

Air and Climate Public Advisory Committee

Metropolitan Washington Council of Governments

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<http://www.mwcog.org>

March 24, 2014

The Honorable Dave Snyder, Chair
Metropolitan Washington Air Quality Committee

Re: Draft *Gold Book*

Chairman Snyder:

On behalf of the Air and Climate Public Advisory Committee (ACPAC), I would like to commend the Council of Governments (COG) on the draft update of the *Gold Book – State and Local Clean Air Measures* and express our appreciation for the opportunity to comment. ACPAC recognizes the important role that our local governments have to play in improving our region's air quality and the many steps they have already taken, both within and beyond the region's State Implementation Plan. We see the *Gold Book* not only as a useful compendium of local actions, but an important tool in sharing best practices among our jurisdictions to inspire greater local adoption of measures that will lead to further improvements in air quality.

For that reason, our comments on the *Gold Book* are focused not on the measures themselves, but how we think COG and the Metropolitan Washington Air Quality Committee (MWAQC) should utilize the *Gold Book* going forward. Possible actions could include:

- Developing a list of key measures from the *Gold Book* yet to be adopted throughout the region that are simple to implement or have high “bang for the buck” so that jurisdictions know where to begin when looking to adopt additional measures;
- Providing additional information on the costs and benefits of those key measures to local governments and the public, as well as technical assistance on implementation; and
- Encouraging adoption of those measures with local elected officials, both through MWAQC and directly.

As always, ACPAC is ready to assist in this effort in any way that COG and MWAQC see fit. We look forward to helping our partners and continue local government's strong leadership in addressing the region's air quality concerns.

Sincerely,

Andrew Kambour
Chair, ACPAC