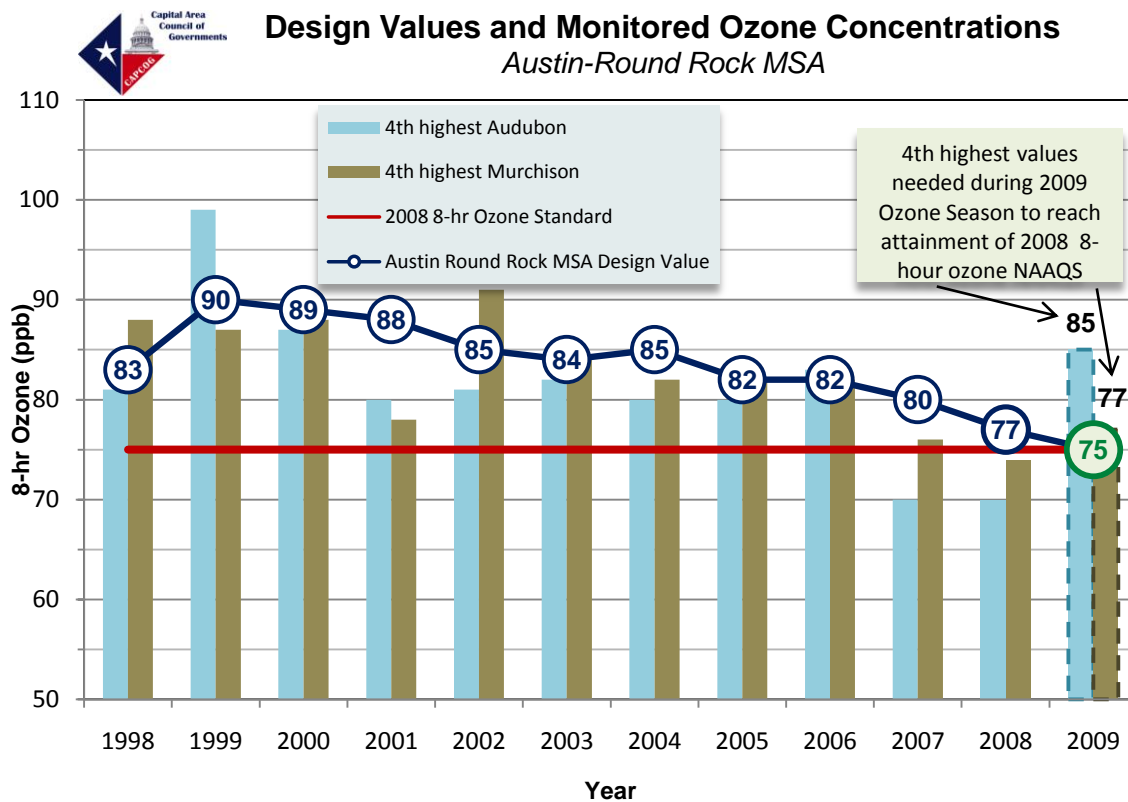


2009 Ozone Season “Big Push”

Under EPA’s revised ozone standard, one of the regulatory monitors in the MSA is monitoring noncompliance by a slight margin. In March 2009, Governor Perry is expected to recommend Travis County for nonattainment designation based on 2006-2008 monitoring data. By March 12, 2010, EPA is expected to make final nonattainment designations based on 2007-2009 data. EPA’s default designation area is the MSA.

A nonattainment designation means that the air quality is considered unhealthy. A nonattainment designation triggers federal requirements for transportation and industry that can increase costs for businesses and delay federal transportation projects. The state must submit a planning document to EPA within 3 years of designation. Air quality improvements are not guaranteed.



If the region can complete the 2009 ozone season with a fourth-highest ozone reading of less than or equal to 77 parts per billion at the Murchison monitor, we could monitor compliance of the revised standard before EPA makes nonattainment designations. To succeed we will need a strong regional effort and favorable weather conditions.

The “Big Push” is the region’s initiative to keep ozone levels in compliance. Elected officials of the regional Clean Air Coalition are spearheading the initiative, building on the successful voluntary efforts the region has implemented.

The Coalition is asking local governments, businesses and citizens to join the “Big Push” and reduce ozone-forming emissions. Although individual actions may be small, many small actions will produce a large result. Please consult the accompanying menu of actions and commit to do what you can.

