

Summary of Climate-Related Activities of COG Committees Supporting CEEPC November 2012

Climate Energy and Environment Policy Committee Technical and Citizen Committees

Technical Committees

[Energy Advisory Committee](#)¹ (Jeff King and Leah Boggs | jking@mwkog.org and lboggs@mwkog.org)

- EAC met on October 18 and November 15.
- The October meeting covered Virginia energy activities, including the Virginia Energy Efficiency Council and the Governor's Conference on Energy; the new biofuels plant being constructed in NE DC by DC Biofuels; and energy conservation through submetering.
- The November meeting covered waste-to-energy issues, with presentations from DC Water on energy projects at Blue Plains, and from Prince William County on their landfill energy projects.
- The next meeting will be held on December 13.

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

- The EV Planning Initiative met on October 2. The meeting covered new resources on EV policy and best practices produced by the Transportation Climate Initiative; an overview of outreach activities being conducted by the Greater Washington Clean Cities Coalition; a review of changes to the EV report; a presentation on available EV adoption scenarios, and a discussion of next steps for the initiative.
- The next meeting will be held on November 27.

[Intergovernmental Green Building Group \(IGBG\)](#) (Leah Boggs | lboggs@mwkog.org)

- IGBG met on November 8th. The featured discussion was on Ecodistricts - what are they and how they help cities achieve sustainability goals. Presentations included the Southwest DC Ecodistrict, the Downtown DC Ecodistrict and the University of the District of Columbia's Sustainability Initiative. It is expected that this panel discussion will be revisited at CEEPC.
- IGBG meets bimonthly. The next meeting is January 10, 2013.

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

- The Recycling Committee will meet December 6 on Working with Property Managers.
- COG helped promote regional activities for America Recycles Day, which is November 15, and will hold a prize drawing in December based on recycling pledges.
- COG hosted a session on how to promote master composter training on September 24.
- The Organics Task Force met at COG on November 16.

Citizen Committee

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

- ACPAC met on October 15, 2012. ACPAC reviewed and provided comments on the Draft 2013-2016 CEEPC Action Plan and heard presentations on COG's Plastic Bag Report and on Green Procurement.
- The November ACPAC meeting was cancelled. The next ACPAC meeting will be December 10, 2012.

¹ Click on committee name to access the committee webpage and documents.

Supporting Technical and Policy Committees

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

- MWAQC met on September 27 and October 24.
- In September, topics discussed were a 2012 ozone season summary report (3 code red and 16 code orange days, fewer than last year despite higher temperatures); EPA's new greenhouse gas and fuel efficiency (CAFE) standards for light duty cars and trucks; a decision by the US Court of Appeals, DC Circuit to vacate the Transport Rule and retain the Clean Air Interstate Rule; the new transportation bill, "Moving Ahead for Progress in the 21st Century" (MAP-21); and the draft two-tiered emissions budgets agreed to by the transportation and air quality agency task force for the PM2.5 maintenance plan.
- At the October meeting, staff discussed how the region can take credit for energy efficiency and renewable energy projects in SIPs; the PM2.5 Redesignation Request & Maintenance Plan, which were approved by MWAQC for public comments. The final version of the two-tiered emissions budgets agreed to by the transportation and air quality agency task force for the PM2.5 maintenance plan was also discussed. Importance of controlling transported ozone into the Washington region was also discussed.
- The MWAQC Technical Advisory Committee met in October. The TAC discussed the PM2.5 Redesignation Request & Maintenance Plan. The final version of the two-tiered emissions budgets agreed to by the transportation and air quality agency task force for the PM2.5 maintenance plan was also discussed.

[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 gmliller@mwkog.org)

- The TPB met on October 17, 2012
- The TPB approved the draft call for projects and the schedule for the Air Quality Conformity Assessment for the 2013 CLRP and FY 2013-2018 TIP. The Board will be asked to approve the final document for distribution to state, regional, and local agencies.
- The TPB approved the scope of work for an additional air quality conformity analysis to respond to the EPA redesignation of the Washington Region under the 2008 Ozone National Air Quality Standards (NAAQS). This designation requires a new air quality conformation analysis of the 2012 Financially Constrained Long-Range Transportation Plan (CLRP) and FY 2013-2018 Transportation Improvement Program (TIP). The analysis must be completed before July 20, 2013.
- The TPB received briefings on the implementation of Capital Bikeshare, the "Street Smart" pedestrian and bicycle safety education campaign, and the COG report: "Charged Up: Making Metropolitan Washington Electric Vehicle Ready".
- The next meeting of the TPB is on November 28, 2012.

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

(Paul Desjardin/John Mataya | pdesjardin@mwkog.org / jmataya@mwkog.org)

- Over the past few months, COG's Executive Director and DCPS staff have delivered presentation to every city and county council/board in the region to introduce the updated Activity Centers map to local elected officials. Staff will seek final approval of the conceptual Activity Centers map from the COG Board at its January meeting.
- Earlier this fall, DCPS staff launched the first product based on the new Activity Centers map. The Activity Center Strategic Investment Plan will provide guidance to local governments, developers, philanthropic groups, and other stakeholders on how to target investments to enhance Activity Centers' livability and regional competitiveness. For the first phase of this project, DCPS staff and its project partners trained and deployed over 20 staff from local planning agencies to collect data on physical characteristics of Activity Centers throughout the region using an audit tool called the Irvine-Minnesota Inventory (IMI). DCPS is also collecting market data for each center. Together, the physical and market data collected through this phase will be used to classify Activity Centers into distinct typologies (or

place types), and to develop targeted recommendations for the type, timing, and scale of investments appropriate for centers in each typology.

Affiliated Partnerships

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

- Clean Air Partners launched its 2nd annual slogan contest. Students in grades 4-8 are invited to submit a creative slogan that brings to light the solutions to air pollution and inspires people to take actions to improve our region's air quality. The deadline for submissions is November 30, 2012.
- The Clean Air Partners website was refreshed to incorporate a new design and layout that highlights the Baltimore-Washington region.
- An air quality mobile app is under development and will be launched in early 2013.
- Staff participated in the NSA Bethesda's Fall 2012 Commuter Fair.

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

- September: Participated in an employee transportation fair at the World Bank in DC; Participated in a "Keep Tysons Moving" event; Held Car Free Day
- October: Participated in an employee transportation fair at Naval Support in Bethesda; Participated in an employee transportation fair at the DC Armory for the Army Readiness National Guard

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

- The workgroup is currently developing a strategy for developing short and long-term goals for regional tree canopy management based on the unique considerations of the Washington Metropolitan Area.
- An interim 'Primer' document is underway to provide a snapshot of regional tree canopy efforts and national 'Best Practices' in Urban Tree Canopy management.
- The next meeting will be held December 14, to continue strategizing on the above documents.

Other Committees

[Chief Purchasing Officers Committee](#) (Tom Savoie | tsavoie@mwkog.org)

- CPOC has elected a new Chair and Vice Chair. Chair of the committee starting a 2 year term in January 2013 will be Cathy Muse, Director of Procurement for Fairfax County, VA. Vice Chair will be Phil McGaughey Director of Purchasing, Montgomery County Public Schools.
- In January 2013 CPOC will seek to create an entity named Mid Atlantic Purchasing Team (MAPT) which will combine the DC metro area and the Baltimore Metro area in to one large Cooperative Purchasing entity.
- The next CPOC meeting will be held November 29, and will include presentations on Virginia's alternative fuel vehicle contract.

[Water Resources Technical Committee](#) (WRTC) (Tanya Spano | tspano@mwkog.org)

- The WRTC met on November 8th – among others, there was the USGS presentation on Nutrient loading to the local waterways in connection to climatological data (i.e. Tropical Storm Lee, 2011).
- A Workshop on Planning & Responses to Extreme Events will take place on Monday, December 17, 2012 here, at COG. This workshop focuses on water resource management in response to extreme weather events. This is a joint effort of NOAA, EPA, WERF, WaterRF, CTC, Noblis and co-sponsored by COG and DC Water. The participants will learn what worked and didn't in water/wastewater/ stormwater utilities' & local governments' responses to extreme climate and weather events in the National Capital region. The workshop will also help local, state, District and federal agencies and professional organizations

better understand local needs, identify emerging approaches to adaptation planning, and discuss current use of tools and knowledge – and related gaps.

- The next WRTC meeting will be held January 10, 2013. Proposed agenda topics will include updates on survey results regarding the use of “reuse” and related sustainability practices at area wastewater and drinking water facilities, as well as similar efforts to reuse stormwater..

[Chesapeake Bay and Water Resources Policy Committee](#) (Karl Berger | kberger@mwkog.org)

- CBPC Met on November 16th. The Committee received a briefing on water quality regulatory initiatives, and had a panel discussion on challenges and opportunities in maintaining the region’s water resources infrastructure.
- The next meeting will be held on January 18.