

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, October 20, 2014

Room 1

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

ACPAC Members: Bill Butler, Gretchen Goldman, Eric Goplerud, John Howes, Sally Kane (phone)?, Chuck Kooshian, Glenna Tinney

Staff: Steve Walz, Maia Davis, Amanda Campbell

Guest Speakers: Kim Toufectis, NASA; Christina Hudson, Lidos; and Rachel Healy, WMATA

1. Call to Order, Adoption of Agenda (Glenna Tinney, Vice Chair)

With ACPAC and the speaker's approval, items #2 and #3 on the agenda were swapped. The draft September meeting summary was approved without changes.

2. Building a Climate Resilient National Capital Region (Kim Toufectis, NASA)

Kim Toufectis, leads NASA's efforts to make NASA bases and its surrounding communities, more resilient. Kim painted a picture for us of what lead NASA to working with other federal agencies, COG and its members on resiliency in the National Capital Region. The story began with Hurricane Katrina and how NASA's Stennis Space Center in Mississippi served as the staging area for federal relief efforts. In 2009, a wildfire in California threatened NASA's Jet Propulsion Laboratory and surrounding communities. Most NASA facilities are within 15ft of sea level and the remaining are in the desert. NASA leadership realized that these are challenges that must be addressed and they must reach beyond the walls of their bases borders.

NASA did begin with internal collaboration, partnering scientists with institution to develop climate impacts and vulnerability workshops, assessments, and strategies. They then partnered with the Air Force, since many of their facilities are connected. In the National Capital Region, they have partnered with the National Capital Planning Commission (NCPC) to bring in a wide range of federal agencies in the region and partnered with COG to bring the communities in. NASA scientists produced downscaled climate information for the region and walked all participants through agency level vulnerability assessments. Based on all the assessments, the main vulnerabilities and potential strategies were collectively identified.

ACPAC had questions about NASA's ability to further assist communities with mitigation and adaptation, especially jurisdictions in the region that didn't participate in this project, which was mostly focused on the urban core of the region. NASA is interested in similarly assisting other communities on resiliency that surround other NASA bases and may also be able to provide some assistance if COG was able to

help other jurisdictions in the region apply this model. In terms of mitigation, Ames is a sustainable base test site that's advancing technology for sustainable building management and NASA is actively working toward meeting the requirement for all federal buildings designed to net zero standards by 2020. NASA has also been looking into urban heat-island mitigation projects.

3. Metro Sustainability Agenda (Rachel Healy, WMATA)

This year, WMATA released its Sustainability Agenda as a means of executing the vision of Momentum. It's essentially a business plan to show how WMATA can go green and save green. The Agenda sets specific goals to increase ridership, community connectivity and waste diversion as well as decrease greenhouse emissions, energy use, water use and stormwater pollution. WMATA has already implemented many pilot programs such as replacing 13,000 parking garage lights to LEDs, 2 LEED facilities and a net zero stormwater treatment facility. Through the Sustainability Lab WMATA will work on systematizing those pilot initiatives to help reach the goals of the Sustainability Agenda and Momentum.

4. Greenhouse Gas Emission Reduction in the Transportation Sector (Steve Walz, COG Environment)

Earlier this month, CEEPC and MWAQC held its first joint meeting. Members of the Transportation Planning Board were also in attendance. The agenda focused on helping members gain a better understanding of linkages between climate change, air quality and transportation planning. In order to better coordinate climate change goals across sectors, attendees asked that a multi-sector working group be set up to develop a multi-sector plan. The group also asked for all policy bodies at COG to re-affirm their commitment toward the regional greenhouse gas emission reduction goals.

Next meeting: December 15, 2014 – 5:30pm – 7:30pm
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