



## Capital Area Council of Governments

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www.capcog.org

Clean Air Coalition (CAC) Meeting  
Friday, June 26, 2009  
CAPCOG Board (Pecan) Room  
6800 Burleson Road, Building 310, Suite 165  
10:00 a.m. – 12:00 p.m.

### Clean Air Coalition:

Chairman  
(Vacant)

Vice-Chair  
Judge Samuel  
Biscoe  
Travis County

Commissioner  
William Pina  
Bastrop County

Mayor James  
Bertram  
City of Lockhart

Commissioner  
Ron Morrison  
Williamson County

Mayor Mike  
Hendricks  
City of Luling

Mayor Marc Holm  
City of Elgin

Mayor Alan McGraw  
City of Round Rock

Mayor  
Susan Narvaiz  
City of San Marcos

Commissioner  
Karen Ford  
Hays County

Mayor Terry Orr  
City of Bastrop

Judge H. T. Wright  
Caldwell County

### Marked Agenda

CAC Members or designated representatives in attendance: Commissioner William Pina (Bastrop County); Judge Sam Biscoe (Travis County); Commissioner Ron Morrison (Williamson County); Mayor Alan McGraw (City of Round Rock); John Dean (City of Round Rock); Mayor Marc Holm (City of Elgin); Commissioner Karen Ford (Hays County); Derek Dowdell (City of Bastrop); Sabas Avila (City of San Marcos); Shana Norton (CAMPO); Matt Russell (Austin Energy); Adele Noel (Travis County); Pinar Dogru (Jackson Walker); Pharr Andrews (City of Austin); Betty Voights (CAPCOG)

#### 1. Public Comment (3 minute limit per speaker)

*No citizen comment.*

#### 2. EPA: Ozone Standard and Assessment of the EAC Bill Gill (5 min)

*Bill discussed EPA's proceedings with the new ozone standard and how Travis County has been recommended for a non-attainment designation. Once EPA releases the implementation requirements for the 2008 standard, CAC should meet during the open comment period.*

*A Clean Air Report, titled "EPA Finds Early Action Ozone Compacts Unlawful, Ineffective," was sent out by Clean Air Force on June 16, 2009. Following the release of this report, EPA was asked to clarify their position on their EAC statement – they released a "Desk Statement" stating the EAC Program was successful in bringing together people in communities and educating them about air quality, health problems associated with air pollution. The EAC Program also encouraged the development and adoption of local emission reduction. The EPA does not have plans to proceed with an EAC program for the 2008 ozone standard (too much opposition from environmental groups, and no provision in the Clean Air Act to implement an EAC). Bill stated that the EACs in Texas were more effective than EACs implemented in the eastern U.S.*

#### 3. 2009 Ozone Season Update Bill Gill (3 min)

*Travis County experienced its 3<sup>rd</sup> day over 75 on 6/25/2009 (which was 77 ppb at Murchison). The design value (3-year average- 2007-2009) is now at 74 ppb. Travis County can have 77 ppb as the 4<sup>th</sup> highest reading in 2009 and have a design value that is in attainment of the 2008 ozone standard.*

*Lake Georgetown monitor (CAMS 690) had the 2<sup>nd</sup> highest ozone reading out of all MSA monitors (73 ppb) on 6/25/2009. CAMS 690 has a sulfur dioxide (SO<sub>2</sub>) monitor which was placed there so that we could see when the winds blowing from the north/northeast if there are any effects from power plants. The only time you will see SO<sub>2</sub> at the monitors is when there is a coal-fired power plant is impacting the area. On 6/25/2009, CAMS 690 had measureable levels of SO<sub>2</sub> which is a good example of significant transport from the northeast.*

*Dripping Springs monitor (CAMS 614) exceeded 75 for the first time ever on 6/5/09. Wind was blowing from the northeast.*

*Fayette County monitor is good indication of Austin area's background concentration levels.*

#### 4. 2009 Ozone Season "Big Push" Update Cathy Stephens/Bill Gill (20 min)

- a. Coordination with AACOG on Big Push efforts

(Potential reductions from cement kilns)

*Bill attended the Air Quality meeting in San Antonio where they discussed what can be done about large point sources (specifically power plants and cement plants). AACOG did some modeling looking at meteorological and wind conditions during episodes of high ozone; looking at when winds are blowing over specific plants and if there's anything these plants can do to reduce their emissions during an ozone watch day. San Antonio area has 4 cement plants. Austin area has one cement plant in Buda, TX. TX Lehigh Cement plant in Buda has a control device for NOx where the level of control can be increased. San Antonio also has a couple of plants that can be controlled as well. We're focusing on which type of weather conditions might cause cement plant emissions to affect either the Austin or San Antonio areas so we can notify/alert the plants to increase their level of NOx control. There are a couple plants in Comal Co. that can affect Austin and TX Lehigh can affect San Antonio.*

*Karen Ford (Hays Co) stated she wanted to be involved in any further discussion with cement plant managers after more modeling has been finished.*

*Austin Energy is conducting similar research with power plants to see if any reductions can be made during days of possible high ozone.*

b. CAMPO Public Outreach Campaign

*Cathy listed the following cities/counties/organizations that have signed up/passed resolutions of support with Big Push effort:*

- *Counties: Williamson, Travis, and Hays;*
- *Cities: Austin, Bastrop, Cedar Park, Georgetown, Hutto, Lago Vista, Leander, Manor, Pflugerville, Round Rock, Sunset Valley, and Taylor;*
- *Independent School Districts: Georgetown, Leander, Round Rock, and Taylor;*
- *Capital Area Transportation Coalition, Home Builders Association of Austin, Real Estate Council of Austin, City of Austin Environmental Board*

*Public Outreach Campaign: Ozone Action Hero Campaign - coordinating with San Antonio to have a larger combined effort. Media components include: website is up and running (www.ozoneheroes.com), Facebook account, coordinated "e-blasts" sent to PIOs and jurisdictions and other entities, newsletter article templates, radio ads (KISS FM, LA LEY, KLBJ, KBPA, KROX), ads on the KVUE website, 2 billboards on I-35 (north and south) coming in August, taxi cab ads, CAPMetro donating Dillo ads, ads at gas station pumps in August. There is free artwork available to those who want to use it.*

c. Ozone Alert banner selection

*Commissioner Eckhart thought it would be a good idea to have a similar banner as San Antonio (#1) for public to see when ozone alert is called.*

*Hays Co. (Karen Ford) prefers #3 because of the recognition of the known brand; she prefers clean white sign that people recognize. She also suggested more of political sign that you'd stick in the ground with stakes rather than a flag or banner.*

*Round Rock's Mayor McGraw – likes the yellow because it catches people's attention and represents more of an alert-type notice.*

*General consensus: Everyone liked the idea of the word "Action" as opposed to "watch" or "alert". Everyone in favor of a "yard sign", #7 – with center text in bold red stating "ozone action" and (removing the black/orange box). Motion for this sign selection passes by unanimous vote.*

d. CLEAN AIR Force

Deanna Altenhoff (7 min)

*Secured commitments from CAP for an additional 10% reductions. CAF working with organizations on Big Push efforts. There will be a media/meteorologist luncheon to inform TV meteorologist of watch/warning system on July 14th and stress the importance of relaying the message of taking*

action on watch days. Hosted a Transportation summit in early June – meeting of all different transportation providers; discussed market demand and increasing public transit usage. High School PSA winner (aired on Time Warner). Working with American Lung Association to visit with Wendy's & Taco Bell Headquarters to see if they're willing to do anything to reduce idling in drive-thru lines. Effort to inform parents of anti-idling zones at schools and to not idle in front of schools. Working on a 2-month pilot program for employers to encourage their employees to drive less with incentives to reduce their impact (select 5 companies – TxDOT, COA, Dell have been selected so far).

5. 8-Hour O3 Flex Clean Air Plan 2<sup>nd</sup> Semi-Annual Report Faith Melgaard (20 min)

See 2<sup>nd</sup> semi-annual report at [http://www.capcog.org/documents/airquality/8o3flex/2nd\\_8-O3%20Flex\\_SEMI\\_ANNUAL.pdf](http://www.capcog.org/documents/airquality/8o3flex/2nd_8-O3%20Flex_SEMI_ANNUAL.pdf).

Motion to approve report – passed by unanimous vote

6. Review of significant air quality state legislation Bill Gill (5 min)

Main bill of interest in air quality was Senate Bill 16. Particular item of interest in SB 16 was to require TCEQ to start looking at impacts of new sources on ozone in permitting process. SB 16 was eliminated.

Parts of SB 16 were incorporated into House Bill 1796 that affect Austin. LIP funds could not be used for vehicle replacement; however, there's an option for the TCEQ to remove the 50% match requirement, but the percentage match hasn't been determined. Local government encouraging match requirement to be 0%.

SB 1759 – funding for replacement of diesel vehicles in large fleets (at least 100 diesel vehicles in a fleet); Austin region does not have many (if any) fleets large enough to take advantage of SB 1759.

7. Discussion on extending CAC membership Cathy Stephens/Bill Gill (15 min)

a. Review and consider CAC bylaws change

Suggested changes (listed on handout) –

- New membership categories:
  - General members – full-fledged that would have voting rights and responsibility to attend meetings.
  - Supporting members – primarily act within their individual jurisdictions to support the purpose of the CAC. Would not be required to attend meetings and would not be allowed to vote.

The idea would be to give an option for type of membership so that there is more involvement which stems from 8-O3 Flex commitment to add 5 additional members to CAC in the 1st year (by September 14, 2009).

Williamson County wants there to be more of a distinction between supporting and general members... right now it's required to commit to O3 Flex Plan. Everyone would like to keep membership limited to elected officials and not include private industry or public citizens. Williamson Co. suggested the idea of involving elected officials from school districts in the CAC as the school districts significant role in the community. Judge Biscoe was in favor as long as they full support the mission of the CAC.

Election of Officers. Bylaws were originally written for a chair and 2 vice-chairs; however, the CAC has never had 2 vice chairs, so language has been changed so that a 2nd vice chair is optional. Originally, language states that one officer should be from Travis Co. and one from either Williamson or Hays Co. Language added that one officer can be from any one of the MSA counties to be more flexible. Reasoning behind original language was so that officers would be well distributed geographically.

*Commissioner Ford (Hays County) expressed that she was in favor of the suggested changes for election of officers.*

*There seems to be some inconsistency in the Terms and Vacancy sections. Also some confusion of when the "term" ends if a replacement is serving the remainder of original officer's term.*

*Judge Biscoe - suggested that if the chair leaves mid-term, the vice-chair automatically moves up to chair and a new vice chair is elected. He also suggested creating a 1st and 2nd vice chair that way succession is established. At the end of the term, a new chair would be selected.*

*Officers' 2-year term will align with the regular election cycle. Officers elected the first meeting following January of odd years.*

*Summary: There will be a chair, followed by a 1st and 2nd vice-chair. If a vacancy occurs at the officer level midterm, then everyone will move up. At the end of the term; however, new officers will be elected. The current officer term will end January 2011, so there was the decision that the new officer term starts now and will continue until the first CAC meeting after January 2011.*

*Suggested additional language to be added to bylaws to allow for meetings via conference call if there was an ozone watch/warning forecasted as a means to "practice what we preach." If there's just routine business, then postpone the meeting. But if there's a decision that must be made, then create the option of calling in to a conference line. \*\*Suggested that this option be left up to the discretion of the chair on whether or not conference call is appropriate for the meeting.*

*CAPCOG/CAMPO will work on language in bylaws.*

- b. Select a new CAC Chair and Vice Chair*

*Judge Sam Biscoe nominated for Chair (motion passes by unanimous vote)*

*Mayor Allen McGraw nominated for 1st vice chair (motion passes by unanimous vote)*

*Comm. Karen Ford nominated for 2nd vice chair (motion passes by unanimous vote)*

## **8. Other Business and Next Meeting Date**

*No other business*

*We usually meet in December to approve submittal of the 8-O3 Flex semi-annual report; however, in September the 180 day review period for the 2008 standard will end, and the EPA's implementation requirements should come out sometime this fall, so we may want to meet before December to discuss.*

*Will meet again after notification/action by EPA (September/November?)*