrian, bicycle, and vehicle traffic volume analysis that can improve and enhance urban mobility, development and zoning; and environmental monitors that measure air quality.

This initiative will serve as a pilot for potential future adoption across National Grid’s New York service territory – providing National Grid with vital information on potential new options for enhanced street lighting infrastructure, and energy savings gained from LED conversion at a large scale.

For additional information on the National Grid REV Demo Project, please visit the City’s website at www.cityofscheneectady.com/NGREVDemo.

² <http://www.cityofscheneectady.com/NGREVDemo>