



Metropolitan Washington  
Council of Governments

**METROPOLITAN WASHINGTON AIR QUALITY COMMITTEE**  
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**Air Quality Planning  
Work Program and Budget**

**July 1, 2019 through June 30, 2020**

Adopted May xx, 2019

Prepared by

**Metropolitan Washington Council of Governments  
Department of Environmental Programs  
Air Quality Section**

## I. Background

This document presents the work program for the Metropolitan Washington Air Quality Committee (MWAQC) to be carried out between July 1, 2019 and June 30, 2020. It describes the work to be carried out by the staff of the Metropolitan Washington Council of Governments (COG) that is directly funded in this work program, as well as the in-kind contributions of the state air quality management agencies from the District of Columbia, Maryland, and Virginia. The tasks outlined in this work program are designed to ensure a regional approach to meeting the federal health standards in the Washington metropolitan region. Through the activities described for the coming year, several important steps will be taken towards improving the air quality of the region and meeting the deadlines required by the Clean Air Act.

### Certification of the Metropolitan Washington Air Quality Committee

The authority of MWAQC is derived from the certifications made by the Governors of Maryland and Virginia and the Mayor of the District of Columbia pursuant to Title I, "Provisions for Attainment and Maintenance of National Ambient Air Quality Standards," of the Clean Air Act Amendments of 1990 (section 174, 42 U.S. Code 7504).

### Mission of Metropolitan Washington Air Quality Committee

The primary responsibilities of MWAQC are development of regional carbon monoxide (CO), ozone, and fine particulate (PM<sub>2.5</sub>) National Ambient Air Quality Standards (NAAQS) plans for meeting the federal health standards for the criteria pollutants for which the Washington, DC-MD-VA region has been designated nonattainment. The air quality plans developed by MWAQC are provided to the States for incorporation in the State Implementation Plan (SIP) for submittal to EPA.

### Air Quality Classifications of the Washington Metropolitan Region

Pollutant	Attainment	Nonattainment
Ozone (O <sub>3</sub> )		
2015 Standard		●
2008 Standard	●	
Fine Particles (PM <sub>2.5</sub> )	●	
Carbon Monoxide (CO)	●	
Sulfur Dioxide (SO <sub>2</sub> )	●	
Nitrogen Dioxide (NO <sub>2</sub> )	●	

### Membership on MWAQC

Membership on MWAQC consists of representatives from twenty-two member local governments within the non-attainment area, as well as the Directors or their designees from the state air quality management agencies and state transportation agencies, representatives of state legislatures, and the Chair of the National Capital Region Transportation Planning Board (TPB). MWAQC's bylaws allow for the expansion or contraction of MWAQC membership, depending on the geographic scope of the designated nonattainment area.

### **Organizational Structure of MWAQC**

MWAQC adopted by-laws which established a position of Chair and three Vice-Chairs, and it has several standing subcommittees or special supporting committees including an Executive Committee, a Technical Advisory Committee, and a Public Advisory Committee. The Technical Advisory Committee has several standing subcommittees: Conformity, Attainment Modeling, Emissions Inventory, and Local Government Initiatives Subcommittee.

### **Interstate Air Quality Council**

The Interstate Air Quality Council (IAQC) is a cabinet-level collaboration between the District of Columbia, the State of Maryland and the Commonwealth of Virginia. It is comprised of the secretaries of the environment and transportation. IAQC resolves difficult issues if needed to ensure the mutual goals of improved air quality and efficient transportation are met.

### **Staff Support to MWAQC**

The lead role for administrative and technical support to MWAQC is held by the staff of the Metropolitan Washington Council of Governments. Major additional complementary technical staff support is provided by the staffs of the state air quality management agencies. During 1996, MWAQC established a Technical Advisory Committee (TAC) which formally broadened its staff support to include local government technical staff as well as staff representing the state transportation agencies.

## **II. FY 2020 MWAQC Work Program Objectives**

MWAQC and the states will track designation and lay the ground work to meet the 2015 ozone standard. Support will be provided to local members to implement air quality initiatives to help meet the ozone standard.

In FY 2020, MWAQC Work Program objectives are:

- Track designation and data for the 2015 ozone NAAQS. Complete baseline emission inventory for EPA submittal.
- Work with local members to identify and implement initiatives to reduce air pollution.
- Review and comment on transportation conformity assessments for ozone.
- Communicate to regional leaders and the public on the need for actions to reduce emissions and improve air quality.
- Implement Strategic Planning Assessment recommendations.

### **Role of COG/MWAQC Staff**

The lead role for administrative and technical support to MWAQC is held by COG/MWAQC staff. Close collaboration between MWAQC staff and the state air agencies will be necessary to review and revise inventories as needed for ozone, potential control measures, and calculation of necessary reductions needed to meet the standards. MWAQC staff will hold monthly calls with the state air agencies to coordinate work tasks and use of resources. As in the past, MWAQC staff will work closely with COG's Department of Transportation Planning staff on mobile emissions inventory and conformity issues.

This document is intended to guide the activities of MWAQC through the twelve-month period from July 1, 2019 to June 30, 2020. In subsequent sections the reader will find detailed

descriptions of the six major work program areas that are included in this work program. The core work areas are as follows:

1. Emissions Inventory Development
2. Regional Control Measures
3. Transportation Conformity/Mobile Emissions Analysis
4. Public Participation
5. MWAQC Support
6. Program Management

Costs for each of the above tasks are also included along with more detailed descriptions in Section III of this document.

The states and COG staff will meet periodically to discuss the work program status once contracts have been executed. COG will report quarterly on expenses. With the consent of the Chair of MWAQC and/or the Executive Committee, in consultation with the states and concurrence of the funding agencies, specific subtasks may be delayed, new tasks or subtasks added or substituted, or existing tasks or subtasks modified in scope. These actions would only take place as long as EPA deadlines as interpreted by MWAQC are achieved.

### **III. FY 2020 Work Program Task Descriptions**

Following is a detailed description of the six major work program areas.

#### **1. Emissions Inventory Development (\$48,879)**

In 2018, EPA designated the region as marginal nonattainment for the 2015 ozone standard. Staff will complete the process of developing the base year inventory for the 2015 ozone standard for submittal to EPA. Staff will coordinate with and assist the state air agency staff to determine the necessary data for modeling inputs and review inputs and emissions inventories. Staff will also track the attainment status of the 2015 ozone standard and report to MWAQC, TAC, and other regional groups as needed.

Staff will participate in Ozone Transport Commission (OTC) and Mid-Atlantic Region Air Management Association (MARAMA) to support inventory development and keep track of various VOC and NO<sub>x</sub> control measures being adopted by states to reduce ozone. Identification of control measures and voluntary actions will help in attaining any future ozone NAAQS.

Attainment modeling is conducted by Regional Planning Organizations such as the OTC. Staff will participate in and track larger scale attainment modeling efforts at OTC and regional modeling centers in OTC states. Staff will participate in quarterly modeling research meetings/webinars held by the University of Maryland and MDE staff. VADEQ is also actively participating in the OTC modeling effort and will provide inputs as needed to evaluate and understand the results of available modeling exercises. COG staff will present informational briefings on the results of modeling exercises to TAC and MWAQC.

#### **Deliverables:**

- a) Base year inventory for 2015 ozone standard
- b) Identify Actions Needed for Inventories

#### **Deadline:**

May 2020  
May 2020

- |   |           |
|---|-----------|
| c) Meetings of UMD/MDE Modeling (RAAMP)                 | Quarterly |
| d) Attend Emissions Inventory Trainings and Conferences | As needed |

**2. Regional Control Measures (\$101,111)**

As directed from MWAQC, staff will provide assistance and implement recommended actions, to meet the ozone standard and work towards no unhealthy air days. Actions will be cost-effective, viable, implementable and include co-benefits for criteria pollutants. Staff will facilitate further discussions among MWAQC member agencies and COG committees, such as Region Forward, CEEPC, and TPB Technical Committee on the findings and potential implementation actions included in the recommendations of the What We Can Do report.

MWAQC staff will work with local members to promote actions to reduce ozone precursors by highlighting and prioritizing local measures in the What We Can Do report. Staff will identify 3 – 5 priority measures and provide technical expertise, in cooperation with the states, to assist local governments in the development of strategies and programs to reduce emissions of ozone precursors and co-benefits for PM<sub>2.5</sub> and greenhouse gases and to provide a methodology for calculating and reporting evidence of actions taken. If additional funds are needed for implementation, staff will identify funding sources. Priority measures may include programs such as diesel idle reduction, electric vehicle purchasing and infrastructure, or energy efficiency initiatives. To track progress, staff will help with the measurement and evaluation of local and state measure implementation and update the What We Can Do report.

MWAQC staff will manage the Diesel Idle Reduction Campaign and Driver Recognition Program for the metropolitan Washington region. The campaign, originally developed in 2010, engages truck and motorcoach drivers to raise awareness of idle reduction and encourages compliance with idling laws. This includes coordinating outreach with motorcoach and truck drivers through street team events, purchasing campaign materials, securing incentives, and maintaining the program’s website.

COG will to continue to work with members and partners to support an electric vehicle infrastructure network and increase awareness of electric mobility. Staff will participate on the Northeast Corridor Regional Strategy Steering Committee to develop a regionwide EV charging infrastructure and coordinate with local members on implementation.

Staff will participate with groups such as the Climate, Energy and Environment Policy Committee’s (CEEPC) regional Tree Canopy efforts that focuses on regional tree canopy management, the Electric Vehicle Workgroup, and similar efforts that will help reduce emissions.

Staff will stay abreast of OTC/MARAMA ozone precursor pollutant inventory development and photochemical modeling. With designation for the 2015 ozone standard expected in 2018, staff will provide support for the designation and planning process related to the revised ozone standard.

Staff will track federal statutory and judicial regulatory actions that affects air quality in the Washington region and work with MWAQC to take appropriate policy actions. Staff will provide

information and a forum for coordinating public policies that affect air quality among the state air and energy agencies and local governments in the region.

<b>Deliverables:</b>	<b>Deadline:</b>
a) Identify priority measures to reduce ozone precursors and identify potential co-benefits	Ongoing
b) Track implementation of state and local control measures	Ongoing
c) Reports on State and federal Legislative Activity	As needed
d) Update What We Can Do	June 2020
e) Diesel Idle Reduction Campaign	June 2020
f) EV Readiness/Infrastructure Support	Ongoing
g) Regional Workgroups	As Scheduled

### **3. Transportation Conformity/Mobile Emissions Analysis (\$174,539)**

During FY 2020, staff will support any conformity analysis of future amendments to the Constrained Element of Visualize 2045 and TIP.

MWAQC staff will review and comment on the inputs, outputs, and multiple run specification (MRS) files for the conformity analysis of the Visualize 2045 transportation plan future amendments. MWAQC staff will present the results of the conformity analysis to MWAQC and facilitate development of a comment letter, if necessary.

TPB will develop mobile inventories for the 2015 ozone standard. MWAQC staff will coordinate with TPB staff to provide non-travel related inputs, including Inspection & Maintenance program parameters, fuel supply and formulation characteristics, and meteorology for the appropriate analysis years. MWAQC staff will coordinate with states to acquire Inspection & Maintenance programs parameters and fuel supply and formulation characteristics. MWAQC staff, in coordination with the states, will review such data for accuracy and for MOVES-ready format compliance. In addition, MWAQC staff will obtain, review and process meteorology data and upon organizing them into a MOVES-ready format will transmit such data to DTP for direct incorporation into the air quality conformity MOVES model runs.

The Conformity Subcommittee may choose to review regional transportation conformity work and participate in the TPB interagency consultation process. Upon request by the TPB and the TPB Technical Committee, staff may provide briefings on EPA rulings, air quality standards, and guidance as they apply to conformity in the Washington region.

In addition to the above work activities, MWAQC staff will work closely with state air and transportation agencies and COG TPB staff to revisit and potentially refresh inputs for the MOVES model.

<b>Deliverables:</b>	<b>Deadline:</b>
a) Comment on Transportation Conformity Analysis	As needed
b) Provide Briefings and Written Reports to TPB and TPB Technical Committee	As needed
c) Review analysis input, output, and acquire and q/a data	As needed

#### 4. Public Participation (\$53,062)

##### Task 1: ACPAC

Staff will support the Air and Climate Public Advisory Committee (ACPAC), an advisory committee to MWAQC and to the Climate, Energy and Environment Policy Committee (CEEPC), by attending meetings, providing program support, and briefing the committee on federal regulations, air quality progress, air quality planning issues, local member initiatives, and proposed actions of MWAQC. ACPAC will meet approximately six times in 2019 - 2020. The ACPAC Chair will participate in MWAQC meetings to report on the Committee's deliberations and recommendations as a regular part of MWAQC meetings.

##### Task 2: Air Quality Reporting and Outreach

MWAQC leadership, COG/MWAQC Air Quality staff and COG Public Affairs staff will meet with the media, particularly environmental reporters and editorial boards, to inform them about air quality issues and progress. Staff will make periodic reports about the air quality challenges associated with the NAAQS, current emissions and related air quality trends to the COG Board of Directors, Chief Administrative Officers' Committee and to member local governments as requested. The goal is to inform decision-makers about air quality issues and challenges. This task also covers COG staff time to respond to media inquiries or support the MWAQC leadership in responding to media inquiries.

Public outreach will be conducted to promote the region's air quality improvements, challenges of meeting the air quality standards, and to promote local member initiatives. Existing materials will be updated and new materials will be developed such as, press releases, chair talking points, or guest blogs.

##### **Deliverables:**

- a) ACPAC Meetings
- b) Member Recruitment
- c) Response to Media Inquiries
- d) Develop Materials (Press Releases, Articles, Blogs)

##### **Deadline:**

As scheduled (6)  
December 2019  
Ongoing  
As needed

#### 5. MWAQC Support (\$103,290)

MWAQC Support includes staff support for MWAQC meetings, MWAQC Executive Committee, TAC, State Air Coordination, and subcommittee meetings and calls. Staff will coordinate and participate in all meetings, including preparing agendas, minutes, presentations and materials, and securing speakers. MWAQC will hold five regular business meetings to discuss local measures, regulations, guidance and legislation about air quality issues affecting the Washington region and whether or not to comment or act on proposed plans. Staff will coordinate with the chair and vice chairs, responding to requests, and develop materials for new members.

The TAC will meet monthly or as needed, with frequent subcommittee meetings. Staff will recruit stakeholders to participate on TAC. The Executive Committee will meet seven to eight times during the year. Staff will hold monthly calls with the state air agencies to coordinate use of resources and attainment progress. The What We Can Do Workgroup will meet as needed to help identify and implement priority measures.

In FY 2019, MWAQC completed a facilitated strategic planning assessment with member organizations to establish recommendations for MWAQC's operations and priorities. Results of the assessment will be implemented in FY 2020 to direct future work of the committee as resources and time constraints allow.

**Deliverables:**

- a) MWAQC Meetings
- b) MWAQC Executive Ctte Calls
- c) Technical Advisory Ctte Calls
- d) TAC Stakeholder Recruitment
- e) State Air Agency Coordination Calls
- f) Subcommittee calls (local measures workgroup emissions inventory, conformity)
- g) Implement Strategic Planning Assessment Recommendations

**Deadline:**

- As scheduled (5)
- As scheduled (8)
- Monthly (11, or as needed)
- January 2020
- Monthly (11, no August call)
- As Scheduled
- Ongoing

**6. Project Management (\$42,735)**

Staff will prepare a draft work program and budget for the fiscal year 2021. Staff will work with the MWAQC Budget Subcommittee and MWAQC to get an approved budget in the spring before the fiscal year begins. Staff will work with funding agencies to finalize grants and contracts and invoice as required. Staff will provide quarterly financial and status reports to track the progress of implementing the approved work program and budget.

Staff uses information technology extensively in performing analyses, completing written summaries, downloading information and data from EPA, and the Internet for a variety of research needs. Contribution to computer support for project staff and management systems is accounted for in this task. Efforts to provide materials on the Internet may also fall under this task.

**Deliverables:**

- a) Quarterly Expense and Progress Reports
- b) MWAQC Budget Committee
- c) Draft MWAQC FY2021 Work Program and Budget
- d) Adopt MWAQC FY2021 Work Program and Budget

**Deadline:**

- Quarterly
- As scheduled (3-4)
- February 2020
- May 2020

#### IV. Funding Sources and Projected Budget

The MWAQC Work Program for FY 2020 is a 12-month work program and budget for the period from July 1, 2019 to June 30, 2020.

The MWAQC bylaws adopted in October 2004 include a funding formula that allocates contributions to the MWAQC budget by thirds, 1/3 from state air agencies, 1/3 from state transportation agencies, and 1/3 from local governments (Table 1). The budget for the core work program is a total of \$523,617. The state air agencies, the state and local departments of transportation and the Transportation Planning Board, and the Council of Governments will each contribute \$174,539. The funding by task is shown in Table 2. The MWAQC bylaws also state that “nothing shall preclude additional sub-regional efforts to be added to the work program at the request and expense of individual state agencies and local governments.”

Note that the funding from the TPB to support air quality planning and conformity is contingent upon TPB’s approval of the Unified Planning Work Program (UPWP) for FY 2020. Contributions from the State Air Agencies are contingent on approval of their organization’s funding. If needed, the MWAQC Work Program will be revised in October should the final budget amount change.

**Table 1**  
FY 2020 MWAQC Funding Contributions by Source

Source	Approved FY 2019	Requested FY 2020	Change
COG member jurisdictions	\$174,539	\$174,539	
State DOT/TPB	\$174,539	\$174,539	
State Air Agencies			
DOEE	\$22,436	\$22,268	-\$168
MDE*	\$77,199	\$76,918	-\$281
VDEQ	\$74,904	\$75,353	+\$449
States. Subtotal	\$174,539	\$174,539	
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>\$523,617</b>	<b>\$523,617</b>	<b>0</b>

\*Funded by the Maryland Department of Transportation

**Table 2**  
**FY 2020 Air Quality Core Work Program Tasks**  
**(Breakdown of Costs by Type)**

<b>Work Program Tasks</b>	<b>COG staff (\$)</b>	<b>Consultants(\$)</b>	<b>Direct (\$)</b>	<b>Total Cost (\$)</b>
<b>1. Emissions Inventory Development</b>	\$47,379		\$1,500	\$48,879
<b>2. Regional Control Measures</b>	\$55,359	\$45,000	\$752	\$101,111
<b>3. Transportation Conformity/Mobile Emissions Analysis</b>	\$174,539		\$0	\$174,539
<b>4. Public Participation</b>	\$45,062		\$8,000	\$53,062
<b>5. MWAQC Support</b>	\$91,790		\$11,500	\$103,290
<b>6. Project Management</b>	\$41,735		\$1,000	\$42,735
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>\$455,865</b>	<b>\$45,000</b>	<b>\$22,752</b>	<b>\$523,617</b>