



MIDCOURSE REVIEW LOCAL GOVERNMENT QUESTIONNAIRE

Introduction

In 2020, the COG Board adopted a 50% by 2030 greenhouse gas (GHG) emission reduction goal and COG's Climate, Energy, and Environment Policy Committee (CEEPC) adopted the Metropolitan Washington 2030 Climate and Energy Action Plan to support the COG region in meeting the 2030 goal. In 2025, COG is examining the region's progress towards meeting the 2030 goal and plan in a Midcourse Review report.

The information collected in this questionnaire will help inform the Midcourse Review report by providing information for a high-level summary of local government progress on climate action in metropolitan Washington as well as identifying case studies and best practices to highlight. It will also inform the Washington-Arlington-Alexandria, DC-VA-MD-WV Metropolitan Statistical Area Comprehensive Climate Action Plan (CCAP), a COG-led project under the US Environmental Protection Agency's Climate Pollution Reduction Grant Program (CPRG).

This Local Jurisdiction Questionnaire is being sent mainly to members of COG's Built Environment and Energy Advisory Committee (BEEAC). Please submit 1 response per jurisdiction. Please coordinate with your appropriate local departments and staff to complete the Questionnaire. The Questionnaire is intended to take up to a few hours to complete. It could take additional time for coordination and review with other departments, as needed.

There are a total of 35 questions addressing the following sectors: Greenhouse Gas Emissions, Clean Electricity, Zero Energy Buildings, Zero Emission Vehicles, Mode Share and Travel Behavior, Zero Waste, Sequestration, and Workforce Development. The first three questions asking for jurisdiction and contact information are required and the rest of the questions are optional.

Please respond to this survey by Friday April 25th, 2025. Please contact Carly McGovern (cmcgovern@mwkog.org) and Maia Davis (mdavis@mwkog.org) with any questions.

This PDF document is provided so that you may save and share responses to assist with your internal review. Please submit your final responses via [Survey Monkey](#).

Jurisdiction Information

1. Jurisdiction: _____
2. Contact(s): _____
3. Email(s): _____



Greenhouse Gas (GHG) Emissions

4. What type of **GHG emissions reduction goal(s)** has your jurisdiction established (ex. 50% GHG emissions reduction by 2030)? Select all that apply.
- ☐ GHG reduction goal(s) have been established for government operations
 - ☐ Community-wide GHG reduction goal(s) have been established
 - ☐ Align with state GHG reduction goal(s)
 - ☐ Currently developing GHG reduction goal(s)
 - ☐ Do not intend to adopt GHG goals
 - ☐ Not applicable
5. What type of **climate or energy plan(s)** supporting GHG emission reduction has your jurisdiction established? Select all that apply.
- ☐ Completed a climate or energy plan for government operations
 - ☐ Completed a community-wide climate or energy plan
 - ☐ Developing a climate or energy plan for government operations
 - ☐ Developing a community-wide climate or energy plan
 - ☐ No climate or energy plans intended
 - ☐ Not applicable
6. How does your jurisdiction **track progress** toward GHG goal achievement and plan actions? Select all that apply.
- ☐ Leverage the COG developed GHG community-wide inventories for my jurisdiction
 - ☐ Develop GHG inventories for government operations
 - ☐ Publicly available online dashboard
 - ☐ Publish progress report(s)
 - ☐ Track government operations savings and investments from energy efficiency and renewable energy initiatives
 - ☐ Other (please specify): _____
 - ☐ Do not track progress
 - ☐ Not applicable
7. How does your jurisdiction incorporate **equity in climate or energy plan(s)** development and implementation? Select all that apply.
- ☐ Disadvantaged communities were engaged early and often during plan development
 - ☐ The plan(s) were developed with a deliberate focus on addressing the needs of disadvantaged communities
 - ☐ Disadvantaged communities are engaged in plan implementation
 - ☐ Other (please specify): _____
 - ☐ No climate or energy plans developed
 - ☐ Not applicable



8. Please provide any relevant GHG weblinks or make note of a relevant case study or best practice that COG could potentially highlight in the Midcourse Review Report.
-

Clean Electricity

9. How does your jurisdiction use **renewables or distributed energy resources (DER)** to **power local government operations**?
- Total solar capacity (kW) operating at local government facilities: _____
 - Total number of battery storage systems operating at local government facilities: _____
 - Total number of district energy or microgrids operating at local government facilities: _____
 - Total number of combined heat and power systems operating at local government facilities: _____
 - Total number of geothermal systems operating at local government facilities: _____
 - Power purchase agreement(s) (Y/N): _____
 - ☐ No renewables or DER deployed in local government operations
 - ☐ Not applicable
10. How does your jurisdiction accelerate the deployment of **renewables and distributed energy resources (DER) community-wide**? Select all that apply.
- ☐ Provide or promote solar co-ops
 - ☐ Provide or promote community solar
 - ☐ Provide or promote incentives for solar and battery storage
 - ☐ Map solar opportunities across your jurisdiction
 - ☐ Analyze feasibility, reduce barriers, or incentivize deploying district energy, microgrids, combined heat and power, or geothermal systems for large energy users and critical infrastructure
 - ☐ Offer innovative energy financing solutions for residents or businesses in disadvantaged communities (e.g., green bank programs, PACE, etc.)
 - ☐ Pilot Community Choice Aggregation (CCA)
 - ☐ Other (please specify): _____
 - ☐ No renewables or DER community initiatives intended
 - ☐ Not applicable



11. How does your jurisdiction **require or incentivize solar** in residential and commercial new construction? Select all that apply.

- ☐ Ordinance requiring solar for new construction
- ☐ Ordinance requiring solar-ready new construction (to enable solar installation at a later date)
- ☐ Incentives for solar on new construction
- ☐ Incentives for solar-ready new construction (to enable solar installation at a later date)
- ☐ Other (please specify): _____
- ☐ No requirements or incentives intended
- ☐ Not applicable

12. Please provide any relevant Clean Electricity weblinks or make note of a relevant case study or best practice that COG could potentially highlight in the Midcourse Review Report.

Zero Energy Buildings

13. How does your jurisdiction accelerate **net zero energy building construction** through building codes or policies? Select all that apply.

- ☐ Adopt a policy for all new local public facilities to be net zero energy
- ☐ Adopt net zero energy codes or incentives for private development
- ☐ Include net zero energy goals or strategies in master, comprehensive, or small area plans
- ☐ Provide or promote education and training on new and advanced green construction standards
- ☐ Other (please specify): _____
- ☐ No requirements or incentives intended
- ☐ Not applicable

14. How many **government facilities are net zero energy**?

- a) Total number of new construction net zero energy buildings: _____
- b) Total number of existing buildings retrofitted to net-zero energy: _____

15. How does your jurisdiction implement an **energy benchmarking** program? Select all that apply.

- ☐ Energy benchmarking and reporting are conducted for local government facilities
- ☐ Energy benchmarking and reporting are required for commercial buildings
- ☐ Energy benchmarking and reporting are encouraged or incentivized for commercial buildings
- ☐ Energy benchmarking program is under development
- ☐ No program established
- ☐ Not applicable



16. How does your jurisdiction accelerate **deep energy building retrofits** of existing buildings? Select all that apply.

- ☐ Provide or promote innovative energy financing solutions for residential or commercial sectors (e.g. green bank, PACE, loan loss reserves, etc.)
- ☐ Provide or promote state and utility incentives and technical assistance for residential and commercial building energy efficiency retrofits and upgrades
- ☐ Encourage fuel switching, clean back-up generation, and other building decarbonization strategies for large energy users (e.g. data centers, hospitals, etc.)
- ☐ Provide or promote programs that implement deep energy improvements in affordable housing and in disadvantaged communities
- ☐ Energy education campaigns to promote behavioral changes that enhance energy efficiency
- ☐ Other (please specify): _____
- ☐ No deep energy building retrofit initiatives intended
- ☐ Not applicable

17. Please provide any relevant Zero Energy Buildings weblinks or make note of a relevant case study or best practice that COG could potentially highlight in the Midcourse Review Report.

Zero Emission Vehicles

18. How does your jurisdiction accelerate **electric vehicles (EV) and EV charger deployment in government operations**? Select all that apply.

- ☐ Adopt a green fleet policy
- ☐ Evaluate the public fleet for opportunities to electrify
- ☐ Develop an EV charger deployment strategy for public facilities, garages, and refueling facilities
- ☐ Pilot new technologies, such as solar-powered EV infrastructure, or vehicle-to-everything (overarching term for transferring the electricity stored in EV batteries to the grid, buildings, houses, and other energy-consuming destinations)
- ☐ Other (please specify): _____
- ☐ No EV initiatives for government operations deployed
- ☐ Not applicable

19. How many **EVs are in the local government fleet**?

- ☐ Number of battery electric vehicles (BEVs) in fleet: _____
- ☐ Number of plug-in hybrid electric vehicles (PHEVs) in fleet: _____
- ☐ Number of hybrid electric vehicles (HEVs) in fleet: _____
- ☐ Total number of fleet vehicles: _____



20. How does your jurisdiction accelerate **EVs and EV charger deployment community-wide**?
Select all that apply.

- ☐ Develop EV plan(s) for community deployment
- ☐ Provide or promote incentives for residents and businesses to buy EVs
- ☐ Provide or promote incentives for residents and businesses to deploy EV chargers
- ☐ Adopt EV friendly zoning and building codes to reduce roadblocks in adding EV chargers to existing developments
- ☐ Require new construction to install EV chargers or be EV-Ready
- ☐ Encourage employers in your jurisdiction to deploy EV chargers
- ☐ Support multi-family housing in identifying and overcoming challenges (such as technical and financial challenges) to EV charging for residents and their guests
- ☐ Provide or promote EV ride-and-drive events and other public EV education/engagement opportunities
- ☐ Other (please specify): _____
- ☐ No EV community initiatives deployed
- ☐ Not applicable

21. Please provide any relevant Zero Emission Vehicles weblinks or make note of a relevant case study or best practice that COG could potentially highlight in the Midcourse Review Report.

Mode Shift and Travel Behavior

22. How does your jurisdiction support **reduction in vehicle trips and vehicle miles traveled (VMT) through its plans and policies**? Select all that apply.

- ☐ Local land use policies or plans promote development of additional housing units within activity centers and near high-capacity transit (i.e. Metrorail, commuter rail, light rail, streetcar, and bus rapid transit)
- ☐ Local land use policies or plans promote design that supports walking and biking within activity centers and near high-capacity transit
- ☐ Implement complete streets policies or roadway design improvements that make walking and biking safer (i.e. adding bike pathways on the road, expanding sidewalks, improving crosswalks, etc.)
- ☐ Expand the region's trail network to increase access to opportunities and activities via non-motorized travel
- ☐ Implement reduced parking minimums in zoning within activity centers and near high-capacity transit
- ☐ Discontinue free parking at employment sites within activity centers and near high-capacity transit stations
- ☐ Other (please specify): _____
- ☐ No VMT reduction plans or policies intended
- ☐ Not applicable



23. How does your jurisdiction **encourage and incentivize reduction in vehicle trips and vehicle miles traveled (VMT) reduction**? Select all that apply.

- ☐ Provide or promote carpool and vanpool opportunities
- ☐ Provide or promote incentives for ride sharing, such as HOV-3 free lanes
- ☐ Provide or promote incentives for purchasing e-bikes
- ☐ Provide teleworking opportunities for local jurisdiction employees
- ☐ Encourage private sector employers to offer teleworking opportunities
- ☐ Provide transit benefits for local jurisdiction employees
- ☐ Promote transit benefits programs for private sector employees
- ☐ Provide or promote ride matching
- ☐ Other (please specify): _____
- ☐ No VMT reduction education or incentives intended
- ☐ Not applicable

24. How does your jurisdiction improve **“first and last mile” connections to transit trips**? Select all that apply.

- ☐ Improve bike and walk access to high-capacity transit stations
- ☐ Provide or promote micromobility options, including expanding shared bike, e-bike, and scooter programs
- ☐ Provide or promote shuttles from transit to employment centers
- ☐ Provide or promote micro-transit services, which are typically on-demand services that use app-enabled trip requests and payment to complement fixed-route transit service
- ☐ Provide or promote secure bicycle storage, such as bike lockers, at high-capacity transit stations
- ☐ Enhance “first and last mile” connectivity options in disadvantaged communities
- ☐ Other: _____
- ☐ No “first and last mile” connectivity initiatives intended
- ☐ Not applicable

25. Please provide any relevant Mode Shift and Travel Behavior weblinks or make note of a relevant case study or best practice that COG could potentially highlight in the Midcourse Review Report.



Zero Waste

26. How does your jurisdiction enhance **organics collection and composting**? Select all that apply.

- ☐ Residential curbside organics recycling program
- ☐ Food composting drop off site(s)
- ☐ Install compost collection bins/sites outside multi-unit dwellings or public facilities
- ☐ Provide or promote incentives for residential composting
- ☐ Regulations, requirements, or mandates for commercial food composting
- ☐ Invest in industrial composting facilities at existing or new solid waste facilities
- ☐ Promote or support initiatives that reduce food scraps and promote food recovery (such as diverting healthy food that might otherwise be wasted to charitable organizations)
- ☐ Other (please specify): _____
- ☐ No organics collection and composting initiatives intended
- ☐ Not applicable

27. How does your jurisdiction **reduce solid waste**? Select all that apply.

- ☐ Develop a zero waste plan, policies, or initiatives
- ☐ Single-use plastic and polystyrene ban(s)
- ☐ Provide free recycling bins to residents
- ☐ Adopt recycling requirements for businesses
- ☐ Invest in waste collection systems that increase waste reduction, reuse/recovery, and recycling
- ☐ Expand recycling infrastructure in the community and at events
- ☐ Improve waste collection services in disadvantaged communities
- ☐ Conduct waste education campaigns to promote behavioral changes that encourage waste reduction and diversion at the source
- ☐ Other (please specify): _____
- ☐ No solid waste reduction initiatives intended
- ☐ Not applicable

28. How does your jurisdiction support **building a market for circularity**? Select all that apply.

- ☐ Implement strategies and good practices for circular consumption in government operations
- ☐ Provide or promote exchange programs, reuse, and sharing opportunities (such as tool sharing)
- ☐ Provide or promote repair and restoration services (such as fix-it fairs)
- ☐ Incentivize markets for second-hand products and upcycling
- ☐ Other (please specify): _____
- ☐ No circular economy initiatives intended
- ☐ Not applicable



29. Please provide any relevant Zero Waste weblinks or make note of a relevant case study or best practice that COG could potentially highlight in the Midcourse Review Report.

Sequestration

30. How does your jurisdiction enhance its capacity to retain carbon stored in existing trees and forests through **tree conservation policies and practices**? Select all that apply.

- ☐ Adopt a jurisdiction wide tree canopy goal
- ☐ Identifying smaller scale canopy goals for watersheds, census blocks, or major categories of land use
- ☐ Embed desired tree and forest conservation outcomes within comprehensive land use policies and plans
- ☐ Adopt or enhance local ordinances to increase tree conservation during land development processes
- ☐ Define the mechanism, metrics and timeline required to report progress on tree conservation goals and programs
- ☐ Other (please specify): _____
- ☐ No tree conservation policies and practices intended
- ☐ Not applicable

31. How does your jurisdiction strategically **protect, maintain, and plant trees on publicly owned lands**? Select all that apply.

- ☐ Inventory trees on publicly owned land
- ☐ Have a plan for a sustained tree supply
- ☐ Have a plan for addressing primary threats to trees
- ☐ Maintain or improve community initiatives supporting tree management or planting
- ☐ Strategically planting trees to improve water quality and flood control
- ☐ Have tree planting and maintenance contracts with schools, and other local government agencies such as rec centers, libraries, etc.
- ☐ Targeted tree planting on public land to reduce heat island in disadvantaged communities
- ☐ Other (please specify): _____
- ☐ No tree protection, maintenance and planting initiatives on public land intended
- ☐ Not applicable



32. How does your jurisdiction strategically **protect, maintain, and plant new trees on private land**? Select all that apply.

- ☐ Provide or promote local tree planting and protection incentives
- ☐ Provide or promote a tree mitigation bank or fund(s)
- ☐ Provide or promote an adopt-a-tree and memorial tree program(s)
- ☐ Provide or promote a tree stewardship program
- ☐ Tree planting and preservation partnerships with HOAs, faith-based organizations, or other community organizations in disadvantaged communities
- ☐ Other (please specify): _____
- ☐ No tree protection, maintenance and planting initiatives on private land intended
- ☐ Not applicable

33. Please provide any relevant Sequestration weblinks or make note of a relevant case study or best practice that COG could potentially highlight in the Midcourse Review Report.

Workforce Development

34. How does your jurisdiction promote or provide **climate-related workforce development initiatives**? Select all that apply.

- ☐ Vocational/career education
- ☐ Skills training
- ☐ Career transition training
- ☐ Apprenticeship programs
- ☐ Other (please specify): _____
- ☐ Workforce development initiatives are promoted in disadvantaged communities
- ☐ No workforce development initiatives intended
- ☐ Not applicable

35. Please provide any relevant Workforce Development weblinks or make note of a relevant case study or best practice that COG could potentially highlight in the Midcourse Review Report.
