



## Climate, Energy, and Environment Policy Committee

### DRAFT MEETING SUMMARY: NOVEMBER 20, 2024

#### CEEPC MEMBERS IN ATTENDANCE

- Hon. Jolene Ivey, Prince George's County (Chair)
- Hon. Cindy Dyballa, City of Takoma Park
- Hon. Sarah Bagley, City of Alexandria
- Hon. Alan Hew, City of College Park
- Hon. Barry Jackson, City of Rockville
- Hon. Takis Karantonis, Arlington County
- Hon. M.C. Keegan-Ayer, Frederick County
- Hon. Alanna Mensing, City of Manassas Park
- Hon. Bob Weir, Prince William County
- Erica Bannerman, Prince George's County
- Mike Barancewicz, Fairfax County Public Schools (FCPS)
- Christopher Beck, Maryland Department of the Environment (MDE)
- Noelani Brockett, Charles County
- Dave Feldman, Bethesda Green
- Randy Freed, Citizens' Climate Lobby
- Beth Groth, Charles County
- Stephen Gyor, District of Columbia
- Jenn Hatch, District Department of Energy and Environment (DOEE)
- Julie Kimmel, Air and Climate Public Advisory Committee (ACPAC)
- Sarah Kogel-Smucker, Montgomery County
- Giulia Manno, Prince William County
- Dale Medearis, Northern Virginia Regional Commission (NVRC)
- Tim Miller, City of Laurel
- Jon Monger, Montgomery County
- John Morrill, Fairfax County
- Jim Ponticello, Virginia Department of Transportation (VDOT)
- Julie Rosenberg, Faith Alliance for Climate Solutions (FACS)
- Dr. Dann Sklarew, George Mason University
- Meredith Soniat, District Department of Transportation (DDOT)
- Antoine Thompson, Greater Washington Region Clean Cities Coalition (GWRCCC)

#### ADDITIONAL ATTENDEES:

- Hon. Anita Bonds, District of Columbia
- Tom Ballou, Virginia Department of Environmental Quality (VDEQ)
- Mati Bazurto, City of Bowie
- Karen Cannon, Mobilize Frederick
- Angela Conroy, VDEQ
- Andrea Crooms, Prince George's County
- Richard Dooley, Arlington County
- Susan Elliot, ICF
- Jennifer Fioretti, Arlington County
- Allyson Frantz, VDEQ
- Amy Gillespie, Maryland Clean Energy Center (MCEC)
- Tianni Ivey, Office of Supervisor Saines
- Eve Lukens-Day, EPA
- Demetra McBride, Arlington County
- Matt Meyers, Fairfax County
- Regina Moore, VDOT
- Kate Roetzer, Washington Metropolitan Area Transit Authority (WMATA)
- Lindsey Shaw, Montgomery County
- John Sheridan, Prince George's County
- Michelle Smyk, Prince William County
- Tim Stevens, Falls Church Climate Action Network (FCCAN)
- Emma Tarquinio, Chesapeake Bay Trust
- Deryn Thomas, Office of Delegate Stewart
- Christopher Topoleski, FACS
- Andy Young, City of Falls Church

#### COG STAFF IN ATTENDANCE:

- Alissa Boggs, COG Environmental Programs
- Leah Boggs, COG Environmental Programs
- Heidi Bonnaffon, COG Environmental Programs
- Robert Christopher, COG Environmental Programs
- Robert d'Abadie, COG Transportation Planning
- Maia Davis, COG Environmental Programs

- Jeff King, COG Director Climate, Energy and Air Programs
- Tim Masters, COG Environmental Programs
- John Snarr, COG Environmental Programs
- Dusan Vuksan, COG Transportation Planning

## **1. WELCOME AND MEETING SUMMARY**

*Jolene Ivey, CEEPC Chair, Prince George's County Council*

Climate, Energy, and Environmental Policy Committee (CEEPC) Chair Jolene Ivey called the November CEEPC meeting to order. The September CEEPC Meeting Summary was approved.

## **2. COMMITTEE AND MEMBER UPDATES**

### **A. Built Environment and Energy Advisory Committee (BEEAC)**

*Leah Boggs, COG Environmental Programs*

- The committee's November meeting will discuss the relocation of power lines as a reliability and resilience measure with a presentation on the DC Power Line Undergrounding initiative (DC Plug), which is a partnership between the District and Pepco. The committee will also receive a follow-up presentation on the October Solar Forum.

### **B. Air and Climate Public Advisory Committee (ACPAC)**

*Julie Kimmel, ACPAC Chair*

- The committee met in November and received a presentation by COG staff on the proposed next steps for the committee's memo to CEEPC. The Environmental Justice Toolkit update will focus on communication strategies, COG staff is reviewing vendor responses and expects to have a consultant selected by the end of the year.

### **C. Regional Electric Vehicle Deployment (REVD) Working Group**

*Robert Christopher, COG Environmental Programs*

- The working group met in October and received presentations on off grid vehicle charging solutions.

### **D. Greater Washington Region Clean Cities Coalition (GWRCCC)**

*Antoine Thompson, GWRCCC*

- GWRCCC held its annual conference in October with over 300 attendees.
- GWRCCC recently released a fleet equity brochure and are finalizing an equity guide.

### **E. Recycling Committee**

*John Snarr, COG Environmental Programs*

- The committee is wrapping up the America Recycles Day contest and will draw the winner at the December meeting. Internal funding has been secured to do a 2025 Battery Management Campaign.

### **F. Regional Tree Canopy Subcommittee (RTCS)**

*Heidi Bonnaffon, COG Environmental Programs*

- The subcommittee presented the tree canopy goal to the Region Forward Coalition in October. The subcommittee met with the National Park Service (NPS) to discuss the tree canopy goal and NPS work in the region that supports the goal.

### **G. Member Roundtable Updates**

*Meredith Soniat, DDOT*

- DDOT will be having a call for projects through the Carbon Reduction Program (CRP), through this program DDOT hopes to quantify emissions reductions at a project level. DDOT put out a

survey for potential NEVI program applicants to understand how to improve the process for the next round after having limited participation in the 2024 application cycle.

*Takis Karantonis, Arlington County*

- The County has reworked its Commercial Property Assessed Clean Energy (CPACE) program to boost participation. The County has deployed 51 public EV charging stations at community centers, libraries, and other public facilities. These charging stations are all solar powered, as 100 percent of the County's government operations are powered by a solar array in southern Virginia. The County's Carbon Neutral Transportation Master Plan aims to be completed in December, which will contain a detailed methodology and citing plans for the public EV charging stations. The County received the Project of the Year Award from the Virginia Floodplain Management Association for the Cardinal Elementary School stormwater vault.

*Jolene Ivey, Prince George's County Council*

- The County Council passed two bills presented by Chair Ivey and Councilmember Blegay that establish requirements for EV charging stations in multifamily buildings and some commercial buildings.

#### H. Staff Updates

- The Transportation Planning Board's Transportation Resiliency Subcommittee kicked off earlier in November.
- COG held a Solar Forum in October at George Mason University's Arlington Campus to engage on the topic of what can be done to advance solar energy.

### **3. NEXT STEPS ON RECOMMENDATIONS FROM THE AIR AND CLIMATE PUBLIC ADVISORY COMMITTEE (ACPAC)**

*Jeffrey King, Director, Climate, Energy, and Air Program*

*Leah Boggs, Senior Environmental Planner*

At the September CEEPC meeting, CEEPC members asked COG staff to discuss the ideas and suggestions raised during the meeting with COG leadership. Recommendations from leadership included addressing data centers as a long-term issue while focusing on more immediate actions, like a mid-course review of progress toward meeting the region's 2030 climate goals. The other proposal for moving forward was to launch a regional climate outreach and education campaign, which will need a proposal developed to explore funding sources. CEEPC will continue to revisit the issue in 2025, especially after the mid-course review is completed.

### **4. FOCUS ON ACCELERATING ACTION ON CLIMATE: PROGRAM UPDATES**

*Tim Shepherd, Maryland Department of the Environment*

*Vanessa Bertelli, Electrify DC*

The Clean Corridors Coalition (C3) received a \$249 million implementation grant from the EPA's Climate Pollution Reduction Grants (CPRG) Program. C3 is a partnership between the Maryland Department of the Environment (MDE), Maryland Department of Transportation (MDOT), New Jersey Department of Environmental Protection (NJ DEP), Delaware Department of Transportation (DelDOT), and Connecticut Department of Energy and Environmental Protection (CT DEEP). The grant will fund public freight truck charging infrastructure at an estimated 20-24 sites along the I-95 corridor, with near term (2025-2030) greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions reductions of 459,000 tons and long term (2025-2050) GHG reductions of over 18 million tons. In addition to the public truck charging infrastructure the project will also provide technical assistance for site hosts, workforce training, community engagement, and planning and coordination to expand project impacts throughout the Northeast and Mid-Atlantic. The charging stations will be a mixture of industrial, small, and large

truck stops spread along the I-95 corridor throughout the four states. The stops will offer a mixture of charging capacities as low as 150 kilowatts (kW) and as high as one megawatt (MW). The next steps for Maryland will be working with utilities and other stakeholders to identify sites along the I-95 corridor. Once the sites are identified RFPs will be issued for site installations and utilities will work on procurement for infrastructure equipment and construction will begin. Meanwhile, workforce strategies will be developed, and workforce programs will be rolled out. The installations are estimated to be completed by 2029-2030.

Electrify DC is a regional nonprofit that works to make it easier, faster, and more affordable for everyone to decarbonize their homes. Hyperlocal residential electrification is important because residential buildings account for a quarter or more of GHG emissions and is crucial part in meeting the region's emissions reduction goals. Electrify DC received a \$350,000 grant from DOEE for a study on electrical grid hosting capacity that will be published for the public. In addition, Electrify DC hosts many programs such as the Healthy Homes Fair, Hyperlocal Demonstration Sties, the Real Estate Agents Leading Electrification (REALE) program, and the Residential Electrification Implementation Working Group (REIWG). The REIWG has recommended three initiatives to increase residential electrification which are a regional contractor list, a regional homeowners' information hub, and a regional coordination of training and onramps and directory.

## **5. COMPREHENSIVE CLIMATE ACTION PLAN (CCAP) UPDATE**

*Deb Harris, Vice President, ICF Consulting*

The Comprehensive Climate Action Plan (CCAP) is the second deliverable of the EPA's Climate Pollution Reduction Grant (CPRG) program. The CCAP's due date has been extended by EPA to December 1, 2025. The CCAP will take a broad approach and look across all sectors for GHG reduction actions and ways to support implementation. The CCAP will include an update of COG's GHG inventory and projections, a low-income/disadvantaged communities (LIDAC) benefits analysis, and a workforce planning analysis. The goals of the CCAP are to meet or exceed COG's goals of 50 percent GHG emission reductions below 2005 levels by 2030, 80 percent GHG emission reductions below 2005 levels by 2050, and 250,000 solar rooftops by 2030. In addition, the CCAP hopes to build out implementation information for already identified GHG reduction strategies and expand the planning reach into more western Virginia counties to understand broader regional impact. Comprehensive engagement will occur throughout the CCAP process to help build support for the CCAP and inform the plan with key stakeholders' projects and programs.

## **6. ADJOURN**

*Jolene Ivey, CEEPC Chair*

Chair Ivey adjourned the meeting. Upcoming CEEPC meeting dates for 2025 include:

- Wednesday, January 22, 2025
- Auto Show, January 30, 2025
- Wednesday, March 26, 2025
- Wednesday, May 28, 2025
- Wednesday, July 23, 2025
- Wednesday, September 24, 2025
- Wednesday, November 19, 2025

*All meeting materials including speaker presentations can be found on the COG website or by*

*clicking the link below –*

<https://www.mwcog.org/events/2024/11/20/climate-energy-and-environment-policy-committee/>