

EPA CLIMATE POLLUTION REDUCTION GRANT (CPRG) PROGRAM UPDATE

MWAQC Technical Advisory Committee

Kelsey Boatwright
Research Associate, Climate, Energy, and Air Programs
Metropolitan Washington Council of Governments (MWCOCG)

February 13, 2024



Agenda

1. Recap of PCAP Process
2. PCAP Draft and Measures
3. Stakeholder Engagement
4. Community Engagement Plan
5. Timeline & Next Steps

Recap of PCAP Development Process

Summer- Fall 2023 – Initial stakeholder discussions and contracting

November 2023 – Steering and Technical Committee kickoff

November – December 2023

- Survey for project ideas
- Survey for community climate priorities
- Meetings with stakeholders, local governments, states
- Presentations to COG Committees
- Draft measures
- Stakeholder feedback on draft measures
- Stakeholder discussions

January 2024

- Final measures list
- PCAP drafting and modeling
- Continued stakeholder discussions
- LIDAC Survey
- Stakeholder discussions

Example Stakeholders Engaged

- Neighborhood Sun
- Sierra Club
- Common Grain Alliance
- LEAP
- Mobilize Frederick
- Virginia PACE
- Accokeek Foundation
- Southern Environmental Law Center
- Georgetown University
- George Mason University
- University of Maryland
- Maryland Clean Energy Center
- WMATA
- WSSC
- Pepco, Exelon, Dominion
- Washington Gas
- GWRCC Board
- COG Committees (TPB Tech, CEEPC, MWAQC, TPB, MWAQC-TAC, Chief Equity Officers Committee, BEEAC / REVI joint meeting, ACPAC, (FARM) Policy Committee)

PCAP Outline

1. Introduction
2. Metropolitan Washington's Climate Context
3. Metropolitan Washington's LIDACs
4. Priority GHG Reduction Measures
5. Next Steps

APPENDIX A. GHG Inventory, BAU, and GHG Reduction Measures Quantification
Technical Appendix

APPENDIX B. Metropolitan Washington Climate and Energy Plans and Targets

APPENDIX C. Identification of LIDACS in Metropolitan Washington

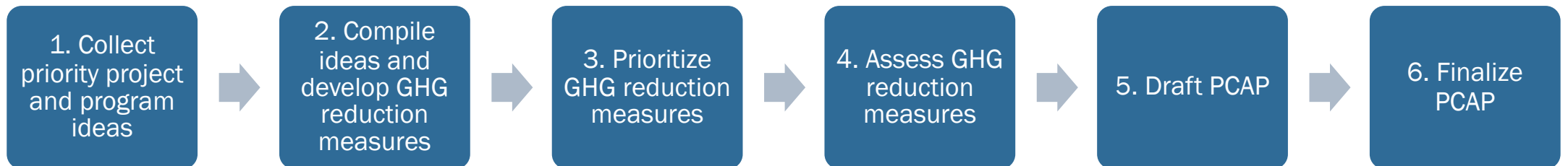
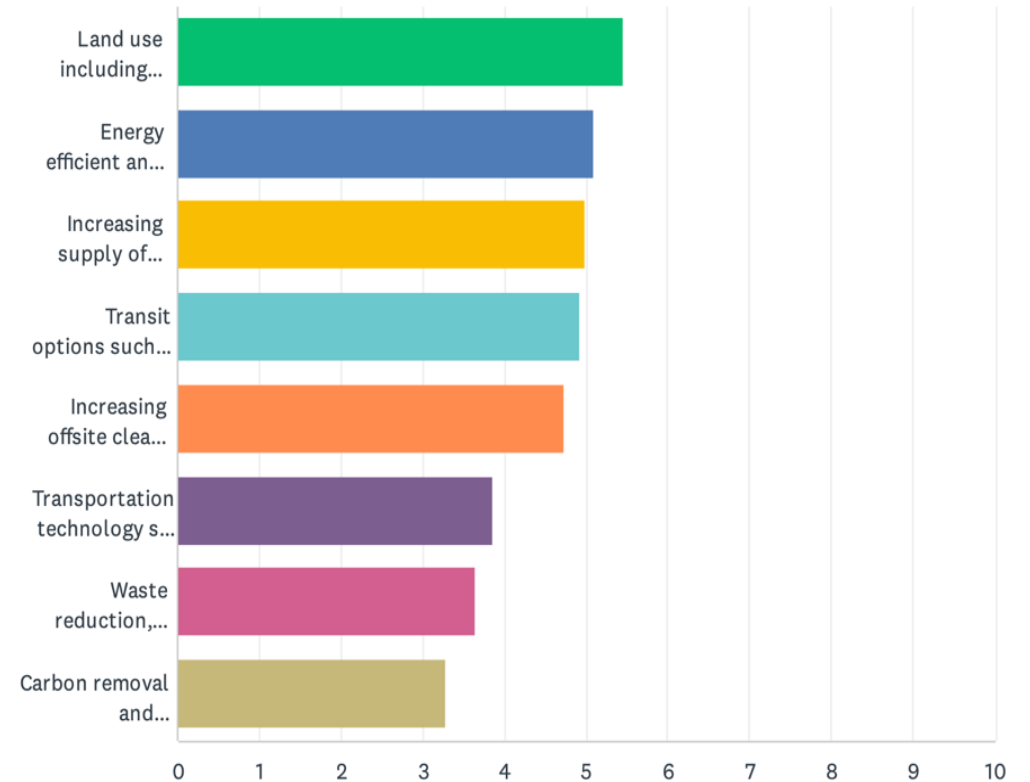
APPENDIX D. Project Ideas Submitted to COG

APPENDIX E. Community Climate Priorities Survey Results

Introduction

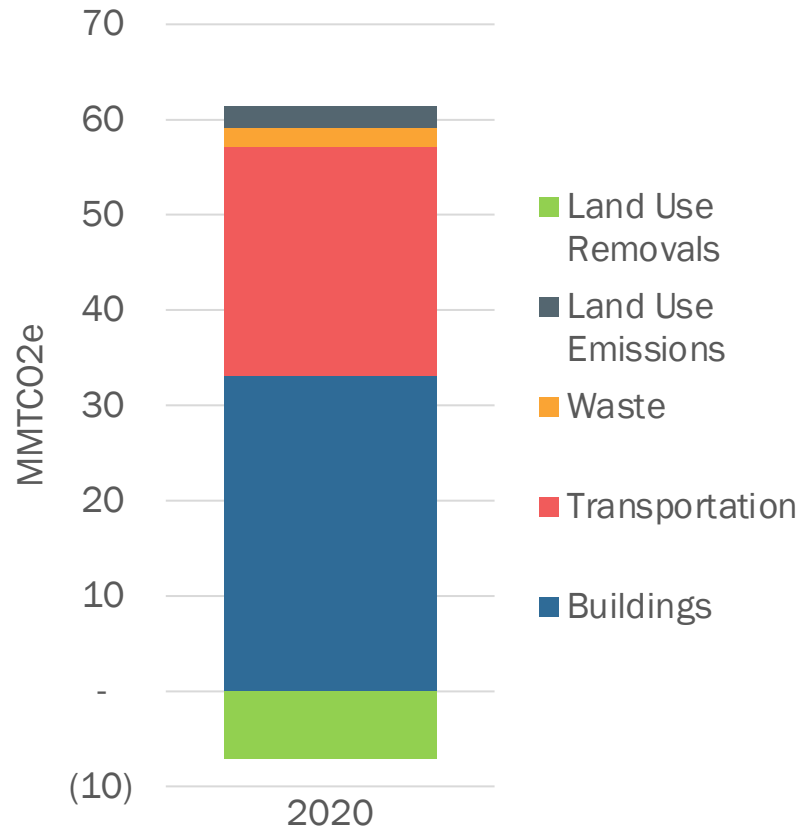
- CPRG Program Overview
- PCAP Overview and Definitions
- Scope of the PCAP
- Approach to Developing the PCAP
 - GHG Inventory, BAU and GHG Reduction Targets
 - Identifying and Engaging Stakeholders
 - PCAP/Priority GHG Reduction Measures

CPRG Community Climate Priorities Survey



GHG Inventory and Reduction Targets

2020 MSA GHG Emissions by Activity



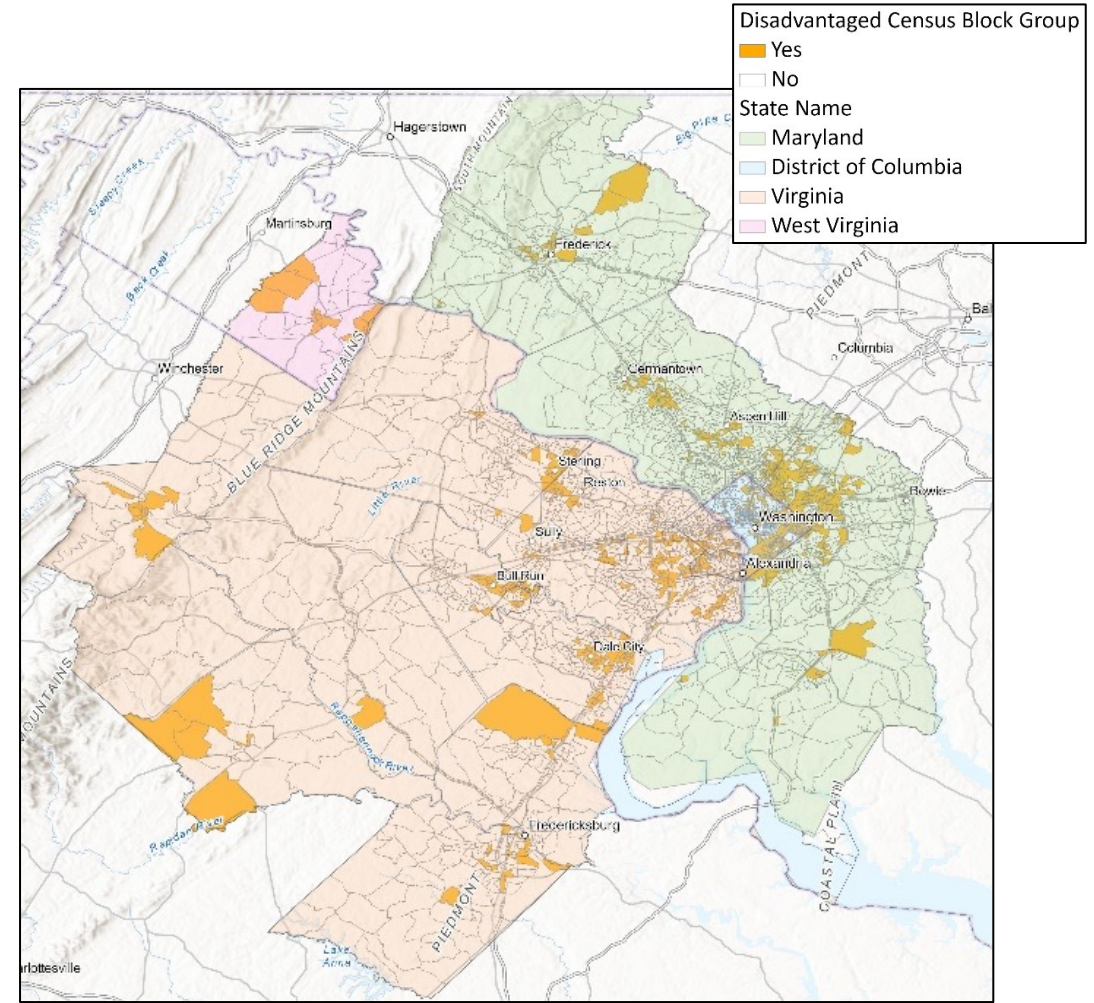
GHG Reduction Targets

- 50 percent GHG emission reductions below 2005 levels by 2030
- Become a Climate Ready Region and making significant progress toward becoming a Climate Resilient Region by 2030
- Along with the COG goals, local governments across and states have established goals
- During the CCAP development COG will work with members within and outside of the region to establish MSA-wide GHG reduction target(s)

**BAU projections under development*

Metropolitan Washington LIDACs

- LIDACs identified in EJScreen
 - 25% of Census block groups in the MSA
- Education levels
 - MSA - 4% without a high school diploma
 - LIDACs - 8%
- Economic diversity
 - MSA - Simple average median income ~\$125,000
 - LIDACs - ~\$85,000 (VA increases to ~\$98,000)
- Unemployment rates
 - DC has the highest rate in the MSA
 - DC - 5% and DC LIDACs - 10%



Engagement with Metropolitan Washington LIDACs

Community LIDAC Priorities

- Air and water quality
- Greenspace availability
- Quality of life
- Community engagement and empowerment
- Creating employment opportunities and workforce development
- Access to infrastructure
- Food security
- Non-care travel options
- Reducing waste
- Affordable housing near transit
- Energy efficiency
- Inclusive energy transition

Ongoing Activities

- LIDAC engagement survey
- LIDAC and community engagement plan
- Tribal engagement plan

Example LIDAC Webinar/Meeting Participants

- Accokeek Foundation
- Common Grain Alliance (CGA)
- Faith Alliance for Climate Solutions (FACS)
- Greater Washington Region Clean Cities Coalition (GWRCCC)
- Hola Cultura
- Institute for Local Self-Reliance (ILSR)
- Montgomery County Food Council
- Prince George's County Food Equity Council
- Prince George's Soil Conservation District
- Sierra Club, Virginia Chapter
- Southern Environmental Law Center
- University of Maryland (UMD)
- Voters for Animals



PCAP Measure Development Review

Measure Framework

- Priority measures need to be determined for inclusion in the PCAP
- Must reduce GHG emissions in short-term, 2-5 years
- Long-term reduction measures only required for 2nd phase (CCAP)
- Integrate GHG reduction strategies already identified as priorities
- Cost-effectiveness / Demonstrate federal funding gaps if available
- Conduct LIDAC benefits analysis
- Focus on measures with authority to implement*
- Project framework is generally versatile

**Process can include initial necessary planning, studies, assessments, software, etc.*

COG's PCAP Measures List

Buildings and Clean Energy

- Accelerate the deployment of energy efficiency solutions and decarbonization of residential, institutional, municipal, and commercial buildings.
- Accelerate the deployment of clean and renewable energy.
- Study, plan for, and deploy district energy and microgrid opportunities.

Transportation

- Provide and promote new and expanded opportunities to reduce VMT through public transportation, non-motorized travel, micromobility, shared travel options, and development.
- Accelerate the deployment of low-emission transportation, fuels, and vehicles.
- Accelerate the deployment of off-road/non-road electric equipment.

Waste

- Reduce GHG emissions from waste and wastewater treatment.

Land Use

- Accelerate the expansion of the regional tree canopy and reduce tree canopy loss.

Continued: PCAP Cross-Cutting Themes

- Provide education, marketing and outreach, and real-time data to accelerate the deployment of GHG reduction technologies, facilitate behavior changes, and to increase participation in climate and energy programs.
- Build on existing or develop new programs to provide training, paid internships, and job opportunities for a clean energy workforce.
- Deploy shared resources and funding through a centralized program for implementation ready projects such as for Institutional Buildings (e.g., municipal buildings, universities, schools, and hospitals) or to accelerate climate action for a set list of climate actions and technologies that benefit multiple jurisdictions.
- Actions supporting clean energy financing, and incentives to increase clean energy, energy efficiency, and electrification, such as Green Banks, green financing, interest rate buy downs, and revolving loan fund (e.g., green bonds, clean energy loans), ESPCS, as well as grants and rebates.

EXAMPLE: ACCELERATE THE DEPLOYMENT OF ENERGY EFFICIENCY SOLUTIONS AND DECARBONIZATION OF RESIDENTIAL, INSTITUTIONAL, MUNICIPAL, AND COMMERCIAL BUILDINGS

Decarbonizing buildings through energy efficiency, fuel switching, adaptive reuse, and other actions are a high priority for the MSA. Building energy consumption accounted for approximately 50% of GHG emissions in the metropolitan Washington region in 2020. This measure focuses on increasing opportunities for owners and users of all building types to access and install technologies to decrease overall energy consumption, increase energy efficiency, and reduce GHG emissions from the built environment. It covers both market rate and low/moderate income customers and private and public buildings.

Example Implementation Activities

- Create voluntary and/or mandatory benchmarking programs for buildings.
- Improve building energy performance standards (BEPS).
- Strengthen green building policies and energy codes. Implementing strengthened codes, including “stretch codes,” can encourage the mitigation of air pollutants from buildings.
- Conduct energy audits and site assessments. By conducting these assessments, implementers can collect information on which areas of the building inventory, if any, need additional support in achieving improved energy efficiency and decarbonization, and have the highest potential to result in energy savings.
- Facilitate net zero building development. Prioritizing low-emissions practices across the lifecycle (in construction, maintenance, and end of life) of new buildings and retrofits to existing buildings can yield more integrated emissions savings.
- Expand or create new programs and incentives for retrofits and upgrades to single and multifamily homes (e.g., building efficiency retrofits including window replacements, insulation, more efficient and/or electric appliances, hybrid or all-electric heat pumps or more efficient gas heat pumps).
- Implement energy efficiency and fuel switching in data centers and other large energy users (e.g., hospitals), including implementing solutions to reduce the use of back up diesel generators and transitioning to cleaner alternatives.
- Expand and/or create new programs for retrofits and incentives and upgrades to municipal and government buildings, including public schools, government buildings, and operations (e.g., building efficiency and electrification retrofits, street lighting and stadium lighting retrofits, microgrids).
- Plan for and address electric panel upgrades in residential and commercial properties to support electrification.

Example LIDAC Benefits

Buildings and Clean Energy

- Reduced energy costs/burden from energy efficiency measures and from the installation of solar PV panels.
- Improvements in indoor air quality and local air quality from reduced fossil energy use in power plants and in buildings.
- Improved health/reduced health care costs.

Transportation

- Reductions in air pollution resulting from combustion in vehicles, reduced exposure to diesel particulate emissions, ozone, and noise.
- Improved health/reduced health care costs.
- Reduced noise pollution from highway adjacent communities.

Land Use

- Reduce heat island impacts.
- Increased quality of life/additional access to recreation.

Plans for CCAP Engagement

Stakeholder Engagement 2024-2025

- Kick off for CCAP in Spring
- Virtual and in-person listening sessions
- Continue engagement with local utilities, agencies, community-based organizations, tribal communities, climate and energy non-governmental organizations, educational institutions, etc.
- Plan to hear more diverse and comprehensive perspectives across the region
- Connect shared interests and projects

Implementation Funding & Expected Awards Review

For general competition

- EPA anticipates awarding 30 to 115 grants ranging between \$2 million and \$500 million.
- Grants expected to be awarded within 5 tiers, with funds targeted for each tier.
- Total amount requested will determine tier application evaluated at.

Tier	Grant Ranges	Funds Targeted for Each Tier	Anticipated Number of Grants to be Awarded
Tier A	\$200,000,000 – \$500,000,000	\$2 billion	4-10
Tier B	\$100,000,000 – \$199,999,999	\$1.3 billion	6-13
Tier C	\$50,000,000 – \$99,999,999	\$0.6 billion	6-12
Tier D	\$10,000,000 – \$49,999,999	\$0.3 billion	6-30
Tier E	\$2,000,000 – \$9,999,999	\$0.1 billion	10-50

Timeline & Next Steps

Schedule

- November 13 - Kickoff meeting of Steering and Technical Committees
- December 1 - Members provide feedback on strategies and inputs for projects/measures
- December TBD – Special Engagement with CBOs, key stakeholders
- December TBD – Technical Committee meeting – Discuss Projects/Measures
- December TBD – Mid-course check in with Steering Committee – Review list of Projects/Measures
- January TPB – Technical Committee meeting – Review Draft PCAP
- January 29 – Steering Committee meeting – Review Draft PCAP (Comments Due 2/9)
- February – COG and ICF Complete PCAP and submit by March 1, 2024
- April 1 – Proposal Due for Implementation Grants Competition
- Summer 2025 – Comprehensive Climate Action Plan (CCAP) Due

Jeff King

Director, Climate, Energy, and Air Programs

(202) 962-3238

jking@mwkog.org

Deb Harris

ICF

CPRG Support Lead

deb.harris@icf.com

mwkog.org

777 North Capitol Street NE, Suite 300

Washington, DC 20002