

# COMMUNITY AND STAKEHOLDER VIRTUAL *LISTENING* SESSION THEMES

## **Cluster 1: District of Columbia**

Date: Saturday, August 24, 2024

Time: 11am – 12:30pm eastern time.

## **Cluster 2: Prince George's County and Montgomery County**

Date: Saturday, September 7, 2024

Time: 11am – 12:30pm eastern time.

## **Cluster 3: Fairfax County and Arlington County**

Date: Saturday, September 14, 2024

Time: 11am – 12:30pm eastern time.

## **Cluster 4: Prince William County, Manassas Park, and Loudon County**

Date: Saturday, September 21, 2024

Time: 11am – 12:30pm eastern time.



Metropolitan Washington  
**Council of Governments**

# Key Themes in Clusters 1 through 3

## Data Limitations

- Improve air quality data accessibility and comprehensiveness
- Address health-air quality overlaps in rhetoric and planning
- The few air quality monitors and underfunded mobile efforts limit a complete understanding of pollution impacts and hot spots

## Community Engagement and Education

- Need for on-the ground outreach and educational opportunities on air quality
- Limited public awareness and information on air quality and health impacts

# Key Themes in Clusters 1 through 3

## **Enforcement and Accountability**

- Perceived inadequate enforcement of air quality regulations, especially in marginalized areas
- Need for accountability in industries and sectors regarding pollution
- Need an emphasis on the long-term benefits of addressing air quality vs. the cost of inaction

## **Equitable Actions for Air Quality**

- Electrification of bus fleets and greener transportation methods would improve air quality
- The needs and concerns of disadvantaged populations are not being heard
- The Action Plan should prioritize proposed projects in the most impacted areas

# Notable Quotes in Clusters 1 through 3

## Notable Quotes in Cluster 1:

- "It's time for us to walk the walk. There's a lack of information—people don't know about air quality and how it is impacting their lives."
- "The current monitoring infrastructure is inadequate for fully capturing the variability and severity of air pollution across the region. Without more detailed and localized data, our ability to effectively target interventions and achieve environmental justice goals remains limited."
- "Mortality from air pollution differs based on region. It's time to hold polluters accountable—there's a reason why some areas are more affected than others."

## Notable Quotes in Cluster 2:

- "The Council of Government transportation and planning board has set goals on greenhouse gas reduction but does not meet the goals they have set. If they can meet the goals in place, the air quality would be significantly improved. The board is not holding their people accountable."
- "If you talk to 100 people in the community and ask them what a long term air quality plan is you might get one or two that know something— that needs to change."
- "The people who are most affected are least likely to show up at meetings like this and we need to hear their voices too."