



COG PROJECT UPDATES FOR CEEPC 11/14/2018

Climate & Energy Leadership Awards

This year's regional Climate & Energy Leadership Awards winners were announced at the October COG Board meeting. Winners were: Government category: Prince George's County; NGO category: GRID Alternatives; Educational category: Georgetown Climate Center. Videos and project details are available at [This Link](#).

Metropolitan Washington Regional Schools Roundtable on Energy

COG will host its first regional schools' roundtable on November 27. Specific topics include - Energy Benchmarking and Strategic Energy Planning and Linking Energy Benchmarking and Strategic Planning to Co-benefits. Participants include USDOE and the New Building Institute. Target audience includes - school and local government energy managers, facility engineers and managers, and sustainability managers. The Regional Schools Roundtable is hosted by the [Built Environment and Energy Advisory Committee \(BEE-AC\)](#). For more information or to RSVP, contact COG staff, [Leah Boggs](#).

Fleets for the Future (F4F) Project

F4F is a U.S. DOE-funded effort to develop and implement procurement processes that will coordinate and consolidate bulk orders of advanced fueled vehicles, alternative fuels, and refueling and charging infrastructure for public sector fleets. As part of this effort, COG, in partnership with the National Association of Regional Councils (NARC) and four other regional councils, worked towards reducing incremental costs of commercially available alternative fuel vehicles and infrastructure. COG awarded contracts to three vendors for bulk purchases of 16 types of alternative vehicles, including all electric and plug-in hybrid electric vehicles. COG will issue an award for aggregate infrastructure by early August 2018. For more details, including information on how additional COG members can participate, go to <http://www.fleetsforthefuture.org/metropolitan-washington/>.

Greenhouse Gas Inventories Drivers of Change

The Greenhouse Gas Drivers of Change Project is supported by a U.S. Department of Energy (DOE) grant under the Cities Leading Through Energy Analysis and Planning (CLEAP) Program. Project partners include City of Bellevue and King County, WA; City of Santa Monica, CA; City of Aspen, CO; Delaware Valley Regional Planning Commission; and COG. The project is supporting the development of a Contribution Analysis Tool, updates to the US Communities Protocol for GHG inventories, and partially supported the development of community-scale inventories for COG members.

Between now and the December 31, 2018 project close, ICLEI is offering technical support on the Contribution Analysis Tool to COG members. The Tool helps local jurisdictions understand the major drivers of GHG change in their community. If your jurisdiction has not yet completed a run of the tool, you'll received a completed run of the tool for your community. Please let us know if you have any questions about the Tool you'd like the project team to address.

Additionally, COG has drafted a methodology guide for COG member GHG inventory development. It will serve as an internal guide to staff that supports completeness, consistency, accuracy, replicability, transparency, and quality control of COG's inventory work. COG is accepting comments from local government technical staff this month (Nov 2018). If you would like to review the methodology guide please contact Maia Davis (mdavis@mwkog.org).

Greenhouse Gas, Mitigation, and Resiliency Services RFP

Through a competitive procurement process, the Metropolitan Washington Council of Governments (COG) has issued contracts to ICF International and Cadmus to assist COG's Department of Environmental Programs, as well as COG member governments and other regional stakeholders in responding to the challenges of addressing emissions of greenhouse gases and climate change. The scope of services includes greenhouse inventory and climate action planning support, support for implementation of mitigation measures, and support for climate resilience activities. Contact Jeff King at jking@mwkog.org or 202-962-3238 for more information.

Protecting the Region from Future Hurricanes

After Superstorm Sandy in 2012, Congress charged the US Army Corps with investigating current and future flood risks along the north Atlantic coast. The resulting North Atlantic Coast Comprehensive Study (NACCS) designated the Washington metro as one of nine high risk areas. The local follow-on study, called the *Coastal Storm Risk Management Feasibility Study* would identify gaps in tidal flood risk protection and develop preliminary designs for a system of green and gray infrastructure projects to prevent hurricane/coastal storm damages over the next 50 years. The study will:

- 1) Use existing information to determine flooding levels expected under new storm scenarios, seen with hurricanes Harvey and Florence, and future sea level rise & precipitation changes.
- 2) Develop a model of critical infrastructure interdependencies to generate failure thresholds and understand cascading impacts for given flood elevations.
- 3) Generate cost-benefit analysis for a variety of flood mitigation measures, both policies, structures, and green infrastructure.
- 4) Develop a comprehensive, peer-reviewed report, with input from partners and the public, that summarizes findings and initial designs for Corps-specific projects (such as shoreline restoration or a levee system).
- 5) The report also recommends additional policies and projects that could be implemented by cost share partners or other agencies to enhance the region's coastal flood resilience.

This fall, at the request of northern Virginia partners, the Army Corps re-scoped the study to the northern Virginia area. The re-configured study is expected to take three to four years and cost \$3.3 million, with 50/50 federal cost-share. The current study status is uncertain as the City of Alexandria has lost its funding for the project –the project team is looking into alternative options.

Only after a feasibility study is completed can the region apply for 65/35 federal cost-share funding to construct coastal flood protection systems. For more information, contact Steve Walz swalz@mwkog.org or Amanda Campbell acampbell@mwkog.org.