

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 9, 2015

Room 4/5

5:30 P.M.-7:30 P.M.

ACPAC Members: Bill Butler, Chuck Kooshian, Richard Ezike, Leah Fisher Gretchen Goldman, Eric Goplerud, Seth Heald, John Howes, Andrew Kambour, Sally Kane, Robin Lewis, Sarah Mazur, Brian McFarland (phone), Dan Moring, Natalie Pien, Karla Raettig, Maggie Shober, Gabriel Thoumi, Glenna Tinney, Tamara Toles-O'Laughlin

Staff: Steve Walz, Maia Davis

Additional Guests: Tony Socci and Tanja Crk, US EPA

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

The draft agenda and January meeting summary were approved without changes.

2. ACPAC Orientation (Steve Walz, Bill Butler, Maia Davis)

Maia Davis reviewed with the group ACPAC's mission, membership, role at MWCOCG and process. 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. Bill Butler, a 20+ year member of ACPAC provided a more personal recollection of the committee's role and how its evolved overtime. Steve Walz described the genesis of MWAQC and the committee's role in developing the State Implementation Plan for the MD, VA, DC region. In order to help orient ACPAC members and assist in the next agenda item discussion Steve reviewed how ozone is formed, ozone concentrations in the region, the region's ozone plan, ozone data and standards. He also discussed similar information for PM2.5, introduced transportation conformity and what's coming up for regional air quality planning in 2015.

Flash drives were handed out 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. Potential Comments Discussion on Proposed New Ozone Standard (Andrew Kambour, ACPAC Chair)

EPA is proposing to revise the National Ambient Air Quality Standard for ozone. The current 2008 Ozone standard is 75 part per billion (ppb) and they are proposing a range between 65-70 ppb. They will also take comments on lowering the standard to 60 ppb. EPA has opened a public comment period on the

proposed standards. MWAQC's draft letter to US EPA supports the 65-70 ppb range. MWAQC plans to approve a letter to the EPA at their March 4 meeting and ACPAC was asked to comment on the draft letter. ACPAC had an in depth discussion on MWAQC's draft letter and whether to recommend 60 ppb. Gretchen Goldman, ACPAC's new Vice Chair, will draft a recommended revision based on ACPAC's discussion and Maia Davis will circulate to ACPAC members for comment. Glenna Tinney, ACPAC's new Chair, will present the recommendations of ACPAC at the March 4 MWAQC meeting.

4. Committee Updates (Maia Davis, COG Environmental Programs)

In 2014, three ACPAC and three CEEPC members worked together on an Awards Task Force to launch a pilot Climate and Energy Leadership Awards Program. Both ACPAC and CEEPC support the continuation and expansion of the program in 2015. One additional volunteer was needed from ACPAC for the awards program and Gabriel Thoumi volunteered. The first Awards Task Force call will be scheduled for the first week of March. Additional updates will be provided at the March ACPAC meeting.

5. ACPAC Elections and Member Terms

The ACPAC Nominating Committee's slate for Chair and Vice Chair included Glenna Tinney for Chair and Gretchen Goldman for Vice Chair. There were no nominations from the floor. Glenna and Gretchen received majority votes and are officially the 2015 ACPAC Chair and Vice Chair! New ACPAC members participated in a random selection of member terms. Due to time constraints the terms will be explained in further detail at the March meeting.

Next meeting: March 16, 2015 – 5:30pm – 7:30pm
