



## Project Updates

May 23, 2018

### **CLIMATE & ENERGY LEADERSHIP AWARDS**

Government agencies, non-governmental organizations, and educational institutions from across metropolitan Washington are invited to apply or nominate candidates for the 2018 Climate and Energy Leadership Awards offered by the Metropolitan Washington Council of Governments (COG). Winners serve as a role model for the region, and are recognized in front of local, regional, and national officials for their innovative achievements and leading best practices. Visit [www.mwcog.org/climateawards](http://www.mwcog.org/climateawards) for more information. Application period is open April 22 – June 29, 2018. For questions, contact [Maia Davis](#) or [Amanda Campbell](#).

### **COG SUSTAINABILITY REPORT**

COG staff is finalizing the baseline COG Sustainability Report, which assesses the environmental impact of COG internal operations and that of the Center for Public Administration and Services building in which COG resides. The report covers organizational and building-wide procurement and waste, electricity use, transportation, water use, wastewater, stormwater, greenhouse gas emissions, and results of a COG employee survey. Now staff are seeking input on COG's next steps for improving our office sustainability. The draft report will be available for committee review in the coming weeks, and later will be presented to the COG Board. For questions, contact [Amanda Campbell](#).

### **DRIVERS OF GREENHOUSE GAS CHANGE**

COG is a partner on a national grant team under the US Department of Energy CLEAP (Cities Leading through Energy Analysis and Planning) Program to develop a new model and toolkit for local governments to analyze the drivers of change in community-scale greenhouse gas (GHG) inventories. As part of this project COG staff is conditioning and completing local and regional greenhouse gas inventories for 2005, 2012 and 2015. Local governments will receive their final inventories by the end of May 2018 and regional results will be published this summer.

Additionally, the work under this project is informing and supporting an update of the US Community Protocol for community-scale GHG inventories to be released later in 2018. For more information, contact [Maia Davis](#).

### **FLEETS FOR THE FUTURE: COOPERATIVE PURCHASE OF ALTERNATIVE FUEL VEHICLES**

COG and the Mid-Atlantic Purchasing Team (MAPT) is partnering with the National Association of Regional Councils (NARC) on a US Department of Energy award winning project called [Fleets for the Future \(F4F\)](#) to develop cooperative procurement opportunities for alternative fuel vehicles and refueling/charging infrastructure. The Fleets for the Future project received a 6-month extension to continue AFV and infrastructure aggregate purchase activities. The extension comes with an additional \$13,700 budget increase.

To date, the project has awarded an aggregate vehicle bid. There are over 15 vehicle types and 3 vendors awarded. For more information on how public agencies can purchase vehicles via this award, contact COG Staff, [Leah Boggs](#).

### **REGIONAL TREE CANOPY MANAGEMENT STRATEGY REPORT**

The Regional Tree Canopy Workgroup has developed a Regional Tree Canopy Management Strategy document in cooperation with local forestry staff in the region. This document is a guideline for local government staff to assist in the management and enhancement of forest cover at the community

level. Furthermore, recommendations in the report are designed to support Region Forward Sustainability Goals for regional forest cover management, state and local initiatives to continue to improve air quality, and the Chesapeake Bay Program's targets and indicators to protect water quality and support a healthy regional green infrastructure. For more information, contact [Brian LeCouteur](#).

## **RESILIENCE**

### **ISC Leadership Academy, 2018**

Representatives from Arlington County (Rich Dooley), Prince George's County (Erica Bannerman), the District of Columbia (Evelyn Kasongo), Resilient Virginia (Annette Osso), and Northern Virginia Regional Commission (Corey Miles) attended an equity-themed Sustainable Communities Leadership Academy in Pittsburgh, PA, on April 16-18. The training was hosted by the Institute for Sustainable Communities. Participants learned about tools and techniques for engaging local communities on resilience and discussed ways to approach resilience at the regional level. Workshop presentations and resources are [posted here](#).

### **Northern Virginia Resilience**

In 2017-2018, the Northern Virginia Regional Commission worked with COG to produce a series of resilience workshops and develop a report: [Resilient Critical Infrastructure: A Roadmap for Northern Virginia](#). NVRC and COG plan to continue partnering on resilience initiatives in the region.

### **Region Forward Coalition And 100rc**

District of Columbia's Chief Resilience Officer presented to the [Region Forward Coalition](#) on April 27 regarding DC's 100 Resilient Cities program. Several COG staff are representing the region in DC's 100 Resilient Cities working groups including the Department of Environmental Programs Director (Climate Action Focus Area), the Director of Community Planning and Services (Integrate District Planning and Execution), and water resources staff (Honor the Anacostia River). Region Forward Coalition also discussed Sustainability Targets at the April 27 meeting.

For more information on resiliency initiatives, contact [Amanda Campbell](#).

## **UTILITY ENERGY REGISTRY**

The Utility Energy Registry (UER) is a U.S. Department of Energy funded project to advance and develop an on-line platform that will provide streamlined and standardized public access to community-scale utility energy demographics. The UER will provide localities and communities with essential information to inform clean energy planning, implementation, and assessment of locally-defined clean energy initiatives. COG is partnering with University of Maryland Environmental Finance Center, District Department of Energy and Environment, Climate Action Associates, NYSERDA and State of Minnesota to pilot state-level utility data protocols and platform development. For more information, contact [Maia Davis](#).

## **WHAT WE CAN DO TO IMPROVE AIR QUALITY IN THE WASHINGTON REGION**

ACPAC helped initiate a project with the chair of the Metropolitan Washington Air Quality Committee to analyze measures that could be implemented or expanded in the region to improve air quality, especially local actions. Many of the actions identified, such as energy efficiency, renewable energy, and electric vehicle adoption also reduce greenhouse gas emissions. The list of measures - referred to as the 'What We Can Do' project - will be presented at the MWAQC meeting later today, and are summarized in a [draft report](#). For more information, contact [Amanda Campbell](#).