

## **Climate Change Steering Committee REPORT to MWAQC, Oct. 24, 2007**

### Meeting 9/26/07

- CCSC voted to endorse provisions of the Senate energy bill, HR 6:
  - Vehicle fuel economy standards (CAFÉ)
  - Energy Efficiency block Grants (to local govts)
  - Renewable portfolio standards (Federal proposal is 15% by 2022, 4% can be from energy efficiency)
  - Green collar jobs training (\$100 million for worker training for jobs in green industries: EE buildings and construction, renewable electric power, energy efficient vehicles, biofuels development, etc)
- COG Board endorsed Climate Change Steering Committee's recommendations and a letter is being sent to the Washington Region's Congressional delegation.
- Staff presented a projected GHG emissions inventory for the Washington region for 2020 and 2030. CO<sub>2</sub> emissions are projected to increase 35% from 2005 to 2030 in the region.
- Presentation from UMD professor Reid Ewing, "Evidence of Urban Development on Climate Change." Mr. Ewing said a 24% reduction in vehicle miles traveled results from more compact developments (Smart Growth).

### Worksession 10/24/07

- Focus on energy sector's contributions to greenhouse gas emissions in the Washington region.
- Examples of programs to increase energy efficiency in buildings, including:
  - Energy Efficiency Partnership of Greater Washington.
    - VA Tech's plan to pay for energy-efficiency retrofits at 100 properties in the Washington region announced last week.
  - Arlington County's Initiative to Reduce Emissions ("AIRE")
    - County has a variety of strategies to lower emissions including energy saving retrofits, purchase low emission vehicles, purchase of wind energy, tree planting.
  - Sustainable Energy Utility Model – DC is considering the concept of nonprofit sustainable energy utility (SEU) similar to one created in Delaware.