



Capital Area Council of Governments

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CLEAN AIR COALITION MEETING

January 12, 2011 ☀ 12:00 – 1:30 p.m.

CAPCOG Pecan Room

6800 Burleson Rd.

Building 310, Suite 165

Austin, TX 78744

Clean Air Coalition:

Chairman
Judge Samuel T.
Biscoe
Travis County

Vice-Chair
Mayor Alan McGraw
City of Round Rock

Vice-Chair
Councilmember
Chris Riley
City of Austin

Commissioner
William Pina
Bastrop County

Judge Tom Bonn
Caldwell County

Commissioner
Ray Whisenant
Hays County

Commissioner
Ron Morrison
Williamson County

Mayor Ray Sanders
City of Lockhart

Mayor Mike
Hendricks
City of Luling

Mayor Marc Holm
City of Elgin

Mayor Terry Orr
City of Bastrop

Councilmember
Patty Eason
City of Georgetown
City of San Marcos

I. Welcome new members

Attendees: Judge Samuel T. Biscoe (Travis County); Mayor Alan McGraw (City of Round Rock); Councilman Chris Riley (City of Austin); Judge Tom Bonn (Caldwell County, *New Member*); Commissioner Ron Morrison (Williamson County); Commissioner William Pina (Bastrop County); Commissioner Ray Whisenant (Hays County, *New Member*); Mayor Ray Sanders (City of Lockhart); Mayor Marc Holm (City of Elgin); Mayor Pro-Tem Keith Joesel (City of Elgin); Ed Polasek standing in for Council Member Patty Eason (City of Georgetown); Betty Voights (CAPCOG); Mark Sweeney (CAPCOG); Bill Gill (CAPCOG); Andrew Hoekzema (CAPCOG); Cathy Stephens (CAMPO); Shana Norton (CAMPO); Adele Noel (Travis County); Gary Boyd (Williamson County); Pharr Andrews (City of Austin); Jessica Woods (City of Round Rock); Matt Russell (Austin Energy); Sarah Holland (CAF)

II. Public Comment

No public comment

III. Discussion of EPA Proposed Revision to Ground-level Ozone Standards

- Current monitoring data and ozone design value
- Delay in finalizing proposed 2010 standards
- Ozone standard implementation issues

Monitoring data for 2010 was the lowest we have seen. This reflects state-wide trend; background has gone down partly due to federal engine standards. We are close to standard, so adverse meteorology could put us back over the standard. EPA has proposed new, stricter standards, but has gone back and forth. Final standard has been delayed for the third time; now, it expects to finalize by July 29th. There is some uncertainty surrounding status of existing (2008) ozone standard of 75 parts per billion. Travis County is in process of requesting that Travis County be removed from list of Governor's recommended nonattainment counties for 2008 standard. Implementation rule & criteria for nonattainment boundaries are important to pay attention to. EPA will likely look at the same kinds of criteria as specified for 2008 standard. Key implementation rule issue: more general subpart 1 requirements or more restrictive subpart 2 requirements? Implementation rule will determine attainment deadlines, mandatory control measure requirements, offsets, plan requirements. CAPCOG staff believes that EPA is not required to use the more restrictive subpart 2, and has suggested that the CAC members may wish to submit comments to that effect. Staff will draft letter and possible resolution for members to consider at a meeting on February 9th.

IV. 8-Hour O3 Flex Measure Implementation

- Heavy Duty Vehicle idling restrictions (Andrew Hoekzema)

Jurisdictions need to ensure that commitments are carried out for HDDV idling; making sure there are clear procedures for taking and processing complaints. It might be time to move from warnings to citations. Jurisdictions should review list of identified locations and assist staff in truing up this list.

- Regional rideshare programs (Cathy Stephens)

Rideshare statistics available on backup document. An RFP will be put out to replace the River City Rideshare program since San Antonio has left the program.

- Vehicle I&M fraud detection activities (Adele Noel)

Program has been quite successful so far, with many warnings, a high rate of corrective action being taken, and interest from other jurisdictions in the Dallas area on our program.

V. Air Quality Program Updates

- EPA-TCEQ permitting dispute

Backup material contains details; this likely won't affect the Austin area much, but staff wanted to keep members informed on the issue since it is frequently in the news.

- 2011 work plan overview

CAPCOG has received approval for the grant this year, which will include money to continue operation of air quality monitors, some emissions inventory work, modeling work, and outreach work.

- Legislative issues

Ozone impact permitting issue may come up-Coalition did not express particular interest in addressing this. Coalition did express interest in HDDV idling legislation instituting a specific penalty for idling to enable more proportionate enforcement powers for counties. Staff will draft a letter

VI. Regional Air Quality Goals

- Does the CAC want to establish regional air quality goals independent of EPA?
- Does the CAC want to consider modifying the trigger for the 8-O3 Flex Program to 75 ppb?

Some discussion; most speakers expressed interest in leaving focus for now; Councilman Riley expressed interest in having a discussion about broadening the group's goals to account for other air quality issues of interest in the area.

VII. Clean Air Coalition Membership

- Electing officers and filling vacancies

Judge Biscoe re-elected Chair; Mayor Alan McGraw re-elected Vice Chair; Councilman Chris Riley elected Vice Chair.

- Expanding membership to new jurisdictions

Staff will draft letter extending invitations to new jurisdictions

- Future role of the Coalition

Role of coalition will be revisited later if and when area transitions into nonattainment

VIII. Other Business and Next Meeting Date

Next meeting: February 9, 2011, at 12:00 PM in the Pecan Room of CAPCOG.