

Bruce Manclark, CLEAResult

Title: What's in a name? Megaprojects and the new language of efficiency at scale

Abstract: A recent study of Seattle's residential housing stock showed meeting the City's climate change goals by 2030 will cost \$3.5 billion and require retrofitting 70 homes a day, every day, for the next decade. While this level of effort would be a nine-fold increase in scale for the City's utility program, it's still smaller than the City's recent highway tunnel construction project and rather right-sized in the context of infrastructure projects more generally. In fact, it fits squarely in the domain of the "megaproject," the term for construction projects over \$1 billion with substantial social and environmental impacts. This session will explore the scale of efficiency implementations necessary to meet climate change goals with a focus on 1) quantifying project size and 2) contextualizing efficiency projects within the nexus of infrastructure more broadly. On the quantification side, the session will feature an expert researcher and representatives of the City of Seattle to discuss a new study that quantified the scale of residential retrofits needed to meet Seattle's climate change goals. On the implementation side, the panel will include a representative from a major infrastructure contracting and project management firm to discuss the strategies and tools already in use in construction, transportation, and other sectors to manage "megaprojects" and that can be leveraged by the efficiency industry. The panel will also include at least one representative from municipal government, to discuss the challenges local governments face in scoping and managing multi-billion-dollar projects, and the opportunities they present for job creation and increasing social equity.