

Air and Climate Public Advisory Committee

Suite 300, 777 North Capitol Street, N.E. Washington, DC 20002-4239 ☐ (202) 962-3360 ☐ Fax: (202) 962-3203

<http://www.mwcog.org/environment/committee/>

The Air and Climate Public Advisory Committee (ACPAC) is an advisory body to the Metropolitan Washington Air Quality Committee (MWAQC) and the Climate, Energy, and Environment Policy Committee (CEEPC)

Draft Meeting Minutes
Monday, November 14, 2011
Room 4/5
5:30 P.M.-7:30 P.M.

ACPAC members: Sarah Bunn, Bill Butler, Beverly Fourier, Raphael Isaac, Andrew Kambour, Sally Kane, Brian McFarland, Linda Murphy, Caroline Petti, Alex Ryan-Bond, Glenna Tinney, Larry Zaragoza

Staff: Joan Rohlfs, Maia Davis

1. Call to Order, Adoption of Agenda, Approval of Minutes

The meeting was called to order at 5:31pm. The agenda and minutes from October 17, 2011 were approved with no changes.

2. Trends in Vehicle Purchases and Air Quality Affects in Metro DC (Elena Constantine, COG DTP Staff)

Elena walked the group through the 2011 vehicle registration data analysis. The information in this analysis will be put into the MOVES model to project air quality conformity. The economic recession and cars for clunkers programs have both played a role in vehicles registered. In general, people have been holding onto their vehicles longer instead of purchasing new vehicles. Although the data shows an increase in NOx because vehicles are getting older; however, emissions rates still come within the mobile emissions limit budget. One member commented that a recent study shows that if low sulphur fuel was introduced NOx emission rates would be reduced by 30 percent.

3. Solar Cooperative Movement in DC Metro Area (Anya Schoolman, DCSUN)

DC Solar United Neighborhoods (DC SUN) is a coalition that is leading the charge to make Washington DC a solar city. Solar cooperatives help neighbors, businesses, and non-profits understand the steps needed to harness the power of the sun to produce electricity and lower our reliance on more environmentally-harmful forms of electricity. Neighbors in the Mt. Pleasant community founded the first DC solar coop in 2008 - energizing more than 50 neighbors to take the leap to solar energy. The Capitol Hill Energy Coop followed this model and completed more than 40 installations in 2010. Now, more than 10 other coops have sprouted up in all wards within DC. DC SUN brings these cooperatives together under one umbrella to advocate for better solar incentives, improved customer service from Pepco, create jobs in DC, and spread the word about the benefits of going solar.

4. Regional Climate Adaptation Guidebook Development (Maia Davis, COG DEP Staff)

In 2010, EPA awarded COG a Smart Growth Implementation Assistance Program (SGIA) to plan and develop local government guidelines for adapting to risks from climate change. COG has been engaging stakeholders from transportation, land use, building and water sectors to educate them on climate adaptation planning and facilitate the development of a climate adaptation guidebook for local governments. The draft guidebook is scheduled to be completed in December. ACPAC members requested to have the opportunity to review the draft guidebook at an upcoming meeting. One suggestion was to use language in the title of the guidebook like climate risk and resiliency instead of adaptation.

5. MWAQC and CEEPC Update (Joan Rohlfs, COG DEP Staff)

MWAQC and staff are working towards inputting modeling and inventories into the MOVES model. This will be completed prior to submitting the re-designation request. CEEPC will meet November 16 and the meeting will highlight EPA Portfolio Managers' Master Account Sharing feature and commercial PACE Programs.

MWAQC, CEEPC and ACPAC will be making new member appointments and Joan requested for ACPAC members to pass the information along to people they think may qualify and be interested. There was a request to email links to the recruitment pages on the website so members can forward the information along.

6. China Skies and Air Quality (Joan Rohlfs, COG DEP Staff)

China has a goal to achieve excellent or good conditions 80% of the year by 2015. They plan to achieve this by phasing out 400,000 old vehicles, putting controls on coal power plants and limiting new car purchases through a required lottery. China only monitors PM₁₀ to measure industrial particulates; however, they do not measure PM_{2.5} to capture particulates from vehicles. The US Embassy in China has a PM_{2.5} air quality monitor and reports air quality on their website and via Twitter feeds. On October 18 the air quality index reported dangerous levels. The Chinese government has lodged a complaint against the Embassy's monitoring activities. Joan and her husband were vacationing in China at this time and did not take pictures on October 18th because the visibility was so poor from the air quality. Joan did share pictures of both clear and hazy days they experienced in China.

7. Future Meeting Topics

Ideas for future meeting topics that were discussed include the following:

- Health affects of climate change
- Science of particulates and health affects of air pollution
- History of monitoring system and budgets
- Renewable energy river turbines
- Follow up on outreach discussions
- Solar legislation
- OPower
- Tree planning

8. Adjourn

The meeting was adjourned at 7:30pm.

Next meeting: December 12, 2011 – 5:30pm – Room 4/5
--