

**MWAQC Environmental Justice Subcommittee  
Public Comment Overview  
(updated as of July 15, 2024)**

**Running List of Commenters (alphabetical order)**

#	Commentor	Position	Notes
1	Anthony David, Jr.	Community Organizer	Empower DC
2	Catherine O'Donnell	Academic	Letter represents 20 members of GWU Climate and Health Institute (CHI)
3	Elaine Friebele	Public	
4	Elizabeth Espisito	Public	
5	George (Tad) Aburn	Public/Professional Advisor	EJAT
6	John Rebstock	Public	
7	Julia Mosley	Public	EJAT
8	Karen Moe	Public	EJAT, Cheverly Green Infrastructure Committee
9	Hon. Kayce Simmons Munyeneh	Elected Official	Mayor, Town of Cheverly
10	Laila Riazi	Public	EJAT, Cheverly Green Infrastructure Committee
11	LaTricea Adams	Public	White House Environmental Justice Advisory Council Appointee, President, Gifted and Green
12	Hon. Micah Watson	Elected Official	Cheverly Town Council, EJAT
13	Nicky Lambert	Public	
14	Norm Oslick	Public	
15	Ray Mosley	Public	EJAT
16	Rebekah Whilden	Advocacy Organization	Sierra Club
17	Russ Dickerson	Academic	UMD
18	Shizuka Hsieh	Academic	Trinity
19	Susan Schmidt	Public	
20	Tene Lewis	Public	
21	Vivek Ravichandran	Academic	
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Line #	Comment	Single/ Multiple	Initial Response	Further Action	Notes
1	<b>General</b>				
2	Support the comments submitted by the Environmental Justice Action Team (EJAT)	M	Acknowledged		
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4	<b>Public Engagement</b>				
5	Should include significant public participation	M	Agreed		
6	There should be public comment at each MWAQC and EJ Subcommittee Meeting	M	Agreed		
7	ACPAC should include public comments	S	Discretion of ACPAC Chair		
8	The subcommittee should have a summary of all comments received, and should recognize the number and types of commenters, including from the public, advocacy organizations, community organizations, and academic institutions	S	Staff has developed a public comment tracking process and will keep up-to-date and share		
9	The subcommittee should ask staff to provide a briefing on all comments received	S	Public comment overview will be updated and shared		
10	Individuals and organizations that provided public comment should be included in a distribution list to receive meeting notices	S	Agreed, process to be improved		
11	Meeting notices should be provided to the public, with information on how to provide comment, at least 2 weeks in advance	S	Agreed, process to be improved		
12	The public engagement plan needs to be revised to embrace the extensive existing efforts that have already been made.	S	Agreed, efforts will be made to engage with existing efforts to learn and document as appropriate		
13	The public engagement plan also needs to be revised to be consistent with MWAQC's goals and to not create public expectations that can not be fulfilled	S	Comment acknowledged, to be considered		
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15	<b>Air Monitoring</b>				
16	Create a regional community monitoring support center	M	Comment acknowledged, to be considered		
17	Build community-based, hyper-local air monitoring networks in EJ communities across the region	M	Comment acknowledged, to be considered		
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20	<b>Emission Sources</b>				
21	Plan should address diesel emissions	M	Comment acknowledged, to be considered		
22	Plan should focus on hotspots	M	Comment acknowledged, to be considered		
23	Plan should address highway traffic	M	Comment acknowledged, to be considered		
24	Address idling	S	Comment acknowledged, to be considered		
25	Address demolition, concrete batching	S	Comment acknowledged, to be considered		
26	Address truck traffic	M	Comment acknowledged, to be considered		
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29	<b>Air Pollutants</b>				
30	Address metals and toxics	M	Comment acknowledged, to be considered		
31	Address black carbon	M	Comment acknowledged, to be considered		
32	Include VOCs and PM10	M	Comment acknowledged, to be considered		
33	Address dust	M	Comment acknowledged, to be considered		
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37	<b>Risk</b>				
38	Air pollution (including black carbon) levels around Ivy City and Cheverly are alarming	M	Acknowledged		
39	Problem is real, very serious, and needs to be addressed quickly	M	Acknowledged		
40	Real people, often children, often people of color, are breathing toxic air every day	S	Acknowledged		
41	Air pollution in EJ communities is now well documented to be very very unhealthy	M	Acknowledged		
42	The intolerable exposure to air pollution in communities of color throughout the DC region demands immediate attention	M	Acknowledged		
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46	<b>Plan</b>				
47	Don't start from scratch, utilize knowledge and expertise of existing networks and local efforts	M	Comment acknowledged, to be considered		

48	Plan should use EJ Screen and other tools; support should be grounded in the Justice40 framework scaled down to the local level	M	Comment acknowledged, to be considered		
49	Plan should include for use of data to assist with targeted enforcement	S	Comment acknowledged, to be considered		
50	Include pressure on governments agencies to work toward emission reductions	S	Comment acknowledged, to be considered		
51	Solicit support of local universities, accept offers of support	M	Comment acknowledged, to be considered		
52	Plan should be enforced. Establish forms of accountability to ensure that the plan results in meaningful progress for overburdened communities.	M	Comment acknowledged, to be considered		
53	The Plan must be very action oriented and include real, immediate emission reductions, deadlines and meaningful progress benchmarks focused on reducing emissions and health risk in EJ communities	M	Comment acknowledged, to be considered		
54	The Metropolitan Washington Air Quality Committee's soon to be adopted and implemented plan to require state, local and regional members to reduce excessive air pollution in communities like ours needs to be: very aggressive, focus on real actions to immediately reduce air pollution in overburdened communities, Include deadlines and procedures to measure and communicate real progress in reducing air pollution, and establish procedures to ensure that the history of government dumping more and more high emitting, dirty businesses and roads into communities like ours is no longer allowed	M	Comment acknowledged, to be considered		
55	A fluffy, feel-good guide or toolkit is unacceptable	S	Comment acknowledged, to be considered		
56	Speed up the process of developing an EJ Action Plan	M	Comment acknowledged, to be considered		
57	MWAQC should use the DC Council's Environmental Justice Amendment Act of 2023 as one of the key building blocks for the regional MWAQC action plan	S	Comment acknowledged, to be considered		
58	MWAQC should establish an Environmental Justice Advisory Group that is composed of community members and relevant stakeholders across MWCOG	S	Comment acknowledged, to be considered		
59	Consider cumulative impact assessments	S	Comment acknowledged, to be considered		
60	Consider co-generation of environmental justice goals and aims with community members	S	Comment acknowledged, to be considered		
61	Consider community engagement in accountability processes	S	Comment acknowledged, to be considered		
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63	<b>General Comments on Plan and Program</b>				
64	Enhanced implementation or enforcement effort, as demonstrated in the MDE EJ partnership in Prince George's County, and now the actual data from the community monitoring network, can significantly reduce public health risk immediately	M	Acknowledged		
65	MWAQC and MWCOG plans and policies have unintentionally created air pollution hotspots in EJ areas	S	Acknowledged		
66	Offer of technical support	M	Acknowledged		
67	General Support for development of EJ Action Plan	N	Acknowledged		
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70	<b>Measures</b>				
71	Encourage adoption of electric trucks (including garbage)	S	Comment acknowledged, to be considered		
72	Avoid gasoline infrastructure for new vehicle depots	S	Comment acknowledged, to be considered		
73	Existing control measures in the MWAQC and State SIPs, for problems like diesel exhaust, toxic fugitive dust and poorly controlled stationary sources, should be implemented more aggressively in overburdened, EJ communities by MWAQC and MWAQC members immediately	S	Comment acknowledged, to be considered		
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76	<b>Permits</b>				
77	Don't allow unpermitted sources to continue operation	S	Comment acknowledged, to be considered		
78	Permits should include mitigation plans	S	Comment acknowledged, to be considered		
79	Need timely permitting	S	Comment acknowledged, to be considered		
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