

Metropolitan Washington Council of Governments

Climate Impacts Symposium:

A focus on the planning implications of potential changes in precipitation patterns, sea level rise, flooding, and water quality in the Metropolitan Washington region.

Date: Monday, May 21st, 2012
Time: 10 am-3 pm
Location: Metropolitan Washington Council of Governments (COG), Board Room, 3rd Floor
Webinar: Options for participating via webinar will be provided

Questions to be Addressed:

1. What are actual data trends telling us and what do modeling results predict about the effects of climate change in the metropolitan Washington region?
2. How can climate trends be incorporated into water, land use, and transportation planning in the region?
3. What are the next steps moving forward to improve climate resilience in the region?

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DRAFT Agenda and Invited Speakers

- 10-10:15am** Welcome Remarks
Stuart Freudberg, Metropolitan Washington Council of Governments
- 10:15-Noon** **MORNING SESSION: CLIMATE CHANGE IN THE REGION**
What are actual data trends telling us and what do modeling results predict about the effects of climate change in the metropolitan Washington region?
- 15 min each*
- 1. Dr. Don Boesch, Center for Environmental Science, University of Maryland**
Summary of the expected climate impacts to the region.
 - 2. Dr. Antonio Busalacchi, Earth System Science Interdisciplinary Center (ESSIC), University of Maryland**
Overview of ESSIC's climate-related work and key findings that are applicable to the region.
 - 3. Dr. Ray Najjar, Pennsylvania State University (PSU)**
PSU investigations & suggested priorities for environmental planning in the Chesapeake Bay watershed.
 - 4. Dr. Wade Smith, Noblis**
Review of what modeling predicts for sea level rise, storm surge, and stream flooding in the Potomac.
- Moderated Questions 10 min*
Audience Q&A 20 min
- Noon-1pm** **LUNCH PRESENTATION: Julia Koster, National Capital Planning Commission**
Federal Government research, planning and decision-making: A focus on potential flooding in the Downtown Washington Area.
- 1-2:30pm** **AFTERNOON SESSION: PLANNING IMPLICATIONS TO MULTIPLE SECTORS**
How can climate trends be incorporated into water, land use, and transportation planning in the region?
- 20 min presentation plus 2-3 audience questions each*
- 1. Laurens Van der Tak, CH2M Hill**
The impact of changing precipitation patterns and tide levels on drainage and stormwater management design in Alexandria, and implications for the COG region.
 - 2. Jessica Grannis, Georgetown Climate Center**
Feasible land use strategies to address sea level rise in VA, DC and MD.
 - 3. Robert Kafalenos, US DOT Federal Highway Administration**
Potential mid-Atlantic impacts of climate change on transportation infrastructure and implications for transportation planning.
- 2:30-3pm** **DISCUSSION AND CONCLUSIONS**
What are the next steps moving forward to improve climate resilience in the region?
- Q&A for all morning and afternoon speakers: 20 min*