



GOVERNMENT OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA

Commission on Climate Change and Resiliency

Quarterly Meeting Minutes

June 12, 2025
3:00 – 5:30 pm

Meeting Recording:

<https://dcnet.webex.com/dcnet/ldr.php?RCID=1d61fa304f8a1ecf31f0fca7b685ca98>

<u>DC-CCCR Commissioners</u>	<u>Invited Speakers</u>
Present:	
Alan Etter	Adam Carlesco
Anthony Kane	Justin Brown
Colin McCormick	Meredith Soniat
Jim Dougherty	
Jim Landau	
Kate Johnson	
Kate Zyla	
Peggy Keller	
Steve Moore	
Uwe Brandes	
Absent:	
Akiima Price	
Erica Green	
Maureen Holman	
<u>DC-CCCR Staff (DOEE)</u>	<u>Other Guests</u>
Alyssa Wooden	Ade Adeniyi
Brittany Whited	Aleksandra George Ruiz
Dan Emerine	Alya Solomon
Jenn Hatch	Anthony David Jr.
Ryan Cafritz	Ashley Nies
Tasneem Islam	Ashley Reed
	Catherine Kaufman
	Danielle Simmons
	Edward Comer
	Hana Freymiller
	Howard Kurtzman
	Jason Cumberbatch
	Joan Lelma
	Kenya Troutman
	Knia Tanner
	Laurence Daniels
	Maritza Mendoza
	Mya Carter
	Nick Gumer
	Priscilla Phelps
	Sheila B Ruffin
	Stella Tarnay
	Tamika Dodson
	Vermecia Alsop
	Yohannes Mariam

- 1. Call to Order 3:04 PM**
- 2. Announcement of Quorum** – Quorum confirmed.
- 3. Chair's Welcoming Remarks** (Uwe Brandes)
 - Resolution for Commissioners who have stepped down this year: Jason Turner, Edward Yim and Justin Lini. Call to send suggestions for nominations to Uwe and Tasneem.
- 4. Approval of Agenda** – A motion to approve the 6/12/2025 meeting agenda (Steve Moore, Kate Zyla) was passed unanimously.
- 5. Approval of Previous Meeting Minutes** – A motion to approve the 3/13/2025 Quarterly Meeting Minutes (Steve Moore, Kate Zyla) was passed.
- 6. Committee Reports** – None
- 7. Finance Report** – None
- 8. Governance Report** – None
- 9. Staff Report** (Tasneem Islam)
 - Staff report included updates on administrative items and projects, events, and accomplishments from DOEE and other stakeholders. The report, including relevant links, is available on the [CCCR website](#).

10. Guest Presentations:

- ***Justin Brown, Deputy Director, Homeland Security and Emergency Management Agency (HSEMA)***
 - Under the Resilience Bureau, several projects have been advancing resilience in the District.
 - Community Resilience projects: climate change Story Maps, heat workshops, climate workshops, Resilience Hubs. These have been in partnership with DOEE. Major update to ReadyDC website.
 - Hazard Mitigation projects: St. Elizabeth's microgrid, Blue Plains flood wall, Southwest resilience strategy, rain and flood sensors, back-up power generation, FloodSmart Homes support.
 - Critical Infrastructure programs: private sector engagement is critical to the coordination necessary for protecting supply chains, public utilities, and community partners.
 - Future program challenges from reductions to funding federally and locally (e.g., BRIC funding (\$18m in DC), Homeland Security Grant

Program and Emergency Management Performance Grant funding). HSEMA is heavily grant funded.

- Projects at risk include completion of the Blue Plains flood wall, St. Elizabeth's microgrid, small-scale projects, Integrated Flood Model, DDOT cool corridors, DHCD Housing Production Trust Fund.
- Questions:
 - Hazard Mitigation Fund: HSEMA lead Vermecia Alsop coordinates with other agencies on funded projects. DC Water receives biggest share of funding for the Blue Plains flood wall, and DGS receives a share for the St. Elizabeth's microgrid, and DOEE receives for smaller projects.
 - Resilience Hub Community of Practice to bring together community partners interested in forming a community hub. Have considered how to leverage government sites.

- ***Adam Carlesco, Assistant People's Counsel, Office of the People's Counsel (OPC)***

- OPC is the statutory consumer advocate for utility ratepayers in the District. Climate change is a lens through which OPC does all their work.
- Most active docket over the past year is the Climate Business Plans (FC 1167). OPC objected to WGL's August 2024 CBP because they had removed items from their climate action plan that amounted to a status quo or business as usual type plan. With OPC's advocacy, PSC denied WGL's proposal and required new filings on their 15-year plans from WGL (June 9) and Pepco (July 21), and to submit updated 5-year and CBPs after the PSC Benefit-Cost Analysis is finalized in Fall 2025. PSC now invites public comment on each filing as a direct result of OPC advocacy.
- Gas Procurement Transparency (FC 874) docket aimed to ensure WGL has sufficient gas supply.
- OPC has recommended building a unified planning framework for gas Integrated Distribution System Planning (IDSP) (FC 1182) to plan for branch-clipping and electrification coordination. Goal is to strategically reduce piecemeal electrification in the District, so people who cannot afford to electrify are not left with an increasing share of diminishing customer base for WGL, and to avoid duplicative spending, and to coordinate for efficient decarbonization of buildings.
- OPC provided comments to PSC's Benefit Cost Analysis report.
- OPC has hosted over 200 public events for community outreach.
- Key challenges ahead: a lack of third-party verified GHG data for methane leaks, rising capital costs and rate pressures, limited authority over DC Water spending. OPC plans to maintain rigorous case intervention, expand data transparency, and defend District climate authority while keeping bills affordable.
- Q&A:

- Life cycle analysis considerations are important especially given methane pipes lose 6% (4.5% under city streets, and 2% at the wellhead, fracking field, or distribution system).
 - AI is driving up electricity costs locally with data centers in VA and DC purchasing electricity from the broader PJM market. DC doesn't have any data centers, so the District is at the whims of the PJM market. OPC is aware of how this influences affordability and is engaging with federal and regional entities.
- *Meredith Soniat, Associate Director for Planning and Sustainability, District Department of Transportation (DDOT)*
 - DDOT's MoveDC sustainability goals focus on mode-shift, electrification of the fleet and supporting EV use, and increasing the resiliency of transit infrastructure and expanding street tree coverage.
 - FY24 updates:
 - Shared e-bikes usage was up 67% and e-scooter up 12% from previous year
 - Capital Bikeshare had 6 million trips, a 35% increase from the previous year
 - 6,615 trees planted
 - 35% of the overall DDOT vehicle fleet is electric, with EVs making up 63% of the passenger vehicle fleet.
 - Q&A:
 - EV charging infrastructure biased towards western side of city. Majority is on private property, goal is to expand public EV infrastructure to all Wards.
- DOEE Budget Briefing (Jenn Hatch, Dan Emerine)
 - [FY 26 Budget and Financial Plan](#)

11. Public Comments

- Maritza Mendoza, Empower DC

12. Discussion & Upcoming Meetings

- Next quarterly meeting: September 11, 2025 from 3-5:30 p.m.

13. Adjourn: 5:17 PM