

Summary of Climate-Related Activities of COG Committees Supporting CEEPC July 2013

Climate Energy and Environment Policy Committee Technical and Citizen Committees

Technical Committees

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

- BE-EAC's June meeting focused on renewable energy and energy efficiency programs for low and moderate income households. Presentations highlighted DC Sustainable Energy Utility's low-income solar program; a Maryland Energy Administration grant program for efficiency retrofits; the Town of Bladensburg and other Prince George's County municipalities on implementing the MEA grant through an inter-municipal partnership; and the Mid-Atlantic Partnership on collaborative purchasing to bring down the cost of EE and RE equipment. The group also heard presentations on the 179D tax credit for energy efficiency retrofits in government buildings, and LED street lighting retrofits.
- On July 18, the committee heard presentations on DC's and Arlington County's Community Energy Plans, the International Code Council's upcoming public hearings, and the regional GHG inventory being developed by NVRC.
- The next meeting is September 20.

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

- The EV Workgroup met on May 30 to discuss cooperative purchasing and contract riders for EVs and charging equipment.
- The next meeting will be on July 31.

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

- The Recycling Committee met on May 23 to focus on Creative Ways to Engage the Public and feature a presentation by Keep America Beautiful on an upcoming national Ad Council campaign promoting recycling.
- On July 18, the committee met to discuss construction and demolition material recycling. The group heard from the US Green Building Council, the National Construction Recycling Association, and the Recycling Certification Institute.

Citizen Committee

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

- ACPAC met on June 17, 2013 heard a presentation by Casey Trees on the role of trees in mitigating climate change and air pollution. Members also discussed ideas for future activities and presentations.
- ACPAC is meeting on July 15, 2013 to discuss the regional tree canopy report, a climate and energy leadership awards concept, and regional ozone attainment options.

Supporting Technical and Policy Committees

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

- MWAQC met on May 22, 2013. COG staff presented details of the PM 2.5 Redesignation Request and Maintenance Plan for the Washington region along with the detailed response to public comments received on the plan. MWAQC approved the PM 2.5 Redesignation Request and Maintenance Plan for the Washington region. MWAQC also approved the FY 2014 MWAQC Work Program and Budget. TPB staff briefed on the changes observed in the regional commuter patterns since 2007. Drive Alone/SOV commutes have declined slightly, but steadily since 2000. Transit mode share increased in every jurisdiction from 2000 to 2011, and increased regionally by 30%. Bike mode share has increased significantly in DC, Arlington, Alexandria, and Montgomery since 2000. COG staff presented the 2013 ozone season summary. There were no exceedances of the 2008 ozone standard recorded until that day.
- MWAQC-TAC met on June 11 and July 9, 2013. COG staff presented the 2013 ozone season summary in both meetings. There was exceedance observed for the 2008 ozone standard on June 5. TPB staff briefed the members on the draft 2013 transportation conformity analysis. MWAQC-Executive Committee approved and sent to TPB a comment letter for the 2013 conformity analysis. Additional summaries of Volatile Organic Compounds (VOC) and Ammonia (NH₃) were presented for sending them to EPA as part of the PM 2.5 Redesignation Request and Maintenance Plan for the Washington region. COG staff discussed a revised memo regarding various options available to states to attain the 2008 ozone standard. TPB staff presented a detailed analysis of Transportation Emission reduction measures (TERMs). The group discussed an outline of the Reasonable Further Progress plan, which is required in case the Washington region does not meet the 2008 ozone standard by the deadline and therefore gets re-classified to a higher nonattainment level for the 2008 ozone standard. States agreed to develop this plan in anticipation of the possible higher reclassification.

[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 gmler@mwkog.org)

- The TPB met on July 17, 2013. The TPB approved the Air Quality Conformity Determination of the 2013 CLRP, the FY 2013-2018 TIP, and the 2013 CLRP.
- Additionally, the TPB approved the technical assistance recipients under the FY 2014 Transportation/Land Use Connections (TLC) Program.
- The TPB received a briefing on the Draft TPB Regional Transportation Priorities Plan (RTPP). The RTPP is being developed to identify regional strategies that offer the greatest potential contributions toward addressing regional challenges.
- The next meeting of the TPB is on September 18, 2013. The TPB does not meet in August.

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

(Paul Desjardin/Sophie Mintier | pdesjardin@mwkog.org / smintier@mwkog.org)

- The Region Forward Coalition will hold its quarterly meeting on Friday, July 26th at Mosaic Merrifield in Fairfax County. The meeting will feature a panel discussion on the Dunn Loring/Merrifield transformation and a walking tour of the community.
- The project team is continuing to revise the Activity Center Strategic Development Plan with feedback from the Board of Directors, the Planning Directors Technical Advisory Committee, and other stakeholders. The project team is currently working with Planning Directors to information on local planning, development, and infrastructure activities into the Plan.
- The Activity Center Strategic Development Plan will be one of the projects highlighted at the September 27th Region Forward event.

Affiliated Partnerships

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

- 2013 Media Campaign - Clean Air Partners is in the middle of its annual media campaign. The campaign includes radio, online, and transit advertisements. The radio ads ran during the weeks of July 15th and 22nd on 4 radio stations in DC and Baltimore with a target audience of women 25-64 and adults 25-64. Online ads also ran during the same 2 weeks in both markets with ads appearing on the Washington Post and Baltimore Sun websites. Transit ads run from May - September on the following transit systems: WMATA, Charm City Circulator, Fairfax County, and Prince George's County.
- 2013 Sponsors – Commuter Connections, Washington Gas, Constellation, Fairfax County, Prince George's County, and PEPCO.
- Summer Education Outreach - The education team has begun their annual summer outreach within the community. They are visiting summer camps throughout the region and presenting the Clean Air Partners curriculum, On the Air. It is estimated that outreach will be conducted to more than 1,000 students.
- Leadership - We would like to thank Hon. Leta Mach for her leadership as Chair during the past 2 years. The Board approved the following members for officer positions:

- Chair: Lon Anderson, AAA Mid-Atlantic
- Vice Chair: Brian O'Malley, Central Maryland Transportation Alliance.

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

- Commuter Connections hosted events at the following locations:
- US Coast Guard Transportation Fair – DC; NSA Bethesda Transportation Fair; Bike To Work Day; Aerospace Transportation Fair – Chantilly, VA; Mark Center Transportation Fair – Alexandria.
- The Employer Recognition Awards ceremony was held on June 25th to recognize three employers in the region that have implemented successful employee commute programs at their worksites. Awardees are National Institutes of Health (Incentives category), United Nations Foundation (Marketing category), and Council of Better Business Bureaus (Telework category).

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

- The Workgroup is continuing its to develop a regional tree canopy strategy report, and will present its findings to CEEPC at the July meeting.

Other Committees

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

- Representatives of the Mid-Atlantic Purchasing Team, including COG staff, presented to the Electric Vehicles Workgroup in May to discuss the potential benefits of cooperative and group purchasing for electric vehicles and charging equipment.
- Representatives of MAPT also presented to the Built Environment and Energy Advisory Committee in June on how MAPT could facilitate the purchase of renewable and energy efficient equipment.