



Climate, Energy, and Environment Policy Committee

DRAFT HYBRID MEETING SUMMARY: SEPTEMBER 28, 2022

CEEPC MEMBERS IN ATTENDANCE

- Hon. Koran Saines, Loudoun County
- Hon. Mary Cheh, District of Columbia
- Hon. Patrick Wojahn, City of College Park
- Hon. Monique Ashton, City of Rockville
- Hon. Cindy Dyballa, City of Takoma Park
- Hon. Penny Gross, Fairfax County
- Hon. Takisha James, Town of Bladensburg
- Hon. Takis Karantonis, Arlington County
- Hon. Alanna Mensing, City of Manassas Park
- Hon. Tom Osina, City of Manassas
- Hon. Dave Snyder, City of Falls Church
- Melissa Adams, Washington Gas
- Dr. Kambiz Agazi, Fairfax County
- Erica Bannerman, Prince George's County
- Michele Blair, City of Laurel
- Amanda Campbell, City of Rockville
- Andrea Crooms, Prince George's County
- Randy Freed, Citizens' Climate Lobby
- Ari Gerstman, District Department of Energy and Environment (DOEE)
- Kim Goddu-Alexander, Bethesda Green
- Beth Groth, Charles County
- Stephen Gyor, District of Columbia
- Jenn Hatch, DOEE
- Rachel Healy, Washington Metropolitan Area Transit Authority (WMATA)
- Maureen Holman, DC Water
- Adriana Hochberg, Montgomery County
- Evan Marolf, DC Councilmember Cheh's Representative
- Demetra McBride, Arlington County
- Dale Medearis, Northern Virginia Regional Commission (NVRC)
- Shannon Moore, Frederick County
- Deborah Moran, City of Gaithersburg
- Jim Ponticello, VDOT
- Era Pandya, ACPAC
- Matt Ries, DC Water
- Lindsey Shaw, Montgomery County
- Dr. Dann Sklarew, George Mason University

- Antoine Thompson, Greater Washington Region Clean Cities Coalition (GWRCCC)
- Luke Wisniewski, Maryland Department of the Environment (MDE)

ADDITIONAL ATTENDEES:

- Hon. M.C. Keegan-Ayer, Frederick County
- Dawn Ashbacher, Frederick County
- Marc Aveni, Loudoun County
- Chris Berg, VDOT
- Brian Booher, Montgomery County
- Mark Buscaino, Casey Trees
- Rich Dooley, Arlington County
- Kim Drake, MDE
- Bill Eger, City of Alexandria
- Emmy Feldman, ICF
- Matthew Gaskin, District Department of Transportation (DDOT)
- Emily Golla, ICF
- Kathie Hoekstra, City of Alexandria
- Allison Homer, Fairfax County
- Carol Jones
- Chris Landgraf, NVRC
- Debra Maes, Fairfax County Public Schools
- Giulia Manno, Prince William County
- Justin Mabrey, MDE
- Logan McSherry, Frederick County
- Matthew Meyers, Fairfax County
- Regina Moore, VDOT
- Erin Oxenford, City of Bowie
- Samantha Prog
- Bill Pugh, Coalition for Smarter Growth
- Alison Riley, EPA
- Luisa Robles, City of Greenbelt
- Peter Schultz, ICF
- Tim Stevens, Sierra Club
- Peggy Tadej, NVRC
- Brittany Whited, DOEE
- Andy Young, City of Falls Church

COG STAFF IN ATTENDANCE:

- Ata Adeel, COG Environmental Programs
- Steve Bieber, COG Environmental Programs
- Leah Boggs, COG Environmental Programs
- Maia Davis, COG Environmental Programs
- Paul DesJardin, COG Director Community Planning Services
- Katie Dyer, COG Environmental Programs
- Lyn Erickson, COG Transportation Planning
- Jeff King, COG Director Climate, Energy and Air Programs
- Brian LeCouteur, COG Environmental Programs
- Wyetha Lipford, COG Environmental Programs
- Lindsey Martin, COG Office of Communications
- Tim Masters, COG Environmental Programs
- Mark Moran, COG Transportation Planning
- Jane Posey, COG Transportation Planning
- John Snarr, COG Environmental Programs
- Dusan Vuksan, COG Transportation Planning

1. WELCOME AND MEETING SUMMARY

Patrick Wojahn, CEEPC Vice Chair

Climate, Energy, and Environmental Policy Committee (CEEPC) Vice Chair Patrick Wojahn called the September CEEPC hybrid meeting to order. The July CEEPC Meeting Summary was approved.

2. COMMITTEE AND MEMBER UPDATES

A. Built Environment Energy Advisory Committee (BEEAC)

Dawn Ashbacher, BEEAC Chair

- The September BEEAC meeting was focused on Building Energy Performance Standards (BEPS). MWAQC-TAC members were invited to this meeting, as they have an interest in the impacts of energy efficiency measures on air quality. The meeting specifically looked at the District’s and Montgomery County’s BEPS. This was the first joint meeting with MWAQC-TAC and there may be further joint meetings of these two technical committees.
- BEEAC is also looking closely at the Energy Efficiency and Conservation Block Grant (EECBG) program which is part of the Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act of 2021. The program is to assist states, local governments, and tribes implement strategies to reduce energy use, to reduce fossil fuel emissions, and improve energy efficiency in the transportation and building sectors. There is \$550 million available for the program. Qualifying local governments get a minimum of \$75,000. There will likely be more guidance from the Department of Energy this fall.
- In October, BEEAC will issue its annual priorities survey to identify areas of focus for 2023.
- The next BEEAC meeting is November 17.

B. Air and Climate Public Advisory Committee (ACPAC)

Leah Boggs, COG Environmental Programs

- In August, ACPAC concluded the judging period for the [2022 Climate and Energy Leadership Awards Program](#). ACPAC is awarding two awards this year in the government and NGO categories. The winners will be announced at the October COG Board of Directors meeting.
- With renewed focus on equity and environmental justice, ACPAC is putting together a proposal to update the Environmental Justice Toolkit that was published back in 2017. ACPAC met last week

to discuss preliminary ideas and timeframe. ACPAC aims to have the proposal completed in the coming months and look for CEEPC and MWAQC approval to move ahead in the new year.

- The next ACPAC meeting is November 14.

C. Greater Washington Region Clean Cities Coalition (GWRCCC)

Antoine Thompson, GWRCCC

- GWRCCC will be holding their [Annual Conference and Awards Luncheon](#) on October 20. There will also be a number of panel discussions on transportation-related issues at the conference.
- GWRCCC is planning two Green Job fairs in the fall.
- GWRCCC has been working with several partners as they apply for federal funding in the transportation space.

D. Recycling Committee

Michele Blair, City of Laurel

- COG's Recycling Committee completed their June "[Go Recycle](#)" media campaign. This annual campaign promotes different recycling messages to the public via radio, online advertisements, social media posts, etc. They had a \$90,000 budget from their sponsors. The campaign ran for three weeks.
- The September Recycling Committee meeting was focused on composting. The committee heard from jurisdictions with curbside compost collection programs including Prince George's County and Arlington County.
- The committee will be undertaking a campaign focused on battery waste management in the fall.

E. Member and Staff Updates

Shannon Moore, Frederick County

- Frederick County has recently completed a draft of their internal Climate and Energy Action Plan, which they are currently reviewing.
- On July 1, the county's Office of Sustainability and Environmental Resources became the Division of Energy and Environment.
- The county is focused on alternative fuel vehicle planning and electric vehicle (EV) infrastructure planning.

Adriana Hochberg, Montgomery County

- Adriana and other committee members wanted to recognize those affected by Hurricane Ian, as well as colleagues, family and friends who may be impacted.

Patrick Wojahn, City of College Park

- The City of College Park's curbside compost program will be launching this fall.
- The city is working with the Maryland-National Capital Park and Planning Commission on replacing trees lost due to a hurricane event in July this year, as well as an outreach program to promote and provide funds for tree planting.
- The city's tree ordinance that requires permits for removing urban forest trees is now in full effect. Anyone looking to cut down an urban forest tree has to plant a replacement tree or pay the Urban Tree Protection Fund fee.

Cindy Dyballa, City of Takoma Park

- The City of Takoma Park is seeking a new [Sustainability Manager](#).

Amanda Campbell, City of Rockville

- The City of Rockville is working on a Flood Resilience Master Plan. The city also launched their Flood Mitigation Grant Program that provides up to \$5,000 to offset property owner costs.
- The city is planning to launch a compost drop-off program this fall.
- This City of Rockville is seeking a [Sustainability Program Manager](#).

Jenn Hatch, DOEE

- DOEE has released the District's Heat Adaptation Strategy: [Keep Cool DC](#).
- The District also recently released a new donation and reuse website: [Reuse DC](#).

Dr. Kambiz Agazi, Fairfax County

- Fairfax County is currently developing a Green Bank. More information will be forthcoming.
- Fairfax County is also currently undergoing a study on how to update their stormwater design standards based on updated intensity-duration-frequency (IDF) curves from [MARISA](#).
- Fairfax County is currently developing a new community program called Charge Up Fairfax. Charge Up Fairfax is a community-based engagement program developed to assist homeowner associations (HOAs) with the installation of publicly available shared charging stations. The Charge Up Fairfax concept will be presented to the county's Transportation Committee on September 30 (materials available [here](#)).

Erica Bannerman, Prince George's County

- Prince George's County's will host its annual [Green Summit](#) on October 22.

Maia Davis, COG Environmental Programs

- a) At the July CEEPC meeting, there was a request to COG staff to research a few items. There was a question on green bonds and if there were any municipalities leveraging green bonds to deploy renewable energy systems. COG staff pulled together examples and resources on this topic. A Green Bond Resources document can be found under the [meeting materials](#) for this meeting.
- b) There was discussion on climate assessments at the last CEEPC meeting. Montgomery County adopted a Climate Assessment law in July 2022. It requires the Office of Legislative Oversight to prepare a climate assessment for each bill, and the Planning Board to prepare a climate assessment for each zoning text amendment, master plan, and master plan amendment. Currently, Montgomery County is the only local jurisdiction implementing such a law in the U.S. A presentation with more details on this law is available under CEEPC [meeting materials](#).
- c) COG has new climate planning and implementation contracts that will be in place soon. The scope of work has been expanded to not only include broad climate planning, but also implementation of climate plans. This could include energy efficiency, renewable energy, indoor/outdoor lighting assessments, microgrids, large-scale solar, recycling, regenerative agriculture, recycling/solid waste and much more. This round, there is a more diverse set of contractors, including local partners for support on environmental justice and community engagement. The contractors include ICF, Cadmus, Stantec, Tetra Tech, Michael Baker, and AECOM. These contracts should be ready for use by the end of October.
- d) COG staff have been working on the 2020 greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions inventory together with local jurisdiction technical advisors on BEEAC. The region has met the 20 percent by 2020 emission reduction goal (below 2005 levels). More information will be provided at the October COG Board of Directors meeting, as well as a more detailed presentation on the inventories at the November CEEPC meeting.

3. MILITARY INSTALLATION RESILIENCE REVIEW

Katie Dyer, COG Environmental Programs

The Military Installation Resilience Review (MIRR) program was designed to identify the hazards and vulnerabilities of concern “outside the fence line” as they relate to ability of the military to carry out its missions on base. Katie provided an overview of the purpose of these projects and how they support CEEPC’s resilience goals. The Department of Defense, Office of Local Defense Community Cooperation (OLDCC) provides grants through the Military Installation Sustainability Program and a primary component of the program is MIRR. OLDCC has provided grant funds to COG, the Northern Virginia Regional Commission (NVRC), and Charles County to conduct resilience reviews. There are four MIRR installations under the COG project (Fort Lesley J. McNair, Navy Yard, Joint Base Anacostia-Bolling, and the Naval Research Laboratory), three installations under the NVRC project (Joint Base Myer-Henderson Hall, Fort Belvoir, and the Marine Corps Base Quantico), and one Charles County installation (Naval Support Facility Indian Head). The 2030 Climate and Energy Action Plan (CEAP) sets resiliency goals for the COG region and part of this includes development of an integrated approach to resiliency planning. The MIRR projects have brought together stakeholders across all sectors to share activities, best practices, and collaborate with regard to resiliency planning. CEAP also highlights the need for resilience of critical infrastructure in the region. These MIRR projects included impact assessments for communities and the installations and assessed what critical infrastructure may be good candidates for future funding opportunities.

Peter Schultz, ICF, consultant on COG’s MIRR project

The MIRR program has three main project phases. The first, establishes priority sectors, hazards, and stressors. The second phase entails conducting a vulnerability assessment. The third and final phase encompasses the development of a resilience strategy, including priority measures. The three core tenets of these projects include advancing communication and coordination among stakeholders, enabling implementation of recommendations post-project, and integrating equity as a priority. The program established three tiers that prioritize hazards: Tier 1 included flooding (riverine, interior, and coastal flooding), Tier 2 hazards included extreme heat and population growth, among others, and Tier 3 had several other hazards that were less significant for these projects. Priority sectors at risk included Transportation and Transit, Energy, Telecommunications, and Water and Wastewater. A list of priority vulnerabilities was aggregated with a number of sector-specific vulnerabilities, as well as cross-sectoral vulnerabilities. The Draft MIRR Strategy document includes an implementation profile for each measure, which documents vulnerabilities addressed, benefits, social and equity considerations, costs and funding opportunities, key actors, next steps, and additional details. There are a number of priority physical and policy measures in the Draft Strategy, chief amongst these include retrofitting stormwater pump stations, assessing and addressing key climate risks to telecommunications systems, supporting Blue Plains floodwall construction, and ensuring Lower Anacostia Waterfront development is resilient.

Chris Landgraf, Northern Virginia Regional Commission

There are three MIRR projects in Northern Virginia, covering four communities. OLDCC MIRR measures of progress for these projects included outcomes arising from engagement with the military installation and the number of interactions that occurred, any deliverables from the project and their benefits for reducing impairments to the local mission or improvements to the resilience of the installation, and actions from the project that will be or have been carried out regardless of whether federal funds are supporting it. The third goal was achieved, as Arlington County identified a project (Joint Base Myer Henderson Hall) to improve their water system, which was recently accomplished. In March and June this year, workshops were held to identify the high, medium and

low priority hazards for these projects. The high priority hazards included flooding, high temperatures, and energy demand. The vulnerability assessment for these MIRR projects is currently underway, along with the strategy development for addressing hazards. When identifying mitigation strategies, the project team is focusing on three themes: fortify, accommodate, and retreat. The team has over 250 strategies for the three installations, which will be refined down to about 20 key strategies per installation. The next steps include refining the strategy and criteria framework, continuing the vulnerability analysis and integrate with strategies, and preparing for the third workshop in late October. The draft report will be published in early 2023.

Beth Groth, Charles County

The Charles County MIRR project is located at the Naval Support Facility Indian Head (NSFIH). Charles County applied for and received a \$400,000 grant from OLDCC in early 2021. The 18-month project was launched in March 2021 with the University of Maryland as a partner. The final report is currently going through a final review process. The project goals included identifying climate risks and establishing mitigation strategies, as well as strengthening ongoing engagement between the Town of Indian Head, the county, and NSFIH. The project is centered around four main tasks: leadership development, research and literature review, climate risk and vulnerability analysis, and final recommendations for coordinated action. An initial finding included the need for ongoing collaboration between the county, Indian Head, and NSFIH to achieve long-term resilience. Resilience should also be seen as an opportunity, which could address social and economic issues while addressing climate hazards.

Discussion:

- The U.S. Army Corps of Engineers' (USACE) Coastal Storm Risk Management Study was incorporated into the background documentation that NVRC is to inform their work, and many of the measures that are recommended in that study are being used to inform local mitigation measures at the MIRR locations in Virginia. As the DC MIRR locations were working ahead of this study, they did not have the same opportunity to incorporate that study's findings into their projects. The integrated flood modelling work that DC is undertaking and USACE's study will be important sources of information in local resiliency planning moving forward.
- It is important to include military bases in COG planning activities, especially with regard to climate change, transportation, housing, water quality, and fire protection.

4. REGIONAL ELECTRIC VEHICLE INITIATIVE

Jeff King, COG Director of Climate, Energy and Air Programs

At its September meeting, the COG Board adopted a resolution to help advance the regional electric vehicle (EV) deployment efforts, including developing a regional EV Deployment Clearinghouse and creating a Regional EV Deployment Working Group under CEEPC to serve as a forum for members to collaborate and coordinate actions related to deploying EVs and EV infrastructure. A number of EV initiatives are underway across the region. This roundtable discussion serves to inform CEEPC members of these local initiatives and share ideas related to EV deployment in the region, as well as identify priority areas.

Antoine Thompson, Greater Washington Region Clean Cities Coalition

The Greater Washington Region Clean Cities Coalition (GWRCCC) is leading a number of efforts in the alternative fuel vehicle and EV space. With the Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act (IIJA) and the Inflation Reduction Act, there is a lot federal funding being mobilized specifically for alternative fuel

vehicle and EV deployment opportunities. With various federal contracts and a partnership with the U.S. Department of Energy, GWRCCC is working to further these opportunities in the metropolitan Washington region. GWRCCC is part of the [Mid-Atlantic Electrification Partnership](#), which seeks to create a regional EV ecosystem in the District of Columbia, Maryland, Virginia and West Virginia. The project will connect the Mid-Atlantic Region's cities and install over 375 EV chargers. GWRCCC also plays a key role in the [National Electric Vehicle Infrastructure \(NEVI\) formula program](#), which provides states with funding to deploy EV charging stations and establish an interconnected network to facilitate data collection, access, and reliability. GWRCCC has worked with the District of Columbia and Maryland to submit plans for NEVI funding. GWRCCC has partnered with Virginia Clean Cities (VCC) and others on the [Mid-Atlantic Electric School Bus Experience Project](#), which provides information about electric school buses and allows school districts to gain experience with electric school buses, evaluates vehicle performance, and provides findings that can be used by both participating school districts and others to make decisions about incorporating such technologies into their fleets. GWRCCC is also looking at medium- and heavy-duty vehicle retrofits: replacing diesel engines with alternative fuel systems.

Shannon Moore, Frederick County

Frederick County has a contract with COG and ICF to develop an alternative fuel vehicle plan that includes several components such as an internal fleet conversion plan and a community-wide EV Readiness Plan (EVRP). It was important for Frederick County to identify what the priorities of these plans would be, as well as the relevant codes and ordinances as they related to EV deployment. Priority areas were identified for investment from the State of Maryland's \$63 million for EV charging infrastructure (funding from the IIJA). Community engagement was important to alert residents and businesses of deployment opportunities, and also get their feedback on experiences with infrastructure and deployment. As part of the community-wide plan, a stakeholder advisory group was created for this purpose. In November, the county will be holding a public meeting on EV infrastructure deployment with emphasis on multi-unit dwelling stakeholders. Frederick County requires EV readiness in new residential construction and is working toward EV readiness and EV infrastructure requirements in new multi-unit dwelling and commercial construction. Frederick County plans to continue work in this area, alongside COG and the metropolitan Washington region.

Adriana Hochberg, Montgomery County

Over a year ago, Montgomery County finalized their Climate Action Plan (CAP), which includes over a dozen actions that are focused on reducing GHG emissions from the transportation sector. Such actions include electrifying government fleets, transit buses, school buses, expanding walking and biking networks, and expanding transit access. The Montgomery County [EV Purchasing Co-op](#) (EVPC) pilot is the centerpiece of the county's EV outreach strategy for both residents and businesses. The EVPC is designed to support residents and local businesses in their journey towards owning, leasing or driving new or pre-owned EVs. The EVPC also has an EV Pledge to demonstrate demand for EVs in the county. The EVPC was launched in January 2022 with the goal of attaining 1,000 pledges by the end of May 2022, which was achieved and exceeded. The Co-op provides three main benefits. It provides information on EVs, buying and installing EV infrastructure, and accessing incentives. It provides connections to a larger network of EV owners. The program also demonstrates the potential for combined purchasing power, which the county hopes to leverage and encourage dealerships to offer discounts on EVs in the community. October is [National Clean Energy Action Month](#) and the county is launching a campaign to [Electrify Everything](#). During this time, the county will invite folks who have taken the pledge to share their EV ownership stories on social media to promote EVs.

Rich Dooley, Arlington County

Arlington County adopted their [Community Energy Plan \(CEP\)](#) roadmap in 2019. Some of the policies and strategies included in the CEP include reducing the amount of carbon produced from transportation to 0.5 metric tons of carbon dioxide equivalent (MTCO_{2e}) per capita per year by 2050 compared with 3.7 MTCO_{2e} per capita per year in 2007 (Policy 4.1), promoting EVs in the private and commercial sectors including supporting convenient charging stations throughout Arlington (Policy 4.4), facilitating deployment of EV charging infrastructure (EVSE) within Arlington County and in the region (Strategy T.2), and integrating fuel efficiency and EV considerations into the process of replacing infrastructure, as well as county and Arlington Public Schools fleet vehicles (Strategy T.3.1). A major milestone will be the cumulative replacement of 40 percent of county internal combustion engine (ICE) non-emergency sedans with EVs by 2025. Currently, 15 percent of the non-emergency passenger fleet are EVs and significant EV purchases are scheduled for the county fleet in FY 2023. A few successes for Arlington County include approval of a pilot EV Rate Ordinance by the Arlington County Board in July 2022, the design of a new ARTBus Maintenance and Operations Facility that is being designed with electrification and resilient systems in mind, as well as an initial purchase of 16 electric buses in FY 2023. The county has a Total Cost of Ownership Study for sedans and SUVs due to be completed this fall. An ARTBus Feasibility Study will be completed this fall and is focused on all aspects of transit system electrification and resilience planning, and also includes a literature review and case studies on hydrogen vehicles. The county's Decarbonization of Transportation Master Plan (Strategy T.5) will be complete in April 2023, and will cover electrification, resilience, EVSE infrastructure and proposed siting plan, a policy review and market assessment. Lastly, Arlington County has partnered with the City of Alexandria to hold their first-ever [EV and sustainable technologies showcase](#) on October 2.

Discussion:

- Currently, one of the challenges with EV adoption is the supply constraints. There are generally long waitlists and waiting periods to purchase an EV.
- CEEPC members were asked what issues would be important for the EV Deployment Working Group to address. Members felt that equity considerations would be an important item for the group to address, as well as federal funding opportunities for EV deployment (such as the Inflation Reduction Act) that should be considered in tandem with how local governments can incentivize or promote EV adoption. Speakers emphasized the importance of regional and local EV deployment plans. Transit electrification and promotion of alternative modes of transport is an important component of this work. Another priority for this group should be Level 1/curbside/home charging, as well as best practices for Level 2 and 3 permitting. Items like cooperative procurement should also be addressed by the group. A key focus of the group should be providing a platform for collaboration and coordination across jurisdictions. Education and outreach are a crucial area of focus too. Tying the group's work back to the 2030 CEAP goals and developing a strategy to meet those goals should be a key focus of the EV Deployment Working Group.

5. ADJOURN

Koran Saines, CEEPC Chair

Chair Saines adjourned the meeting. Upcoming CEEPC meeting dates for 2022 include: November 16 (Virtual Meeting).

All meeting materials including speaker presentations can be found on the COG website or by clicking the link below –

<https://www.mwcog.org/events/2022/9/28/climate-energy-and-environment-policy-committee/>