

# Summary of Climate-Related Activities of COG Committees Supporting CEEPC September 2012

## Climate Energy and Environment Policy Committee Technical and Citizen Committees

### *Technical Committees*

[Energy Advisory Committee](#)<sup>1</sup> (Jeff King and Leah Boggs | [jking@mwkog.org](mailto:jking@mwkog.org) and [lboggs@mwkog.org](mailto:lboggs@mwkog.org))

- EAC met on September 20th. The meeting topic was regional energy efficiency programs. The group received presentations on DC SEU's programs, the LEAP-VA home efficiency program, and Montgomery County's Commercial and Multi-family Efficiency study.
- The next meeting will be held October 18<sup>th</sup>.

[Electric Vehicle Planning Initiative](#) (Leah Boggs | [lboggs@mwkog.org](mailto:lboggs@mwkog.org))

- COG staff has received stakeholder comments on the EV Readiness report, and have revised the report draft. The report will be presented to CEEPC at the September 27 meeting.
- The next meeting of the EV Planning Initiative will be October 2.

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

- IGBG met on Sept. 13<sup>th</sup>. The meeting's focus was on post-occupancy analysis of green buildings. Presentations included USGBC's Building Performance Partnership Program, a Regional Green Building Case Study on 51 LEED projects in Illinois and The Seattle 2030 District, groundbreaking high performance building district in downtown Seattle. The committee is discussing ways to do similar analysis.
- The next IGBG meeting is November 8.

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

- The Recycling Committee met September 20 for a Recycling Markets Update. Speakers from the waste industry and associations covered paper, plastics, metal, and other material markets for the mid-Atlantic region.
- Committee members created several draft goals for the next CEEPC work plan.
- The committee discussed plans for the upcoming America Recycles Day, which is November 15.
- COG planned to host a session on how to promote master composter training on September 24.

### *Citizen Committee*

[Air and Climate Public Advisory Committee \(ACPAC\)](#) (Maia Davis | [mdavis@mwkog.org](mailto:mdavis@mwkog.org))

- ACPAC met on September 10, 2012. MDE presented on the Regional Greenhouse Gas Initiative and COG presented the Ozone Season Summary.
- The next ACPAC meeting will be October 15, 2012.

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<sup>1</sup> 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](mailto:jking@mwkog.org))

- MWAQC will meet on September 27.
- The MWAQC Technical Advisory Committee met in September. The TAC discussed the new GHG and CAFÉ standards recently finalized for light-duty vehicles belonging to model years 2017-2025. MDE staff discussed the status of MDE's GHG reduction initiative. TPB staff informed the TAC about including a new analysis year 2015 to meet the transportation conformity requirements for the 2008 ozone standard. The TAC also discussed the progress made on the mobile budget issue for the ongoing PM2.5 redesignation request and maintenance plan effort for the Washington region. The ozone season has been active with a number of Code Orange (16) and Code Red days (3) so far. The next meeting will be in October.

### [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](mailto:rkirby@mwkog.org) and [gmiller@mwkog.org](mailto:gmilller@mwkog.org))

- The TPB met on September 19, 2012
- The TPB approved a Bus on Shoulder Task Force to identify locations in the region to operate buses on the shoulders of highways.
- The TPB received a briefing on additional air quality conformity analysis to respond to the EPA redesignation of the Washington Region under the 2008 Ozone National Air Quality Standards (NAAQS). This designation requires a new air quality conformation analysis of the 2012 Financially Constrained Long-Range Transportation Plan (CLRP) and FY 2013-2018 Transportation Improvement Program (TIP).
- The TPB received a briefing on the updated safety margins recommended for mobile emissions budgets for the 2012 Fine Particle Pollution (PM 2.5) redesignation request and maintenance plan. The TPB recommended the incorporation of safety margins of 20% and 30% into out-year mobile emissions budgets for 2017 and 2025 respectively in the PM 2.5 maintenance plan under development by MWAQC.
- The next meeting of the TPB is on October 17, 2012.

### [Planning Directors Technical Committee](#) and [Region Forward Coalition](#)

(Paul Desjardin/John Mataya | [pdesjardin@mwkog.org](mailto:pdesjardin@mwkog.org) / [jmataya@mwkog.org](mailto:jmataya@mwkog.org))

- The Planning Directors approved the Activity Centers map in July. During September & October, COG DCPS staff is visiting city and county Council and Board work sessions to familiarize elected officials with the new Activity Centers methodology and map. DCPS staff is also working with planning staff from each local jurisdiction to develop a series of technical boundaries (for TAZs, Census tracts, and Census block groups) to allow for technical analysis. Staff will seek approval of the conceptual Activity Centers map from the COG Board at its November meeting.

## Affiliated Partnerships

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

- Clean Air Partners participated in a roundtable discussion on News Talk with Bruce Depuyt (NewsChannel8). The discussion covered the region's air quality, efforts to improve air quality, and health.
- The Education Team presented the "On the Air" summer program to over 1,500 youth in the Baltimore-Washington region.
- 2012 marketing efforts drove the public to sign-up for AirAlerts, which have reached nearly 5,100 subscribers.

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

- The Subcommittee met on September 18. Members were briefed on FY 2012 Bike to Work Day Event Draft Report, the Bus on Shoulder Feasibility Project, VDOT Integrated Corridor Management project, the Car Free Day event, and the FY 2014 Work Program development and Strategic plan.
- The next meeting will be held on Nov. 22.

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

- The workgroup is currently developing a strategy for developing short and long-term goals for regional tree canopy management based on the unique considerations of the Washington Metropolitan Area.
- An interim 'Primer' document is underway to provide a snapshot of regional tree canopy efforts and national 'Best Practices' in Urban Tree Canopy management..

**Other Committees**

[Chief Purchasing Officers Committee](#) (Tom Savoie | [tsavoie@mwkog.org](mailto:tsavoie@mwkog.org) and Phil McGaughey | [Philip\\_J\\_McGaughey@mcpsmd.org](mailto:Philip_J_McGaughey@mcpsmd.org))

- No update. The next meeting will run concurrently with CEEPC on September 27.

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

- The WRTC met on September 13th. A speaker from the Washington Suburban Sanitary Commission (WSSC) discussed their evaluation of the “reuse” of non-potable water (which includes both wastewater and stormwater sources), and its potential applications in the WSSC’s service area. These efforts are being coordinated with both Prince George’s and Montgomery County.
- COG staff also had the opportunity to tour the Broad Run Water (Loudoun County) and the Upper Occoquan (Fairfax County) water reclamation facilities. Both of these facilities utilize “reuse” as ways to manage their treated wastewater products (liquid and solid).
- These activities are examples of efforts by COG’s local governments and utilities to evaluate and pilot projects that have the potential to reduce energy demands, decrease stormwater runoff, and perhaps cost effectively reduce some of the nutrient loads from the region.
- Additional COG staff work over the coming months will include evaluating upland flooding issues, refining water-related parameters identified during the Symposium that are of interest to scientists as well as engineers and planners, and evaluating trends in climatological data that are affect water resource planning. This effort will include working with the USGS and others to assess what trends can be detected for the COG region.
- The next WRTC meeting will be held November 8th. Proposed agenda topics will include updates on the climatological data analysis, and survey results regarding the use of “reuse” and related sustainability practices at area wastewater and drinking water facilities.

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

- CBPC met on September 21<sup>st</sup>. Topics discussed included regional water quality messaging, the economics of nutrient trading, and the TapIt campaign.
- The next meeting will be held on November 16<sup>th</sup>.