

Summary of Climate-Related Activities of COG Committees Supporting CEEPC - July 2011

Climate Energy and Environment Policy Committee Technical and Citizen Committees

Technical Committees

[Energy Advisory Committee](#)¹ (Jeff King and Leah Boggs | jking@mwkog.org and lboggs@mwkog.org)

- The EAC met on June 16th. The meeting focused on the benefits of local governments participating in PJM's Demand Response Program, COG-led utility data analysis, and the upcoming Solar PV Workshop hosted by COG.
- The next meeting will be held on the September 15th.

[Intergovernmental Green Building Group \(IGBG\)](#) (Leah Boggs | lboggs@mwkog.org)

- At the June 9, 2011 meeting, COG staff outlined the 2012 work plan. The work plan includes examining green leasing policies, more interface with the Energy Advisory Committee, green schools best management practices and advocacy for adoption of energy building codes at the state level.
- The next IGBG meeting will be held on September 8th. The meeting will primarily focus on Climate Change adaption, the impacts of climate change on the buildings sector.

[Street Lights Working Group](#) (Jeff King | jking@mwkog.org)

- The street lights working group will meet when there is more to report on the Public Service Commission Case No. 9217 pertaining to Pepco and an experimental LED tariff.

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

- The committee met July 21 for a program Green Building. Presentations were by Clark Constructions, Greenspace NCR, and COG staff.
- Staff scheduled an outreach subcommittee meeting for August 19.
- The committee discussed the latest updates on recyclables accepted by the region's major processor.
- The group learned about a new Virginia Recycling Association effort to promote the state as a host for glass recycling facilities and other manufacturers.

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

- The ad hoc energy outreach committee met in person on July 14. The committee reviewed pilot elements and a survey conducted with participants after the pilot was completed. The committee heard about outreach programs underway or being planned in the region. Staff presented options for a regional expansion of the campaign. Staff is preparing a program proposal for a sustainability self-certification check-list program.
- The next meeting will be August 17 from noon to 2pm.

[Energy Financing Task Force](#) (Jeff King | jking@mwkog.org)

- The next meeting of the Energy Financing Subcommittee will focus on a review of accomplishments to date and work plans for this calendar year. A meeting on financing of public building retrofits is planned.

Citizen Committee

[Air and Climate Public Advisory Committee \(ACPAC\)](#) (Joan Rohlfs | jrohlfs@mwkog.org)

- ACPAC met on June 13 and July 18, 2011.
- In June, Ron Kirby, COG Director of Transportation Planning, spoke about the Transportation Priorities Plan Draft Scope and Deron Lovaas, NRDC, spoke about the future CAFE standards and new fuel economy labels.
- In July, Laura Grape, Northern Virginia Regional Commission, spoke to ACPAC about the climate vulnerabilities and adaptation in northern Virginia. ACPAC provided feedback on how Clean Air Partners communicates air quality forecasting and played an air quality jeopardy game.
- The next ACPAC meeting will be September 19, 2011.

¹ Click on committee name to access the committee webpage and documents.

Supporting Technical and Policy Committees

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

- The TAC met on June 13 and July 12 in person.
- In June the committee was briefed by DEP staff on: the PM2.5 Redesignation and Maintenance Plan inventories, the ozone season summary, and the integrated community energy planning work. The group also heard from Transportation staff about air quality conformity and the regional transportation priorities.
- In July the committee received an update on the PM2.5 Redesignation and Maintenance Plan and an ozone season summary. MDE presented on the importance of low level NOx reductions for attaining the ozone standard. Staff from DISCOVER-AQ presented information on a new air quality monitoring project in the Baltimore/Washington region. State air agency staff discussed recent SO2 designation recommendations, and COG staff discussed a new regional task force that will develop a regional tree canopy management plan.

[Transportation Planning Board \(TPB\), TPB Technical Committee, TPB Travel Management Subcommittee and TPB Scenario Study Task Force](#) (Ron Kirby and Gerald Miller | rkirby@mwkog.org and gmler@mwkog.org)

- The TPB voted to approve the scope and process to develop a TPB Regional Transportation Priorities Plan (RTPP), which was approved by the TPB Priorities Plan Scoping Task force in April 2011. The RTPP will articulate funded and unfunded transportation priorities built upon regional policies, including reduction in single-occupant driving and promoting smart growth development.
- The TPB adopted a resolution to approve TPB participation in the consortium for the COG submission of a sustainable Communities Regional Planning Grant Application to the Department of Housing and Urban Development.
- The TPB voted to approve the Car Free Day 2011 Proclamation declaring September 22 as Regional Car Free Day. On this day, residents will be encouraged to leave their cars at home and to take alternative forms of transportation such as public transit, car pools, vanpools, bicycling or walking. The events being organized are designed to encourage the business community and decision makers to support car free policies and initiatives throughout the metropolitan region.
- TPB's Commuter Connections Program has signed on to an Eco-Driving campaign in partnership with the I-95 Corridor Coalition and a number of state and local transportation agencies along the east coast. These agencies are promoting a public awareness campaign called "Drive Green, Save Green," which suggests seven actions that drivers can take to reduce their fuel costs and increase efficiency.

[Planning Directors Technical Committee](#) (Paul Desjardin | pdesjardin@mwkog.org)

- No meeting in June.
- Meeting on July 11.
- Briefing on the HUD Sustainable Communities Program.
- Discussion on Conceptual Framework for HUD Regional Planning Grant.
- Next steps – Identify potential partners.
- Next meeting is September 16.

[Region Forward Coalition](#) (Paul Desjardin/John Mataya | pdesjardin@mwkog.org / jmataya@mwkog.org)

- The first Region Forward Coalition Kick-Off meeting was held on June 10th at the George Mason University's School of Public Policy.
- Initial findings from the Region Forward Performance Analysis
- Discussion on Identifying Regional Centers and their Complete Communities Priorities
- Impact: Partnering to Support Complete Communities
- Formation of Teams (Complete Communities Team, Impact Team, and the Performance Analysis Team)
- The first Complete Communities Team met jointly with the Planning Directors Technical Advisory Committee on July 11.
- The first Impact Team was held on July 25.
- The first Performance Analysis Team was held on July 8.
- The second Region Forward Coalition meeting is tentatively scheduled for the end of September.

Affiliated Partnerships

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

- Clean Air Partners' 2011 media campaign will run for 2 weeks beginning on July 18th. The campaign includes a mix of radio and online advertisements on a total of 8 stations (4 in DC and 4 in Baltimore). The campaign is expected to reach over 15 million impressions.
- Clean Air Partners hired a new Managing Director to support the program. Scott St. Onge comes from Washington Capital Management, a boutique political consulting firm, and has proven experience in fundraising, event planning, and project management. He can be reached at sstonge@cleanairpartners.net or 202-544-2322.
- The next meeting is scheduled for September 15, 2011.

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

- Commuter Connections staff attended and participated in a Crystal City Career and Transportation fair on May 16th hosted by the Arlington County Economic Development Council.
- Commuter Connections staff attended and participated in the following employee commuter transportation fairs:
 - May 19th - Department of Defense at the Pentagon
 - June 8th - The Aerospace Corporation - Chantilly, VA
- Bike to Work Day was sponsored by Commuter Connections and the Washington Area Bicyclist Association on May 20th. There were 11,000 participants at 49 different pit stops in the region.
- Commuter Connections staff attended and participated in a Telework workshop held at the US Department of Agriculture's headquarters in DC on June 7th.
- Commuter Connections staff attended and hosted an Employer Challenge luncheon won by orbital Sciences in Dulles, VA on June 23rd.
- Commuter Connections hosted its 14th annual Employer Recognition Awards ceremony at the National Press Club on June 28th.

[Tree Canopy Workgroup](#) (Jeff King | jking@mwkog.org and Brian Lecouteur | blecouteur@mwkog.org)

- A workgroup is in the process of being established. The first meeting will be held later this summer.

Other Committees

[Chief Purchasing Officers Committee](#) (Phil McGaughey | Philip_J_McGaughey@mcpsmd.org)

- The Chief Purchasing Officers Committee met on July 19.
- At the July meeting the committee had a presentation on AFLAC voluntary benefits and how the members can bridge the District's Contract with AFLAC. There was also a presentation on GSA Schedules 70 and 84.

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

- The Water Resources Technical Committee will be sponsoring a Water Sector Stakeholder Meeting for COG's Smart Growth and Adaptation to Climate Change in the Washington Region project on Thursday, September 8, 2011 from noon to 2pm.

[Chesapeake Bay and Water Resources Policy Committee](#) (Karl Berger | kberger@mwkog.org)

- No updates to report.

Other Updates

[Alternative Fuels](#) (Leah Boggs | lboggs@mwkog.org)

- COG staff participated in the Greater Washington Region Clean Cities Coalition Board meeting on July 19th. Their mission is to increase the use alternative fuels and alternative fuel vehicles in the region. Interest over the next months include a biodiesel workshop (Sept.) and CNG workshop (Aug. 30). COG plans to co-sponsor the CNG workshop, which will be held in Montgomery County.