



AIR AND CLIMATE PUBLIC ADVISORY COMMITTEE (ACPAC)

January 22, 2024
5:30 P.M. – 7:30 P.M.

Webinar information provided to members via email.

Chair: Era Pandya

DRAFT TELECONFERENCE MEETING SUMMARY

ACPAC ATTENDEES: Julie Kimmel, William Marsh, James Wang, Jacqueline Norris, Peter Mecca, Mark Rodeffer, William Washburn, Herb Simmens, Stacey Garfinkle, Deborah Shprentz

ADDITIONAL ATTENDEES: Chris Tandy, Greg Farley, Ira Birnbaum, Jill Hamilton, Ra Amin, Ian Marcus, Meredith Karbowsky, Stephen Morel, Jaleel Shujath, Joyce Breiner, Jack Lyman, Katie McCaskey, Kara Saul Rinaldi, Kelly Collins Choi, [Redacted]

COG STAFF: Leah Boggs, Kelsey Boatwright, Alissa Boggs

5:35 P.M. 1. CALL TO ORDER, INTRODUCTIONS, MEETING SUMMARY APPROVAL AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

Julie Kimmel, Vice Chair

The meeting was called to order by Vice Chair, Julie Kimmel, in absence of the Committee Chair. Introductions were made by ACPAC members, COG staff, and new ACPAC applicants. The meeting had a quorum (10 members) and the November 2023 meeting summary was approved with no amendments.

Leah Boggs gives announcement about the 2024 recruitment campaign:

- Recruitment campaign for the five open seats on the committee ran from December 1 to January 15.
- Total of 21 interested applications received, with 10 from DC, 4 from MD, and 7 from VA.
- ACPAC serves as a citizen advisory committee, providing commentary and recommendations on work within COG's Climate, Energy, and Environment Policy Committee (CEEPC) and the Metropolitan Washington Air Quality Committee (MWAQC).
- ACPAC members include private citizens or residents of the DMV and nominated advocacy groups like the NAACP.
- Appointments will be made by the MWAQC in mid-February, with applicants notified by the end of February.

5:45 P.M. 2. ACPAC PRELIMINARY PRIORITIES

Julie Kimmel, Vice Chair

Leah Boggs, COG Staff

Leah Boggs provides presentation for preliminary priorities for the 2024 year.

Proposed Priorities for 2024:

- **Environmental Justice (EJ):** Priorities will continue to largely focus on EJ related work.
- **EJ Subcommittee:** Support the subcommittee as it develops an Action Plan to assist members on how to consider equity when implementing air quality policies, projects, and programs.
 - 3 ACPAC members will be appointed to serve on the Subcommittee
- **EJ Toolkit Update:** Note: This priority has already been approved. The 2017 EJ Toolkit will be updated in the 2024 year.
 - The Toolkit is a resource designed to inform members of the COG, stakeholders, and community at large to advocate for and implement EJ principles in the region
 - The update to the 2017 Toolkit to include new methods for outreach and community engagement strategies to best share information and resources to community members
 - To include examples of best-practices for engagement and communication
 - This update will be in concurrence with MWAQC's upcoming Action Plan – the two will be formulated separately but work in correlation with one another
- **2024 Climate and Energy leadership Awards Program:** Committee started this program back in 2014 to recognize government, non-government, and educational institution's efforts in addressing climate change through climate and energy programs and projects.
 - One award is given to each category for a total of 3 awards
 - Potential update to the program could include 2 awards per category and/or how to make the program more effective
- **Ozone Planning:** ACPAC continue to provide input to MWAQC's work in ozone planning

Discussion:

- Interest from members:
 - Committee recommendation to COG to increase regional long-term GHG reduction goal
 - Staff suggests ACPAC member writes up set of recommendations to put forth to the full committee.
 - Influence/support the Carbon Pollution Reduction Grant (CPRG) Program
 - Question on whether the committee considers the time value of carbon beyond 2030-2050 goals

6:15 P.M. 3. ENVIRONMENTAL JUSTICE SUBCOMMITTEE UPDATE AND ACPAC APPOINTMENTS

Julie Kimmel, Vice Chair

Leah Boggs, COG Staff

Leah Boggs provides update to the EJ Subcommittee and ACPAC appointments.

Background: Last March, ACPAC presented the proposed EJ Toolkit update to CEEPC and MWAQC. In September, MWAQC voted to develop a subcommittee to oversee development of Action Plan and EJ Toolkit update.

MWAQC EJ Subcommittee:

- Subcommittee tasked with developing an Environmental Justice (EJ) Action Plan to consider equity in air quality policies, projects, and programs.
- Primary staff managing the subcommittee's work is Robert Christopher.
- ACPAC and MWAQC members were asked to express interest in the EJ Subcommittee in December.
- Membership to include around 11 members total: 5 MWAQC members (1 from DC, 2 from MD, 2 from VA), 1 member from each state air agency, and 3 ACPAC members.

- Also expect to include some external stakeholders on the Subcommittee.
- Subcommittee slate to be presented to MWAQC Executive Committee on the 14th and the full committee on the 28th.

Task Order:

- Task order issued to secure consultants for MWAQC’s EJ Action Plan and APCAC’s updated EJ toolkit.
- Toolkit and action plan seen as complementary products.
- Consultants allowed to respond to one or all three projects.
- Task order released on Jan. 18 with a due date of Feb. 14.
- Each project will have a Technical Selection Committee (TSC), potentially including ACPAC members for the toolkit and EJ Action Plan.
- Consultant selection expected by the end of March for project commencement.

Vice Chair Julie Kimmel announces the three ACPAC members appointed to serve on the EJ Subcommittee are William Washburn from DC (NAACP representative), Reverend Norris from Maryland, and Julie Kimmel from Virginia.

6:35 P.M. 4. HYPERLOCAL/COMMUNITY MONITORING PANEL

Chris Tandy, Loudoun Climate Project

Chris Tandy provides an overview of the Loudoun Climate Project and briefs members on how the data gathered informs and educates residents about the quality of the air in their backyards.

Key Points:

- The Loudoun Climate Project is utilizing air quality sensors and mobile monitoring to gather air quality data at the neighborhood level.
- Discussion of how the project performs air quality monitoring and data analysis.
- Covered accessing data, Air Quality Index (AQI), and monitor installation.
- Highlighted importance of geographic diversity in monitoring.
- Showcased charts depicting air quality trends, especially during events like forest fires.
- Emphasized need for data analysts for further analysis.

Discussion:

- Different effects of aerosols in cooling and warming climate
- Negative effects of bunker fuel

7:00 P.M. 5. ELECTION OF 2024 OFFICERS

Nominating Subcommittee

ACPAC Members

ACPAC’s New Officers Nominating Subcommittee present the slate of nominees for the Chair and Vice Chair positions for the 2024 year. Members hold a vote to elect the officers from the slate of nominees.

Appointment of Chair and Vice Chair Positions

- The Nominating subcommittee, comprising three ACPAC members from Maryland, DC, and Virginia, was tasked with developing list of nominees.
 - The Chair, in consultation with the Vice Chair, tasked with selecting the subcommittee members.
 - The nominees may not have served prior and could not result in over 1 representative from each jurisdiction.

- Subcommittee chose Julie Kimmel (VA) and William Marsh (VA) as nominations for Chair.
- Subcommittee chose Mark Rodeffer (DC) and Bill Washburn (DC) as nominations for Vice Chair.

7:20 p.m. Appointment: Members vote to select new Chair and Vice Chair.

Members hold virtual vote for new chair and vice chair elections. Julie Kimmel elected as new Chair and Bill Washburn elected as new Vice Chair.

7:30 P.M. 6. NEXT ACPAC MEETING AND ADJOURN

New Chair Julie Kimmel adjourns the meeting.

- **2024 Meeting schedule** (*Virtual meeting only):
March 18, 2024*
May 20, 2024*
July 15, 2024*
September 16, 2024 (Potential hybrid meeting)
November 18, 2024*

Meeting Documents:

<https://www.mwco.org/events/2024/1/22/air-and-climate-policy-advisory-committee/>

Reasonable accommodations are provided upon request, including alternative formats of meeting materials.
Visit www.mwco.org/accommodations or call (202) 962-3300 or (202) 962-3213 (TDD).

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