

**MWAQC Technical Advisory Committee**  
**Meeting Summary**  
**March 12, 2024, 10 AM to 11 AM**

**Present:**

Roger Thunell, Maryland Department of the Environment  
Anna Marshall, Baltimore Metropolitan Council  
Catherine Salarano, Maryland Department of the Environment  
Chris Voigt, Virginia Department of Transportation  
Doris McLeod, Virginia Department of Environmental Quality  
Felip Ip, City of Alexandria  
Gwendoline McCrea, Virginia Department of Environmental Quality  
Jim Ponticello, Virginia Department of Transportation  
Malcolm Watson, Fairfax County Department of Transportation  
Melissa Atwood, City of Alexandria  
Regina Moore, Virginia Department of Transportation  
Sonya Lewis-Cheatham, Virginia Department of Environmental Quality  
Thatch Gerike, District Department of Energy & Environment  
Thomas Foster, Virginia Department of Environmental Quality  
Tom Ballou, Virginia Department of Environmental Quality

**Staff:**

Sunil Kumar, COG/DEP  
Alissa Boggs, COG/DEP  
Dusan Vuksan, COG/DTP  
Jane Posey, COG/DTP  
Jeff King, COG/DEP  
Mark Moran, COG/DTP  
Robert Christopher, COG/DEP  
Tim Masters, COGDEP  
Wanda Owens, COG/DTP

**1. Call to Order and Review of Meeting Summary**

Roger Thunell called the meeting to order at 10 AM. The February 12<sup>th</sup> meeting summary was approved without any changes.

**2. New PM<sub>2.5</sub> Standard**

Sunil briefed members on EPA's new PM<sub>2.5</sub> standard. Roger said that EPA needs to provide us with the tiering document so we can use the 2022-24 data that will be available in June 2025 to prepare exceptional event waiver request. Doris said that states will have just 60 to 90 days to prepare the request. Hopefully, states can use MDE analysis to shorten the timespan to do that. She said that EPA's T640 PM 2.5 monitor overestimates PM 2.5 levels so the PM 2.5 design value of the near-road T640 monitor in Northern Virginia will likely go down. This should benefit Virginia and the region. Jeff asked if the near-road monitor can be used as a compliance monitor. Doris said that Virginia has two such monitors. One of them is in the Washington region and it is a NAAQS compliance monitor.

**3. Visualize 2050 Conformity Inputs & SoW**

Jane briefed members on TPB's Visualize 2050 & FY2026-29 TIP Conformity Inputs & Scope of Work. Ozone season VOC and NO<sub>x</sub> emissions will be developed using MOVES4 model, December 2023 vehicle registration data, co-operative forecast round 10 for onroad sources. The analysis years are 2025, 2026, 2030, 2040, 2045, and 2050. She also mentioned the timeline for completing the analysis and its approval by TPB. There was a question on how EJ issues are

being considered in this analysis. Roger responded to that by saying that it is being done through comments and inputs from the public. He also mentioned that this question was for TPB and not for MWAQC-TAC. Jane agreed with that.

#### **4. CPRG Update**

Kelsey updated members on the CPRG. The regional priority climate action plan (PCAP) was submitted for the MSA to EPA last month. It is available on the COG website. Three other PCAPs are also available within the region for Virginia, Maryland, and DC. The PCAP was the first deliverable for CPRG. The next deliverable will be the comprehensive climate action plan (CCAP) that is due next summer. It will be much more comprehensive plan and will include much more quantified analysis for GHG reductions and for low income and disadvantaged communities and workforce analysis and amongst many other criteria from EPA. COG staff plans to provide monthly updates until it is due. COG is working on a regional funding opportunity and the CPRG implementation grant. Therefore, it is really important to know what priorities were there for jurisdictions in the region, what was ready to be expanded or ready to be implemented amongst other engagement and community priorities as they helped to develop the PCAP. There are a number of events going on now to support other state or regional applications to seek implementation funding besides costs. More information will be provided next month after the proposals are submitted.

#### **5. State/Local Updates**

Maryland and Virginia didn't have any. Thatch said that the District's exceptional event request is under review by the upper management before its submittal to EPA. Doris asked if the District got any comments from the public on this request. Thatch that there were some informal comments made.