

ENVIRONMENTAL JUSTICE SUBCOMMITTEE UPDATE

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Metropolitan Washington Council of Governments (MWCOG)
Department of Environmental Programs (DEP)

MWAQC

May 22, 2024

Item #5

MWAQC's Mission

- Formulate, adopt, and submit, to DC, MD, and VA, a proposed regional air quality plan for incorporation into applicable State Implementation Plans (SIPs).
- Develop air quality maintenance plans which include measures and implementation commitments for consideration and incorporation into SIPs and implementation by the local governments, the states, and the US EPA.
- Fulfill any other functions and obligations necessary for promulgation and maintenance of regional air quality policies, plans, or programs as may be assigned by federal and state statute.
- At the request of state or local jurisdictions, perform other functions to enhance regional air quality.

EJ Subcommittee Role

- The Environmental Justice Subcommittee has been established to support MWAQC's commitment to incorporating environmental justice and equity in its work program.
- The subcommittee's mission is to develop policies and initiatives to support its members environmental justice/equity programs.
- The subcommittee will work collaboratively with stakeholders to develop an Action Plan to provide implementation strategies to integrate equity into policies, programs, and projects related to air quality.
- Sunset Date - one year (12-months) from kickoff meeting and delivering final Action Plan.

EJ Action Plan Deliverables

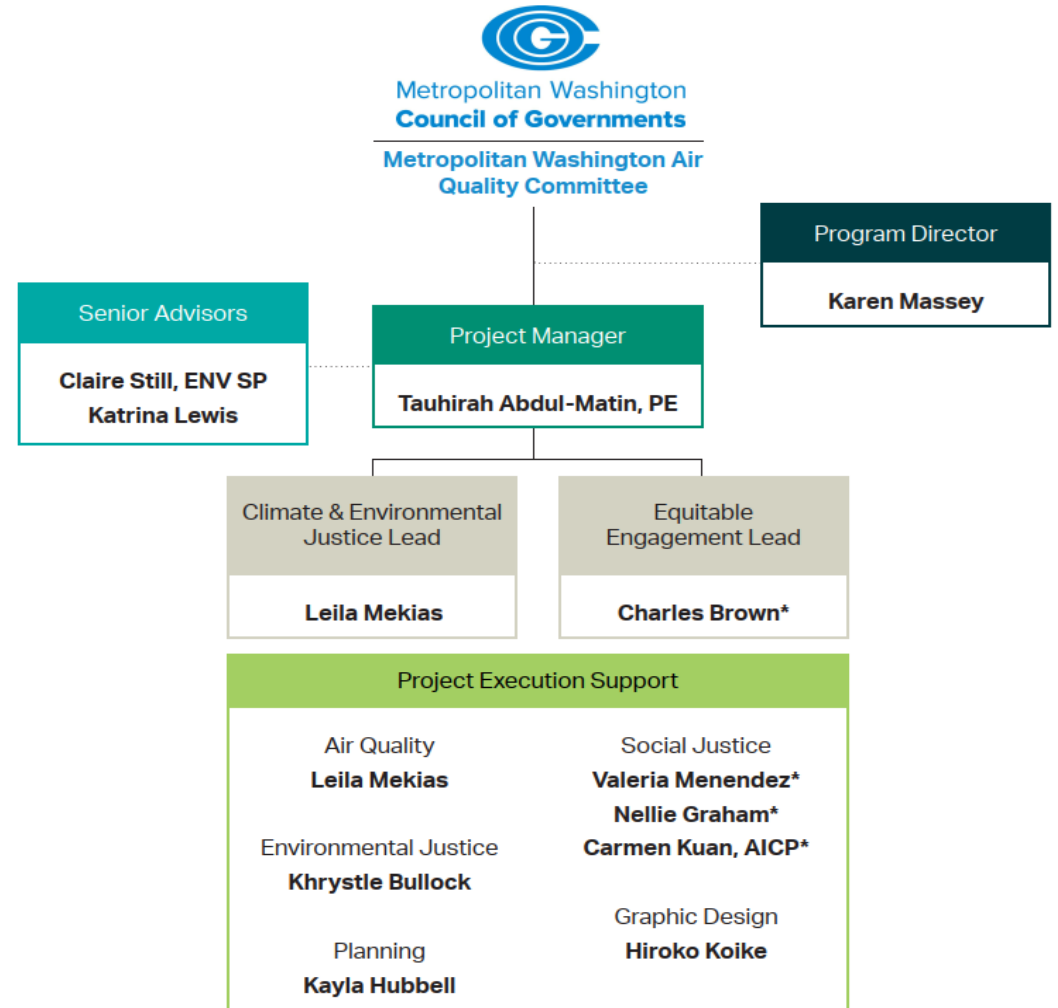
- Action Plan Technical Memo
 - Memo will include analysis of existing air monitoring data and area specific health studies. It will identify gaps in current air quality knowledge. Review of EJ analysis and best practices and climate change impacts.
- Engagement Report
 - Report on results of stakeholder outreach and engagement and resulting implementation
- Action Plan outline
 - Draft Action Plan
 - Final Action Plan
 - Action Plan summary presentation

EJ Subcommittee Update

- Kickoff Meeting - Members requested:
 - Details on MWAQC's Mission
 - Enhanced public engagement
 - Post materials to Subcommittee website
- Initial Engagement with Full MWAQC Committee (May 22)
 - Receive public comment
 - MWAQC members provide input on priorities and areas of interest

AECOM Introductions

- **Tauhirah Abdul-Matin**, Project Manager, AECOM
- **Karen Massey**, Program Director, AECOM
- **Claire Still**, Senior Advisor, AECOM
- **Leila Mekias**, Climate & Environmental Justice Lead, AECOM
- **Charles Brown**, Equitable Engagement Lead, Equitable Cities
- **Khrystle Bullock-Sam**, Environmental Justice Support, AECOM
- **Kayla Hubbell**, Planning Support, AECOM



* Subcontractor Equitable Cities

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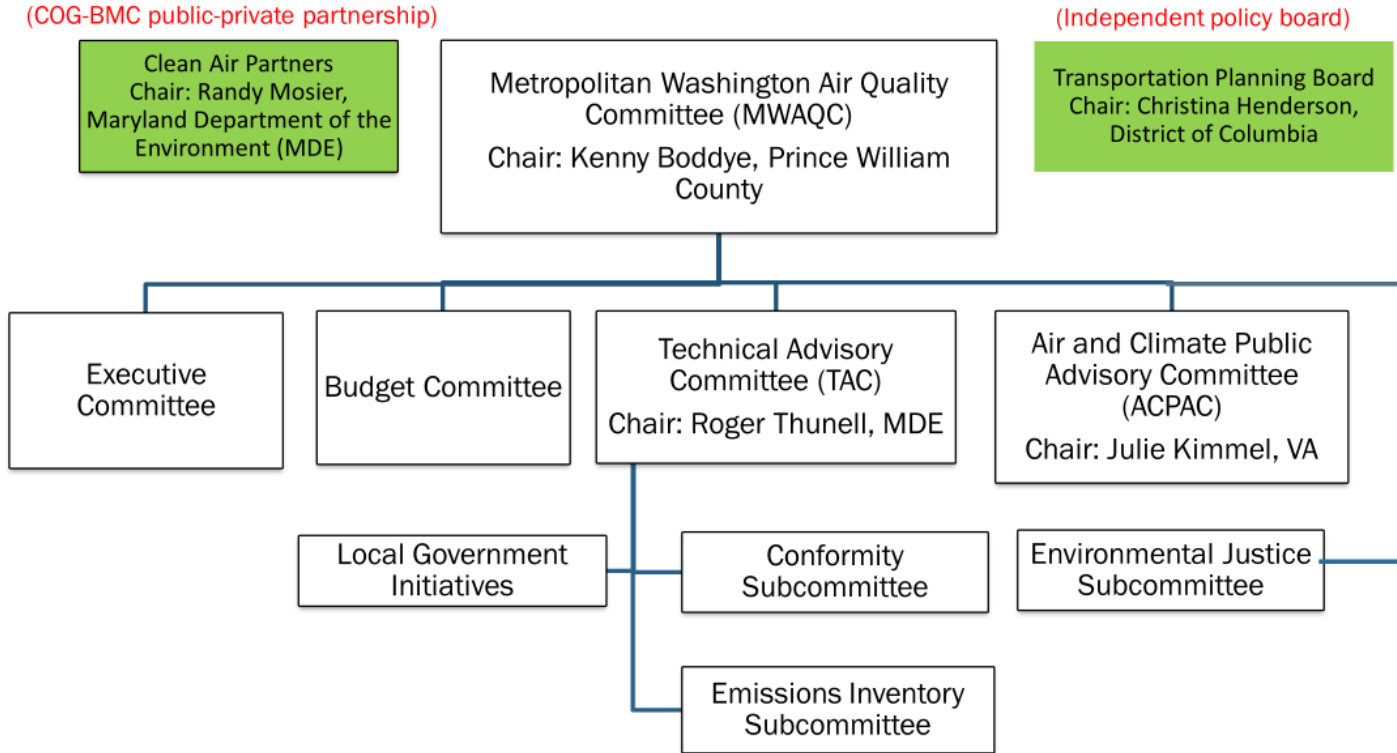
MWAQC Action Plan and Stakeholder Engagement

Project Kick-Off

May 22, 2024

Metropolitan Washington Air Quality Committee

MWAQC Organizational Structure



Agenda

Project Overview & Alignment

Project Execution Approach

Summary of Feedback from the
EJ Subcommittee

Input from MWAQC

Next Steps



Project Overview & Alignment

Project Overview and Goals

Develop an Action Plan to assist members on how to consider equity when implementing **air quality** policies, projects, and programs.

Stakeholder Engagement Goals

- Form partnerships, solicit feedback, and gather input
- Understand stakeholder groups' priorities, goals, potential concerns, and recommendations for integration of feedback into the Action Plan.

Action Plan Goals

Develop tiered priorities and action steps for achieving the goals, recommended performance metrics, and guidance for effectively tackling EJ-related issues in alignment with the MWAQC and EJ subcommittee.

Project Execution Approach

Scope of Work and Deliverables

1

Project Administration

- Project Kick-off
- Monthly check-in calls
- Stakeholder meetings

Deliverables

- Kick-off Slide Deck (D/F)
- Action Plan Technical Memo (D/F)
- Stakeholder and Sub-Committee meeting materials
- Invoices and progress reports

2

Stakeholder Engagement

- Engagement Planning - Mapping
- Preliminary outreach and engagement strategy
- Implementation of engagement activities
- Engagement report

Deliverables

- Up to 10 preliminary outreach calls
- 1 Digital information flyer
- 1 Engagement Report

3

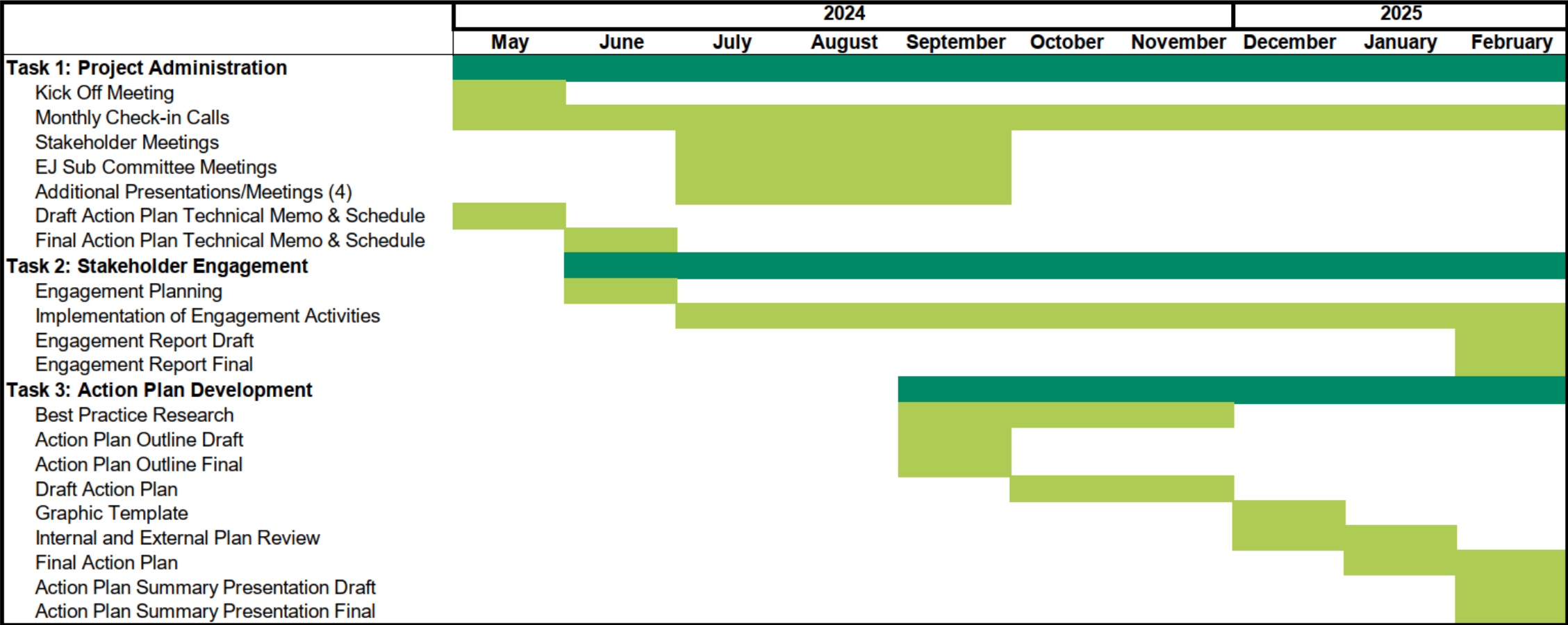
Action Plan Development

- Include stakeholder feedback
- Desktop research on best practices from peer examples
- Input from subject matter experts.

Deliverables

- Action Plan outline
- Draft Action Plan
- Final Action Plan
- Action Plan summary presentation

Timeline and Milestones



Technical Approach

- **Desktop Review**

- Existing air monitoring data and any health studies specific to the area
- Identifying any gaps in our understanding of air quality
- Point and mobile sources
- Air quality policies
- Environmental justice analysis & best practices
- Planned developments and impacts
- Climate change impacts to air quality

- **Stakeholder Engagement**

- Develop and document stakeholder outreach strategy
- Identify and prioritize impacted/interested stakeholders
- Outreach and Engage. Solicit recommendations and feedback for the Action Plan
- Ground truth our understanding of regional air quality, pollution sources, and air monitoring efforts

Stakeholders and Communication Plan

Stakeholder	Membership	Objective of involvement	Method of outreach	AECOM Scope
Metropolitan Washington Air Quality Committee (MWAQC)	44 Elected/appointed officials of COG jurisdictions <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Air management directors State Env. Agencies Transportation directors State General Assemblies Transportation Planning Board Chair Chair: Kenny Boddye (PWC Supervisor)	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> Air quality and maintenance planning Develop and maintain public participation and education Provides project oversight and final approval of the action plan. 	Outreach to occur during a regularly scheduled MWAQC meeting Others?	One (1-hr) meeting with MWAQC May 22
EJ Sub-Committee	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 5 Local Jurisdictions 3 State Agencies 2 Public Agencies (ACPAC) 	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> Lead the plan development and seek input from MWQAC, ACPAC, and external Stakeholders Provides updates to MWAQC 	1. Email Co-chairs	4 (1-hr) meetings
Air and Climate Public Advisory (ACPAC)	18 Members from MWCOG communities, industries, businesses, education, civic Chair: Julie Kimmel	Advise MWAQC and Climate, Energy, and Environment Policy Committee (CEEPC) on air quality, climate and energy issues	Outreach to occur during a regularly scheduled ACPAC meeting	One (1-hr) meeting with ACPAC
External Stakeholder	To be identified during stakeholder mapping/planning	Provide recommendations and feedback on air quality equity actions to include in the plan	To be determined	Up to 10 virtual / digital engagement events



**Summary of Feedback
from the
EJ Subcommittee**

Input from EJ Subcommittee

1. Remain focused on the air quality aspect of environmental justice.
2. Ensure stakeholder groups are re-engaged during the development of the action plan.
3. Refine plan of engagement between the EJ Subcommittee and MWAQC; consider space/time for public comment.
4. EJ Subcommittee provided the opportunity to recommend representative community stakeholders/groups that could be involved in the plan development.
5. EJ Subcommittee provided recommendations on how to expand the method of outreach to community groups to ensure engagement is achieved.

Input from MWAQC

Questions for input from MWAQC

1. At what milestones in the Action Plan development process would you prefer to be engaged?
2. Are there community stakeholders you'd recommend engaging?
3. Do you have recommendations on how to equitably engage partners impacted or interested in the MWAQC Action Plan?
 - What has worked?
 - What hasn't work?
4. Best sources for MWCOCG air quality data/forecasts/plans?
 - Does the MWCOCG Environment > Planning Areas > Air Quality Site contain the most recent data we should use to refine our strategy?

Next Steps

Next Steps

- Confirm Project Schedule
- Technical Memo Development
- Draft Stakeholder Engagement/Outreach Plan

Thank you.

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