

Summary of Climate-Related Activities of COG Committees Supporting CEEPC- January 2010

Climate Energy and Environment Policy Committee Technical and Citizen Committees

Technical Committees

Energy Advisory Committee and Intergovernmental Green Building Group (IGBG) (George Nichols | gnichols@mwkog.org) On January 21st, the EAC and IGBG held a joint meeting. Topics covered included: Building Code Energy Efficiency Enhancement; Loudoun County Energy Plan; and Energy and Green Building Initiatives as Recommended Climate Change Strategies.

- Local governments are encouraged to support the “30% Solution” to Strengthen Building Energy Codes as proposed by the International Code Council. IECC has no legal effect but local jurisdiction adopt by referring to the IECC, thereby making it a requirement.
- IGBG should endorse (again) the proposal before ICC. A letter of endorsement and recommendation will be drafted and presented at the February 2010 IGBG meeting. This recommendation will then be forwarded to the CEEPC for action.
- IGBG and EAC priorities will be guided by the work program of the CEEPC. Staff continued to solicit ideas and suggestions, with particular focus on performance measures, completion dates and the schedule.
- The IGBG and EAC recommended that the CEEPC Measure that 100% of jurisdiction adopt and implement LEED Silver levels be reworded to focus on local governments and not private sector. The revised measure would read as follows:
 - **“100% jurisdictions adopt policies and/or regulations supporting COG Green Building Policy for attainment of LEED-certified plus or equivalent for private sector commercial development.”**
 - **“100% of jurisdictions adopt and implement COG Green Building Policy for achievement of a goal that all new public sector buildings achieve at least LEED Silver Level.”**
- Overall, there was general consensus that the work plan should reflect realistic assumptions regarding existing staff resources.
- The meeting of the IGBG is scheduled for February 11 while the EAC is scheduled for March 18.

Street Lights Working Group (George Nichols | gnichols@mwkog.org)

- Several pilot programs are being implemented in the region to test new street light technologies.
- The next Street Lights Working Group is scheduled for February 23rd. Among the proposed agenda items are: 1) Review of Vendors Forum and Follow up; 2) Update on LED Demonstrations; 3) Review of Street Lights Measure as Input to Climate, Energy and Environment Policy Committee Work Program; and 4) Local Government LED Stimulus Project.

Energy Outreach Coordination (Joan Rohlfs | jrohlfs@mwkog.org)

- COG, state and local energy offices, and area utilities have agreed to continue to collaborate and share information on development of energy efficiency public outreach campaigns, with a focus on energy challenges/contests.
- The next coordination meeting will be held on April 27, 2010.

Recycling Committee (John Snarr | jsnarr@mwkog.org)

- Launched Go Recycle Campaign on radio and TV 1/18 – 2/7 with the “recycle in the workplace” message. Raised \$60,000 in sponsor funds for paid radio advertising and PSA TV placements.
- Committee selected two regional America Recycles Day winner for K-12 (\$300 bicycle gift certificate and \$500 school environmental grant) and any age prize (\$300 bicycle gift certificate) at the December meeting. Both winners were from the City of Alexandria.
- Set recycling meeting topics for 2010 at December meeting.
- January meeting focused on Glass Recycling with speakers from the glass manufacturer, curbside recyclable processing, and intermediate glass processing industry.
- Launched new regional solid waste collection events calendar on the GoRecycle.org Web site.

Citizen Committee

Air Quality Public Advisory Committee (AQPAC) (Joan Rohlfs | jrohlfs@mwkog.org)

- AQPAC met on January 11, 2010. Reviewed the draft Regional Climate Action Work Plan for 2012. Encourage uniform reporting, standard metric for reporting GHG reductions. Encourage reinforcement of RPS standards throughout the region to support renewable energy goals. Propose to develop the transportation section with more detailed actions on alternative fueled vehicles, transit and other modes. Recommend that outreach and education programs/ better access to information are key elements to meet the 2012 goals.
- A possible change in AQPAQ name to better reflect its mission (air quality and climate) will be debated at the next meeting.

Supporting Technical and Policy Committees

MWAQC Technical Advisory Committee (Jeff King | jking@mwkog.org)

- The MWAQC TAC met on January 12. Staff updated the committee on the CEEPC climate and energy action workplan, the transition to the new EPA Motor Vehicle Emission Simulation (MOVES) model, and an upcoming annual survey of local government progress in meeting voluntary air quality initiatives, including green power purchasing, green building/energy efficiency, and urban heat island/tree canopy programs.
- The next meeting is scheduled for February 9.

Water Resources Technical Committee (WRTC) (Tanya Spano | tspano@mwkog.org)

- Workshop on "Climate Change/Sustainability: Greenhouse Gas Emissions & Inventories - Issues, Impacts & Options for Wastewater Plants." Date to be determined.

The next meeting is scheduled for March 12, 2010.

TPB and TPB Technical Committee (Ron Kirby and Gerald Miller | rkirby@mwkog.org and gmiller@mwkog.org)

- On January, 20 2009, draft results of the TPB "What Would It Take?" scenario were presented to the TPB. The scenario analyzes over 30 transportation strategies to determine their CO₂ reduction potential and combines them to see how close we can get to regional climate change mitigation goals. The presentation and background memo can be found at: http://www.mwkog.org/transportation/committee/committee/archives.asp?COMMITTEE_ID=15

Commuter Connections Subcommittee (Nick Ramfos | nramfos@mwkog.org)

- Commuter Connections has produced a new climate change brochure for employers in the District of Columbia and Maryland. Staff distributed the brochure at the last Employer Outreach Committee meeting held on January 19th.

Affiliated Partnerships

Clean Air Partners (Jen Desimone | jdesimone@mwkog.org)

- The Clean Air Partners Board met on January 21, 2010. Dr. Ed Maibach, Director, Center for Climate Change Communications George Mason University, presented highlights from the Center's "Global Warming's Six Americas 2009: An Audience Segmentation Analysis" and discussed how to apply the findings to create effective climate change communications campaigns.
- In honor of the 40th anniversary of Earth Day, Clean Air Partners is sponsoring a poster and video contest for local elementary and high school students. The purpose of the contest is to engage students and educators to study and actively pursue solutions to air pollution and climate change. The contest is open to students in grades 4 - 12. Contest rules are located on the Clean Air Partners web site (www.cleanairpartners.net).
- The next meeting is scheduled for March 18, 2010.

Metropolitan Washington Alternative Fuels Clean Cities Partnership (Leah Boggs | lboggs@mwkog.org)

- The Metropolitan Washington Alternative Fuels Clean Cities Partnership met on November 17th. The focus of the meeting was development of a Regional Green Fleet Policy. Staff presented a draft of Best Management Practices of green fleet policies around the country and abroad.
- On December 3rd the Alternative Fuels Partnership hosted a Hydrogen Seminar, in conjunction with the Virginia Clean Cities Coalition. This seminar was one of a series of events throughout Maryland, Virginia and Washington D.C. focused on "hydrogen 101," how state and local leaders can identify early market opportunities and

applications and support a hydrogen economy, and demonstrated concepts discussed. The Seminar also included a ride-and-drive at the Shell Hydrogen fueling station located on Benning Rd., Washington, DC. Attendees had an opportunity to drive one of GM's Chevrolet Equinox Fuel Cell Electric Vehicles.

- The Alternative Fuels Partnership meets on a quarterly basis. The next meeting will be held on Feb. 9th, 2010. The next meeting will focus on follow up to the further development of the Green Fleet Policy and the upcoming Regional Alternative Fuels Survey.

Other Supporting Committees:

- Chesapeake Bay and Water Resources Policy Committee (Karl Berger | kberger@mwkog.org)
Next meeting March 19
- Chief Purchasing Officers Committee (Carl Kalish | ckalish@mwkog.org)
Next meetings January 27 and February 24.
- Tree Canopy Workgroup (Jeff King | jking@mwkog.org and Brian Lecouteur | blecouteur@mwkog.org)
Regional coordination meeting to be scheduled for February 2010.