



CLIMATE ENERGY AND ENVIRONMENT POLICY COMMITTEE (CEEPC) - COMMITTEE AND PROJECT UPDATES

Air and Climate Public Advisory Committee

The 2021 Climate and Energy Leadership Awards Program launched Earth Day to June 30, 2021. The program focused on two award categories: government agency (local, state, regional, quasi-govt, utilities, or authorities) and non-governmental organization (non-profit, citizen, or community-based groups). Judging of the awards took place at the July 19 meeting. The final tally of the scores and selection will be completed by mid-August. Awardees will be recognized by the COG Board this fall. The next ACPAC meeting is September 20. For more information, contact [Leah Boggs](#).

Built Environment and Energy Advisory Committee

The Built Environment and Energy Advisory Committee (BEEAC)'s June 16 meeting focused on the integration of resilience planning into capital improvement plans. Arlington County discussed their 2019 Community Energy Plan update which included a new chapter on resilience. The County also launched an Energy Assurance Plan intended to improve climate readiness and resilience. The County is forming an interdepartmental stormwater working group that will consider future actions and plans including the creation of flood resilient design and construction guidelines, a resilient streams strategy, a strategic compliance plan for permits and a climate-based green infrastructure plan. The City of Frederick discussed guidance on incorporating climate resilience into their capital improvement program (CIP). The guidance outlines a five-step process to identify projects for inclusion in the CIP from a resilience perspective. The Maryland Energy Administration discussed how the Regional Greenhouse Gas Initiative (RGGI) program dollars are used to fund the Resilient Maryland and Resiliency Hub grant programs. Resilient Maryland was introduced in February 2020 and offers up to \$100,000 per project of critical planning capital to design resilient energy systems in facilities. The MEA Resiliency Hub program is designed to provide emergency power in neighborhoods. The funding is for low- and moderate-income neighborhoods. The next BEEAC meeting is September 16. For more information, contact [Leah Boggs](#).

On July 19 *A Roundtable Discussion on Current and Future Activities of Current and Prospective Green Banks* was held. Speakers included representatives from the Montgomery County Green Bank, DC Green Bank, FSC First, the Virginia Department of Mines, Minerals and Energy, the Coalition for Green Capital and Sandy Spring Bank. Elements of discussion were programmatic commonalities, collaborative opportunities, and ways to sustain regional collaboration and promote growth. The group is considering convening again in the late fall.

Regional Tree Canopy Subcommittee

The Regional Tree Canopy Subcommittee (RTCS) is finalizing draft recommendations for tree canopy goals and associated measures of success for a range of spatial scales and human population densities. This includes a recommended minimum tree canopy goal for the entire Metropolitan Washington region. RTCS will be presenting the recommendations for comment at upcoming meetings of the Planning Directors Technical Advisory Committee, CEEPC, and other committees this year. For more information, please contact [Brian LeCouteur](#).

Greater Washington Region Clean Cities Coalition

The Greater Washington Region Clean Cities Coalition is collaborating with the International Brotherhood of Electrical Workers (IBEW) Union Local 26, the Northern Virginia Labor Federation, the Electrification Coalition and Uber to expand “green job” workforce training opportunities in the DMV, particularly in underserved communities. IBEW offers a five-year paid apprenticeship program with an opportunity to become a well-paid journeyman upon graduation. The apprenticeship includes one day of classroom training every two weeks along with on-the-job worksite training the remainder of the time.

The impediment to greater program-participant retention has been the transportation challenges of the trainees who must arrive at worksites early in the morning before Metro begins operation. Uber has agreed to offer transportation vouchers in underserved communities that fill the gap where transportation deserts exist. The goal is for electric vehicles to be utilized by Uber for these routes and for the apprenticeship training program curriculum to be broadened to address the growing regional need for technicians to service electric transit buses, EVs, and charging-stations.

Please contact Ira Dorfman (202-255-6050, iradorfman@gwrccc.org) if your jurisdiction has an interest in participating.

Military Installation Resilience Review

On June 28, 2021, COG held the first Technical Advisory Committee (TAC) meeting for the Military Installation Resilience Review (MIRR) project funded by the U.S. Department of Defense Office of Local Defense Community Cooperation (OLDCC). The project involves supporting a community stakeholder planning process for four military installations in the District of Columbia: Joint Base Anacostia Bolling, Fort McNair, the Naval Research Laboratory, and the Washington Navy Yard. The purpose of the MIRR is to identify the risks, hazards, and vulnerabilities of concern as it relates to the ability of the military to carry out its missions on the base that could be mitigated through investments and solutions outside the fence line in the community.

The TAC is composed of subject matter experts from the District government, Federal agencies, military installations, and regional organizations. The study is actively staffing a Policy Committee that serves as the principal policy advisor to the project. The purpose of the first TAC meeting is to engage with stakeholders to provide an overview on the project and solicit feedback on the stakeholders’ priorities, vision for success, Air expected outcome for the study. Feedback from the meeting will assist developing a preliminary scope and framework for the vulnerability assessment, including timeframes, scenario characteristics, and cascading impacts.

The stakeholders provided feedback on a vision for success which included: Timelines for resilience actions and implementation, ranked priority list of future investments, identifiable improvements to infrastructure facilities in the region that address existing inequities, improved transportation connectivity between the installations and District, comprehensive solutions to flood risk management, and deeper relationships between military installations and community partners.

During the meeting, the stakeholders discussed climate risks including: Flooding, extreme heat, high winds, drought, and extreme winter events. Concerns were discussed over evacuation off base when roadways and transportation networks are flooded, ability to protect assets, and continue operations during events. Extreme heat is a concern for energy demand and reliability, cooling systems, and outdoor activities including training, operations, and recreational activities. Non-climate concerns

including urban development and encroachment, aging infrastructure and reliability, and energy and communication security were discussed. Transportation considerations were discussed across all military bases. Reliability and resilience of transportation infrastructure was highlighted as a major concern for overall movement of staff and visitors, base access, and emergency evacuation.

The project will provide a thorough understanding of the vulnerabilities to key assets needed to maintain operability of the military installation, maintain a vibrant economy and livable community for those in the surrounding areas. These assets may include access to clean water, energy, communication, modes of transportation, and public safety and security. Depending on outcomes of the planning effort, the DoD OLDCC may be able to provide funding for the identified community investments recommended by the project. The project is 18-months and will conclude June 2022. For more information, please contact [Katie Dyer](#).

US Army Corps of Engineers Northern Virginia Coastal Storm Risk Management Study

The US Army Corps of Engineers (USACE) has received funding to restart the Northern Virginia Coastal Storm Risk Management Study, the study will transition to 100% federally funded using USACE Hurricane Sandy funds. USACE is refining the water surface elevation modeling and updating proposed structural and non-structural measures based on previous site visits to vulnerable areas. A vulnerability assessments of critical infrastructure will begin after these tasks are completed. In September, USACE will hold an all-hands kick off meeting with the study stakeholders to provide an overview of the project, what tasks have been completed, tasks currently underway, the path forward to completion. For more information, please contact [Katie Dyer](#).