

**DRAFT**

**CLIMATE CHANGE WORK PROGRAM**  
**15-month**

April 1, 2009 - June 30, 2010

MWCOG

March 27, 2009 Staff Draft

**Note:**

*This draft of COG's Climate Change work program from April, 2009 through June, 2010 includes elements of different COG programs. Many of these programs, such as the transportation initiatives, as well as many of the environmental initiatives are included in other COG work programs and have been approved, funded, and are underway. Proposed projects that support COG's Climate Change initiative but require additional funding are also identified in the document.*

The American Recovery and Reinvestment Act of 2009 provides new sources of grants and funding for energy efficiency, conservation and transportation projects to be completed in the next year. The Climate Change Work Program may need to be revised once grants for localities in the Washington region are announced.

**Draft 15-month Climate Change Work Program**  
(April 1, 2009- June 30, 2010)

**A. Background**

This document presents the work program for the Climate and Energy Policy Committee (CEPC) to be carried out between April 1, 2009 and June 30, 2010. It describes the work to be carried out by the staff of the Metropolitan Washington Council of Governments (COG) that is directly funded in this work program. The tasks outlined in this work program are designed to ensure a regional approach to meeting climate change goals in the metropolitan Washington region. Through the activities described for the coming year, several important steps will be taken towards reducing greenhouse gas emissions while simultaneously helping meet energy and transportation needs in the Washington region consistent with climate policy goals.

Organizational Structure of CEPC

The National Capitol Region Climate Change Report recommends that the Climate Change Steering Committee (CCSC) evolve into a new COG policy committee entitled the Climate and Energy Policy Committee (CEPC). Under the proposal being considered, the CEPC would have oversight over the current COG Energy Advisory Committee, the Intergovernmental Green Building Group (IGBG) and the Alternative Fuel Vehicle Partnership. Final decisions on organizational structure are pending.

Staff Support for CEPC

The lead role for administrative and technical support to MWAQC is held by the staff of the Metropolitan Washington Council of Governments. Major additional complementary technical staff support is provided by the staffs of the state air quality management and transportation agencies.

**B. Work Program Objectives, 2009**

In the coming year CEPC will guide implementation of a variety of recommendations from the National Capitol Region Climate Change Report. Recommendations include developing programs focused on development of regional climate change plans, public outreach and education, energy and transportation sector initiatives, developing tools to measure progress, fostering adaptation initiatives, tracking legislation and regulations, and developing advocacy positions.

Role of COG Staff

CEPC staff will play a major role in developing emission inventories, analyzing possible mitigation options, developing plans to meet the regional reduction goals, tracking progress, and developing projects to reduce emissions from the energy sector. CEPC

staff will work closely with COG's Department of Transportation Planning staff on mobile emissions inventories and mitigation strategies.

### Proposed Work Program

This document is intended to guide the activities of the CEPC through the fifteen month period from April 1, 2009 to June 30, 2010. In subsequent sections the reader will find detailed descriptions of the major work program areas that are included in this proposed work program. The major work areas are presented in more detail as tasks in the work program. The major work areas are as follows:

1. Development of Regional Climate Change Plans
2. Energy Initiatives
3. Transportation Initiatives
4. Measuring Progress/Technical Tools
5. Adaptation Initiatives
6. Legislative Tracking and Advocacy
7. Outreach and Education
8. Committee Support
9. Proposed New Initiatives

## **C. Proposed Work Program Task Descriptions**

### **1. Development of Regional Climate Change Plans**

COG adopted emission reduction targets of 10 percent reduction below business as usual in 2012 and 20 percent below 2005 levels by 2020. Staff will develop plans to meet the 2012 and 2020 goals. For the 2012 plan, staff will quantify greenhouse gas reduction benefits from adopted energy efficiency measures and proposed individual and household actions; will prioritize regional and local measures by cost and benefit; and will develop steps to implement measures to achieve benefits by 2012. Staff will also begin analysis of measures to achieve 2020 reduction target.

#### **Deliverables**

Plan for 2012  
Plan for 2020

#### **Deadline**

11/09  
5/10

### **2. Energy Initiatives**

The Climate Change Report included recommendations to improve energy efficiency and increase production and use of renewable energy in the region. This task will support local government efforts to attract stimulus funding as well as develop and track local government energy efficiency and renewable energy initiatives and assist local governments to lead by example. Staff will begin implementation of the following projects:

- Street Light Project. Replace old technology with new energy efficient technology. Develop regional guidelines or standards. Implement pilot project.
- Support local projects submitted for Clean Cities funding

- Green Fleet Project. Develop Green Fleet policy. Hold Hybrid fleet/AFV Workshop.
- Renewable Energy Initiatives. Support local government renewable energy initiatives (e.g., windpower purchase).
- Home Energy Audits and Retrofits. Develop a regional approach, working with utilities, local governments. Develop web resource.
- Green Building Codes, Standards (IGBG). Recommend Residential Standard(s).
- Commercial Building Energy Efficiency. Partner with Greater Washington Board of Trade.
- Survey of local government energy efficiency and renewable energy projects funded through Community Block grants.

**Deliverables**

**Deadline**

Street Light Improvement Project Pilot	6/09
Street Light Improvement Project Report	6/10
Green Fleet Policy	TBD
Hybrid fleet/AFV Workshop	10/09
Support Local Government Renewable Energy Initiatives	Ongoing
Regional Approach for Home Energy Audits and Retrofits	TBD
Web Resource for Home Energy Audits and Retrofits	6/09
Support Green Building Codes, Standards (IGBG)	Ongoing
Recommend Residential Green Building Standard(s)	6/09
Commercial Building Energy Efficiency Partnership	TBD

**3. Transportation Initiatives**

The Climate Change Report included recommendations to reduce emissions from the transportation sector in the region. This task will involve developing and analyzing scenarios to mitigate emissions from mobile sources, with input from the public. Staff will begin implementation of the following projects:

- Public Outreach. Conduct public outreach to get feedback on scenarios and get recommendations for incorporating scenario planning activities into regional planning process.

- Scenario Analysis. Review strategies in “What Would It Take” scenario to assess combination of measures necessary to achieve significant reductions in CO2 emissions by 2020, 2030, and 2050.
- Reduction Measures. Analyze greenhouse gas reduction measures in three categories:
  - Fuel efficiency (CAFÉ, CAL LEVII)
  - Fuel Carbon Intensity (alternative fuels, ethanol)
  - Travel Efficiency
    - VMT reduction from smart growth
    - VMT reduction, TDM strategies (Commuter Connections)
    - Operational Efficiency (TDM, Signals, Incident Management)

**Deliverables**

**Deadline**

Public Outreach	10/09
Scenario Analysis	6/10
Analysis of Reduction Measures	6/09

**4. Measuring Progress/Technical Tools**

Two methods, a regional GHG emissions inventory and regional metrics, will be used to track progress in meeting the region’s greenhouse gas emissions goals. To track annual progress, regional metrics will be used. The regional inventory will be updated in 2012 and then every 3-5 years to establish progress compared to the 2005 baseline. To address the need to develop systems to measure progress, staff will begin implementation of the following projects:

- Develop Regional Metrics. Include electricity generation, utility EE programs, EIA fuels consumption, VMT data.
- Refine Regional GHG Emissions Inventory. Add detailed emissions for waste water and drinking water plants, update transportation emissions.
- Mobile CO2 Emissions. Calculate mobile source CO2 emissions inventory. Include years 2002, 2005, 2010, 2012, 2020, 2030.
- Energy Efficiency Protocol. Develop local government protocol to measure benefits (AQ and CO2) from energy efficiency measures.
- Emission Inventory Support. Assist local governments with development of emissions inventories (workshops and upon request).
- Survey of Local Government Achievements.
  - Survey of energy efficiency and renewable energy programs of local jurisdictions.
  - Survey of local government tree canopy programs and plan to improve tree canopy in the region.

<b><u>Deliverables</u></b>	<b><u>Deadline</u></b>
Develop Regional Metrics	Annually
Refine Regional GHG Emissions Inventory	9/09
Updated Mobile Source Emissions Inventory	6/09
Energy Efficiency Protocol	10/09
Local Governments Inventory Assistance	Ongoing
EERE Program Survey	Annually
Tree Canopy Program Survey	Annually

### **5. Adaptation Initiatives**

The Climate Change Report recommended a series of workshops to address the potential need for adaptation strategies. To respond to these recommendations, staff will begin implementation of the following project:

- Water/Wastewater Workshops. Conduct water/wastewater workshops with aim of developing consensus on inventory among stakeholders on GHG inventory protocols.

<b><u>Deliverables</u></b>	<b><u>Deadline</u></b>
Workshops	5-6/09

### **6. Legislative Tracking and Advocacy**

Tracking legislation and developing advocacy positions is an important part of the regional effort to address greenhouse gas emissions. Staff will focus on the following tasks:

- Track federal, state and local climate change initiatives and regulations.
- Develop advocacy positions for local, state, and federal action.

<b><u>Deliverables</u></b>	<b><u>Deadline</u></b>
Legislative and Regulatory Tracking	Ongoing
Advocacy Positions	Ongoing

### **7. Outreach and Education**

One important task in the near term is to develop effective public education and outreach campaigns. Staff will implement the following projects:

- Regional Outreach and Education Campaign. Convene outreach coordination meeting of local, state agencies and utilities to discuss outreach campaigns for energy efficiency.

- Coordination with Existing Public Outreach Initiatives. Coordinate with Clean Air Partners and Commuter Connections regarding messaging.
- Manage Information Resources. Update COG climate change website.
- Outreach to COG Members and Stakeholders. Workshops for members. Collaborate w/ IRE and GMU.
- Promote Green business/green jobs. Hold a Green Affordable Housing conference.

**Deliverables**

Convene outreach coordination meeting  
 Messaging Coordination  
 Update COG Climate Change Website  
 Workshops for Members  
 Collaborate w/ IRE and GMU  
 Green Affordable Housing Conference

**Deadline**

4/28/09  
 Spring 2009  
 Ongoing  
 TBD  
 Spring 2009  
 3/09

**8. Committee Support**

The proposed work program provides for COG staff support for the regional Climate Change initiative. Staff include environmental planners and engineers, and transportation planners and engineers within COG's Department of Environmental Programs and Department of Transportation Planning. In addition, staff within COG's Legal Department will assist with legislative and regulatory tracking. COG personnel will be available to provide staffing support for the following:

- Climate Change Steering Committee (through 4/09)
- “Climate and Energy” Policy Committee (4/09 – 6/10)
- Technical Committee (4/09 – 6/10)

**9. Proposed New Initiatives (additional funding needed)**

There are several possible new initiatives that could be developed if additional funding is identified. This list may change as a result of grants awarded to projects to local governments as part of the stimulus funding. Proposed new regional initiatives include:

- Regional energy/climate outreach campaign
- Regional climate impacts report/adaptation strategy
- Update Best Practices Report
- Regional Green Power Jobs, Survey
- Cost benefit analysis of measures

#### **D. Proposed Funding Sources and Projected Budget for COG Staff**

The proposed CEPC Work Program for FY2009 is a 15-month work program and budget for the period from April 1, 2009 to June 30, 2010. The work program will be funded using existing resources.

##### Existing Resources Supporting COG's Climate Change Work Program

*COG/DEP Regional Environmental Fund and COG Membership Fees*  
Supports Categories 1, 2, 4, 6, 7 and 8

*Intergovernmental Green Building Group (IGBG)*  
*Energy Advisory Committee (EAC)*  
*Regional Alternative Fuels Strategy (Alternative Fuels Partnership)*  
Supports Category 2

*COG/DEP Regional Water Fund*  
Supports Category 5  
Including in-kind contributions/collaboration with WEF/WERF/AWWA/AwwRF

*COG/DEP Grant Projects*  
Supports Categories 1, 4, and 7  
DMME/DOE Clean Energy and Air Quality in the Washington Region

*Metropolitan Washington Air Quality Committee (MWAQC) Local Measures Funding*  
Supports Categories 1 and 4

*National Capital Region Transportation Planning Board (TPB)*  
Supports Categories 3 and 4  
Regional Studies, Scenario Study Task Force