



# MULTI-SECTOR WORKING GROUP RECOMMENDATIONS

---

Steve Walz  
Director of Environmental Programs

Climate, Energy & Environment Policy Committee  
January 25, 2017



# Background

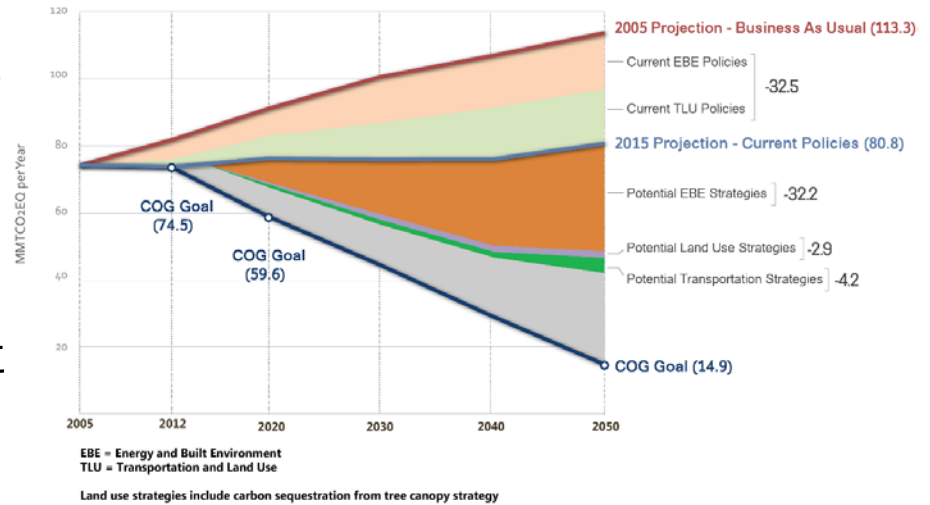
---

- What
  - MWAQC-CEEPC Joint Resolution and TPB Resolution asked COG to establish Greenhouse Gas Multi-Sector Working Group
    - Consensus on technically viable & cost-effective actions to reduce energy use & greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions
- Why
  - Move the region towards the regional GHG emission reduction goals from 2008 NCR Climate Change Report and Region Forward
- Regional Goals
  - Short-term – Reduce 2012 GHG emissions to 2005 baseline
  - Interim – Reduce 20% below 2005 baseline by 2020
  - Long-term – Reduce 80% below 2005 baseline by 2050



# Multi-Sector Working Group Initial Findings

- Actions “on-the-books” are moving the region toward the 2050 goal
- Additional strategies can move the region further toward the 2050 goal
- Actions by & among sectors
  - Energy & Built Environment
  - Land Use
  - Transportation
- Additional national, state, local strategies needed to close the gap



# Consensus Recommendations

---

- Framework for recommendations
  - Region-wide implementation
    - Every member jurisdiction/agency is able to implement
    - Super majority of jurisdictions responded to the survey
    - Majority of respondents said they are/expect to implement at appropriate local level
  - Local implementation
    - Some jurisdictions/agencies can implement while others could not – reflecting local conditions & limitations on authority
  - Strategies that must be implemented by federal/state or private entities
  - Overarching consumer education/outreach strategy



# Consensus Recommendations

## Energy and Built Environment Strategies

Implemented Regionally	Implemented Jurisdictionally	Implemented State/Federally
Reduce emissions from solid waste management (Note that three responding localities said while this was consistent with local policy, they lacked any current implementation plan)	Increase infrastructure systems efficiency & renewable energy use	Reduce emissions from electric generation through supporting state and federal actions
Reduce energy use from new buildings (Note that some localities have limited implementation authority due to state control of building energy codes)	Reduce energy use from existing buildings	Reduce natural gas pipeline emissions
	Increase use of distributed renewable energy resources	
	Reduce emissions from non-road equipment	



# Consensus Recommendations

## Land Use Strategies

Implemented Regionally	Implemented Jurisdictionally	Implemented State/Federally
Increase proportion of new development in activity centers		
Reduce loss of tree cover due to land development		



# Consensus Recommendations

## Transportation Strategies

Implemented Regionally	Implemented Jurisdictionally	Implemented State/Federally
Increase alternate fuel vehicles in public sector fleet	Implement programs/projects to improve traffic operations on local roadways	Implement programs/projects to improve traffic operations on state and federal roadways
	Encourage cash subsidy for public and private sector commuters using alternates modes of travel	Encourage cash subsidy for state or federal employee commuters using alternates modes of travel and offer assistance through a commuter subsidy program
	Increase frequency and/or reduce run-time for local and regional transit services	Increase speed enforcement on Interstates and limited access facilities
	Implement or expand existing transit fare buy-down programs on local and regional transit services	Offer funding assistance to localities operating transit fare buy down programs.
	Promote zero emissions vehicles in private sector fleet	Implement low carbon fuel standards for roadway vehicles (with local support)
	Install electric power units at truck stops	

# Board Resolution R68-2016

---

- Set out basis for Multi-Sector Working Group & Policy Task Force
- Noted survey findings
  - Voluntary actions can be taken at the local & regional levels
  - Other strategies could be implemented at the state & national levels
- Recognized progress made to reduce emissions from work at local, regional, state, & federal levels
- Found recommendations responsive to Resolution establishing the Policy Task Force
- Encouraged MWAQC, TPB, and CEEPC to review, consider and take appropriate action to implement strategies as part of local, regional, & statewide planning and programming activities
- Directed COG staff to assist COG members and boards in implementation actions and provide periodic status reports





## Steve Walz

(202) 962-3205

swalz@mwcog.org

[mwcog.org](http://mwcog.org)

---

777 North Capitol Street NE, Suite 300  
Washington, DC 20002



Metropolitan Washington  
**Council of Governments**