

Air and Climate Public Advisory Committee

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<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, February 24, 2013
Room 1
5:30 P.M.-7:30 P.M.

ACPAC Members: Andrew Kambour, Glenna Tinney, Brian McFarland, John Reed, Michael Cakouros, Ravindra Gupta, Bill Butler, John Howes, Chuck Kooshian, Eric Goplerud, Maggie Shober (phone), Gretchen Goldman (phone)

Staff: Isabel Ricker, Maia Davis (phone)

1. Call to Order, Adoption of Agenda, Approval of Minutes (Andrew Kambour, Vice Chair)

The agenda and minutes from January 13, 2013 were approved.

2. Orientation

Andrew Kambour welcomed the new committee members (John Howes, Chuck Kooshian, Eric Goplerud, Maggie Shober) and Maia Davis gave a presentation providing an orientation of ACPAC's mission, membership, role at MWCOG and process. The orientation described the genesis of MWAQC and the committee's role in developing the State Implementation Plan for the MD, VA, DC region, proposing control measures to reach attainment of NAAQS and reviewing transportation conformity analysis. Maia also provided an overview of CEEPC's history and role in advising the COG Board of Directors on Energy, Environment and Climate policy issues. ACPAC supports both CEEPC and MWAQC, provides feedback on the committee's work and makes recommendations to improve regional air quality, advance climate change mitigation and resilience measures among other issues.

Isabel handed out flash drives with orientation materials for ACPAC members, including the bylaws, committee administrative documents, background reading on air quality, transportation conformity and other COG documents, including CEEPC's Action Plan and Resource Guide for reference.

3. Gold Book

Isabel Ricker gave a presentation on the Gold Book, an MWAQC project that is a compendium of voluntary local measures to improve air quality. The Gold Book was first compiled in 2004, revised in 2009 and is currently being updated again. The Gold Book includes approximately 35 programs or measure types that the local governments in the metropolitan Washington region have implemented which help to improve air quality, and eight ideas for potential future measures. The measures are categorized into the following groups: Climate, Energy and Sustainability Plans, Regional Partnerships, Green Power and Grid Modernization, Energy Efficiency, Transportation Demand Reduction, Transportation Options, Vehicle Emission Reduction, and New & Additional Ideas.

Isabel went through the measures included in the Gold Book to describe the action, how it improves air quality and the current implementation status in the region. There was a desire to hear more about some of the measures, particularly for new members who were not as aware of the region's air quality improvement programs. Members were interested in seeing a comparison between jurisdictions for each item to measure progress toward environmental and climate goals and identify areas for improvement. Members also suggested a prioritization scheme for the measures could help local governments choose which to focus on.

Isabel requested that ACPAC provide comments by March 31 on ways to improve the document before the final version goes to MWAQC for adoption in May. The committee's comments will consider: ways to improve the structure of the document, examples of projects, programs or measures that were left out, but will focus on how to use and /or promote the Gold Book to make it a more valuable and effective document.

4. Legislative Update

The Vice Chair moved to table this discussion due to the lack of time remaining in the meeting.

5. Elections and Term Assignments

Andrew Kambour was nominated for ACPAC Chair and Glenna Tinney was nominated for Vice Chair. Because there was only one nominee for each position, both were elected by unanimous voice vote.

Isabel noted that there were eight open term assignments, two for 2016 and six for 2017. Bill Butler and Eric Goplerud volunteered to take the two year terms (ending in 2016) and the remaining members without terms were assigned three year terms (ending in 2017).

Next meeting: March 10, 2013 – 5:30pm – 7:30pm
