



AIR AND CLIMATE PUBLIC ADVISORY COMMITTEE

January 24, 2022
5:30 P.M. - 7:30 P.M.

DRAFT TELECONFERENCE MEETING SUMMARY

ACPAC ATTENDEES: Kasparas Spokas, Audrey-Joy Nwaze, Chloe Koseff, James Wang, Herb Simmens, Tatiana Eaves, Elizabeth Spike, Julie Kimmel, Deborah Shprentz, Guillermo Ortiz, Claire August, Neil Boyer, Tara Failey, Tamara Toles O' Laughlin, Guillermo Ortiz, Jacqueline Norris, Herb Simmons, Era Pandya

ADDITIONAL ATTENDEES: Joseph Kakuta, Samuel Gaber, Brittany Whited, Amanda Campbell, Peter Mecca, Maddie Lee, Matt Johnston, Frances Stewart

COG STAFF: Leah Boggs, Katie Dyer

1. CALL TO ORDER, INTRODUCTIONS, MEETING SUMMARY APPROVAL AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

The meeting was called to order, introductions were made by members, new applicants, and COG staff. The November 15, 2021, ACPAC meeting summary was approved with no amendments.

2. REGIONAL LEGISLATIVE UPDATE

Katie Dyer, COG Staff

Katie Dyer provided an overview of COG's 2022 legislative priorities. CEEPC's Legislative Committee is a small group of local government CEEPC members who periodically meet with staff to review legislative initiatives in D.C., Maryland, and Virginia. COG staff tracks various bills during the legislative session. A series of ad hoc calls were held to determine specific bills to send comment letters on. The committee primarily runs from January to April.

COG's legislative priorities are to:

- Support Policies to Meet the Region's Climate Goals
- Ensure Sustainable Secure Energy Access for All
- Support Aggressive State Renewable Portfolio Standards
- Expand Clean Energy Innovation, Technology and Finance
- Support the Transportation Climate Initiative in designing and taking action to reduce Greenhouse gases
- Enhance Incentives and Financing Mechanisms for Resilient Infrastructure
- Support Policies that Preserve and Protect Regional Air Quality and Public Health

Virginia's legislative session convened January 12 and is a 60-day session. The last day to introduce bills was January 21, crossover was February 15 and adjournment is March 12. COG is tracking the following bills:

- Executive Order to re-evaluate Virginia’s participation in the Regional Greenhouse Gas Initiative (RGGI)
 - COG legislative committee sent a letter in favor of Virginia’s continued participation
- HB 903 (Lopez) – Creates the Virginia Green Infrastructure Bank
- HB 845 (Bloxom Jr) & SB 756 (Lewis, Jr) – Creates the Resilient Virginia Revolving Loan Fund
- HB 568 (Kory) – Regional Green Bank: Two or more localities may enter into agreements with one another for joint action to establish a green bank
 - COG legislative committee sent a letter in support of the bill
- SB 452 (Boysko) – Requires the Board of Housing and Community Development to adopt optional building energy efficiency standards and allows localities to adopt and enforce these standards

Maryland’s session convened January 12 and is a 90-day session. The House deadline to introduce bills was February 4 and the Senate’s deadline to introduce bills was February 7. Crossover is March 21 and adjournment is April 11. COG is tracking the following bills:

- HB 108 (Charkoudian) – Energy Performance Targets and Low-Income Housing
- HB 31 (Charkoudian) & SB 256 (Beidle) – Establishes the Resiliency Hub Grant Program and Fund in the Maryland Energy Administration
- HB 100 (Soloman) & SB 14 (Elfreth) – Establishing the Sustainable Maryland Program Fund

The District’s timeline is on a 2-year cycle. COG is tracking the following bills:

- B24-0420 - Clean Energy DC Building Code Amendment Act of 2021 (Pinto, Nadeau, Henderson, Lewis George, Allen, and Cheh)
- B24-0267- Climate Commitment Act of 2021 (Cheh, Allen, R. White, Nadeau, Lewis George, Henderson, Pinto, and Chairman Mendelson)

3. DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA AIR QUALITY PUBLIC ENGAGEMENTS

Brittany Whited, District of Columbia

Brittany Whited with the District’s Department of Energy & Environment Air Quality Division discussed lessons learned from the public workshop series conducted on air quality.

The purpose of the DC’s “Clearing the Air” sessions are to give the public an inside look at the District’s Air Quality Division, including the science of air pollution, the laws, and regulations. The sessions are held every other month* starting April 2021, with topics chosen based on community questions. Six workshops have been held. The goal is to engage with the community, building trust, and provide tools needed to understand how the DC operates and how air quality data is used to protect health.

In response to stakeholder request, DC will hold a stakeholder Q&A session on January 28 at on the Proposed Amendments to Nuisance Odor Requirements. The proposal will require stationary sources in three categories to develop Odor Control Plans to reduce the impact of nuisance odors on District residents and visitors.

Discussion

- The public workshops were marketed and promoted through email and listservs. Advisory Neighborhood Commissions (ANC) were targeted, as well as other listservs.

- Neil Boyer inquired if DC would use the new infrastructure funds for road/bridge rehabilitation and improvements and if the associated air quality of surrounding neighborhoods would be considered. DC staff will follow up with ACPAC on this issue.

4. THE CITY OF ROCKVILLE CLIMATE ACTION PLAN

Amanda Campbell, City of Rockville

Amanda Campbell, Sustainability Coordinator with the City of Rockville, provided an overview of the plan, its goals, and actions. Early January 2022, the City of Rockville adopted its first Climate Action Plan, developed as a roadmap to reduce GHG emissions and prepare the community to adapt to a changing climate.

The City's emission reduction goal is 50% from the 2005 baseline by 2030, similar to the State of Maryland's and COG's regional goal. Total GHG emissions attributed to the community is 816,868 MTCO_{2e}, including 8,994 MTCO_{2e} of municipal emissions. Commercial buildings account for 38% of emissions and the transportation sector accounts for 36%.

The City has 42 targeted actions across 7 implementation categories:

- Energy Efficiency (9 actions)
- Renewable Energy (5 actions)
- Transportation (9 actions)
- Land Management (3 actions)
- Materials and Waste (3 actions)
- Resiliency (9 actions)
- Public Education and Oversight (4 actions)

Actions include:

- 1800 solar installations
- 2000 electric vehicles
- 27% green power purchase
- 3000 trees planting
- 4000 residential building electric and natural gas upgrades

Next steps include an implementation plan that will require ongoing funded actions, leveraging of grants and partnerships, as well as possible budget appropriations for other actions.

5. ELECTION OF OFFICERS

Nominating Committee

The nominating committee, Julie Kimmel, Neil Boyer, and Reverend Jacqueline Norris presented the nominees for new committee officers.

Chair Nominees:

- 1- Tara Failey
- 2- Elizabeth Spike

Vice Chair Nominees:

1. Jacqueline Norris
2. Era Pandya

All ACPAC members were present for the meeting and there were no floor nominations. Tara Failey and Era Pandya were voted in as the chair and vice chair for 2022.

COG Staff also updated the committee on the recruitment process to fill 3 seats on the committee. Recruited intake ended on January 21, 2022. Thirteen applications were received. Determinations will be made MWAQC's Executive Committee by early February and applicants will be notified by February 18.

6. NEXT ACPAC MEETING AND ADJOURN

New Chair Tara Failey opened the meeting up for applicants that were present to introduce themselves.

The meeting adjourned at 7:30pm.

Speaker presentations can be found on the committee page [here](#).