



Clean Air Coalition (CAC) | Agenda

11:30 am, or upon adjournment of CAPCOG Executive Committee (whichever is later) Wednesday,
November 8, 2023
CAPCOG Lantana Room
6800 Burleson Road, Building 310, Suite 155
Austin, TX 78744

Council Member Matt Baker, *City of Round Rock*, **Chair**
Council Member Paige Ellis, *City of Austin*, **1st Vice Chair**
Ms. Connie Schroeder, *City of Bastrop*
Commissioner Mel Hamner, *Bastrop County*
Council Member Kevin Hight, *City of Bee Cave*
Mayor Pro Tem Evan Ture, *City of Buda*
Commissioner B.J. Westmoreland, *Caldwell County*
Council Member Heather Jefts, *City of Cedar Park*
Commissioner Walt Smith, *Hays County*
VACANT, *City of Hutto*
VACANT, *City of Georgetown*

Council Member Bear Heiser, *City of Kyle*
Mayor Thomas Kilgore, *City of Lakeway*
Council Member Esme Mattke Longoria, *City of Leander*
Mayor Lew White, *City of Lockhart*
VACANT, *City of Luling*
Mayor Pro Tem Doug Weiss, *City of Pflugerville*
Mayor Jane Hughson, *City of San Marcos*
Judge Andy Brown, *Travis County*
Commissioner Terry Cook, *Williamson County*

- 1. Welcome and Introductions by City of Round Rock Council Member Matt Baker, Chair**
- 2. Public Comments (3 minutes per speaker)**
- 3. ACTION ITEM: Approve August 9, 2023, Meeting Minutes**
City of Round Rock Council Member Matt Baker, Chair
- 4. ACTION ITEM: Approve PM_{2.5} Monitoring Site Selection**
Ramon Zarate, CAPCOG Air Quality Program Specialist
- 5. Presentation on the Regional Compliance with National Ambient Air Quality Standards (NAAQS)**
Anton Cox, CAPCOG Air Quality Program Manager
- 6. ACTION ITEM: Approve CAPCOG's 2024 Air Quality Work Plan**
Anton Cox, Air Quality Program Manager
- 7. Presentation on CAPCOG Air Quality Programmatic Updates**
Anton Cox, CAPCOG Air Quality Program Manager & Ramon Zarate, CAPCOG Air Quality Program Specialist
- 8. Other Business and Adjournment**



Clean Air Coalition (CAC) | Minutes

11:30 am, or upon adjournment of CAPCOG Executive Committee (whichever is later) Wednesday,
August 9, 2023
CAPCOG Lantana Room
6800 Burleson Road, Building 310, Suite 155
Austin, TX 78744

PRESENT:

Council Member Matt Baker, *City of Round Rock*, **Chair**
Council Member Paige Ellis, *City of Austin*, **1st Vice Chair**
Ms. Connie Schroeder, *City of Bastrop*
Commissioner Mel Hamner, *Bastrop County*
Council Member Kevin Hight, *City of Bee Cave*
Mayor Pro Tem Evan Ture, *City of Buda*
Council Member Heather Jefts, *City of Cedar Park*
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Mayor Pro Tem Doug Weiss, *City of Pflugerville*
Mayor Jane Hughson, *City of San Marcos*
Judge Andy Brown, *Travis County*
Commissioner Terry Cook, *Williamson County*

Mayor Thomas Kilgore, *City of Lakeway*
Council Member Esme Mattke Longoria, *City of Leander*

VACANT, *City of Hutto*
VACANT, *City of Georgetown*
VACANT, *City of Luling*

STAFF:

Anton Cox
Ramon Zarate
Charles Simon
Andrew Hoekzema
Betty Voights
Rosi Patterson

ABSENT:

Commissioner B.J. Westmoreland, *Caldwell County*
Commissioner Walt Smith, *Hays County*

- Welcome and Introductions by City of Round Rock Council Member Matt Baker, Chair**
Council Member Matt Baker called the meeting to order at 11:30 a.m.
- Public Comments (3 minutes per speaker)**
No public comments.
- ACTION ITEM: Approve May 10, 2023, Meeting Minutes**
City of Round Rock Council Member Matt Baker, Chair
Mayor Jane Hughson motioned to approve the minutes; Mayor Lew White seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.
- ACTION ITEM: Officer Elections**
City of Round Rock Council Member Matt Baker, Chair
Mayor Jane Hughson motioned to continue with the current officers until January 2024 to get back on track with the previous schedule of electing new members. Mayor Lew White seconded. The motion passed unanimously.
- Discussion on EPA Enhanced Air Quality Monitoring Grant Projects and Monitoring Site Selection Recommendations**
Anton Cox, CAPCOG Air Quality Program Manager & Ramon Zarate, CAPCOG Air Quality Program Specialist
Mr. Anton Cox and Mr. Ramon Zarate presented the monitoring grant projects and monitoring site selection via a Power-Point presentation.

Council Member Matt Baker asked if there had been a price increase in equipment and sampling expenses and if so, how much percentage. Mr. Anton Cox responded that he had seen at least a 30-40 % increase in equipment costs compared to last year and a significant increase in sampling cost.

Commissioner Ann Howard (guest) asked if quarries were being monitored. Council Member Baker responded by saying that quarries fall into a different category of particulate matter (coarse particulate matter - PM_{10}). Mr. Andrew Hoekzema also mentioned that quarry monitoring fell into another grant funding project specifically targeted in quarries.

6. Overview of CAPCOG Air Quality Funding in FY24

Anton Cox, Air Quality Program Manager

Mr. Anton Cox provided an overview of the CAPCOG Air Quality Program Funding Request. CAPCOG is requesting that cities and counties participating in the CAC contribute a combined \$310,000 to support the program in Fiscal Year (FY) 2024. This request will fund outreach, planning, and technical activities that will not be covered by state or federal funding in FY 2024.

Mr. Anton Cox reported that 17 of 24 counties/cities had responded positively for FY24 funding. Remaining counties/cities were resent their request for local funding and still pending response from them. He also reiterated to the board the Pm new rider is for both Pm and O_3 . The old rider was only for ozone monitoring.

7. Presentation on CAPCOG Air Quality Programmatic Updates

Anton Cox, CAPCOG Air Quality Program Manager & Ramon Zarate, CAPCOG Air Quality Program Specialist

Mr. Anton Cox provided an update on the following topics:

- CAPCOG Air Quality Staffing
- Monitoring Data Review
- NAAQS Updates
- Legislative Updates
- CAPCOG Air Quality Technical Projects and Reports
- Air Quality Awareness Survey

Mr. Ramon Zarate provide an update on the following topics:

- Outreach and Education

8. Review of 2022 Annual Report

Anton Cox, Air Quality Program Manager & Elizebeth Munger, LSCFA Executive Director

Mr. Anton Cox provided an update on the following topics:

- NAAQS Compliance
- Ozone Design Value and 4th High Trend
- $PM_{2.5}$ Design Vale Trend by Year
- 2022 AQI Overview
- 2022 "Moderate or Worse AQI, by Pollutant
- 2022 AQI Days by Month
- Days in 2022 When O_3 or $PM_{2.5}$ AQI Levels in the MSA Were "Moderate" or Worse, by Monitor
- Air Quality Forecast Accuracy and Success
- 2022 Complaints
- Emissions Inspection Failure Rate Trend 2006-2022
- Point Source Emissions
- Point Source Emissions from Electric Generating Units (EGU)

Mr. Ramon Zarate provided an update on the 2022 Annual Air Quality Report Survey. Twenty-four organizations submitted reports, with the following reduction measures reported:

- O₃ Emission Reduction Measures
 - o 23 organizations committed to Tier 1 measures; and
 - o 20 organizations committed to Tier 2 measures.
- PM_{2.5} Emission Reductions
 - o 18 Organizations implemented reduction measures within their own operations.
 - o 13 Organizations encouraged or required 3rd party organizations to implement reduction measures; and
 - o 12 organizations educated and encouraged the public at large to implement reduction measures.

Eighteen CAC members have not submitted their 2022 Annual Air Quality Report Surveys, including:

- Austin White Lime
- Caldwell County
- CAMPO
- CapMetro
- CTRMA
- City of Hutto
- City of Georgetown
- City of Lago Vista
- City of Leander
- City of Lockhart
- City of Luling
- City of Sunset Valley
- Huston-Tillotson University
- Federal Highway Administration
- Lone Star Chapter of the Sierra Club
- Public Citizen
- St. Edwards University
- Texas Parks and Wildlife Department (TPWD)

Ms. Elizabeth Munger presented on the Lone Star Clean Fuels Alliance program. A handout was presented to the board for review.

9. Other Business and Adjournment

Council Member Matt Baker adjourned meeting at 1:00 p.m.



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BASTROP BLANCO BURNET CALDWELL FAYETTE HAYS LEE LLANO TRAVIS WILLIAMSON

MEMORANDUM
November 8, 2023

TO: Clean Air Coalition
FROM: Ramon Zarate, Air Quality Program Specialist
RE: PM_{2.5} Monitoring Site Selection

CAPCOG is seeking approval from the Clean Air Coalition (CAC) on the placement of one speciated PM_{2.5} monitor and seven continuous PM_{2.5} monitors.

Speciated Monitoring

At the October 24, 2024, CAC-Advisory Committee (CACAC) meeting, the committee voted to recommend CAMS 1619 in East Austin as the location for the speciated monitoring site. This was due to PM_{2.5} modeling data showing that this location has the highest PM_{2.5} concentrations of all CAPCOG’s 10 Monitoring sites, as can be seen in the table below:

Monitor	Modeled PM _{2.5} Concentration (µg/m ³)
<i>CAMS 3 (Austin N Hills)</i>	9.67
<i>CAMS 38 (Austin Audubon)</i>	9.42
CAMS 614 (Dripping Springs)	9.11
CAMS 690 (Georgetown)	9.25
CAMS 1604 (Lockhart)	9.21
CAMS 1605 (St. Edwards’)	9.65
CAMS 1612 (Bastrop)	9.08
CAMS 1613 (Elgin)	9.18
CAMS 1619 (East Austin)	9.66
CAMS 1620 (Round Rock)	9.63
CAMS 1629 (Kyle)	9.45
CAMS 1630 (Taylor)	9.17
CAMS 1675 (San Marcos)	9.38

Continuous Monitoring

CAPCOG with the assistance of the Monitoring Subcommittee of the CACAC developed three scenarios for the public to review:

- [Scenario #1](#) - Focus on areas with a higher density of vulnerable communities - monitoring sites are selected based on Center for Disease Control (CDC) data on which parts of the region have higher populations of health-based and socioeconomic-based vulnerabilities.
- [Scenario #2](#) - Focus on areas with the highest PM_{2.5} exposure - monitoring sites are selected based on which parts of the region have higher PM_{2.5} and diesel PM_{2.5} exposure.
- [Scenario #3](#) - Focus on Geographic Coverage across the Region - monitoring sites are selected based on distance from an existing PM_{2.5} monitor and an even regional distribution.

The subcommittee is meeting on November 2, 2023, to make a recommendation to the CAC. After this meeting CAPCOG will provide the CAC the committee's recommendation.



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BASTROP BLANCO BURNET CALDWELL FAYETTE HAYS LEE LLANO TRAVIS WILLIAMSON

MEMORANDUM

November 10, 2023

TO: Clean Air Coalition

FROM: Anton Cox, Air Quality Program Manager

RE: 2024 CAPCOG Air Quality Work Plan

CAPCOG is seeking approval from the Clean Air Coalition (CAC) to adopt the 2024 Air Quality Work Plan for CAPCOG's air quality program. At the October 24, 2024, CAC-Advisory Committee (CACAC) meeting, the committee voted to recommend the draft work plan but provide cost estimates for new projects so that the CAC could better evaluate and prioritize these projects. In addition, CAPCOG is including the cost estimates for new and existing projects in Tasks 3 – Outreach & Education since this is a task that would be scaled back should CAPCOG receive less funding support from the CAC than expected. CAPCOG staff expects to work with the CACAC to develop metrics and targets after the work plan is approved.

New projects included in the Work Plan include:

- Analysis of short and long-term emission reduction strategies that could be implemented in the region. The purpose of this study would be to support the CAC's planning by identifying emissions reduction control measures that have the potential to lower ozone and fine particulate matter concentrations in the region and to understand the costs associated with the identified control measures. A similar study was recently conducted by the Maricopa Association of Governments, and this could be used as an example¹.
 - *est. cost \$15,000 to \$25,000 (this price is based on CAPCOG staff completing this study)*
- Support Schoolpool programs – this would be a partnership with CAC member Movability to encourage parents to carpool, walk pool, or bike pool students by providing secure, easy-to-use tools to help them join existing school pools or start new ones. The goal is to reduce the number of vehicles idling near schools at the pick and drop-off lines. CAPCOG funding would be used to incentivize and market the program. Movability would manage the program. This program would launch in the 2024-2025 school year and thus funding in the 2024 work plan would only cover half of the school year.
 - *est. cost \$12,250 to \$15,000 in 2024*

¹Evaluating New and Available Ozone Precursor Control Measures in the Maricopa Nonattainment Area:
<https://azmag.gov/Portals/0/Environmental/Air-Quality/2023/Ramboll-Rpt-2023-03-06-Ozone-Precursor-Control-Meas-Maricopa-Nonattainment-Area.pdf>

Existing Task 3 Projects:

- Paid advertising – marketing air quality information to the public. In 2023 CAPCOG used radio, social media, and digital ads.
 - Est. cost \$30,000 to \$50,000
- Communications & Presentations – maintaining and improving the Air Central Texas website, social media accounts, newsletters. As well as creating media packets and providing presentations and interviews.
 - Est. cost \$25,000 to \$35,000
- Targeted outreach – outreach to specific groups that may help reach key demographics that are vulnerable to the effects of air pollution or represent a specific area of concern in the region.
 - Est. cost \$15,00 to \$25,000
- Events/Campaigns – an effort to concentrate resources or messaging around a specific time to increase the penetration of the messaging.
 - Est. cost \$10,000 to \$15,000

CAPCOG 2024 Air Quality Work Plan

for Approval by the Clean Air Coalition on 11/8/2023

Overview

This work plan provides specific plans for work that will be carried out in 2024 as part of the Capital Area Council of Government's (CAPCOG's) 2019-2026 Air Quality Program Scope of Work, which was approved by the Clean Air Coalition (CAC) in February 2019. The work plan includes activities CAPCOG staff have identified as valuable and specific recommendations made by the CAC Advisory Committee (CACAC). This work plan also identifies in general which activities will be funded using pooled local contributions and which activities will be funded using state grants.

Funding Available

CAPCOG's core budget for the 2024 air quality program work plan is estimated to be \$1,232,656. This is \$422,656 more than the 2023 work plan, reflecting new funding from two Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) grants to monitor fine Particulate Matter (PM_{2.5}) emissions and an anticipation that CAPCOG will receive a new grant from the state that can be used for eligible PM_{2.5} activities. This amount includes five sources of funding:

1. \$310,000 in contributions from 24 local governments¹,
2. \$551,090 in Texas Commission on Environmental Quality (TCEQ) O₃ Rider 7 - local air quality planning grant funding that can only be used for O₃ monitoring and O₃ emissions inventory research,
3. \$114,951 in TCEQ PM_{2.5} Rider 7 – local air quality planning grant funding that can only be used for PM_{2.5} monitoring, PM_{2.5} modeling, PM_{2.5} data analysis, and PM_{2.5} emissions inventory research, and
4. \$263,394 in EPA Enhanced Air Quality Monitoring for Communities Grant funding that can only be used for setup and operation of new continuous and PurpleAir Sensors.
5. \$96,221 in EPA Enhanced Air Quality Monitoring for Communities Grant funding that can only be used for setup and operation of a speciated PM_{2.5} monitoring site and the analysis of the collected samples.

Task 1: Clean Air Coalition Support

CAPCOG expects to host four CAC and four CACAC meetings in 2023. The following are the anticipated timeframes for these meetings:

- CAC Meetings:

¹ If any of the 24 local government does not provide funding for FY2024, CAPCOG will reduce work under tasks 3: outreach and education or task 8: other activities.

CAPCOG 2023 Air Quality Work Plan

- Unless otherwise specified, meetings will be held in-person at 11:30 am following CAPCOG Executive Committee meetings on February 14, May 8, August 14, and November 13.
- CACAC Meetings:
 - Will be held at least a week and a half prior to each CAC meeting, with target dates of January 31, April 24, July 31, and October 30.

Issues that CAPCOG staff will track include:

- EPA's review of the PM National Ambient Air Quality Standards (NAAQS) – review expected finalize in fall/winter 2023/24;
- EPA's review of the O₃ NAAQS – an Integrated Review Plan is expected in fall 2024;
- TCEQ's Annual Monitoring Network Plan (expected in April or May 2024); and
- The region's compliance with the 8-hr O₃ NAAQS.

Other activities under this task include:

- Development of performance measures and targets in consultation with CACAC;
- Deployment of new PM_{2.5} Monitoring Sites – expected to occur in Jan. 2024;
- Deployment of PM_{2.5} sensors throughout the year;
- Distribution of monthly newsletters;
- Recruitment of New CAC members;
- Briefing new CAC and CACAC members;
- Workshops/Webinars/Trainings for CAC and CACAC members;
- Preparation of FY 2025 funding requests; and
- Preparation of a work plan for 2025 in late 2023.

Task 2: Technical Assistance to CAC Members to Implement Emission Reduction Measures

As recommended by the CACAC and approved by the CAC, CAPCOG will prioritize activities related to transportation electrification and promoting energy efficiency standards and codes through its technical assistance. CAPCOG also plans to provide on-going technical assistance to CAC members for emission reduction measures, routine requests for assistance, applying for Texas Emission Reduction Plan (TERP) grants, and technical assistance related to any new PM-related emission reduction measures that CAC members intend to implement.

Task 3: Outreach and Education Activities

This task involves air quality outreach and education (O&E) activities carried out by CAPCOG. This includes:

CAPCOG 2023 Air Quality Work Plan

1. Air Central Texas (ACT) Marketing - ACT is an initiative to reduce exposure to air pollution in Bastrop, Caldwell, Hays, Travis, and Williamson Counties through voluntary actions to reduce emissions and tools for the public to avoid exposure to high pollution levels when they occur. Participants include local governments, regional and state government agencies, non-profit groups and institutions, and businesses.
 - a. ACT Website - The ACT website is the main portal for the public to learn about the Air Central Texas program. The site includes news and events, tools to estimate emissions, trends and reports on the region's air quality, and much more.
 - b. ACT Social Media – The ACT social media accounts include Facebook, Instagram, and X (Twitter), which staff uses to communicate relevant news and updates to the public.
 - i. A portion of the content posted to social media will be in the video format since this format may have a higher engagement rate vs static content.
 - c. ACT Newsletter – The ACT newsletter provides subscribers with information about the ACT program and ambient air quality in the region.
 - d. Paid Advertising – Paid advertising can boost the reach of the ACT program's messaging, allowing the program to reach out to communities that may not normally see ACT messaging through the program's other messaging channels.
2. Targeted Outreach - Targeted outreach to specific groups may help reach key demographics that are vulnerable to the effects of air pollution and/or that may amplify the reach of the program's messaging beyond the typical media channels the CAPCOG staff uses.
 - a. Target schools & youth groups – Children are a vulnerable demographic to air pollution, working with schools and/or youth groups can provide the opportunity to reach this demographic efficiently.
 - b. Target Heavy Duty Vehicle Idling (HDVI) – Reduce HDVI in the region by increasing awareness of its effects on air quality and awareness of the heavy-duty vehicle idling rules where they are in effect.
 - c. Media Outreach – Media outlets are an important channel for the program to target since the media plays a major role in keeping the public informed on air quality news and messaging.
 - d. Target health professionals - Healthcare professionals are a group that can help amplify the program's messaging this it is important that this group is well-informed about air quality resources.
3. Air Quality Events/Campaigns – Throughout the year, it is important to increase air quality outreach efforts to feed into important dates nationally or across the region and to concentrate resources to increase the market penetration of the messaging.
 - a. Start of Ozone Season – The start of O₃ season is March 1, 2024. It is a key time to make sure that people know to be aware about air quality condition and take steps to avoid unnecessary air pollution.

- b. Air Quality Awareness Week – Air Quality Awareness Week is a national event organized by the EPA to promote air quality across the country. It is anticipated to be April 29 – May 3, 2024.
- c. Air Central Texas Awards - The ACT celebrate the activities by organizations and individuals that have made significant contributions to the region’s air quality and inspire future action that supports the CAC’s ongoing regional air quality planning efforts.
- d. Monthly air quality messaging for CAC members to share with the public.
- e. Schoolpool pilot with Movability - encourage parents to carpool, walk pool, or bike pool students by providing secure, easy-to-use tools to help them join existing school pools or start new ones. The goal is to reduce the number of vehicles idling near schools at the pick and drop-off lines. CAPCOG funding would be used to incentivize and market the program. Movability would manage the program. This program would launch in the 2024-2025 school year and thus funding in the 2024 work plan would only cover half of the school year.

CAPCOG plans to spend whatever discretionary funding not needed to cover staff costs and monitoring costs on outreach and education, including purchasing advertising.

Task 4: Annual Air Quality Report

CAPCOG expects to start collecting information from CAC members in April and May 2024 on O₃ and PM emission reduction measures and other activities for calendar year 2023. CAPCOG plans to complete a draft of the annual air quality report for CACAC review in July 2024 and CAC approval in August 2024.

Task 5: Ozone Monitoring

CAPCOG intends to continue operating eight O₃ monitors in the region in accordance with its 2019-2026 monitoring plan. These include:

1. CAMS 614 in Dripping Springs;
2. CAMS 690 in Georgetown;
3. CAMS 1604 in Lockhart;
4. CAMS 1612 in Bastrop;
5. CAMS 1613 in Elgin;
6. CAMS 1619 in Austin;
7. CAMS 1620 in Round Rock;
8. CAMS 1675 in San Marcos;
9. CAMS 1629 in Kyle; and
10. CAMS 1630 in Taylor.

Task 6: Monitoring Data Analysis

Following TCEQ's certification of its 2023 monitoring data (due to EPA by May 1, 2024), CAPCOG will prepare a monitoring data analysis report. These reports should be completed no later than September 30, 2024.

Task 7: Emissions, Control Strategy, and Air Quality Modeling Analysis

CAPCOG plans to review and analyze new reports and data that are expected as they become available related to emissions inventories, control strategies, and air quality modeling. The CACAC or a subcommittee of the CACAC will help provide guidance on these projects. Potential reports to review includes:

- Analysis of short and long-term emission reduction strategies;
- EPA's 2023 power plant emissions inventory data, expected to be released February 2024;
- New data from EPA and TCEQ related to the 2020 National Emissions Inventory;
- Fleet emissions monitoring project; and
- Review of new or existing PM Modeling data from EPA.

Task 8: Other Studies and Planning Activities

Additional planning and studies to include:

- Deployment of more PM sensors and monitors across the region; and
- PM Emission Inventory study on nonpoint emissions at mining and quarrying sites.

Task, Deliverable, and Performance Metric Summary

CAPCOG will seek recommendations on final performance metrics and targets from the CACAC after the CAC November 2023 meeting, with the goal of formal adoption of performance targets at the CACAC's January 2024 meeting.