



## Climate Pollution Reduction Grant (CPRG) Steering and Technical Committee Kick-Off

November 13, 2023 1:00 P.M. – 2:30 P.M.

### DRAFT MEETING SUMMARY

#### CPRG Steering and Technical Committee

##### Members in Attendance:

- Abdul Mohammed, Maryland Department of the Environment (MDE)
- Aklile Tesfaye, WSSC Water
- Al Carr, District Department of Energy and Environment (DOEE)
- Allison Tjaden, MDE
- Amanda Campbell, City of Rockville
- Amy Gillespie, Maryland Clean Energy Center (MCEC)
- Andrew Place, MDE
- Andy Young, City of Falls Church
- Angela Conroy, Virginia Department of Environmental Quality (VDEQ)
- Beth Groth, Charles County
- Bill Eger, Arlington County
- Brittany Whited, DOEE
- Chris Peot, DC Water
- Daniel White, DOEE
- Darrell Simpson, Loudoun County
- Dawn Ashbacher, Frederick County
- Demetra McBride, Arlington County
- Dory Estrada, City of Takoma Park
- Drew Stilson, Arlington County
- Emma Cross, District Department of Transportation (DDOT)
- Erica Bannerman, Prince George's County
- Erik Valentine, City of College Park
- Giulia Manno, Prince William County
- Jenn Hatch, DOEE
- Jenny Willoughby, City of Frederick
- Joe Beach, WSSC Water
- John Morrill, Fairfax County
- Kishia Powell, WSSC Water
- Kristin Mielcarek, Frederick County
- Lindsey Shaw, Montgomery County
- Lorien Lemmon, Clarke County
- Maureen Holman, DC Water
- Michele Blair, City of Laurel
- Michelle Bailey Hedgepeth, City of Bladensburg
- Mike Sandler, Loudoun County
- Monica Marquina, WSSC Water
- Noelani Brockett, Charles County
- Pamela Powers, MCEC
- Richard Moore, ConnectedDMV
- Robert B Taylor, WSSC Water
- Sarah Kogel-Smucker, Montgomery County
- Tom Ballou, VDEQ
- Tom Hilton, WSSC Water
- Stefanie Kupka, City of Fairfax

##### Additional Attendees:

- Susan Elliott, ICF
- Bill Prindle, ICF
- Deb Harris, ICF
- Tammy Leigh Dement, PRR

##### COG Staff:

- Kelsey Boatwright, COG DEP
- Alissa Boggs, COG DEP
- Erin Morrow, COG DTP
- Robert Christopher, COG DEP
- Tim Masters, COG DEP
- Dusan Vuksan, COG DTP
- Ata A Adeel, COG DEP

Reasonable accommodations are provided upon request, including alternative formats of meeting materials. Visit [www.mwco.org/accommodations](http://www.mwco.org/accommodations) or call (202) 962-3300 or (202) 962-3213 (TDD).



## 1. WELCOME AND INTRODUCTIONS

*Jeff King, COG, Director of Climate, Energy and Air Programs*

*Deb Harris, ICF Team CPRG Contract Manager*

Materials available on the meeting webpage (agenda, presentation, committee rosters, PCAP Project submission documents, Metro Washington Climate and EV Plans).

## 2. OVERVIEW OF GRANT PROGRAM, ROLES, EXPECTATIONS, ENGAGEMENTS, SCHEDULE, DELIVERABLES

*Jeff King, COG, Director of Climate, Energy and Air Programs*

*ICF and PRR Staff*

The CPRG program was created under the Inflation Reduction Act (IRA) and provides \$5 billion in formula planning grants and competitive implementation grants. COG has been awarded \$1 million as a sub-recipient of DC to complete the planning for the DC-MD-VA-WV Metropolitan Statistical Area (MSA). The MSA includes nine new jurisdictions to the South and West of the COG Region. In order for a project to be eligible for the competitive implementation grants it must be included in the Priority Climate Action Plan (PCAP), which is due March 1, 2024.

COG and ICF staff presented information about the CPRG program, including information about the planning grant timing and requirements, planning team, and planning approaches.

## 3. OVERVIEW OF STRATEGIES, ACTIONS, PROJECTS, MEASURES FOR INCLUSION IN THE PLAN

*COG and ICF Consulting Staff*

This portion of the presentation included a discussion of the implementation grant Notice of Funding Opportunity (NOFO). Staff also initially discussed concepts for how to collect ideas through a review of a project survey; prioritize projects, programs, and measures in the PCAP; and ideas for building on existing planning work done by COG and throughout the region.

## 4. NEXT STEPS

*Staff and Members*

Within the final section of the presentation COG and ICF discussed immediate next steps for the Steering and Technical Committees. A review of the schedule was also provided, and COG shared information about how to access and submit the PCAP project survey.



## 5. OPTIONAL OPEN DISCUSSION

### *Members and Staff*

During this portion of the meeting Committee members asked questions to COG and ICF and discussed among themselves on a range of topics, such as:

- Planning Deliverables
  - The most effective ways to ensure priority projects are included in the PCAP.
  - Relationship of MSA PCAP to state PCAPs.
  - How local plans can be integrated into the PCAP.
  - Process for review and approval of the PCAP.
  - The role and purpose of the CCAP.
- Implementation Grants
  - Focusing on high impact GHG reductions is helpful, but that should not be the only factor for consideration.
  - Relationships to other federal funding programs (e.g., building on already funded projects such as Montgomery County's hydrogen funding or upcoming state level programs like Solar for All).
  - Whether EPA is accepting both deemed and modeled GHG and energy use reductions.
  - If CPRG funding be used to pay for FTEs.
  - Potential shared ideas for collaborations (e.g., Carbon Sequestration, Data Centers, Utility scale solar/grid ideas, financial incentives and mechanisms) and considerations for competitive applications.
  - Potential lead and supporting or coalition application constructs and COG's role in those, including any limitations on number of applicants/applications. And stakeholders important for collaboration (e.g., utilities, wastewater treatment plants).
  - When work can start on implementation (pre or post competitive award).
  - Important NOFO information, such as:
    - EPA intends to issue all \$4.3B in this application round, not over multiple years.
    - EPA is measuring cost effectiveness of GHG reductions as (Requested CPRG funding) / (Sum of Quantified GHG reductions from CPRG funding from 2025-2030)
- Engagement and Coordination
  - LiDAC-related items and engagement. Currently, this type of engagement is mostly happening within individual localities.
  - EPA will accept past engagements within a limited timeframe.
  - Direct compensation for potential engagement participants is allowable.

## 6. ADJOURN

Upcoming Technical Committee meetings will be on December 15, 2023, and in January 2024. The Steering Committee will meet again in January 2024.

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*All meeting materials including speaker presentations can be found on the MWCOG website by clicking the link below –*

<https://www.mwcog.org/events/2023/11/13/climate-pollution-reduction-grant-steering-and-technical-committee-kick-off/>

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