

# 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, May 14, 2012  
Room 4/5  
5:30 P.M.-7:30 P.M.

**ACPAC members:** Bill Butler, Brian DiNunno, Mike Cakouros, Beverly Fourier, Raphael Isaac, Andrew Kambour, Sally Kane, Daniel Lee, Patrick Matos, Brian McFarland, Caroline Petti, John Reed, Glenna Tinney, Kyle Todd, Larry Zaragoza

**Staff:** Joan Rohlfs, Maia Davis

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

The meeting was called to order at 5:33pm. The agenda and minutes from April 16, 2012 were approved with no changes.

## **2. State of the Air Report 2012 (Janice Nolen, American Lung Association)**

The American Lung Association (ALA) is the 13<sup>th</sup> year of publishing the State of the Air Report. The report gives A- F Grades or Pass/Fail to 900 counties with monitors from across the country. Metro areas are also ranked by pollution. The purpose is to put air pollution into everyday language and give the public local information on ozone and particle pollution. The District of Columbia was graded F for ozone, D for 24-hour particulates and a "Pass" for annual particulate matter (PM). The Washington-Baltimore-Northern VA was ranked #13 for high ozone days (Harford County, MD monitor), ranked #22 for 24-hour particle pollution (Baltimore City, MD monitor), and ranked #56 for annual particle pollution (Baltimore County, MD monitor).

A robust discussion followed Janice's presentation and she responded to many questions from the group. The ALA has figures that show the number of deaths prevented if PM we reduce particulate matter to recommended levels. It's not clear whether ozone or PM2.5 contributes more to asthma. Year-round PM is connected to death and heart attacks. Studies are starting to look at multi-pollutant exposures since we aren't exposed to just one at a time. The ALA has put a bigger emphasis on the State of the Air being a health issue, not just an environmental issue. Health professionals have been very receptive to engaging with the ALA.

## **3. Sustainable D.C. Vision (Laine Cidlowski, D.C. Office of Planning)**

The Sustainable D.C. Vision is for the District of Columbia to be the healthiest, greenest, and most livable city in the United States. The vision set specific goals for jobs, health, built environment, climate, energy, food, nature, transportation, waste, water, and green economy. Sustainable DC has engaged people across the city to raise awareness, gather input, and tap into the wisdom and knowledge of community members, institutions, and organizations. Outreach for feedback on the vision will continue through August.

Laine answered several questions and heard several recommendations from the group. Laine explained how the anticipated population growth can fit into D.C.'s existing capacity with current zoning. She also explained how waste-to-energy projects were debated and that these types of projects are included but seen as an interim solution as the City moves towards net zero consumption. D.C. Office of Planning is requesting \$5 million of seed

money in FY 13 budget to begin implementing the vision. One recommendation was to focus on funding and completing a smaller number of goals within the next few years. It was suggested that they try to mobilize the public to drive the effort from the bottom up and for communities to take ownership. Low income communities need to be engaged.

**4. Member Time (Daniel Lee, Onyx Group of Alexandria)**

Daniel Lee works from the Onyx Group of Alexandria, where they primarily serve as a consultant for the Federal Government. Their key professional services areas are planning, architecture, interiors and information management. A couple projects that Daniel has worked on recently include the Fort Bragg Thoroughfare Improvement and Alternative Transportation Plan and the Navy Mid-Atlantic Regional Energy Plan.

**5. MWAQC and CEEPC Updates (Joan Rohlf, COG DEP Staff)**

An MWAQC task force is has developed a list of 5 options for the margin of safety budget that is currently being debated. The option that may be the most favorable would establish a slight margin of safety above modeled results, be contingent upon new modeling results and include SIP commitments from each jurisdiction. MWAQC will not meet this month as the task force is still working toward a mobile budget solution. CEEPC will hear presentations on Sustainable D.C. as well as Region Forward and regional activity centers at their May 23, 2012 meeting.

**6. Adjourn**

The meeting was adjourned at 7:20pm.

<b>Next meeting: June 18, 2012 – 5:30pm – Room 4/5</b>
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