

METROPOLITAN WASHINGTON CLIMATE AND ENERGY EQUITY PLANNING

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April 28, 2022

Environmental Justice Toolkit, 2017

Guidance to policymakers on incorporating social equity, cultural sensitivity, and community health considerations into air quality, climate, and energy planning:

- **Approach #1:** Identifying Potentially Vulnerable Populations
- **Approach #2:** Providing Meaningful Engagement Opportunities
- **Approach #3:** Assessing Community Impacts and Needs
- **Approach #4:** Developing Metrics
- **Approach #5:** Providing Data, Information, and Resources for Communities
- **Approach #6:** Using Citizen Science
- **Approach #7:** Developing Community Leadership
- **Approach #8:** Supporting Economic and Workforce Development
- **Approach #9:** Mainstreaming Environmental Justice into Public Planning and Programs

<https://www.mwcog.org/documents/2017/07/27/environmental-justice-toolkit/>

Climate and Energy Leadership Awards



<https://www.mwcog.org/climateawards>

Climate Collaborative Guiding Principles

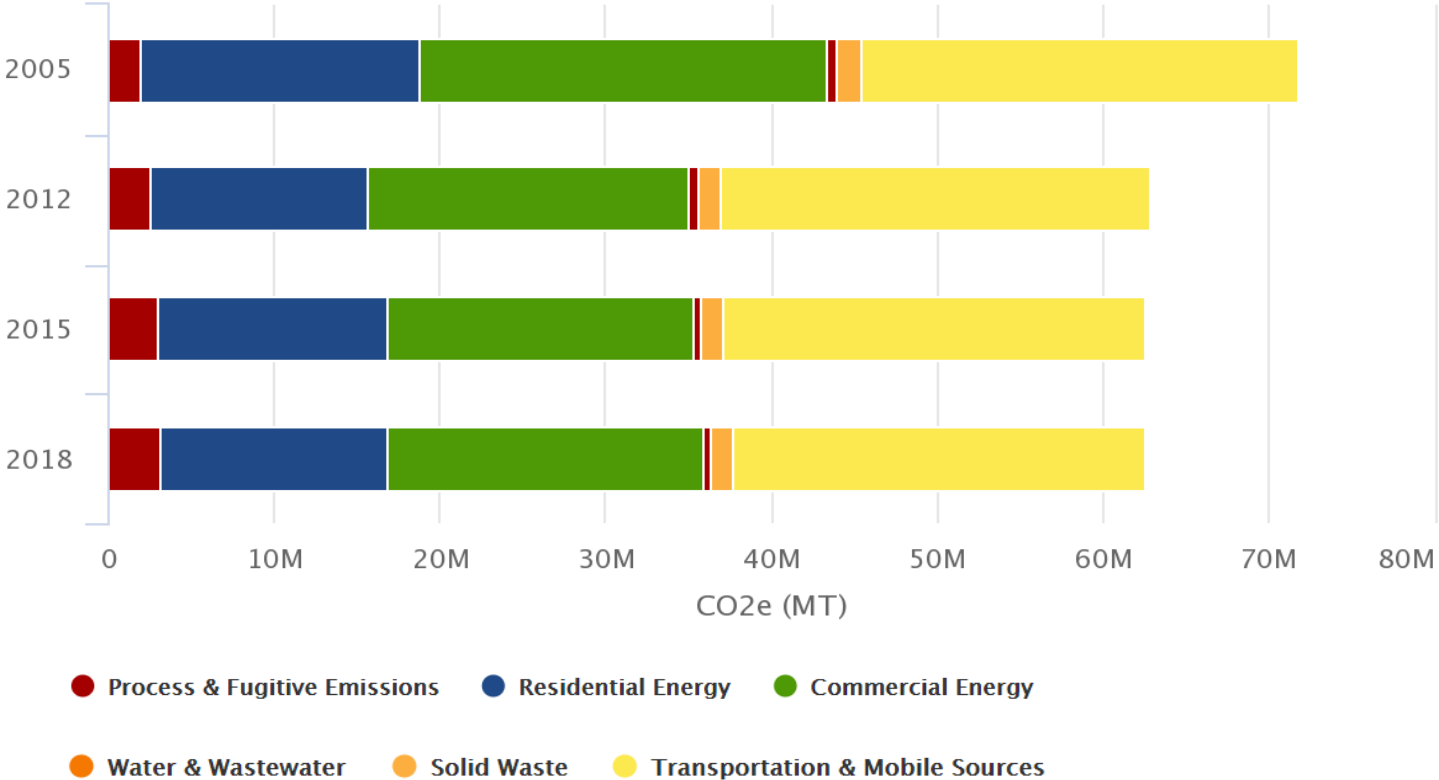
Principle	Description
1. Collective Action	We will continue to work together to leverage our impact and facilitate application at scale.
2. Effective Partnerships	We will continue to share best practices, learn together, and coordinate on implementation to advance regional transformation.
3. Lead by Example	We have a continued commitment to internal implementation of long-term solutions to reduce the climate impacts of our operations.
4. Integration	We understand climate action is inherently multidisciplinary and will promote cross-department coordination, including in areas such as equity, health, and economic development.
5. Flexibility	We understand the need for flexibility in how our public agencies and stakeholders across the DC, MD, and VA work to achieve regional GHG goals.
6. Transparency	We will continue to measure and report progress in a manner easily understandable by all.
7. Innovation	We support a just transition to a clean energy economy through the application of innovative technology, policies, and processes by public and private sectors.
8. Community Leadership	We will continue to educate, motivate, and empower action from our community's institutions, businesses, non-profits, and residents.
9. Inclusive Engagement	We commit to inclusive community engagement and equitable provision of climate and energy programs and services.
10. Advocacy	We will continue to support state and federal policies and programs that protect the human and environment health of our communities.

2030 Regional Climate and Energy Action Plan Elements

Element	Description
1. Greenhouse Gases	Summary of regional GHG inventory trends from 2005 – 2018, business-as-usual (BAU) GHG emission projections through 2030, and technical scenario showing what it will take for the region to reach GHG reductions of 50% below 2005 levels by 2030.
2. Climate Mitigation Strategy	Priority collaborative mitigation actions to move the region toward achieving the GHG emission reduction goal of 50% by 2030, below 2005 levels. Climate action areas include Planning, Equity, Clean Electricity, Zero Energy Buildings, Zero Emission Vehicles, Mode Shift and Travel Behavior, Zero Waste, and Sequestration.
3. Climate Risks and Vulnerabilities	Summary of the Regional Climate, Risk and Vulnerability Assessment (CRVA). Evaluates climate hazards: extreme heat, drought, lightning and thunderstorms, flash and riverine flooding, coastal flooding and extreme winter conditions.
4. Climate Resilience Strategy	CEEPC’s priority collaborative climate resilience actions to move the region toward achieving the goal of becoming a Climate-Ready Region and making significant progress to be a Climate Resilient Region by 2030. The action areas include Planning, Equity, and Resilient Infrastructure.

Regional GHG Mitigation Goals

- 13% Reduction in GHGs across region, 2005 - 2018



Source: ClearPath output

Note: ClearPath is an online greenhouse gas inventory tool. ClearPath is a product of ICLEI - Local Governments for Sustainability.

Risk Levels and Adaptive Capacity

Degree of Challenge

Hazard	Probability	Consequence	Risk
Extreme Heat	3	3	9
Drought	2	3	6
Flooding (Flash and Riverine)	3	3	9
Coastal Flooding	3	2	6
Lightning/Thunderstorm	3	2	6
Extreme Winter Conditions	2	3	6

Factor	Degree of Challenge
Infrastructure Conditions/Maintenance	High
Access to Basic Services	Moderate
Access to Healthcare	Moderate
Public Health	Moderate
Housing	Moderate
Poverty	Moderate
Community Engagement	Moderate
Environmental Conditions	Moderate
Economic Health	Low

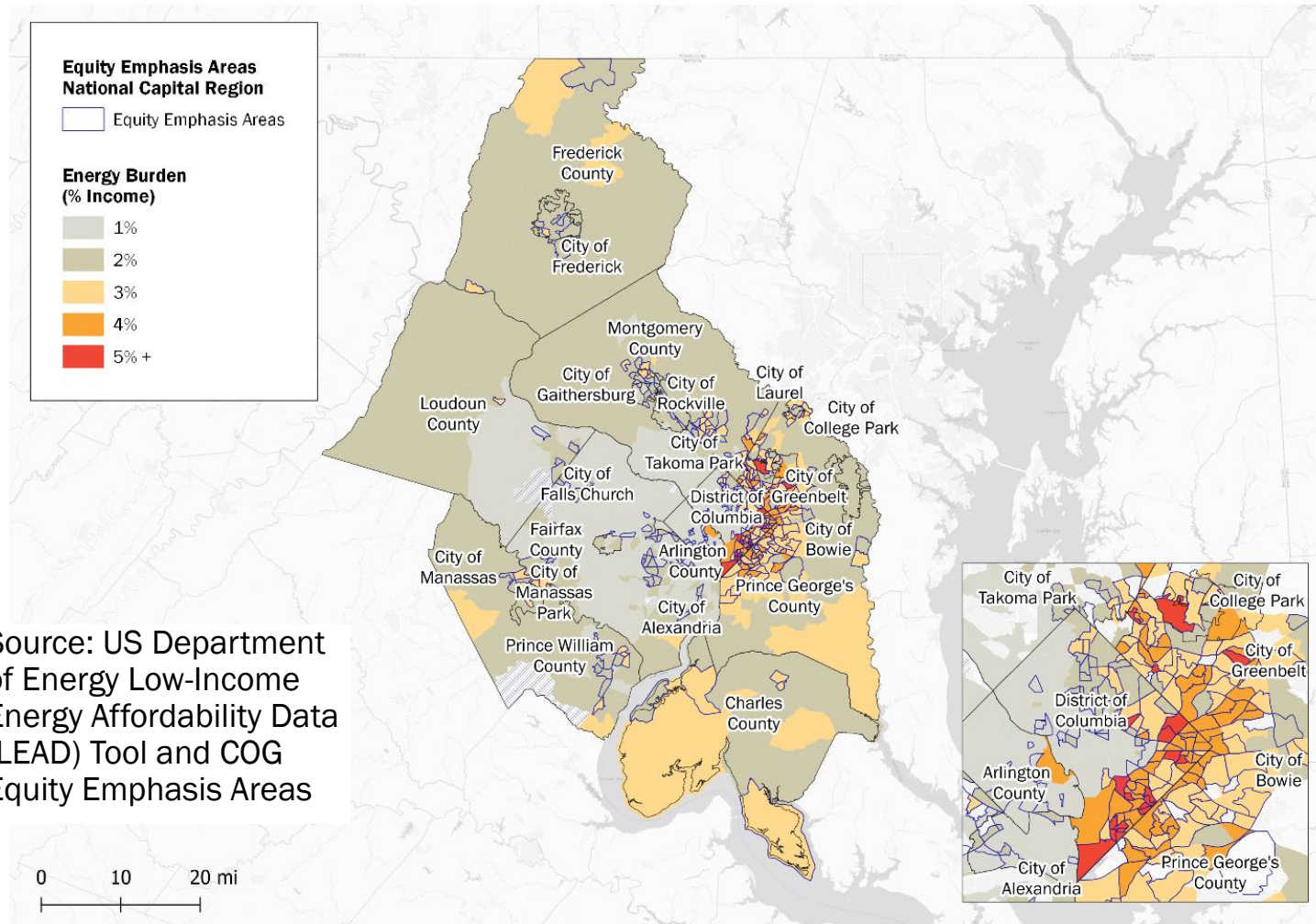


Potentially Vulnerable Populations

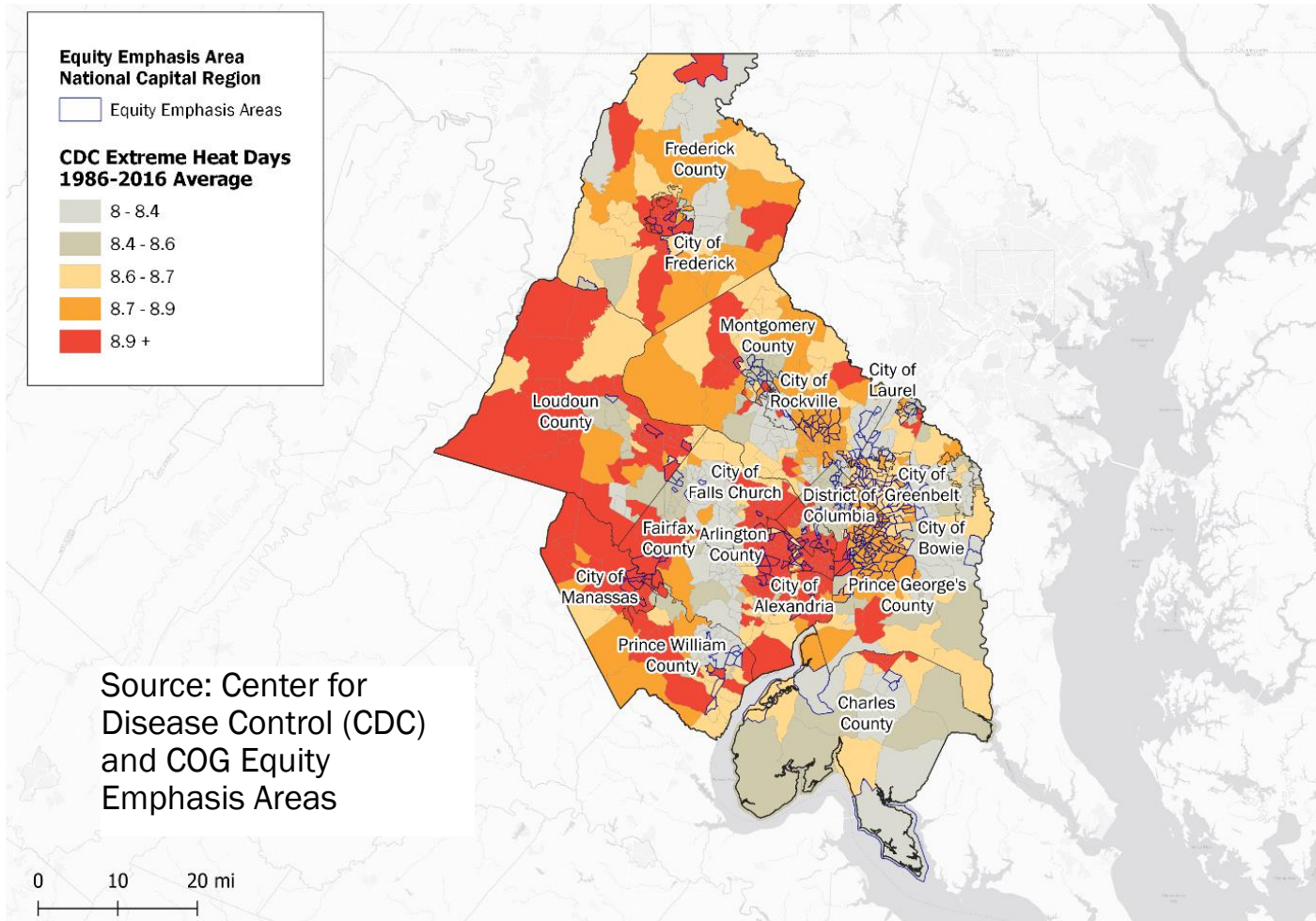
Potentially vulnerable populations may include:

- Low-income
- Minority
- Marginalized groups
- Women and girls
- Persons in sub-standard housing
- People with limited English proficiency
- The elderly
- Children
- People with chronic health problems
- Disabled persons

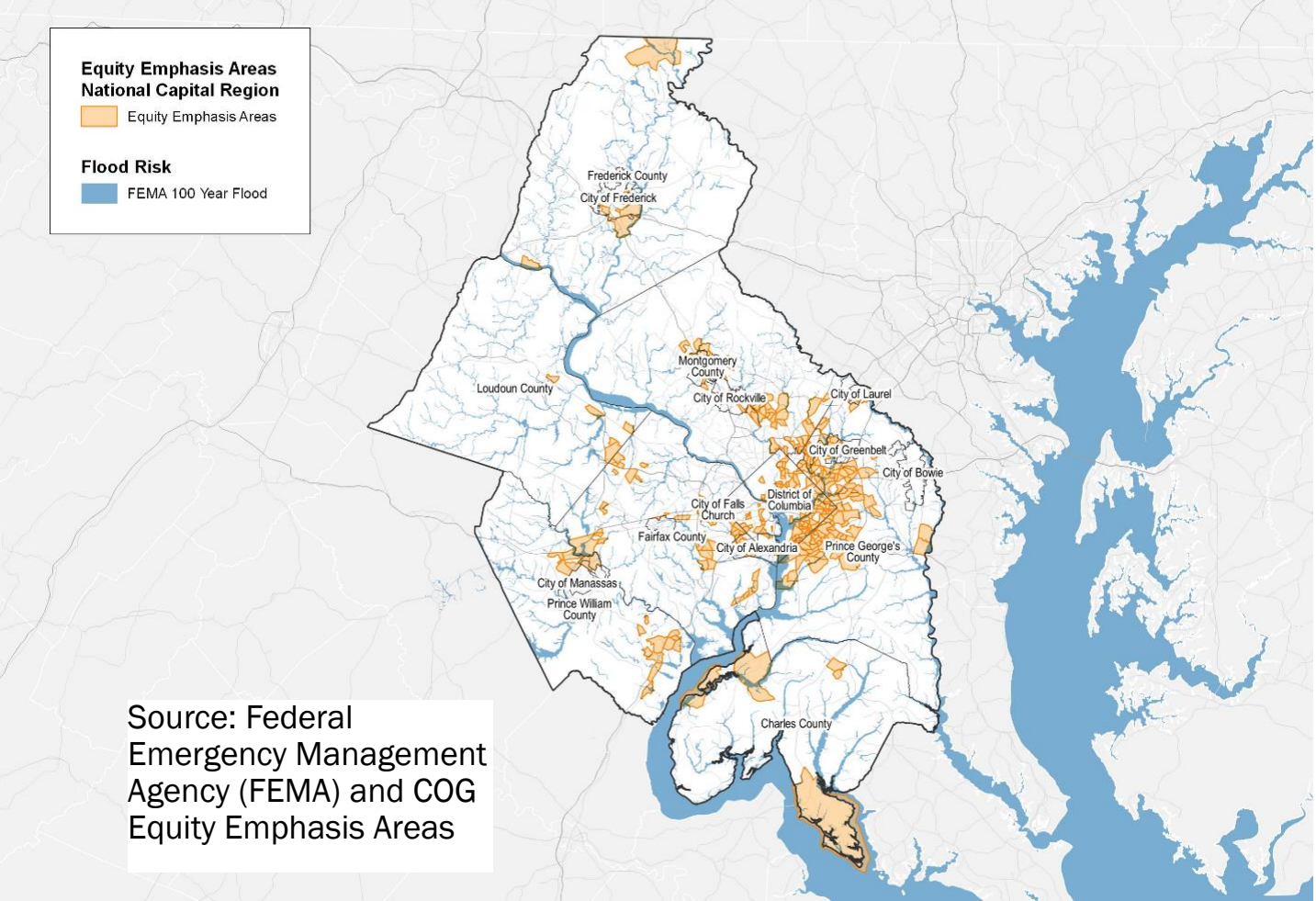
Equity Emphasis Areas (EEAs) and Energy Burden



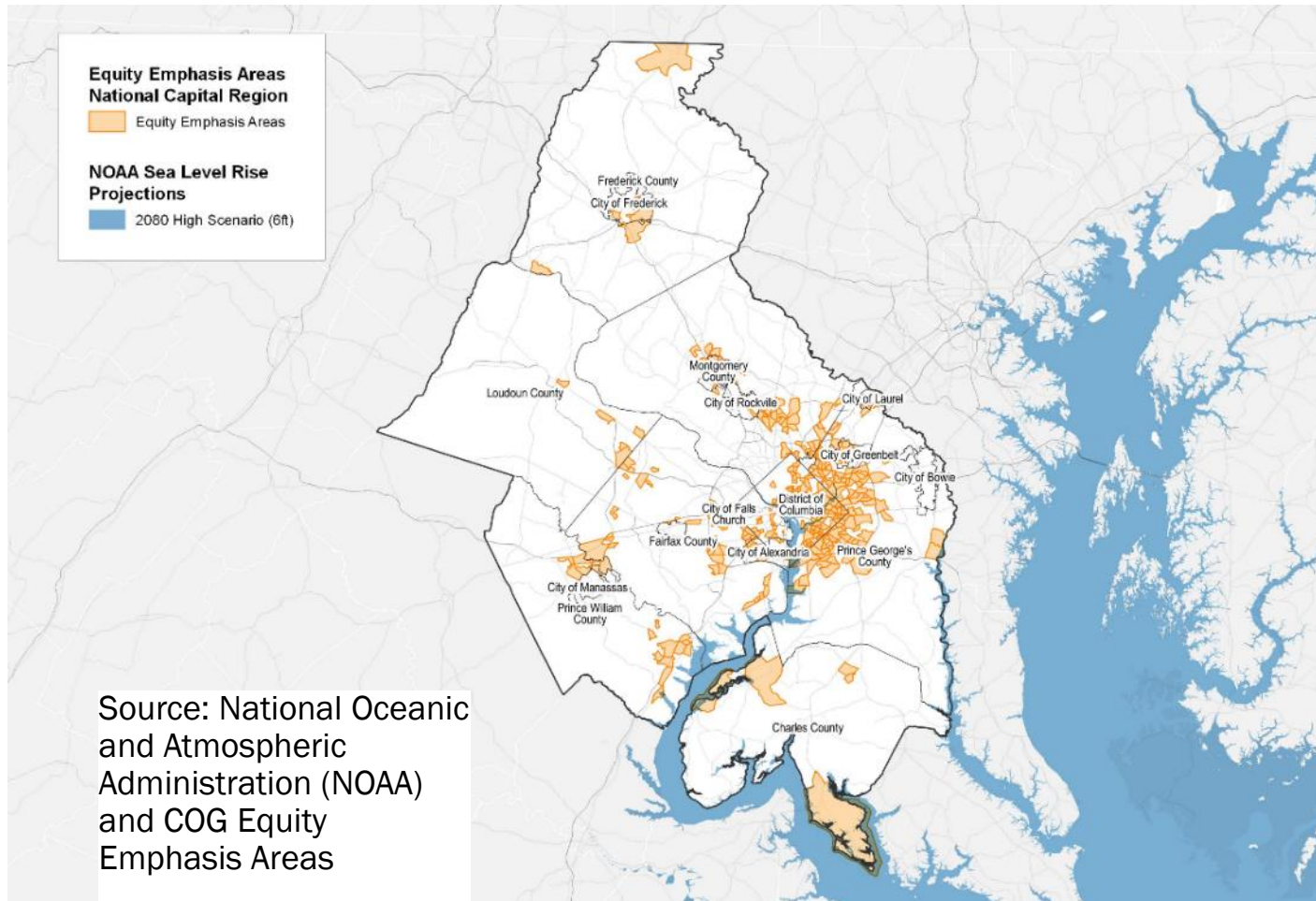
EEAs and Extreme Heat



EEAs and Flash/Riverine Flooding



EEAs and Sea Level Rise



Climate Actions and Equity

- Climate and Energy Action Plan outlines 35 collaborative actions (25 mitigation + 10 resilience) for area governments and partners.
- Climate Action Area = Equity
 - Enable Equitable Planning Practices
 - Prioritize Sustainable Energy Access for All
 - Support Equitable Secure Energy Access
 - Support Engagement of the Public on Climate Risks, with a Particular Emphasis on Potentially Vulnerable Populations
- Equity is woven throughout all the climate actions and equity co-benefits were identified. Examples:
 - Support Establishment of Resilience Hubs
 - Implement Measures to Equitably Address Urban Heat Island

<https://www.mwcog.org/documents/2020/11/18/metropolitan-washington-2030-climate-and-energy-action-plan/>

To Be Continued....

1. Ask every CEEPC speaker, no matter the topic to address equity
2. Support equity planning in local climate plan development
3. Equity-focused Climate and Energy Leadership Awards
4. Continue to apply for grants that provide benefits for EEA communities
5. Energy Equity is a 2022 priority for the Built Environment and Energy Advisory Committee (BEEAC)

Leveraging EEAs in Planning

Equitable Access + Equitable Outcomes

1. Potential EEA mapping to support Equitable Access potential examples:
 - EV charging station (EVSE) and EEA mapping and needs assessment
 - Urban Heat Island (UHI) and EEA mapping to broadly identify priority communities for UHI mitigation strategies
 - Identify priority Resilient Hub locations in climate impacted EEAs
2. Advocacy and implementation to support equitable outcomes potential examples:
 - EVSE deployment in EEAs
 - Targeted tree planting and maintenance programs in EEAs
 - Leverage MEA Resilient Hub funding to help establish hubs in EEAs



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