

Actions for your chapter gathering

1. Continue planning your CCL summer of fun fundraiser
2. Schedule summer tabling and deploy our permitting reform materials
3. Social media bonus action: Post on your social media to build support for the PROVE IT Act
4. Chapter development bonus action: Use media relations to bring new volunteers into action
5. Communications exercise: Practice handling tough questions about permitting reform

Monthly International Call + Guest Speaker

Sarahia Benn, Executive Director of Policy Foundation of Maryland
Saturday, July 8, 2023 | 10 a.m. PT / 1 p.m. ET

Sarahia Benn serves as Executive Director of the Policy Foundation of Maryland. With extensive experience and expertise in policy development, Sarahia is a prominent environmentalist contributing to the drafting and advising of local, state, and national policies in multiple realms. Sarahia has been an active member of various legislative coalitions, including Rebuild Maryland, through which she joined forces with other prominent environmentalists to advocate for landmark climate legislation: The Climate Crisis and Environmental Justice Act. Additionally, Sarahia was a key contributor to the "Climate Solutions Now" coalition, supporting Maryland state senator Paul Pinsky's efforts in addressing climate issues.




Three Ways to Join

- **To connect by video conference:** go to cclusa.org/meeting (this links to meeting ID# 95498355745)
 - To improve audio/video quality, close all applications and other browser windows
 - To turn on closed captions and adjust their size, see this [Zoom help page](#)
 - American Sign Language (ASL) and Spanish interpretation are also available
- **To connect by phone:** With unlimited calling 646-558-8656; toll-free 877-369-0926. Enter 954-9835-5745
- **To watch a livestream:** go to: cclusa.org/livestream

If your Action Sheet is printed and you'd like to be able to click the links, you can download this Action Sheet at cclusa.org/actionsheet. There's a Spanish version of the Action Sheet there too!

Continue planning your CCL summer of fun fundraiser

 **Summary:** (1) Set a summer goal for your fundraising, (2) discuss fundraiser activity options and plan one or more of them, and (3) review CCL's Summer Fundraiser Toolkit for ideas and guidance. *Read on for the details* ↓



Let's build on the momentum of our amazing June Conference and Lobby Day! Donations to CCL/CCE ensure that volunteers have the resources, organizational tools and support they need to effectively build political will for a livable world. In the June Action Sheet, we asked you to brainstorm ideas for a fundraising event. This month, put your ideas into action by planning and hosting a summer fundraiser.

At your gathering

Set a goal for how much your chapter will raise over the summer, and then choose and plan one (or more, if you're feeling ambitious) of the suggested fundraisers below:

- A Facebook fundraiser: Anyone in your chapter can host [an individual fundraiser](#) for CCL — an easy and lightweight option.
- A donation party: Gather your friends and families together for an in-person celebration, like a [house party](#) or backyard barbeque. At the party, share your involvement with CCL and why it matters, and ask for donations.
- An activity-a-thon: Think of an activity, set a goal and collect pledges from your friends and family. Your challenge can be anything — number of miles run, games of chess won, mittens knitted, or conversations about climate change. Get creative! [Here's an example of using pledgeit.org](#) to organize your challenge and here's a [summary of the steps](#).

CCL has prepared a [Summer Fundraiser Toolkit](#) of graphics and resources to help you succeed in your fundraiser. During your chapter meeting, ask someone to open the toolkit and share their screen (or connect to a big screen if you're in person) so everyone can see what's available while you plan.

Additional resources

- CCL Community's [Raise Funds for CCL Nationally](#) training
- CCL Blog post [CCLers get creative with peer-to-peer fundraising](#)
- Watch this [Summer Fundraising Ideas and Resources](#) training live or after July 6 [watch the recording](#)



Schedule summer tabling and deploy our permitting reform materials

GRASSROOTS ACTION | [Carbon Pricing](#) [Healthy Forests](#)

[Clean Energy Permitting Reform](#) [Building Electrification and Efficiency](#)

Summary: (1) Identify, reserve, and schedule summer tabling and clipboarding, (2) bring CCL fliers and other materials to the events, (3) educate, activate and recruit the people you meet, and (4) log your grassroots actions in the Action Tracker.

Read on for the details. ↓



Members of your community are out and about in the summertime attending fairs, festivals, art walks, and other outdoor events, so plan to use our [clean energy permitting reform fliers](#) and other materials to engage and activate event attendees.

Schedule, staff and supply materials for your event

- Identify an event and secure a table. At your gathering, ask everyone to suggest events that have lots of foot traffic and then designate a tabling coordinator (if you don't have one) to reserve a table at some. You can also clipboard, which is like tabling except you're walking around and engaging folks on foot.
- Schedule folks in shifts. Make a tabling schedule and pass around a physical or virtual sheet so attendees can sign up for a shift. Be sure to **sign up new volunteers**, so they have the experience and pair them with veteran CCLers when possible.
- Select the materials you'll take with you. Our [tabling fliers](#) all have QR codes, so you only need to print and bring one of each. Try scanning the QR code before the event to familiarize yourself with the process. You could also bring your [Climate Anxiety Booth](#) as a fun activity to attract folks to your table.
- Activate the people you meet. If a table visitor expresses concern about climate change, ask them to use their phone to scan the QR code on your flier to instantly take action and encourage them to check the box to subscribe to future CCL emails.

Recruit new supporters to strengthen your chapter and log your actions afterward

- Invite all visitors to your table to join CCL, either by subscribing when they write/call Congress or via cclusa.org/join. They will automatically be added to their nearest chapter and invited to an Info Session.
- Act quickly to onboard recruits who join your chapter after your tabling/clipboarding event.
- Log your grassroots outreach in the [Action Tracker](#).

Additional resources

- CCL Community's [Tabling and Clipboarding](#) topics
- CCL Community's [Paperless Grassroots Outreach](#) training
- Complete list of CCL Community's [Grassroots Outreach](#) resources

Post on your social media to build support for the PROVE IT Act

SOCIAL MEDIA BONUS ACTION

The bipartisan PROVE IT Act ([S.1863](#)) was introduced in the Senate just before our June Lobby Day, and we quickly added it as a [primary ask](#) because studying average product emissions intensity is a necessary first step for implementing a U.S. carbon border adjustment mechanism (CBAM).

[Visit congress.gov](#) to see if either of your senators has cosponsored the PROVE IT Act, and if they have, thank them via Twitter or your social media channel of choice. If either or both of your senators are yet to cosponsor the PROVE IT Act, urge them to support the bill in your post.

Be sure to include the hashtag [#GrassrootsClimate](#) and your senators' social media handles in your post so their offices will see it. If you need help getting started on social media, CCL's [Social Media for Volunteers and Chapters](#) training will get you up to speed.

Use media relations to bring new volunteers into action

CHAPTER DEVELOPMENT BONUS ACTION

Encouraging new recruits to write and submit a letter to the editor (LTE) is a great way to get them excited about exercising their political power for climate solutions. In 2022, just under half of LTEs submitted by CCLers were published, so there's a good chance volunteers will be rewarded with their words in print! This month, when new folks sign up to volunteer, invite them to watch this quick [three minute tutorial](#), choose from a list of timely [LTE Topics here](#), and submit their finished letter directly to a local newspaper or through CCL's [online LTE tool](#).

You could also suggest they attend CCL's national LTE Zoom Party on [Tuesday, July 11](#), or [Tuesday, August 8](#), for a quick tutorial and focused writing time.

If writers would like help or feedback on their LTE, they can post it in the [Writers' Circle forum](#) on CCL Community. While being published in a national paper like the New York Times is exciting, volunteers have more power to influence their members of Congress by publishing an LTE in a newspaper in their district or state where they are represented as a constituent. And be sure to remind writers to log their submitted LTE in the CCL Action Tracker.

Practice handling tough questions about permitting reform

COMMUNICATION SKILLS EXERCISE

Permitting reform is a broad topic and you may find yourself answering an array of questions while you are educating your community on CCL's policy agenda. Let's practice responding to challenging queries.

Suggestions for how to practice

We know that people learn best by saying the words out loud themselves, so for this exercise:

1. Read these instructions to meeting attendees:

“With a partner, take turns asking and responding to the **Challenging questions about permitting reform** below. Afterward, discuss the answers that you remember. You'll have six minutes.”

2. Ask two people to model the exercise, and then invite everyone to practice.

If you use Zoom breakout rooms (see [Zoom's training page on "Breakout Rooms"](#) to learn how):

Put everyone into breakout rooms, two people per room, for six minutes. When everyone comes back together, ask a few people to share some highlights from the exercise.

If you use Zoom but don't use breakout rooms: invite a few attendees to follow the instructions.

Challenging questions about permitting reform (and how to answer them)

Q: Why do we need clean energy permitting reform?

A: If we don't start building clean energy infrastructure faster, we could squander 80% of the potential climate pollution cuts from the Inflation Reduction Act. It currently takes an average of 4.5 years to complete environmental impact studies for big energy projects and a decade to build a new electrical transmission line. That's too slow for the U.S. to achieve its emissions reduction goals.

Q: Why is permitting reform especially important for electrical transmission lines?

A: Big solar and wind farms tend to be built out in rural areas where there's affordable and available land, and transmission lines are needed to transport clean electricity to population centers. Research by energy modelers at Princeton has identified electrical transmission lines as a key bottleneck.

Q: Won't permitting reform also allow fossil fuel projects to get built faster?

A: Permitting reform will allow energy projects to get approved or denied more quickly. But 95% of energy projects waiting in line to get built and 84% of the new energy capacity added in the USA in each of the past three years is clean (solar, wind, and battery storage), with the rest being natural gas. Because clean energy is cheap and in high demand, a streamlined permitting process will benefit zero-emissions energy the most.

Q: Why have some environmental justice groups opposed permitting reform?

A: Some groups are concerned that streamlining environmental impact reports will cut out communities' voices from the permitting process. But many permitting reform advocates, including CCL, support measures that will improve early community involvement in these projects while also streamlining the permitting process overall.

Additional Resource

CCL Community's [Clean Energy Permitting Reform](#) topics