

CEEP July 29, 2026 Staff and Committee Updates

A. STAFF PROJECT UPDATES

The Greater Washington Region Clean Cities Coalition (GWRCCC) hosted a job fair on June 17 at Second Baptist Church in District Heights, Maryland. Supported in part through the Metropolitan Washington Council of Governments' (COG) Federal Highway Administration Charging and Fueling Infrastructure (CFI) Grant, the event focused on expanding access to quality employment opportunities and increasing awareness of career pathways in transportation electrification, energy efficiency, infrastructure development, and related industries. The job fair also supported long-term workforce development by connecting job seekers with employers and training opportunities that contribute to the region's clean transportation and energy goals.

Participating organizations represented a broad range of industries, including clean energy, electric vehicle workforce development, environmental services, skilled trades, transportation, healthcare, higher education, public sector careers, and public safety. In addition to employment opportunities, attendees received information on apprenticeships, workforce training programs, industry certifications, résumé assistance, and career advancement resources. Several employers and workforce partners supported career pathways aligned with the goals of GWRCCC's CFI Grant, including Electrify Equity, Power52 Foundation, and Think Energy. Key workforce development partners, such as Prince George's Community College, the Maryland Department of Labor, and the District of Columbia Department of Employment Services (DOES), connected attendees with training programs, internships, and career resources designed to prepare individuals for careers in high-demand industries. The event attracted more than 1,100 registered attendees and featured 37 employers and organizations, demonstrating strong regional interest in workforce opportunities that support clean transportation, infrastructure development, and the transition to a clean energy economy.





B. COMMITTEE UPDATES

BUILT ENVIRONMENT AND ENERGY ADVISORY COMMITTEE (BEEAC)

BEEAC's June 18 meeting focused on energy insecurity, energy affordability, and utility disconnections across the Metropolitan Washington region. Dr. Sanya Carley, Presidential Distinguished Professor of Energy Policy and City Planning at the University of Pennsylvania and Co-Director of the Energy Justice Lab, discussed the prevalence of energy insecurity and provided a comparative assessment of strategies that governments, private-sector organizations, and nonprofit agencies can use to address energy insecurity, reduce its impacts, and improve energy affordability. COG staff also presented trends in natural gas and electric utility disconnections throughout the region. The data indicates that utility disconnections have steadily increased since the end of COVID-19-era moratoria, and that a persistent gap remains between the number of disconnections and reconnections. As utility costs continue to rise, disconnections are expected to increase unless additional affordability and assistance measures are implemented.

BEEAC's next meeting is September 17.

AIR AND CLIMATE PUBLIC ADVISORY COMMITTEE (ACPAC)

ACPAC concluded the 2026 Climate and Energy Leadership Awards campaign on July 7. The campaign received 24 applications across the categories, exceeding last years numbers of 23 applications. Judging took place at the July 20th ACPAC meeting and the winner for each category will be determined by the highest scored application by category. The winners will be announced at the COG Board meeting this Fall.

At its July 20 meeting, ACPAC also received an update on the ozone season. Based on preliminary data presented by COG staff, ACPAC recommended expanding the analysis to

examine the impacts of PJM emergency requests that permitted large electricity users, including data centers, to operate backup generators during the May and July heat waves. ACPAC also recommended broadening the analysis to assess neighborhood-specific exposure to fine particulate pollutants, including black carbon.

ACPAC's next meeting is September 21st.

REGIONAL ELECTRIC VEHICLE DEPLOYMENT (REVD) WORKING GROUP

The Regional EV Working Group discussed several regional EV charging initiatives, policy developments, and deployment challenges. The City of Rockville highlighted its exploration of the [KerboCharge](#) sidewalk channel system, a UK-based technology that could expand residential charging access for EV owners without driveways. Arlington County and the City of Rockville also reported recently adopted zoning reforms that remove barriers to EV charger installation and create greater flexibility for charging infrastructure deployment. Members discussed growing financial pressures affecting public charging programs, including rising electricity costs, Maryland's charger registration requirements, and persistent challenges attracting private investment for public charging projects without guaranteed returns. The District Department of Energy and Environment provided an update on its Volkswagen-funded curbside charging pilots and the extension of the District's EV charger tax credit for another ten years. Additional updates included Montgomery County's planned charging infrastructure expansion, federal funding for EV charger reliability testing, and Rockville's progress toward deploying its first electric shuttle buses and associated charging infrastructure.

The meeting concluded with a presentation from the District Department of Transportation (DDOT) on its fleet electrification strategy and charging infrastructure deployment. DDOT reported that it currently operates more than 180 electric vehicles and is expanding charging capacity across multiple facilities. The agency highlighted challenges related to fleet replacement funding, charging infrastructure costs, facility constraints, and limited availability of medium- and heavy-duty electric vehicles. DDOT is exploring innovative approaches to reduce infrastructure costs, including battery-supported charging systems, mobile charging solutions, fleet charging hubs, and public-private partnership models. DDOT also shared updates on battery storage projects, solar-powered charging installations, and a solar carport microgrid study designed to improve charging resilience and maintain operations during utility outages.

REGIONAL TREE CANOPY SUBCOMMITTEE (RTCS)

RTCS is advancing the development of the Tree Canopy Action Plan and expects to circulate a draft for review and input from RTCS partners by the end of August.

RECYCLING COMMITTEE

The Recycling Committee conducted COG's 2026 Battery Management Campaign throughout June. The four-week, \$100,000 campaign ran from June 3 through June 30 and included broadcast radio, digital streaming radio, paid social media, and digital web advertising. Improperly disposed batteries pose a significant fire risk for both waste management operations and fire departments. All campaign advertising was funded through private and public sponsorships secured by COG.

Prince William County presented a COG America Recycles Day contest prize to a local resident. The winner was selected by the COG Recycling Committee during its spring meeting.

GREATER WASHINGTON REGION CLEAN CITIES COALITION (GWRCCC)

See Project Updates.