

Summary of Climate-Related Activities of COG Committees Supporting CEEPC March 2014

Climate Energy and Environment Policy Committee Technical and Citizen Committees

Technical Committees

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

- BEEAC met on February 20. EnerNOC gave a presentation on demand response aggregation and programs available for local governments to participate in.
- The committee was briefed on the DC Community Renewable Energy Act and the PSC's work to write the implementing regulations. COG staff gave a presentation on how our region compares to other regions' Climate and Energy goals.
- BEEAC met on March 20 and had several presentations on Model Programs and Opportunities in Community and Residential Energy Improvements. The Maryland Energy Administration (MEA) provided a briefing on the Business Case for Energy Efficiency report "Getting to Yes," and the University of Maryland Environmental Finance Center presented on the Maryland Smart Energy Communities and Sustainable Maryland Challenge programs.
- The committee was also briefed on developments in Passive House construction, efforts to incorporate green attributes in real estate listings such as the MLS, and on MEA's new solar permitting portal.

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

- COG participated on a panel discussion at an Education and Outreach Event Program for Fleet Professionals at the 2014 Washington Auto Show on Jan. 28, 2014. COG staff provided a framework for clean, alternative transportation policy development in the region.
- The next meeting of the EV Workgroup will be March 28th. COG staff will provide preliminary results of the alternative fuels survey focusing on cooperative purchase of alternative fuel vehicles. There will also be a panel discussion by DC and VA on their respective alternative fuel and clean car programs. The Maryland Department of the Environment will provide a status report of the eight state Zero Emission Vehicle (ZEV) MOU and describe opportunities for other state governments to join.

Citizen Committee

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

- APCAC met on February 24 and March 24. In February, the committee welcomed four new members, held an orientation, and elections for officers. Andrew Kambour was elected the 2014 ACPAC Chair and Glenna Tinney was elected the 2014 ACPAC Vice Chair.
- ACPAC has been discussing the draft Gold Book and working on a comment letter to MWAQC on the Gold Book.

- ACPAC has been reviewing and discussing the Climate and Energy Leadership Awards program pilot materials and in March made some practical suggestions for improvements, particularly related to the Judging Rubric.

Supporting Technical and Policy Committees

[MWAQC](#) and [MWAQC Technical Advisory Committee](#) (Sunil Kumar | skumar@mwkog.org)

- MWAQC TAC met on February 11. The committee was briefed on the 2011 base year ozone inventory, EPA's proposed greenhouse gas rule for new power plants, the draft MWAQC work program and budget and the 2013 CLRP Performance Analysis. DDOE and COG staff also briefed the committee on the Special Project (or Beyond Conformity project) funded by MDE, which looks at how to meet future air and climate change challenges in the Washington region.
- MWAQC TAC met on March 11. Sunil Kumar discussed the Reasonable Further Progress Plan being developed as part of the agreement on the PM2.5 Redesignation Request & Maintenance Plan (RRMP). The committee was briefed on a recent EPA request to provide VOC and NH3 emissions inventories for the PM2.5 RRMP. The committee discussed the process for updating the annual PM2.5 and NOx mobile budgets for 2017 and 2025 as part of the RRMP.
- MWAQC met on February 26. Sunil Kumar provided a briefing on 2011 base year ozone emissions inventory, which the committee approved for public comment. COG DTP staff updated the committee on the 2013 CLRP Performance Analysis and 2014 Conformity Schedule.
- COG DEP staff presented on the draft Gold Book and requested the committee's review and comment by the end of March. DEP staff also briefed the committee on regional air pollutant transport, EPA's proposed greenhouse gas rule for new power plants and future air quality issues the region will need to address.

[Transportation Planning Board](#) (TPB), [TPB Technical Committee](#), [TPB Travel Management Subcommittee](#) and [TPB Scenario Study Task Force](#) (Gerry Miller | gkmiller@mwkog.org or Dan Sonenklar | Dsonenklar@mwkog.org)

- The TPB Technical Committee met on February 7 and TPB met on February 19. The Committees were briefed on the Place + Opportunity report, approved by the COG Board in January, and how it relates to the Regional Transportation Priorities Plan. The report presents goals, strategies, and tools to assist local governments and other stakeholders with their efforts to create thriving, high-opportunity places, with an eye toward Activity Centers in the region.
- TPB Tech was briefed on WMATA's Light Rail Transit (LRT) and Streetcar Interoperability study, which aims to promote customer convenience and to coordinate system design in order to identify potential cost savings, operating efficiencies, and network connections. TPB Tech was also briefed on the draft update to MARC's Growth and Investment plan, which identifies improvements for the next 40 years
- TPB received an update on the region's transportation agencies traffic signal management activities and a related 2002-2005 Transportation Emissions Reduction Measure (TERM).
- The TPB Technical Committee met on March 7 and TPB met on March 19. The Committees were briefed on the draft scope of work for the air quality conformity assessment of the 2014 CLRP

and the major transportation projects submitted for inclusion. The draft scope of work and project submissions was released on March 13 for a 30-day public comment period ending April 12. At the April 16 meeting, the Board will be asked to approve the project submissions.

- COG DTP staff briefed the Committees on a proposed approach to develop a qualitative assessment to compare the 2014 Update of the CLRP and proposed projects to RTPP priorities.
- DDOT staff briefed the Committees on the draft *moveDC* plan which will be released in April. Components of the strategic transportation vision plan for 2040 include multi-modal projects, supporting policies, a financial plan, and a structure for project prioritization.

[Planning Directors Technical Committee](#), Housing Directors Advisory Committee, and [Region Forward Coalition](#) (Paul Desjardin | pdesjardin@mwkog.org and Sophie Mintier | smintier@mwkog.org)

- The Planning Directors Technical Committee met on January 17. The committee was briefed on Technical Assistance Panels being offered by COG and Urban Land Institute (ULI) focused on identifying priorities and catalytic strategies to maximize the impact of investments in Activity Centers. COG Staff also updated the committee on proposed changes to the Activity Centers Strategic Development Plan. The Planning Directors received a briefing on and approved the next update to the Cooperative Forecasts – Round 8.3.
- The Planning Directors Technical Committee met on February 21. The committee was briefed on Briefing on the new Chesapeake Bay Agreement and implications for COG members, and the Place + Opportunity report: Strategies for Creating Great Communities and a Strong Region.
- Region Forward will meet on April 25. The theme of the meeting is Sustainability.

Affiliated Partnerships

[Tree Canopy Workgroup](#) (Amanda Campbell | acampbell@mwkog.org and Brian LeCouteur | blecouteur@mwkog.org)

- The Transportation Planning Board's (TPB) adopted a regional Green Streets Policy at their February 19th meeting. The resolution, policy inventory, and resources fact sheet are available [here](#). This year, TPB will sponsor training on Green Streets best practices for personnel responsible for the design, construction, and maintenance of streets and produce a summary and resource guide on Green Streets best practices.

Other Committees

Mid-Atlantic Purchasing Team (formerly [Chief Purchasing Officers Committee](#)) (Tom Savoie | tsavoie@mwkog.org)

- The Baltimore Regional Cooperative Purchasing Committee and the Mid-Atlantic Purchasing Team held a Staff Development Training on February 28. The training provided an overview of cooperative purchasing the Washington and Baltimore areas, the creation of MAPT, the solicitation process, procurement opportunities and a discussion of municipal energy procurement and the benefits of renewable energy.
- The Chief Purchasing Officers Committee will meet on March 27 at COG from 10am – 3pm.

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

- COG held a Stream Restoration Technical Session on Feb. 25 to share information about the new Bay Program protocols for receiving nutrient and sediment reduction credits for stream restoration work. The presentations are posted on the WRTC [website](#).
- On March 25, WRTC received an updated on the January 9 West Virginia water contamination event and an overview of preparedness and emergency response to potential drinking water contamination events in the National Capital Region.
- The committee was briefed on the COG Board's FY2014 work plan priority on Infrastructure and discussed what information regarding drinking water should be included in the Board's briefing on April 9.
- The committee also discussed the committee's FY2015 Work Program priorities and timeline.

[Chesapeake Bay and Water Resources Policy Committee](#) (Heidi Bonnaffon | hbonnaffon@mwcog.org)

- On January 17, the Committee was briefed on key federal legislation and funding issues of potential impact or importance to COG members, and on proposed water-related legislation and the outlook for water quality funding in the Maryland and Virginia General Assemblies.
- The committee was briefed on a request from the COG Executive Committee that CBPC review the U.S. Conference of Mayors policy position on the Water Quality Improvement Act and determine whether there is a regional consensus on endorsement of the proposal.
- The committee also discussed priority water resource issues and suggested committee focus and potential actions for the next year.
- The committee was briefed on COG's Potomac Water Quality factsheet, the New Chesapeake Bay Agreement, and water quality issues in the new Regional Transportation Priorities Plan.
- On March 21, CPBC received an updated on the January 9 West Virginia water contamination event. Steve Bieber provided an overview of the event, preparedness and emergency response to potential drinking water contamination events in the National Capital Region, and ongoing work to update the region's Water Supply Emergency Plan.
- The committee was briefed on the COG Board's FY2014 work plan priority on Infrastructure and discussed what information regarding drinking water should be included in the Board's briefing on April 9.