

2009-2012 Regional Climate Action Workplan		Target Date for Completion													Emission Impact	
Recommendations	Performance Measures	Responsible Parties	2009	2010			2011			2012						
			4th	1st	2nd	3rd	4th	1st	2nd	3rd	4th	1st	2nd	3rd		4th
I. Regional Greenhouse Gas Reduction Goals/Plans																
1.	2012: Reduce 10% below 2012 Business-as-Usual															
	<i>a) Reduce emissions of greenhouse gases in the region by 10% below projected business-as-usual levels by 2012 (i.e., return to 2005 levels).</i>	Local Governments, COG, Community (Business and Individuals)													X	Yes
	<i>b) COG prepares progress report with annual updates on meeting the 2012 goal.</i>	COG			X				X				X			
	<i>c) 100% of jurisdictions prepare government and community wide greenhouse gas inventories.</i>	Local Governments								X						
	<i>d) 100% of jurisdictions prepare plan to reduce greenhouse gas emissions from government operations, including adopting a reduction target.</i>	Local Governments										X				Yes
	<i>e) 50% of jurisdictions prepare community-wide plans to reduce greenhouse gas emissions.</i>	Local Governments										X				Yes
2.	2020: Reduce 20% below 2005															
3.	2050: Reduce 80% below 2005															
II. Energy																
Local/Regional Strategies for Government and Business																
A. Improve Energy Efficiency in Buildings																
1.	Implement COG Green Building Policy															
	<i>a) 100% of jurisdictions adopt and implement COG Green Building Policy requiring all new public-sector buildings to achieve LEED Silver levels and all private-sector commercial buildings to meet a regional LEED-certified plus standard or equivalent.</i>	Local Governments, IGBG, USGBC						X								Yes
	<i>b) Intergovernmental Green Building Group (IGBG) proposes COG Green Building Policy Recommendations for schools and residential buildings.</i>	IGBG			X											
2.	Set energy performance goals for govt buildings, new and existing															
	<i>a) 80% of jurisdictions benchmark energy performance in all government buildings.</i>	Local Governments											X			
3.	Identify best practices to reduce local govt energy use by 15% by 2012															
	<i>a) 100% of jurisdictions reduce energy use by 10% below business-as-usual by 2012.</i>	Local Governments													X	Yes
	<i>b) 100% of jurisdictions submit data to COG regarding energy efficiency program implementation.</i>	Local Governments, COG		X				X				X				
4.	Develop incentives for retrofitting existing buildings, commercial and residential															
	<i>a) 60% of jurisdictions have programs in place to support home energy retrofits, such as financing incentives, grants, or technical assistance.</i>	Local Governments, State Energy Offices, Weatherization Programs, Maryland Clean Energy Center, COG										X				Yes

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	<i>b) All three states standardize training and certification of auditors and contractors, facilitating reciprocity across the region.</i>	State Energy Offices, Weatherization Programs, Community Colleges. Building Performance Institute, RESNET			X											
	<i>c) 35% of jurisdictions develop and implement Home Energy Loan Programs.</i>	Local Governments, COG, Maryland Clean Energy Center, State Energy Offices, Private Sector										X				Yes
	<i>d) COG prepares a feasibility study on a regional financing option to support Home Energy Loan Program.</i>	COG				X										
	<i>e) 10,000 homes retrofitted annually to achieve a 5-10 percent energy saving.</i>	Community					X					X			X	Yes
	<i>f) 500-1000 homes retrofitted annually to achieve a 10-30 percent energy saving.</i>	Community					X					X			X	Yes
	<i>g) 50% of jurisdictions have commercial building energy usage benchmarking requirements.</i>	Local Governments													X	
	<i>h) 250 buildings retrofitted annually to achieve a 5-10 percent energy savings.</i>	Community					X					X			X	Yes
	<i>i) 100 buildings retrofitted annually to achieve a 10-30 percent energy savings.</i>	Community					X					X			X	Yes
	5. Develop affordable energy efficiency programs for homeowners and businesses															
	6. Promote use of energy efficient appliances															
	<i>a) 30% of jurisdictions implement incentive programs to encourage purchase of new energy efficient appliances.</i>	State and Local Governments, Utilities									X					Yes
	7. Revise state and local building codes to promote energy efficiency															
	8. Develop green affordable housing policies/programs															
	9. Identify best practices for improving efficiency for public and private buildings															
	B. Reduce Demand for Energy															
	1. Partner with electric, gas and water utilities on regional energy conservation															
	2. Expand recycling programs															
	3. Reduce energy use at area water and wastewater treatment plants and landfills															
	4. Promote energy efficient streetlights across the region															
	<i>a) 60% of jurisdictions implement a program to replace older street lights with new more efficient technology.</i>	Local Governments, COG, Clinton Climate Foundation, Utilities, Vendors												X		Yes
	5. Promote regional energy performance contracting and cooperative purchasing															
	6. Explore opportunities to remove the disincentive for utilities to invest in energy conservation															

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C. Promote Clean Energy Sources																
	1. Adopt a goal of 20 percent renewable energy purchase by local governments by 2015															
	a) 100% of jurisdictions purchase or consume 10 percent renewable energy by 2012.	Local Governments, Power Purchase Groups, COG, Utilities, Green Power Providers											X			Yes
	b) 50% of jurisdictions assist or incentivize consumer purchase of renewable energy, such as Clean Energy Rewards Program.	Local Governments											X			
	c) 25% of consumers purchase renewable energy.	Consumers, Utilities, Green Power Providers													X	Yes
	2. Evaluate regional cooperative purchase to meet the 20% renewable purchase goal															
	3. Examine options for removing barriers to implementing renewable energy, e.g., solar panels															
	a) 75% of jurisdictions prepare plans, employ incentives, and implement government projects to increase deployment of renewable energy technology.	Local Governments											X			Yes
	b) All state and local jurisdictions remove barriers to implementing renewable energy by the private sector, e.g., solar panels.	Federal, State, and Local Government													X	
	4. Explore the possibility of implementing a community energy planning process in the region															
	a) Northern Virginia Regional Commission completes pilot community energy planning process in Northern Virginia.	NVRC, Local Government					X									
	5. Develop a regional inventory of renewable energy capacity and production, including solar, geothermal, district heating/cooling, wind, and biofuels															
D. Reduce Non-CO ₂ Greenhouse Gas Emissions																
	1. Best practices to reduce methane and biosolids from wastewater treatment facilities															
	a) 100% of wastewater facilities identify and implement best practices to reduce methane and biosolids from wastewater treatment facilities. Evaluate the potential for reducing greenhouse gas emissions through methane recapture.	Wastewater Utilities, Water Resources Technical Committee											X			Yes
	2. Adopt industry standard protocols to quantify greenhouse gas emissions and reductions for water and wastewater utilities															
III. Transportation and Land Use																
Local and Regional Strategies for Government and Business																
A. Increase Fuel Efficiency and Use of Clean Fuel Vehicles																
	1. Promote clean fuel vehicles (cars, trucks, buses)															
	2. Adopt regional green fleet policy															
	a) COG adopts green fleet policy that includes accelerated implementation of federal CAFE Standards/GHG emission standards for local government fleets.	COG					X									
	b) 30% of jurisdictions implement the COG green fleet policy.	Local Governments													X	Yes

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	3. Promote use of clean fuels																
	<i>a) 50% of jurisdictions implement alternative fuel infrastructure projects needed to support alternative fuel vehicle technology implementation (e.g., natural gas, biofuel, hydrogen, electricity).</i>	Local Governments, COG, Private Sector													X		Yes
B. Reduce Vehicle Miles Traveled (VMT)																	
	1. Adopt VMT reduction goals																
	<i>a) TPB identifies feasible regional VMT reduction goals and recommends cost-effective VMT reduction programs.</i>	TPB															
	2. Invest more in transit																
	3. Expand transit use (incentives, exclusive transit lanes)																
	<i>a) 100% of transit agencies examine options to promote the increased use of existing transit capacity.</i>	Transit Agencies									X						
	4. Expand transit infrastructure																
	5. Expand commuter options (car sharing, financial incentives)																
	<i>a) TPB adopts goal to expand commuter options (telework, car sharing, bicycle/pedestrian, financial incentives).</i>	TPB, Commuter Connections															
	6. Promote transit-oriented development																
	<i>a) 80% of jurisdictions promote transit-oriented development/Concentrate future growth in Regional Activity Centers.</i>	Local Governments, Planning Directors, Metropolitan Development Policy Committee									X						Yes
	<i>b) 50% of jurisdictions develop plans to meet the Greater Washington 2050 targets for growth (75% of commercial square feet and 50% of households) occurring in Regional Activity Centers.</i>	Local Governments, Planning Directors, Metropolitan Development Policy Committee										X					
	7. Examine parking policies to reduce VMT																
	<i>a) 50% of jurisdictions examine parking policies to reduce VMT.</i>	Local Governments												X			
C. Travel Efficiency																	
	1. Adopt best practices for traffic engineering improvements and road management to reduce VMT and congestion																
	<i>a) 60% of jurisdictions adopt best practices for traffic engineering improvements and road management to reduce VMT and congestion.</i>	Local Governments, DOTs, TPB									X						Yes
	2. Implement the Metropolitan Area Transportation Operations Coordination Program																
	3. Enforce existing idling regulations																

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4.	Explore opportunities to reduce emissions from the aviation sector																
	<i>a) Explore opportunities to reduce emissions from the aviation sector.</i>	MWAA, COG, Federal, State, and Local Government					X										
5.	Explore opportunities to reduce emissions from the freight sector																
	<i>a) TPB adopts goals to reduce emissions from the freight sector, including considerations of shifting freight from trucks to rail.</i>	TPB															
D. Land Use																	
1.	Develop plan to meet goal of increased tree canopy																
	<i>a) COG and local governments prepare regional plan to meet goal of increased tree canopy.</i>	COG, Local Governments											X				
2.	Evaluate Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design (LEED-ND) standards for new development																
3.	Carefully plan the location and design of new, infill, and redevelopment projects																
4.	Integrate GHG analyses into comprehensive planning, new projects																
	<i>a) 50% of jurisdictions integrate greenhouse gas analyses into comprehensive planning for major new transportation and other new capital projects.</i>	Local Governments								X							
E. Regional Metropolitan Planning Process																	
1.	Develop regional metropolitan planning process for greenhouse gases																
	<i>a) TPB develops a regional metropolitan planning process for greenhouse gases modeled after the current process for transportation and air quality planning.</i>	TPB															
2.	Make greenhouse gas reduction a stated goal of regional transportation planning activities																
3.	Consult with other regions around the country to broadly evaluate options for regional approaches to greenhouse gas reductions																
IV. Adaptation																	
Local/Regional Strategies for Government and Business																	
1.	Research best practices to prepare for effect of climate change																
	<i>a) Evaluate impact of climate change on one or more sectors, including water, air, energy, and public safety.</i>	COG, Universities, Private Sector, State and Federal Government											X				
2.	Partner with universities and private sector to research climate change and adaptation strategies																
3.	Analyze impacts and risks to region's transportation infrastructure, buildings and populations in low-lying areas																
4.	Develop regional adaptation policies																
5.	Conduct Adaptation Workshops																
	<i>a) COG holds general and sector-specific adaptation workshops.</i>	COG	X		X												
V. Economic Development																	
1.	Promote green business & green jobs																
	<i>a) 100% of jurisdictions promote green business & green jobs.</i>	Local Governments											X				
2.	Promote eco-business zones																
3.	Promote cooperative green purchasing																

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	4. Promote local food production options																
	5. Promote local vendors and suppliers																
	6. Regional green jobs analysis																
	a) COG expands DC Green Jobs Analysis to the Region.	COG							X								
VI. Financing Mechanisms																	
	1. Evaluate financing mechanisms for energy efficiency projects (energy fee, tax, other)																
	2. Establish a clean energy fund																
	3. Participate in cap and trade program revenues																
	4. Develop a regional carbon offset fund for preserving tree canopy																
	5. Secure addtl financing for public transit																
	6. Establish funding for building retrofits																
VII. Regional Outreach & Education																	
	1. Implement a regional public education campaign																
	2. Develop partnerships with private sector and other organizations																
	a) Develop partnerships and coordinate with others to develop and implement a regional public education campaign.	COG, Utilities, State Energy Offices	X						X								Yes
	3. Support COG member outreach efforts																
	a) 35% of jurisdictions develop energy challenge/pledge programs (community, green business, employee) and/or encourage energy leaders programs.	Local Governments							X								Yes
	b) 35% of jurisdictions develop green business challenges.	Local Governments							X								Yes
VIII. COG Climate Change Program																	
	1. Establish COG Climate and Energy Policy Committee																
	2. Develop work program priorities, schedule, staffing plan, budget																
	3. Prepare Plan to reach 2012 and 2020 goals																
	4. Evaluate cost effectiveness of measures																
	5. Design outreach and education program																
	6. Track initiatives and develop advocacy positions																
	a) Establish advocacy subcommittee.	CEEPC, COG	X														
	7. Develop system for tracking progress toward GHG goals and periodically review targets																
	8. Develop a regional standardized analytical methodology for use by individual local governments in developing their greenhouse gas emission inventories																
	9. Prepare annual progress report to COG Board of Directors on implementation progress for COG's Climate Change Initiative																