

Summary of Climate-Related Activities of COG Committees Supporting CEEPC – March 2012

Climate Energy and Environment Policy Committee Technical and Citizen Committees

Technical Committees

[Energy Advisory Committee](#)¹ (Jeff King and Leah Boggs | jking@mwkog.org and lboggs@mwkog.org)

- EAC met on March 15th.
- Members heard a presentation on PJM's Demand Response program. Participation in the program is open to all Virginia municipalities that are able to reduce energy load during peak hours.
- Members also heard an overview of Virginia Beach's Energy Assurance Planning process. The planning effort, funded by a stimulus grant, will enhance communication and coordination to prepare for and respond to energy disruptions.
- The next meeting will be held on April 19th.

[Electric Vehicle Planning Initiative](#) (Leah Boggs | lboggs@mwkog.org)

- The EV Planning Initiative met on February 29, 2012.
- The group heard an overview of results from EV-related questions in this year's CEEPC survey; a presentation on San Francisco's Multifamily Building EV Charging initiative; and a presentation on Snohomish County, Washington's EV zoning plan.
- The group was divided into 7 topic-related working groups. These subgroups are working to develop recommendations on electric utility policy, multi-family and commercial properties, inspection and permitting, municipal policy, public and private fleets, outreach and communication, and the business case for EVs.
- The next meeting will be held on March 29th.

[Intergovernmental Green Building Group \(IGBG\)](#) (Leah Boggs | lboggs@mwkog.org)

- IGBG met on March 8, 2012. Discussion topics included: GSA's Report - Green Building Performance: A Post Occupancy Evaluation of 22 Buildings; ACEEE's Report – Engaging as Partners in Energy Efficiency: Multifamily Housing and Utilities; Sustainable housing activities and green building interface.
- The next meeting is May 10, 2012.

[Street Lights Working Group](#) (Jeff King | jking@mwkog.org)

- No updates.

[Recycling Committee](#) (John Snarr | jsnarr@mwkog.org)

- The Recycling Committee met on March 22th to hear presentations on Public Space and Event Recycling. Presenters included the National Park Service and the DowntownDC Business District.
- The COG Go Recycle Campaign on local radio just finished running for three weeks in February and March. It promoted recycling in the workplace and was supported by \$67,500 from private and government sponsors.
- COG will host a meeting of local governments to explore cooperative contracting for recycling services.
- COG hosted a regional Organics Task Force meeting on February 23. The Organics Task Force will continue meeting at COG and some members will form a new U.S. Composting Council chapter for DC and MD.

[CEEPC Outreach Committee](#) (Maia Davis | mdavis@mwkog.org)

- GolinHarris has been selected to develop branding, a logo and marketing strategy for a regional sustainability outreach campaign.
- The next meeting of the CEEPC Outreach Committee will be on Wednesday, April 4, 2012 at 10am in Room 1. On April 4 the consulting team will facilitate a focus group session to provide them guidance as they begin work on this project.

[Energy Financing Task Force](#) (Jeff King | jking@mwkog.org)

- No updates.

¹ Click on committee name to access the committee webpage and documents.

Citizen Committee

[Air and Climate Public Advisory Committee \(ACPAC\)](#) (Maia Davis | mdavis@mwkog.org)

- ACPAC met on February 13, 2012. Katherine Sierra, Global Economy and Development at BROOKINGS, presented on the outcomes of the United Nations Climate Change Conference in Durban, South Africa in Nov/Dec 2011. Caroline Petti and Beverly Fourier were re-elected as chair and vice chair, respectively.
- ACPAC also met on March 19, 2012. ACPAC discussed the Annual Climate and Energy Progress Report, CEEPC Workplan and transportation conformity and margin of safety. (I may need to update this after Monday's meeting)
- The next ACPAC meeting will be April 16, 2012.

Supporting Technical and Policy Committees

[MWAQC Technical Advisory Committee](#) (Jeff King | jking@mwkog.org)

- MWAQC met on February 22, 2012.
- MWAQC approved a FY 2013 Work Program and Budget.
- MWAQC reviewed final emissions inventories for the PM2.5 Redesignation Request and Maintenance Plan. The mobile emissions inventories will establish mobile budgets for future years 2017 and 2025. The future year mobile limits will be used for transportation conformity assessments as soon as EPA finds the mobile budgets adequate for conformity.
- MWAQC discussed the concept of safety margins for the budgets to allow room for uncertainty due to future model changes and changing inputs. Some state air directors expressed concern about increasing the mobile budgets at a time when new federal ozone standards require further reductions, particularly in NOx emissions. The states agreed to continue discussion among themselves to try to reach agreement on mobile budgets.
- The next MWAQC meeting will be held immediately following CEEPC on March 28, 2012.

[Transportation Planning Board \(TPB\), TPB Technical Committee, TPB Travel Management Subcommittee and TPB Scenario Study Task Force](#) (Ron Kirby and Gerald Miller | rkirby@mwkog.org and [gmiller@mwkog.org](mailto:gmilller@mwkog.org))

- TPB met on March 21, 2012
- A work session on Complete Streets in the Washington Region was held prior to the meeting.
- The TPB voted to approve Amendments to the FY 2012 Unified Planning Work Program (UPWP), FY 2012 UPWP Carryover Funding to FY 2013, and the FY 2013 UPWP.
- The TPB was briefed on the establishment of mobile emissions budgets for fine particulate pollution (PM2.5) for the 2012 Redesignation Request and Maintenance Plan.
- Work continues on the TPB Regional Transportation Priorities Plan (RTPP). Over the coming months TPB staff will be arranging listening sessions with many of the stakeholders throughout the region in order to solicit their input on performance measures to be included.
- Next meeting is April 18

[Planning Directors Technical Committee](#) and [Region Forward Coalition](#)

(Paul Desjardin/John Mataya | pdesjardin@mwkog.org / jmataya@mwkog.org)

- The Planning Directors Technical Advisory Committee and the Region Forward Complete Communities Team met together in December and January, and convened by conference call in February and March, to review updates to the Region Forward Baseline Report and to review the process for updating the Regional Activity Centers.
- The Planning Directors submitted the Round 8.1 Cooperative Forecasts to the TPB staff for use in the air quality conformity analysis of the TIP and CLRP.

Affiliated Partnerships

[Clean Air Partners](#) (Jen Desimone | jdesimone@mwkog.org)

- Clean Air Partners is sponsoring 10 local science fairs through-out the Baltimore-Washington region.
- Clean Air Partners and the Maryland Green Registry are sponsoring a clean commute contest. The contest promotes commuting alternatives and is open to Maryland businesses. Deadline for nominations is May 25, 2012.

- The Annual Celebration and Awards will be held the evening of May 8, 2012 at the Baltimore Museum of Industry. Register at www.cleanairpartners.net.
- The Clean Air Partners Executive Committee met on March 15, 2012.
- The Clean Air Partners Board will meet on April 19, 2012.

[Commuter Connections Subcommittee](#) (Nick Ramfos | nramfos@mwkog.org)

- January 17th – Commuter Connections endorsed the final draft of the FY2009 – FY 2011 Transportation Emission Reduction Measures (TERMs) Analysis Report.
- No updates to report for February.

[Tree Canopy Workgroup](#) (Jeff King | jking@mwkog.org and Brian LeCouteur | blecouteur@mwkog.org)

- The Workgroup met on January 12
- The group discussed challenges and opportunities for moving ahead with the feasibility study.

Other Committees

[Chief Purchasing Officers Committee](#) (Tom Savoie | tsavoie@mwkog.org and Phil McGaughey | Philip_J_McGaughey@mcpsmd.org)

- The next CPOC meeting is March 29, 2012 at 10am in COG Training Rooms A & B.
- The topics of discussion are an Office Depot contract being offered to the COG region, and update and training on COG’s Vendor Registration System and Document Storage System for the CPOC.
- The Natural Gas Reverse Auction has been put on hold because there is no lead Jurisdiction or Agency.

[Water Resources Technical Committee](#) (WRTC) (Tanya Spano | tspano@mwkog.org)

- WRTC met on March 8, 2012.
- COG staff presented the latest updates on the proposed focus and potential speakers for the WRTC-sponsored Climate Impacts Symposium that has been scheduled for Monday, May 21, 2012 here at COG. The symposium will focus on 1) the planning implications of potential changes in precipitation patterns, sea level rise, flooding, and water quality in the Metropolitan Washington region, and 2) how climate trends can be incorporated into water, land use, and transportation planning in the region
- The next WRTC meeting is May 10th.

[Chesapeake Bay and Water Resources Policy Committee](#) (Karl Berger | kberger@mwkog.org)

- No updates.

Other Updates

[Adaptation to Climate Change in the Washington Region](#) (Maia Davis | mdavis@mwkog.org)

- Presented at National Association of Regional Councils “Are Regions Adapting to Climate Change?” webinar on March 15, 2012.
- Presentation of the EPA Climate Adaptation Guidebook is following the CEEPC Meeting on March 28, 2012 at 12:30pm in Room 1.
- Presenting on adaptation at 8th Annual Mid-Atlantic Regional Planning Roundtable on March 30, 2012. Event is hosted by the Northern Virginia Regional Commission and Virginia Tech Department of Urban Affairs
- COG will host a Climate Impacts Symposium on May 21, 2012 from 10am-3pm in the COG Board Room. The symposium will focus on the planning implications of potential changes in precipitation patterns, sea level rise, flooding, and water quality in the Metropolitan Washington region.

[Annual Climate and Energy Surveys and Progress Report](#) (Maia Davis | mdavis@mwkog.org)

- Twenty out of 21 COG member local governments responded to the surveys. The information provided in the surveys informs the Annual Climate and Energy Progress Report for the COG Board.
- The DRAFT Annual Climate and Energy Progress Report was provided to survey contacts, IGBG and EAC for comment in March 2012. A final draft will be available after incorporating comments from CEEPC.