



## BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Wednesday, March 9, 2022

12:00 P.M. - 2:00 P.M.

In-person meeting: 777 N. Capitol St., NE, Washington, DC

Virtual participation upon request by Board Members

Video livestream available to public on COG website

### AGENDA

- 12:00 P.M.**
- 1. CALL TO ORDER**  
*Christian Dorsey, COG Board Chair*
  - 2. CHAIRMAN'S REPORT**  
*Christian Dorsey, COG Board Chair*
- 12:05 P.M.**
- 3. EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S REPORT**  
*Chuck Bean, COG Executive Director*
  - 4. AMENDMENTS TO THE AGENDA**  
*Christian Dorsey, COG Board Chair*
- 12:15 P.M.**
- 5. APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES FROM FEBRUARY 9, 2022**  
*Christian Dorsey, COG Board Chair*  
**Recommended Action: Approve minutes.**
  - 6. ADOPTION OF CONSENT AGENDA ITEMS**  
*Christian Dorsey, COG Board Chair*
    - A. Resolution R17-2022 – Resolution authorizing COG to receive a grant, procure and enter into a contract to conduct Phase 37 of the Continuous Airport System Planning (CASP) Program.  
**Recommended Action: Adopt Resolution R17-2022.**
- 12:20 P.M.**
- 7. 2030/2050 REGIONAL CLIMATE GOALS**  
*Kanti Srikanth, COG Deputy Executive Director for Metropolitan Planning*

The board will be briefed on the region's 2030 climate goals and receive an overview of activities at the regional and local levels related to COG's 2030 Climate and Energy Action Plan (CEAP).

- 12:35 P.M.**     **8. LOCAL CLIMATE & ENERGY ACTION PLANNING EFFORTS**  
*Adriana Hochberg, Montgomery County Department of Environmental Protection  
Acting Department Director*  
*Mark Aveni, Loudoun County Assistant Director of General Services*
- The board will be briefed on the activities and experiences of local jurisdictions on their climate and energy action planning work, including Montgomery County’s Climate Action Plan which places an emphasis on equity, and Loudoun County’s Sustainability Planning process which prioritizes community engagement.
- 1:15 P.M.**     **9. OPPORTUNITIES FOR REGIONAL COLLABORATION ON CLIMATE ISSUES**  
*Jeff King, COG Climate, Energy and Air Programs Director*
- The board will be briefed on some specific areas for further collaboration across the region on initiatives that will help advance progress toward the 2030 and 2050 climate goals.
- 1:55 P.M.**     **10. OTHER BUSINESS**
- 2:00 P.M.**     **11. ADJOURN**  
The next COG Board Meeting is scheduled to be held virtually on Wednesday, April 13<sup>th</sup> 12:00 – 2:00PM.

**AGENDA ITEM #2**

**CHAIRMAN'S REPORT**



**CORPORATE OFFICERS**



**President**  
Nancy Navarro\*  
Montgomery Co.



**Vice President**  
Ann Wheeler\*  
Prince William Co.



**Vice President**  
Robert C. White, Jr.  
District of Columbia



**Secretary-Treasurer**  
Rodney Lusk\*  
Fairfax County



**Chair**  
Christian Dorsey  
Arlington County



**Vice Chair**  
Kate Stewart  
City of Takoma Park



**Vice Chair**  
Charles Allen  
District of Columbia

**BOARD OF DIRECTORS**



Phil Mendelson  
District of Columbia



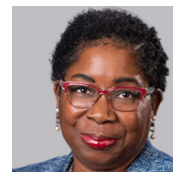
Kevin Donahue  
District of Columbia



Tim Adams  
City of Bowie



Reuben Collins  
Charles County



Denise Mitchell  
City of College Park



Michael O'Connor  
City of Frederick



Jan Gardner  
Frederick County



Robert Wu  
City of Gaithersburg



Emmett Jordan  
City of Greenbelt



Craig Moe  
City of Laurel



Marc Elrich  
Montgomery Co.



Tom Hucker  
Montgomery Co.



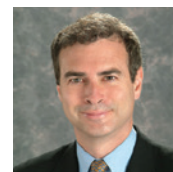
Angela Alsobrooks  
Prince George's Co.



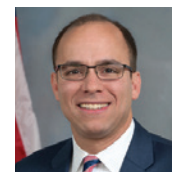
Sydney Harrison  
Prince George's Co.



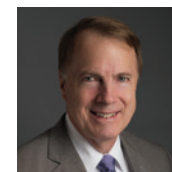
Bridget Newton  
City of Rockville



Brian Feldman  
MD General Assembly



Justin Wilson  
City of Alexandria



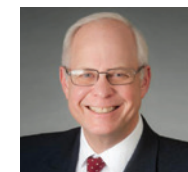
David Meyer  
City of Fairfax



Jeff McKay  
Fairfax County



Penelope Gross  
Fairfax County



David Snyder  
City of Falls Church



Phyllis Randall  
Loudoun County



Juli Briskman  
Loudoun County



Mark Wolfe  
City of Manassas



Darryl Moore  
City of Manassas Park



George Barker  
VA General Assembly

**POLICY BOARD & COMMITTEE CHAIRS**



**Transportation  
Planning Board**  
Pamela Sebesky  
City of Manassas



**Metropolitan  
Washington Air  
Quality Committee**  
Takis Karantonis  
Arlington County



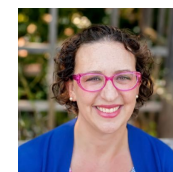
**Chesapeake Bay &  
Water Resources  
Policy Committee**  
Amy Jackson  
City of Alexandria



**Climate, Energy  
& Environment  
Policy Committee**  
Koran Saines  
Loudoun County



**Human Services  
Policy Committee**  
Calvin Hawkins\*  
Prince George's Co.



**Region Forward  
Coalition**  
Brienne Nadeau  
District of Columbia

\*also serve  
on Board  
of Directors

## **COG Board of Directors 2022 Meeting Dates**

The COG Board meets the second Wednesday of the month from 12:00 – 2:00 P.M.

- January 12 (virtual)
- February 9 (virtual)
- March 9 (in-person)
- April 13 (virtual)
- May 11 (in-person)
- June 8 (virtual)
- July 29-30 – COG Leadership Retreat (in-person)
- August – No meeting
- September 14 (TBD)
- October 12 (TBD)
- November 9 (TBD)
- December 14 – COG Membership & Awards Meeting (in-person)

In-person Meeting Location  
777 N. Capitol Street NE, Suite 300  
Washington, DC 20002

# **AGENDA ITEM #3**

## **EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S REPORT**



## MEMORANDUM

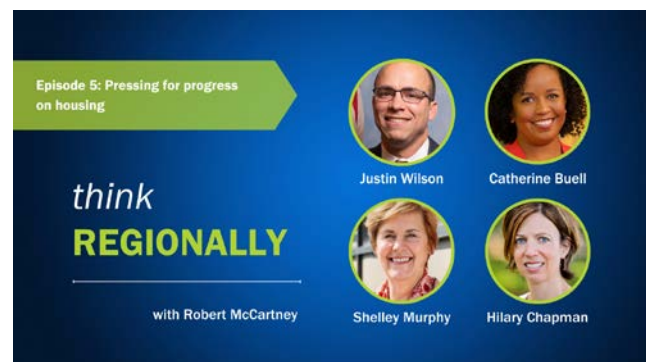
**TO:** COG Board of Directors  
**FROM:** Chuck Bean, COG Executive Director  
**SUBJECT:** Executive Director's Report – March 2022  
**DATE:** March 2, 2022

## POLICY BOARD & COMMITTEE UPDATES

**National Capital Region Transportation Planning Board (TPB)** – At its February meeting, the TPB approved over \$7 million in funding for eight bicycle and pedestrian projects in Northern Virginia, including several that connect to the National Capital Trail Network. The board also discussed an upcoming climate change and greenhouse gas (GHG) reduction questionnaire asking members about the integration of proposed climate change elements into the *Visualize 2045* long-range transportation plan, the local transportation decision-making process, and GHG reduction strategies. In addition, the board received briefings on the draft FY 2023 Unified Planning Work Program (UPWP), draft FY 2023 Commuter Connections Work Program, and 2022 Transit Asset Management targets.

**Metropolitan Washington Air Quality Committee (MWAQC)** – At its February meeting, MWAQC received a briefing on two initiatives that focus on limiting air pollution from the lawn and garden sectors. The board also heard the results of Clean Air Partners public awareness survey, which is conducted every three years with residents in the Baltimore-Washington region.

**Food and Agriculture Regional Member Policy Committee (FARM)** – At its February meeting, FARM received updates on the Prince George's County Food Security Task Force Report, policy developments on school meals and the Supplemental Assistance Nutrition Program (SNAP), and Capital Area Food Bank's forthcoming studies and 2022 operations. The board also heard presentations on the progress of the region's Food and Water Resilience planning efforts and the grocery supply chain.



**PODCAST: PRESSING FOR PROGRESS ON HOUSING**  
On this episode of *Think Regionally*, host Robert McCartney talks with leaders in the government, business, and non-profit sectors, including COG Board member and Alexandria Mayor Justin Wilson, about innovative ways they're partnering to solve the region's housing shortage.

[Listen to the episode or read the transcript](#)

## OUTREACH & PROGRAM HIGHLIGHTS

**COG presentations** – In February, COG Executive Director Chuck Bean presented COG’s *Metropolitan Washington Planning Framework for 2030* to the College Park City Council, National Association of Regional Councils (NARC), and the Society of American Military Engineers (SAME), briefing them on four regional priorities shaping COG’s work.

**Racial Equity** - On February 11, COG Health Programs Manager Jenny Schitter hosted a “Deeply Rooted: History’s Lessons for Equity in Northern Virginia” webinar for the Washington Regional Association of Grantmakers.

**Commute with Confidence** – In February, COG’s Commuter Connections program launched a Facebook Live Discussion Series, hosted by Commuter Connections Director Nicholas Ramfos. In the series, Ramfos interviews guests such as TPB Chair and City of Manassas Vice Mayor Pamela Sebesky about the importance of ridesharing as employees return to their offices post-COVID and how Commuter Connections programs help address this issue.



**TPB APPROVES \$7.2M FOR BICYCLE AND PEDESTRIAN TRANSPORTATION PROJECTS**  
The eight projects located in Northern Virginia will be funded by the Transportation Alternatives Set-Aside Program, which supports small-scale projects such as pedestrian and bicycle facilities, trails, safe routes to school (SRTS) projects, and more.

[Learn more about the awarded projects](#)

[Watch the first two episodes](#)

## MEDIA HIGHLIGHTS

### Current travel trends

*More than half of employees prefer mix of in-person, remote working, survey says.*

[FOX 5 – Features COG Executive Director Chuck Bean](#)

**Equity Emphasis Areas** - Local jurisdictions like Montgomery County are using COG’s regional planning concept Equity Emphasis Areas (EEAs) to guide strategic planning efforts.

*With equity officer and mandate, racial effects now embedded in legislation review*

[Bethesda Beat – References EEAs](#)

*Montgomery Co. lawmakers unanimous on the Shovel Our Sidewalks Act*

[WTOP – References EEAs](#)



**AGENDA ITEM #4**

**AMENDMENTS TO THE  
AGENDA**

## **AGENDA ITEM #5**

### **APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES**

**METROPOLITAN WASHINGTON COUNCIL OF GOVERNMENTS  
777 North Capitol Street, NE  
Washington, D.C. 20002**

**MINUTES  
COG Board of Directors Meeting  
February 9, 2022**

**BOARD MEMBERS AND ALTERNATES:** See attached chart for attendance.

**SPEAKERS:**

Rodney Lusk, COG Secretary Treasurer  
Julie Mussog, COG Chief Financial Officer  
Paul DesJardin, COG Director of Community Planning and Services  
Angie Rodgers, Prince George's County Deputy Chief Administrative Officer for Economic Development  
Justin Wilson, City of Alexandria Mayor  
Hilary Chapman, COG Housing Program Manager  
Lesley Edmond, District of Columbia Housing Compliance Officer  
Diane Glauber, Lawyers Committee for Civil Rights Under Law, Fair Housing & Community Development Project Director  
Jarrod Elwell, Enterprise Community Partners Senior Director of Strategy & Implementation  
John Kent, COG Regional Planner II

**1. CALL TO ORDER AND PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE**

COG Board Chair Christian Dorsey. called the meeting to order at 12:00 P.M. and led the Pledge of Allegiance.

**2. CHAIRMAN'S REPORT**

A. Condolences to the City of Hyattsville

**3. EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S REPORT**

COG Executive Director Chuck Bean called on COG Homeland Security and Public Safety Director Scott Boggs to brief the board on a cybersecurity tabletop exercise held in January, convening over 100 participants from 30 different federal, state, and local government agencies across the region. Bean also called on Robert McCartney, former Washington Post correspondent and current host of COG's Think Regionally podcast, to give an overview of recent episodes covering important topics like housing and the COG Board's planning priorities. Lastly, Bean provided an overview of recent 2030 Framework activities, including presentations to the College Park City Council and the National Association of Regional Councils (NARC).

**4. AMENDMENTS TO AGENDA**

There were no amendments to the agenda.

**5. APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

The minutes from the January 12, 2022 board meeting were approved.

**6. ADOPTION OF CONSENT AGENDA ITEMS**

- A. Resolution R13-2022 – Resolution authorizing COG to procure and enter into a contract to staff the National Capital Region (NCR) License Plate Reader (LPR) Project Coordinator position.
- B. Resolution R14-2022 – Resolution authorizing COG to procure and enter into a contract to conduct a communications resiliency study.
- C. Resolution R15-2022 – Resolution authorizing COG to procure and enter into a contract to

- conduct a Regional Radio Systems Capacity study.
- D. Resolution R16-2022 – Resolution authorizing COG to procure and enter into a contract to conduct a Situational Awareness Software Evaluation.

**ACTION: Approved Resolution R13-2022 – R16-2022.**

**7. FY2022 SECOND QUARTER FINANCIAL REPORT**

COG Secretary Treasurer Rodney Lusk and COG Chief Financial Officer Julie Mussog briefed the board on the Fiscal Year 2022 Second Quarter Financial Report.

**ACTION: Received briefing.**

**8. 2030 REGIONAL HOUSING INITIATIVE TARGETS**

COG Community Planning and Services Director Paul DesJardin briefed the board on efforts to reach COG’s regional housing targets. The board also heard from Prince George’s County Deputy Chief Administrative Officer for Economic Development Angie Rodgers and City of Alexandria Mayor Justin Wilson on their experiences and lessons learned from efforts to increase housing supply and affordability in their respective jurisdictions.

**ACTION: Received briefing.**

**9. NEXT STEPS IN REGIONAL HOUSING EQUITY PLAN DEVELOPMENT AND PREVIEW OF REGIONAL GOALS**

COG Housing Program Manager Hilary Chapman along with District of Columbia Housing Compliance Officer Lesley Edmond, Lawyers Committee for Civil Rights Under Law, Fair Housing & Community Development Project Director Diane Glauber, and Enterprise Community Partners Senior Director of Strategy & Implementation Jarrod Elwell briefed the board on the forthcoming draft Regional Housing Equity Plan to help local governments meet their fair housing requirements through regional collaboration.

**ACTION: Received briefing.**

**10. MULTI-FAMILY RENTAL HOUSING CONSTRUCTION INDICATORS REPORT**

COG Regional Planner John Kent briefed the board on COG’s Multi-family Rental Housing Construction Indicators Report.

**ACTION: Received briefing.**

**11. OTHER BUSINESS**

There was no other business.

**12. ADJOURN**

Upon motion duly made and seconded, the meeting was adjourned at 1:55 P.M.

**February 9, 2022 Attendance**

<u>Jurisdiction</u>	<u>Member</u>	<u>Y/N</u>	<u>Alternate</u>	<u>Y/N</u>
<b><i>District of Columbia</i></b>				
<b>Executive</b>	Hon. Muriel Bowser		Ms. Beverly Perry Mr. Wayne Turnage Ms. Lucinda Babers	Y
	Mr. Kevin Donahue		Eugene Kinlow	Y
<b>Council</b>	Hon. Phil Mendelson			
	<b><i>Hon. Charles Allen</i></b>	Y		
<b><i>Maryland</i></b>				
Bowie	Hon. Tim Adams	Y		
Charles County	Hon. Reuben Collins	Y	Thomasina Coates Gilbert Bowling	
City of Frederick	Hon. Michael O'Connor	Y		
Frederick County	Hon. Jan Gardner		Ms. Joy Schaefer	Y
College Park	Hon. Denise Mitchell	Y	Hon. Patrick Wojahn	
Gaithersburg	Hon. Robert Wu		Hon. Neil Harris	
Greenbelt	Hon. Emmett Jordan	Y	Hon. Kristen Weaver	(P)
Laurel	Hon. Craig Moe	Y	Hon. Keith Sydnor	(P)
Montgomery County				
<b>Executive</b>	Hon. Marc Elrich		Mr. Richard Madaleno Ms. Fariba Kassiri	Y
<b>Council</b>	Hon. Tom Hucker		Mr. Gene Smith	
	Hon. Nancy Navarro			
Prince George's County				
<b>Executive</b>	Hon. Angela Alsobrooks		Ms. Tara Jackson	Y
<b>Council</b>	Hon. Calvin Hawkins			
	Hon. Sydney Harrison	Y		
Rockville	Hon. Bridget Donnell Newton	Y		
Takoma Park	<b><i>Hon. Kate Stewart</i></b>	Y	Hon. Peter Kovar	
Maryland General Assembly	Hon. Brian Feldman			
<b><i>Virginia</i></b>				
Alexandria	Hon. Justin Wilson	Y	Hon. Kirk McPike	
Arlington County	<b><i>Hon. Christian Dorsey</i></b>	Y		
City of Fairfax	Hon. David Meyer	Y	Hon. Janice Miller	
Fairfax County	Hon. Jeff McKay	Y	Hon. James Walkinshaw	
	Hon. Penelope Gross	Y	Hon. Daniel Storck	
	Hon. Rodney Lusk	Y	Hon. Walter Alcorn	
Falls Church	Hon. David Snyder	Y	Hon. David Tarter	
Loudoun County	Hon. Juli Briskman	Y		
Loudoun County	Hon. Phyllis Randall	Y		
Manassas	Hon. Mark Wolfe	Y		
Manassas Park	Hon. Darryl Moore			
Prince William County	Hon. Ann Wheeler	Y		
	Hon. Andrea Bailey	Y		
Virginia General Assembly	Hon. George Barker			

Y = Present, voting

(P) = Present as Alternate in addition to Primary

# **AGENDA ITEM #6**

## **ADOPTION OF CONSENT AGENDA ITEMS**

**ADOPTION OF CONSENT AGENDA ITEMS  
March 2022**

**A. RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING COG TO RECEIVE A GRANT, PROCURE AND ENTER INTO A CONTRACT TO CONDUCT PHASE 37 OF THE CONTINUOUS AIRPORT SYSTEM PLANNING (CASP) PROGRAM**

The board will be asked to adopt Resolution R17-2022 authorizing the Executive Director, or his designee, to receive and expend grant funds from the Federal Aviation Administration (FAA) in the amount of \$305,600. The resolution also authorizes the Executive Director, or his designee, to proceed with procurement for a contractor(s), and enter into a contract to conduct Phase 37 of the Continuous Airport System Planning (CASP) Program.

The grant will include the following tasks in support of the CASP Program: Process 2022 Air Passenger Survey, Phase 1. COG will be required to provide a match of \$30,600 which is available in the budget of the Department of Transportation Planning.

**RECOMMENDED ACTION: Adopt Resolution R17-2022.**

# **AGENDA ITEM #7**

## **2030/2050 REGIONAL CLIMATE GOALS**



# UPDATE ON EFFORTS TO MEET 2030 CLIMATE GOALS

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## Local Actions And Opportunities

Kanti Srikanth  
COG Deputy Executive Director for Metropolitan Planning

COG Board of Directors  
March 9, 2022



# Region's Climate Goals

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## Mitigation

- Reduce greenhouse gases (GHG) by 50% below 2005 levels by 2030

## Resiliency

- Become Climate Ready and make significant progress to be a Climate Resilient Region by 2030

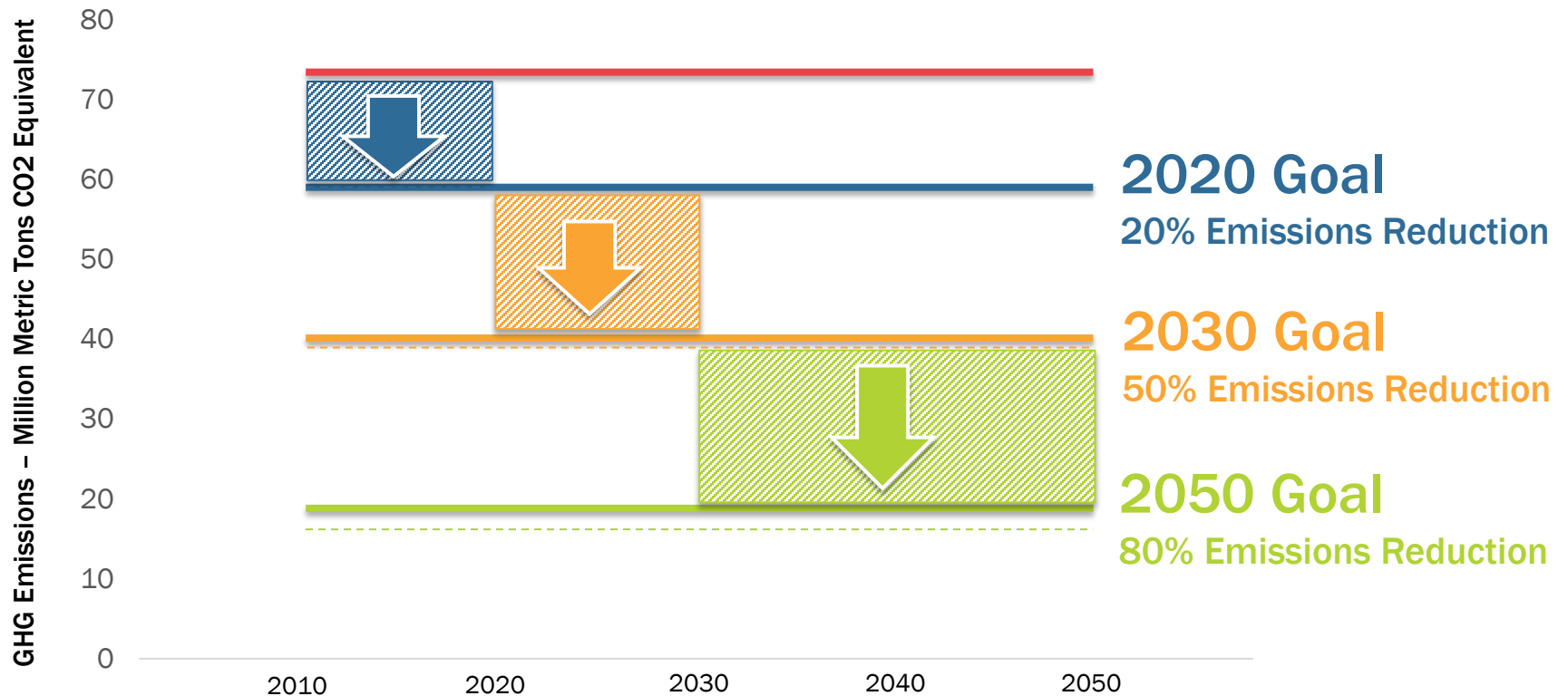
## Equity

- Incorporate equity principles in all actions to reach the climate mitigation and resiliency goals



# GHG Reduction Goals

## Metropolitan Washington GHG Reduction Goals



# Mitigation Actions (2030 CEAP)

## Clean Electricity

Renewable Portfolio Standards; On-Site Renewable; Microgrids for Critical Infrastructure; Large Scale off-Site Renewables; Community Choice Aggregation; Battery Storage

## Zero Energy Buildings

Building Benchmarking Requirements; Deep Building Retrofits; Policies to Facilitate More Net Zero Buildings; Proper Leak Detection and Disposal of Refrigerants

## Travel Behavior

Increase Transit, Carpooling, Telecommuting, Walking and Biking; Brings Jobs and Housing Closer Together; Improve Traffic Operations Efficiency

## Zero Emission Vehicles

Light-Duty Vehicle Deployment (Public and Private); Electrification of Medium and Heavy Duty; Regional EV Charging Network

## Zero Waste

Curbside Organics Recycling; Reduce Solid Waster Generation; Build Markets for Circularity

## Sequestration

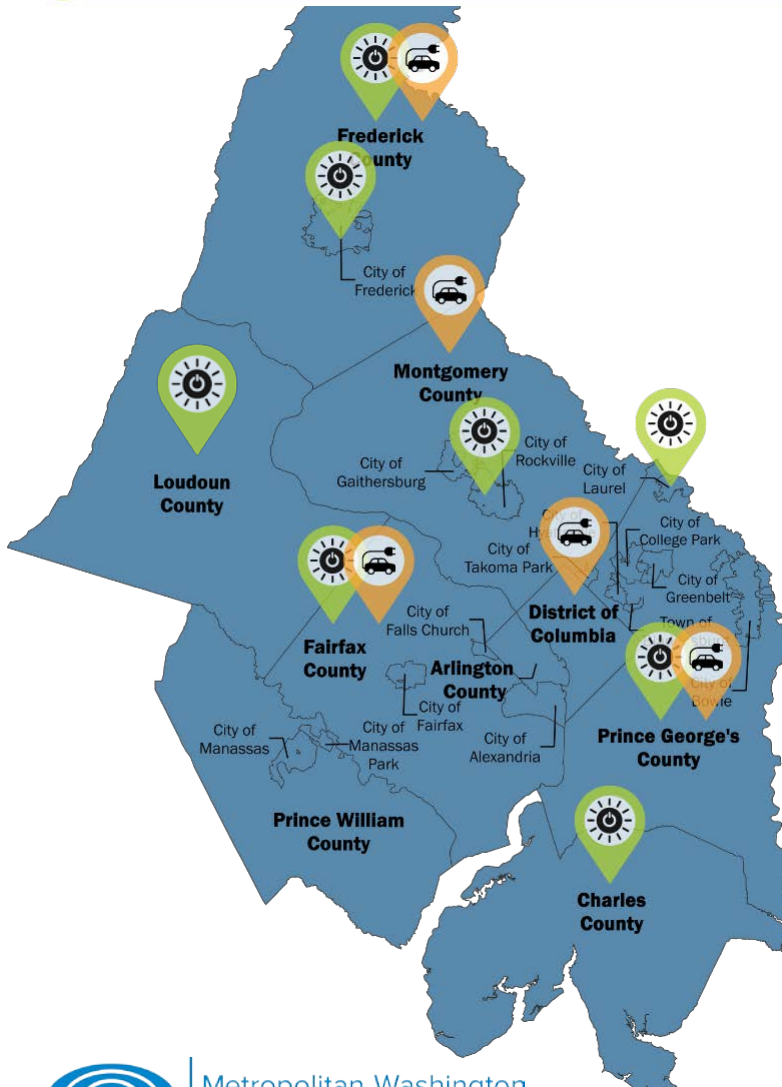
Manage Tree Canopy and Urban Forest Protection; Financing Mechanism for Preservation on Privately Owned Land; Tree Planting on Publicly Owned Lands



# Recent Climate Planning Activities

1. Committee and Staff collaboration (COG wide)
  - a) CEEPC 2030 Climate and Energy Plan
  - b) TPB Climate Change Mitigation Study
  - c) Military Installation Resilience Review community resilience plans
2. COG technical support activities
  - a) Regional and local GHG inventories
  - b) Local Climate Action, Energy, Sustainability Plans
  - c) Local Electric Vehicle and Infrastructure Plans
  - d) Renewables: Joint Solar Procurement, Solar Cooperatives, Solar Mapping
  - e) Building Efficiency: Building Performance Standards; Local Govt. Building code adoption process
  - f) Resilience - Coastal Storm Risk Study

# Supporting Local Climate/Energy Action



- COG helping governments, agencies develop climate and energy action plans.



- COG coordinating local/regional electric vehicle and zero emission fleet plans & policies.



## **Kanti Srikanth**

COG Deputy Executive Director

(202) 962-3257

[ksrikanth@mwcog.org](mailto:ksrikanth@mwcog.org)

## **Jeffrey King**

COG Climate, Energy, Air Program Director

(202) 962-3238

[jking@mwcog.org](mailto:jking@mwcog.org)

[mwcog.org](http://mwcog.org)

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777 North Capitol Street NE, Suite 300

Washington, DC 20002

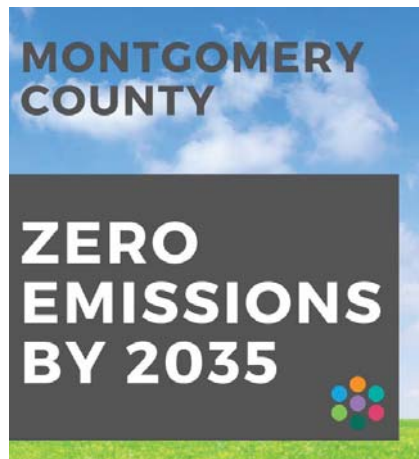
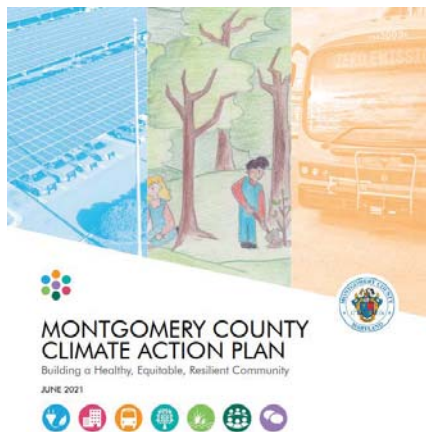


Metropolitan Washington  
Council of Governments

## **AGENDA ITEM #8**

# **LOCAL CLIMATE & ENERGY ACTION PLANNING EFFORTS**

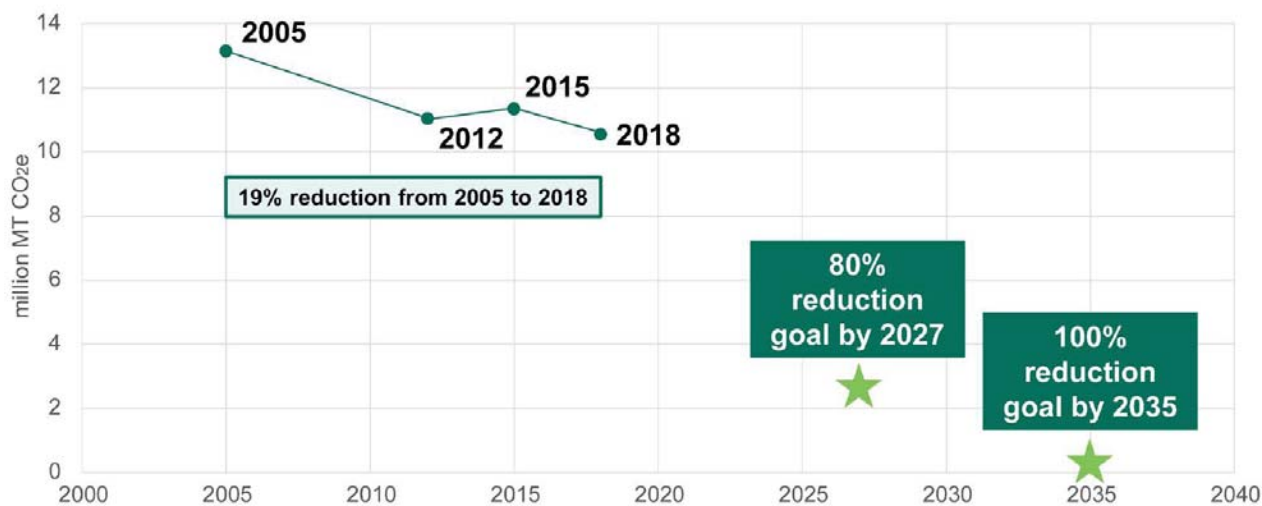




# Climate Action in Montgomery County

MARCH 2022

## County GHG Emissions Progress and Goals

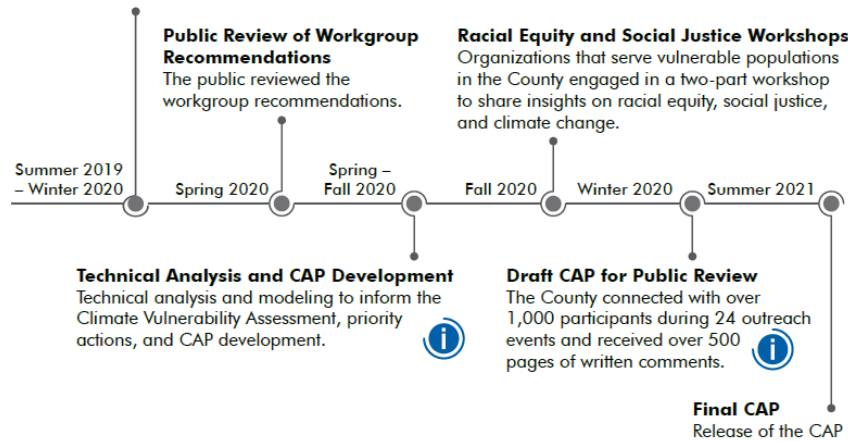


Source: Metropolitan Washington Council of Governments (MWCOG) Montgomery County GHG Inventory

# Climate Planning Process

## Climate Workgroup Efforts

The County formed six technical climate workgroups—made up of County volunteers with area-specific expertise—focused on buildings, clean energy, transportation, climate adaptation, carbon sequestration, and public engagement and education.



176 Technical Climate Workgroup Members

30 Workgroup Meetings

2 Racial Equity and Social Justice Workshops

130 Community Conversations with Resilience Ambassadors

### ORGANIZATIONS PARTICIPATING IN THE CLIMATE PLANNING PROCESS:

22 Environmental Conservation and Climate Groups	20 Business
9 Education Groups	10 Civil Rights and Religious Groups
7 Federal Agencies (Unofficial Presence) and International Organizations	8 County Advisory Groups
4 Utilities	7 Adaptation, Resilience and Energy Associations
4 Municipalities and Municipal Advisory Groups	5 Budget, Finance, and Philanthropic Groups
2 Public Health Groups	3 Chambers of Commerce
1 Buildings Group	2 Transportation Groups
	1 Environmental Justice Group

# Localized Climate Hazards

- Downscaled climate projections for 2035, 2050, and 2100

## Key Takeaways:

- ↑ risk of moderate, severe & extreme drought
- ↑ number of high heat days
- ↑ extreme precipitation & precipitation totals
- ↑ high winds

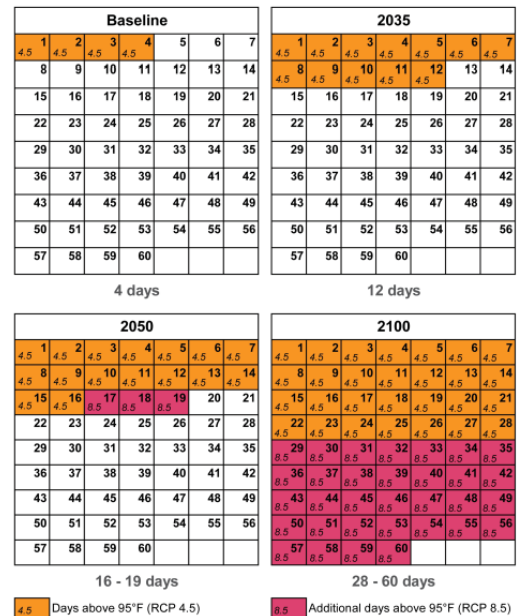


Figure 14: Projected average number of days above 95°F in Montgomery County for GHG Representative Concentration Pathway (RCP) 4.5 and 8.5

# Localized Climate Hazards

Table 2: Future changes to return period storms

Recurrence Interval	Current		2050		2100	
	Precipitation for 24-Hour Storm (inches)	RCP 8.5 Equivalent Recurrence Interval	RCP 8.5 24-Hour Storm (inches)	RCP 8.5 Equivalent Recurrence Interval	RCP 8.5 24-Hour Storm (inches)	RCP 8.5 Equivalent Recurrence Interval
1-year	2.6	1-year	2.7	1-year	2.7	2.7
2-year	3.1	2-year	3.2	3-year	3.3	3.3
10-year	4.8	13-year	5.0	15-year	5.2	5.2
100-year	8.3	115-year	8.5	151-year	9.0	9.0

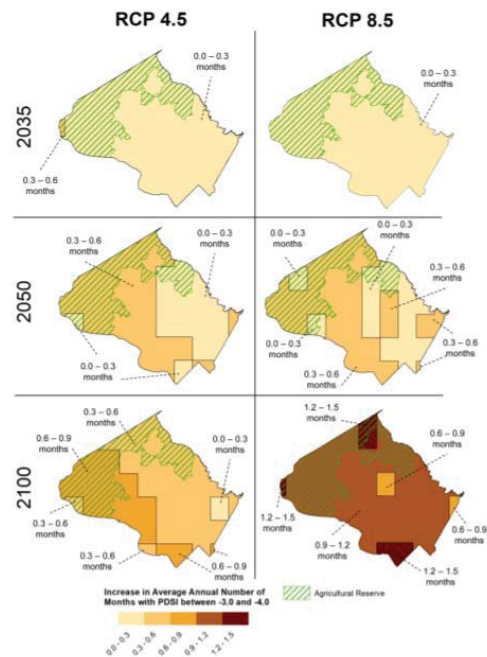


Figure 17. Projected increase in average number of months per year of severe drought (Palmer Drought Severity Index between -3.0 and -4.0) for 2035, 2050, and 2100, and climate scenarios RCP 4.5 and RCP 8.5 in Montgomery County

## Climate change is already impacting Montgomery County

We are experiencing warmer temperatures and more extreme rain events.

### It's getting hotter.

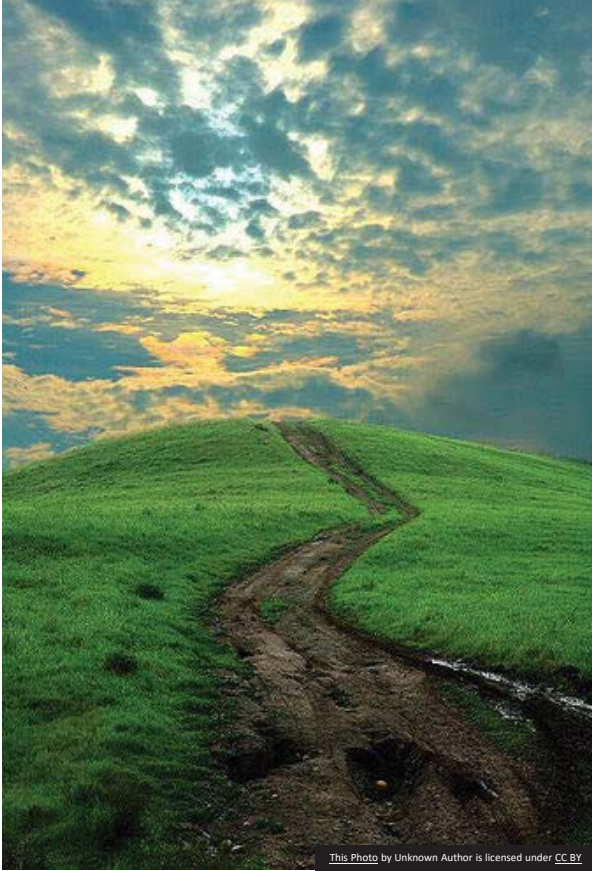
- Daily high and daily low temperatures have been increasing 0.2° F [0.1 degrees C] per decade
- The average temperature has already risen by 2.6° F [1.4 degrees C] since 1901.

### It's getting wetter.

- Increased number of hours where more than 1" of rain has fallen in an hour since 2010
- Increased number of significant flood reports since 2010



Image: Rock Creek Woods apartment in Twinbrook, September 1, 2021



This Photo by Unknown Author is licensed under CC BY

## The CAP lays out a Path to Meet the County's Zero GHG Emissions Goal by 2035

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1. Reduce Emissions in the Energy, Buildings, and Transportation Sectors
2. Center Racial Equity and Social Justice
3. Address Residual Emissions and Carbon Sequestration
4. Reduce Risks from Climate Hazards (Resilience & Adaptation)
5. Identify Resources to Pay for Climate Action
6. Enhance Climate Governance
7. Engage the Community as Partners in Climate Action
8. Take the Next Steps

7

## Two companion reports

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### CLIMATE ACTION PLAN (CAP)

- Strategic plan to achieve County climate goals by 2035
- 86 actions across 7 sectors
- Identifies GHG reduction actions
- Identifies localized climate hazards & actions to increase resilience and adapt to a changing climate
- Identifies equity-enhancing measures to address racial equity and social justice implications of climate action

### FY22 CLIMATE WORK PLAN

- Annual implementation plan
- Enables flexibility in CAP implementation
- Identifies legislative & regulatory agenda for the coming year
- Aligns staff and funding resources
- **75 of 86 CAP actions are moving forward in FY22**

[montgomerycountymd.gov/climate](https://montgomerycountymd.gov/climate)

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# Centering Racial Equity & Social Justice in the CAP

- The CAP identifies communities that are likely to have less ability to adapt to the impacts of climate change

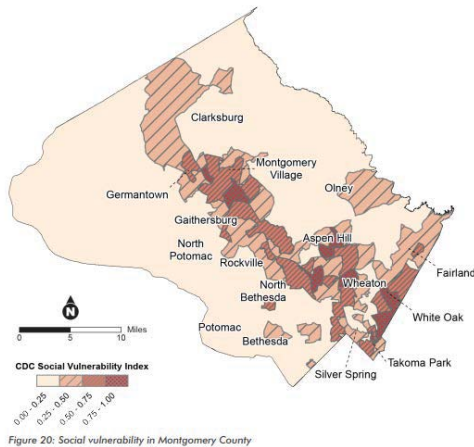


Figure 20: Social vulnerability in Montgomery County

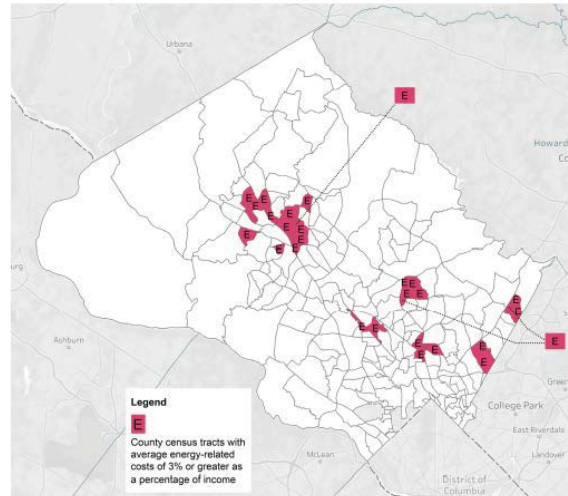


Figure 5: Montgomery County census tracts with median energy burden of 3% or greater as a percentage of income\*

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## Equity Enhancing Measures

- Equity-enhancing measures were identified for each action in the Climate Action Plan that were initially rated as having a less than “very positive” rating for racial equity and social justice.
- Equity-enhancing measures are intended to ensure that climate actions respond to the key issues and priorities of the County’s most climate vulnerable communities, to ensure that racial equity and social justice principles are considered when designing and finalizing actions, and to ensure that climate vulnerable groups are considered from a benefits perspective.

**Example from Action E-1, Community Choice Energy:**

### EQUITY-ENHANCING MEASURES

- Balance the costs and percent of renewables in the electricity mix. If there is a premium associated with offering a higher level of renewable electricity, the County will need to consider ways to offset the cost premium for low-income residents.
- Develop and promote an awareness campaign on how to access the CCE program and its associated benefits. Ensure the awareness campaign is developed in multiple languages.

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# Equity Enhancing Actions Underway include:

- Application of a **Racial Equity and Social Justice Impact Statement** underway for all Council bills
- **High Road Economic Inclusion Framework**– integrates climate, equity, and economic development
  - Contract with the Emerald Cities Collaborative focused on:
    - Leveraging the 2,600 to 3,300 jobs per year through 2050 which are estimated to be generated by the CAP
    - Ensuring that these jobs are inclusive, accessible and lead to career pathways for underrepresented and historically marginalized people.
- Establishment of a **Community Justice Academy** underway
  - Community Ambassadors from underrepresented communities who “graduate” from the Academy would work with the County to co-conceive and co-create integrated health, equity and quality-of-life solutions directly applicable to their neighborhoods.
  - County staff are working with the Montgomery County Racial Equity Network on development; contracted with Justice Alchemy to guide efforts.

# GHG Reduction Actions

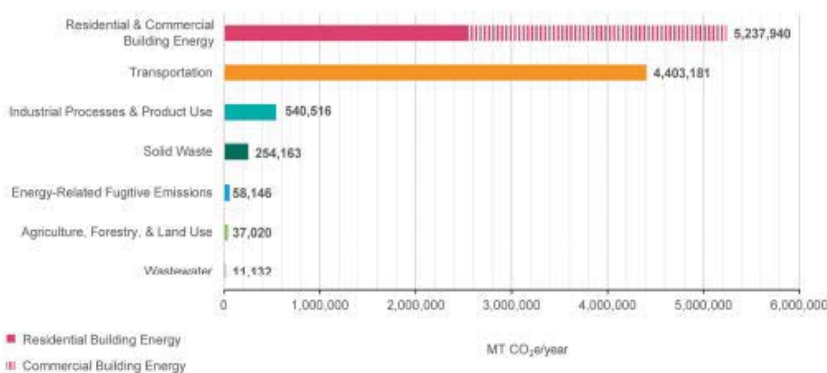


Figure 25: Montgomery County 2018 GHG inventory

- Significant shifts needed in the way we generate and use energy– how we heat and cool our homes, businesses and public buildings; how we fuel vehicles; and our consumption patterns
- 25 GHG Reduction actions centered in **Buildings, Transportation, and Clean Energy**. Examples:
  - Community Choice Energy
  - Natural Gas Disincentives/Elimination
  - Expand Solar Installations
  - Building Energy Performance Standards
  - Net Zero Building Codes
  - Private Vehicle Electrification Incentives & Disincentives
  - Expand Public Transit, Active Transportation, & Shared Micromobility Network
  - Zero Emissions Buses & Fleet

# Climate Adaptation & Sequestration Actions

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- The Plan identifies 6 **nature-based carbon sequestration** actions, including:
  - Retaining and increasing forests
  - Retaining and increasing tree canopy
  - Regenerative agriculture
  - Increasing carbon in soils through improved agricultural practices
- The 20 **climate adaptation** actions include:
  - Water infrastructure resilience & water supply protection
  - Resilience hubs
  - Updating green streetscape and green infrastructure standards
  - On-site water reuse
  - Update floodplain maps

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# Governance, Public Engagement and Personal Actions

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- 16 **Climate Governance** Actions, incl.:
  - Climate Change Academy
  - Incorporating climate competencies into MCG job descriptions
  - Incorporate climate considerations into the budgeting processes
  - Develop climate financing strategies
  - Develop climate equity metrics
  - Consolidate County climate data
  - Conduct climate vulnerability detailed assessments
- 19 **Public Engagement** Actions, incl.:
  - Forming a climate change communications coalition
  - Establishing a community justice academy
  - Establishing statewide climate coalition of local governments
- The CAP calls for both system-level changes and **personal actions**, including:
  - Actions to lower carbon footprint
  - Actions to reduce home electricity usage
  - Actions to lower electricity use in businesses
  - Actions to increase climate resilience

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# The CAP ranks actions by GHG reduction impact

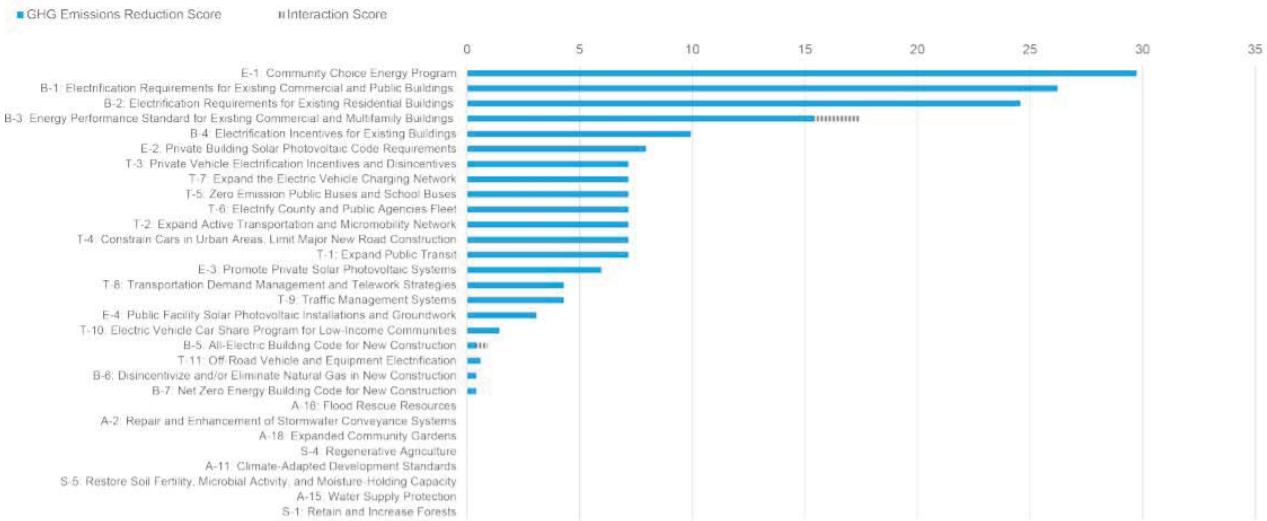


Figure 30: GHG mitigation actions with the highest emissions reduction potential

# The CAP also ranks actions by co-benefits

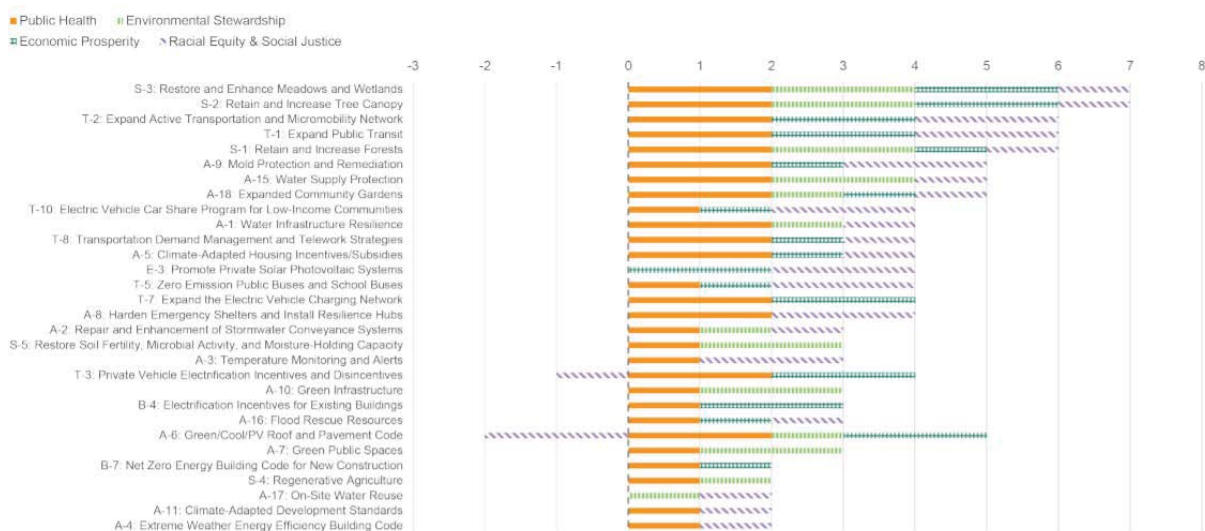
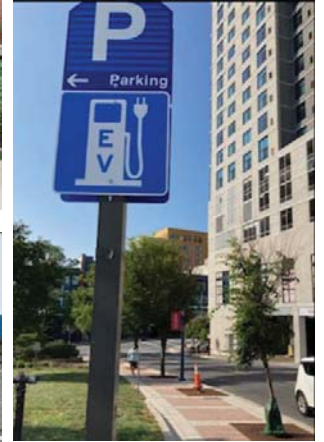


Figure 31: CAP actions with the greatest cumulative co-benefits



# Key actions are already underway

- **Building Energy Performance Standards** – bill transmitted to Council April 2021, undergoing Council review
- **Commercial Property Assessed Clean Energy expansion** – bill transmitted to Council October 2021, undergoing Council review
- **2018 International Green Construction Code** – Executive regulations transmitted to Council March 2021 – passed October 2021
- **Transportation Demand Management** – Executive regulations being finalized
- **Community Choice Energy** authorized by General Assembly; PSC regulatory workgroup kicked-off Sept. 2021
- **Additional legislation** being drafted, incl. authorizing Green Bank resilience activity, gas-powered leaf blower ban



## Additional FY22 Climate Actions Include

- |  |   |
|--|---|
| Community Justice Academy                    | Montgomery College building submetering                                 |
| Climate budgeting                            | County fleet transition study   |
| Sustainable Economic Development analysis    | Project equity (worker-owned co-ops)                                    |
| Agrivoltaic study project                    | Climate stories project   |
| Electric Vehicle Purchasing Coop             | BEPS implementation technical study                                     |
| EV Wayfinding Signage                        | EV charging installations in public properties                          |
| Brookville Bus Depot microgrid installation  | Scotland resilience hub   |
| EV police cruisers pilot                     | Expand RainScapes   |
| Electric bus procurements for MCPS & Ride On | • See <a href="#">FY22 Work Plan</a> for full list of near-term actions |



**Loudoun County**

VIRGINIA

WHERE TRADITION MEETS INNOVATION

**Loudoun County Environmental Commission**  
**Marc Aveni**  
**Department of General Services**

**Council of Governments Board of Directors Meeting**  
**March 9, 2022**

LOUDOUN.GOV

## **Environmental Commission**

- Board established unanimously December 2020
- Detailed By-laws
- “Advise and make recommendations to Board on policies and practices dealing with the environment, sustainability and the management of energy”
- “identify issues”, “advance environmental justice”, “recommend new initiatives”, “create annual work plan and report”, “engage the public”, “conduct environmental excellence awards”

# Environmental Commission

- 17 members appointed by Board for 4-year terms
- 15 voting members (not schools and water utility)
- Public utilities, Loudoun public schools, Subject matter experts, Non-profits, At-large residents
- \* Staff support in Dept of General Services (DGS)
- \* Budgeted staff person located in DGS

## Pre-process/First Meeting

- Call members/introductions
- Ask for themes/interest in chair/vice chair
- Organize themes
- First meeting July 2021 totally virtual
- First meeting FOIA/COIA
- Second meeting members speak and intro themselves, mention “themes”

# Process To Date

- Subsequent 16 meetings developed themes into 5 initiative areas and many possible proposals
- Numerous standing committee meetings
- 1 virtual public input session Nov 2021 on themes and actions
- Over 80 online comments and 12 speakers during public input
- Each theme has 2 proposals

# Five Themes

- Sustainable Energy
- Natural Resource Protection
- Environmental Justice
- Public Engagement
- Government by Example

# Sustainable Energy

- Reduce data center fossil-fuel energy usage
    - Incentivize energy efficiency renovations of data centers
    - Explore/expand green hydrogen as fuel source
  - Increase use of solar power
    - Evaluate “solar zoning” to accelerate utility/non-utility scale solar and other renewable energy use
    - Enable solar as appropriate by sector and County region, (initial focus on residential and commercial)
  - Reduce energy usage in new/existing buildings
    - Incentivize energy efficiency of existing buildings
    - Promote new development towards net-zero emissions
- 

# Natural Resources

- Promote healthy watersheds
    - Expand stream buffers (make them wider)
    - Review status of existing watershed management plans
  - Dashboard to track critical environmental indicators
    - Map environmental resources and impairments
  - Update land management policies
    - Propose tree ordinance to limit total lot clearing
    - Identify and protect priority wildlife corridors
-

# Environmental Justice

- Identify EJ areas of concern
  - Develop EJ risk maps overlaid with Energy Equity Emphasis Areas
- Promote energy equity with underserved populations
  - For example, low-income assistance w/solar panels, home weatherization and used EV purchases, community solar in non-HOA areas, EV charging in streets and for multi-family housing
- Expand outreach to underserved communities for input on commission goals

# Public Engagement

- Conduct Loudoun Environmental Excellence Awards
  - Includes residents, educators, business and non-profits
- Invite broad public input into commission goals
  - Host annual Energy and Environment Public Forum
  - Host roundtables with stakeholders such as HOAs, developers, agricultural community, etc.
- Develop strategic partnerships with targeted groups to further commission goals
  - For example, non-English speaking, over 55 communities, higher education institutions, non-profits

# Government by Example

- Develop Loudoun energy plan with specific goals/measurables
  - Annual Loudoun energy report to residents and Board
  - Track County GHG/energy usage in easy-to-follow manner
- Reduce County facility energy usage/environmental footprint
  - Sustainable construction practices in all new County facilities
  - For example, implement automatic “lights off” when rooms are empty, water bottle refill stations, expanded recycling opportunities at County facilities
- Sustainable County landscape management
  - Develop plan for native plants and no invasive plants for all County landscapes
  - Develop nutrient management plans for all County maintained turf

## Now What?

- Discuss with EC, prioritize into max of 10 proposals
- Discuss themes with staff in other departments
- Talk to HOAs, Chamber, non-profits
- Staff “fully develops” 10 proposals
- Summit with Board ~ May 2022 for their input and direction on proposals

# First Five Proposals

- Expanded options for tree protection
- Define/create wildlife corridors
- Create on-line tool to make environmental data accessible to public
- Evaluate existing WSM plans for possible projects to do joint with HOAs
- Expand solar in residential and in utility scale

# Last Five Proposals

- Define Energy Equity, look for areas of opportunity, engage partners and non-profits for ideas
- Conduct feasibility study for possible Loudoun County Green Bank
- Conduct feasibility study for possible Loudoun Community Choice Aggregation
- Develop Energy Strategy for Gov by Example
- Conduct Environmental Awards Program



# Must Consider

- FOIA and COIA rules
- In person vs electronic meetings
- Meeting agendas and management
- Public participation
- Handling minutes and presentations
- County website and calendar
- Guest speakers
- Working with other County Departments

# Final Thoughts

- “High touch” effort
- Staffing at Department level gives credibility
- Invite broad participation
- Don’t get in front of your Board
- An example of how well government can work!

# Contact Information

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Environmental Commission Webpage

<https://onboard.loudoun.gov/board/3503>

Environment Webpage

<https://www.loudoun.gov/environment>

# **AGENDA ITEM #9**

## **OPPORTUNITIES FOR REGIONAL COLLABORATION ON CLIMATE ISSUES**

# OPPORTUNITIES FOR REGIONAL COLLABORATION

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Jeffrey King  
COG Climate, Energy, Air Program Director

COG Board of Directors  
March 9, 2022



# Opportunity #1 – Electric Vehicles

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1. Support Acceleration of Electric Vehicle (EV) Deployment
  - a) Local Government Lead by Example - Convert Fleets
  - b) EV Infrastructure Planning
    - i. Identify Locations for Electric Vehicle Chargers
    - ii. Streamline Zoning and Permitting



# Opportunity #2 – Renewable Energy

---

2. Commit to 100
  - a) Local Government Lead by Example – Procure 100% Renewable Electricity
  - b) Deploy Solar on Government Buildings
  - c) Incentivize and Support Residents and Businesses to Install Solar

# Opportunity #3 – Building Efficiency

---

3. Enhance Building Energy Performance
  - a) Local Government Lead by Example – Track Energy Consumption for All Government Buildings, including Schools
  - b) Consider Building Energy Performance Standards
  - c) Support Adoption of Most Recent Building Codes

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Metropolitan Washington  
Council of Governments



**AGENDA ITEM #10**

**OTHER BUSINESS**

**AGENDA ITEM #11**

**ADJOURN**