



BUILT ENVIRONMENT AND ENERGY ADVISORY COMMITTEE (BEEAC)

Draft Webinar Meeting Summary: February 19, 2026

BEEAC Local and State Government Members in Attendance:

- Mati Bazaruto, City of Bowie, MD (Co-Vice Chair)
- Valerie Amor, City of Alexandria (Co-Vice Chair)
- Allie Shepard, Arlington County
- Amanda Campbell, City of Rockville
- Ashlei Williams, DC DPR
- Ben Burrows, Frederick County
- Brian Booher, Montgomery County
- Brittany Whited, DOEE
- Chloe Delhomme, City of Manassas
- Dale Medearis, NVRC
- Daniel Lee, WMATA
- Dory Estrada, City of Takoma Park
- Hokuma Karimova, City of Gaithersburg
- Jennifer Fioretti, Arlington County
- Jenny Willoughby, City of Frederick
- Jeremy Good, Montgomery County
- Kate Tanabe, DOEE
- Kevin Milstead, Prince William County
- Lindsey Robinett Shaw, Montgomery County
- Luisa Robles, City of Greenbelt
- Maggie Beetstra, Fairfax County
- Matt Meyers, Fairfax County
- Maya Dhavale, Fairfax County

- Michelle Blair, City of Laurel
- Rich Dooley, Arlington County
- Shawn O'Neill, Fairfax Water
- Stephanie Cadena, Fairfax County

Additional Attendees:

- Elizabeth Marik, Electrify DC
- Jon Jenkins, Electrify DC
- Kathie Hoekstra, Alexandria Environmental Policy Committee Member
- Michelle Kolacz, Electrify DC
- Vanessa Bertelli, Electrify DC

COG Staff:

- Alissa Boggs, COG DEP
- Caroline Sherman, COG DEP
- Heidi Bonnaffon, COG DEP
- Leah Boggs, COG DEP
- Maddie Stoddard, COG DEP
- Maia Davis, COG DEP
- Robert Christopher, COG DEP
- Jeff King, COG DEP



1. CALL TO ORDER AND INTRODUCTIONS

Mati Bazarro, Director of Business Operations, City of Bowie and BEEAC Co-Vice Chair

Chair Mati Bazarro called the meeting to order and welcomed participants to the first BEEAC meeting of 2026. COG staff provided an overview of meeting logistics, including attendance tracking and recording procedures. Introductions were made for the 2026 leadership team, featuring Mati Bazarro as Chair, with Al Carr (District of Columbia) and Valerie Amor (City of Alexandria) serving as Co-Vice Chairs. Additionally, staff introduced Maddie Stodard as a new external intern.

2. APPROVAL OF THE NOVEMBER 20, 2025 MEETING SUMMARY

Mati Bazarro, BEEAC Co-Vice Chair

Chair Mati Bazarro provided time during the meeting for any additional review and invited comments or corrections from the committee. With no changes proposed verbally or via the chat, the November 20, 2025, meeting summary was approved as final.

3. 2026 BEEAC PRIORITIES DISCUSSION

Mati Bazarro, BEEAC Chair

Chair Mati Bazarro presented the proposed priorities and strategic outlook for BEEAC in 2026, emphasizing a focus on actionable regional goals. Key priorities identified for the year include deep dives into data center energy impacts, building decarbonization strategies, and the expansion of the regional heat pump labor force. The committee also discussed the ongoing implementation of the Environmental Justice (EJ) Toolkit 2.0 and the need for continued collaboration on federal funding opportunities, such as the Climate Pollution Reduction Grants (CPRG).

Members were encouraged to provide feedback on the "ambitious" list of goals, with the Chair noting that the committee will remain flexible to address emerging energy policy issues throughout the year. No objections were raised regarding the proposed focus areas, and the leadership team will use these priorities to guide the selection of guest speakers and technical presentations for future meetings.

4. 2026 LEGISLATIVE PREVIEW

Robert Christopher, COG Staff

Robert Christopher provided an overview of the 2026 legislative season, highlighting the activities of the CEEPC Legislative Committee in tracking bills across Maryland, Virginia, and the District of Columbia that align with regional climate, energy, and resiliency priorities. The committee has been active in submitting formal comment letters to support or oppose legislation impacting the region's environmental goals.

In Virginia, COG issued letters of opposition for HB 1031, which proposed delaying utility renewable energy requirements by 20 years, and SB 627, which sought to repeal renewable energy portfolio standards for major utilities. In Maryland, the committee opposed HB 66 and SB 373, bills that would withdraw the state from the Regional Greenhouse Gas Initiative (RGGI), noting such a move would hinder greenhouse gas reduction targets. Conversely, COG supported HB 87 to establish

income tax credits for energy-efficient home improvements. Staff continue to monitor additional legislation regarding data center reporting and residential solar installations.

5. ELECTRIFY DC HOMEOWNERS HUB ROUNDTABLE

Leah Boggs, COG Staff

Vanessa Bertelli, ELECTRIFY DC

BEEAC Members

Homeowners Hub Members

Leah Boggs introduced the roundtable by highlighting COG's planning support for ELECTRIFY DC to regionalize resources through the development of a "Homeowners Hub". Vanessa Bertelli, Executive Director of ELECTRIFY DC, provided an overview of the nonprofit's mission to make residential decarbonization more affordable and accessible in the DC region. Key initiatives discussed included the upcoming Healthy Homes Fair on March 21, homeowner coaching programs, and the Electrified DMV Network, a cross-sector group of manufacturers and local governments.

The roundtable focused on the proposed Homeowners Hub, designed as a centralized "one-stop shop" to provide residents with localized data on electrification costs, success stories, and vetted contractors. Bertelli noted that the hub aims to solve the problem of fragmented information currently spread across various state and local websites. By creating a shared regional tool, jurisdictions can leverage a common workforce and provide consistent messaging to contractors who operate across the DMV.

Representatives from partner jurisdictions, including the City of Takoma Park and Arlington County, spoke in support of the initiative, emphasizing how a regional platform benefits smaller jurisdictions with limited resources. The project is currently in the planning phase, with working groups meeting monthly to define core functionalities, address legal impediments, and establish long-term funding mechanisms.

6. 2026 MEETING SCHEDULE AND ADJOURNMENT

Staff provided a concluding update on the Final EJ Toolkit 2.0: A Climate, Energy, and Air Quality EJ Community Engagement and Policy Guide for Local Governments. Members requested that the link to the finalized toolkit be distributed in the meeting notes for further review.

The committee confirmed the 2026 BEEAC meeting schedule, with sessions remaining on April 16, June 18, September 17, and November 19. Before adjourning, Vice Chair Valerie Amor reiterated the need for member feedback on the "ambitious" priorities list discussed earlier in the meeting to ensure the goals remain realistic for the committee's capacity in the coming year. With no further business, the meeting was adjourned.

All meeting materials including speaker presentations and video recording can be found on the MWCOG website by clicking the link below –

<https://www.mwcog.org/events/2026/2/19/event-built-environment-and-energy-advisory-committee/>

Reasonable accommodations are provided upon request, including alternative formats of meeting materials. For more information, visit: www.mwcog.org/accommodations or call (202) 962-3300 or (202) 962-3213 (TDD)