

# CEEPC March 26, 2025 Committee and Staff Updates

## A. BUILT ENVIRONMENT AND ENERGY ADVISORY COMMITTEE (BEEAC)

The Built Environment Energy and Advisory Committee met on February 20<sup>th</sup>. The meeting included presentations on the 2025 committee priorities, the 2030 climate goals mid-course review, and greenhouse gas emissions inventory and energy star certification for data centers.

Key discussion elements include local governments providing input on the mid-course review progress survey, emission projections and accurate data collection for data centers, and incorporating electrification and heat pumps as priorities for the committee. The next BEEAC meeting is April 17<sup>th</sup>.

### B. AIR AND CLIMATE PUBLIC ADVISORY COMMITTEE (ACPAC)

ACPAC's March 17th meeting focused on providing preliminary feedback on MWAQC's Draft Environmental Justice (EJ) Subcommittee Action Plan and its first community listening session on the new EJ Toolkit development process. ACPAC will package their comments on MWAQC's EJ Subcommittee Action Plan and submit them to COG Staff before the March 26 EJ Subcommittee meeting. The community listening session segment of the meeting was facilitated by Equnival Partners, COG's consultant on the EJ Toolkit Refresh. Members of the public and community were invited to engage and discuss EJ challenges facing in their communities. COG staff also held two virtual listening sessions in February and March with COG local government staff to hear about their EJ engagement challenges, successes, and needs. Feedback from both perspectives will be incorporated into the EJ Toolkit refresh this year. The next ACPAC meeting is May 19th.

# C. REGIONAL ELECTRIC VEHICLE DEPLOYMENT (REVD) WORKING GROUP

The March 20<sup>th</sup> Regional Electric Vehicle Deployment Working Group was chaired by Amy Posner, Electric Vehicle Planner with the City of Alexandria and new committee Chair. Key highlights from the meeting include a presentation from Huoi Trieu, King County Special Projects Manager, who provided an insightful overview of King County Metro's transition to a zero emissions fleet. Huoi Trieu's presentation offered valuable strategies and progress updates on achieving a sustainable fleet. Mel Hogg from the District Department of Energy & Environment discussed utility pole electric vehicle charging. REVD's next meeting is May 15<sup>th</sup>.

#### D. GREATER WASHINGTON REGION CLEAN CITIES COALITION (GWRCCC)

The Greater Washington Region Clean Cities Coalition is collecting regional data on the reduction of Greenhouse Gas Reductions by public and private fleets for 2024. Please contact <a href="mailto:blakeshowes@gwrccc.org">blakeshowes@gwrccc.org</a> to submit data on your efforts. The data from the GWRCCC Annual Report will be shared with the U.S. Department of Energy.

GWRCCC is hosting a 5K Walk, Vehicle Display and Green Expo on Saturday, April 19th at 10am to 3pm. We would like your organization to walk with us, have an exhibit booth and display a vehicle. Visit <a href="https://www.gwrccc.org/earth-day">www.gwrccc.org/earth-day</a> to register and for more information or call 202-671-1580.

#### E. RECYCLING COMMITTEE

The COG Recycling Committee is planning two media campaigns for the Spring: Go Recycle and Battery Management. The initiatives will use paid media and a press conference to reach citizens in the region.

# F. REGIONAL TREE CANOPY SUBCOMMITTEE (RTCS)

The Regional Tree Canopy Subcommittee has an agreed upon an outline for the Tree Canopy Action Plan development and has formed three subgroups to work on Action Plan strategies this year. The RTCS would like to involve additional COG foresters in the Action Plan development.

#### G. STAFF UPDATES

# Climate Pollution Reduction Grant (CPRG) Program

COG, with ICF support, is developing the MSA-scale Comprehensive Climate Action Plan (CCAP) under EPA's Climate Pollution Reduction Program (CPRG). COG is continuing the work to develop the technical aspects of the CCAP including the greenhouse gas (GHG) inventories, GHG projections, GHG measures analysis, co-pollutant benefits analysis, Low-Income Disadvantaged Communities (LIDAC) benefits analysis, and workforce development analysis. COG will also continue to engage stakeholders across sectors with an emphasis on data centers, workforce, and LIDAC discussions to inform the technical analyses and plan development.

# Charging and Fueling Infrastructure (CFI) Program

On August 27, 2024, the U.S. Department of Transportation's Federal Highway Administration (FHWA) awarded \$3.9 million to COG through the CFI Program to support the installation of electric vehicle (EV) charging infrastructure. For the Round 1B award, COG partnered with the Cities of Alexandria, Fairfax, and Manassas and Arlington, Fairfax, Frederick, and Prince George's Counties to deploy publicly accessible EV charging infrastructure at local government facilities in their communities. The majority of the sites are in or near historically disadvantaged communities, closing the gaps in the existing charging network and bringing greater opportunity to communities most impacted by the effects of climate change. COG has also partnered with the Greater Washington Region Clean Cities Coalition (GWRCCC) on equitable engagement and workforce development opportunities, including listening sessions with disadvantaged communities, job fairs, and EV infrastructure trainings.

The FHWA-COG CFI agreement was signed by FHWA and fully executed as of January 12, 2025. The signing of the agreement obligated Phase I Pre-Construction funds, which is 15% of the total funds. Phase I includes initial design plans for EV infrastructure and completion of the NEPA Categorial Exclusion (CE) process for all locations included in this project as well as initial equitable engagement and workforce development activities. COG considers Phase I Pre-Construction funds to be low risk and continues the work of executing sub-grantee agreements. At this time Phase II funds have not been obligated.