

**2020 Performance Oversight Pre-Hearing Questions**  
***Commission on Climate Change and Resiliency***

**1. Please provide a list of the Commission’s current members, and note any existing vacancies.**

- [See Attachment A](#)

**2. Please provide a list of the Commission’s meeting dates, times, and locations for FY 2019 and FY 2020 to date.**

Date	Location	Time
12.5.18 (Quarterly Meeting) 3.13.19 (Quarterly Meeting) 5.22.19 (Quarterly Meeting) 9.18.19 (Quarterly Meeting) 12.11.19 (Quarterly Meeting)	DOEE 1200 First Street, NE	4:00 -6:00 PM
1.17.19 (Workshop)	Georgetown University 640 Massachusetts Ave NW	8:30 -11:00 AM

In addition to the quarterly meetings and workshops listed above, the Commission held coordination meetings and committee meetings via conference calls on the following dates:

- 4.3.2019 5:00 – 6:00 PM (All Members)
- 5.1.2019 5:00 – 6:00 PM (All Members)
- 6.5.2019 5:00 – 6:00 PM (All Members)
- 6.13.2019 10:30 – 11:30 AM (Knowledge & Risk Management Committee)
- 6.24.2019 5:00-6:00 PM (Governance Committee)
- 6.28.2019 3:00 – 4:00 PM (Knowledge & Risk Management Committee)
- 7/12.2019 3:00 – 4:00 PM (Knowledge & Risk Management Committee)
- 7.19.2019 3:00 – 4:00 PM (Knowledge & Risk Management Committee)
- 8.1.2019 9:00 – 11:00 AM (Knowledge & Risk Management Committee)
- 8.7.2019 5:00 – 6:00 PM (All Members)
- 9.24.2019 4:30-5:30 PM (All Members)

### **3. Did the Commission receive funds in FY 2019?**

The Commission did not receive funds in FY2019. All activities and work products have been produced through the volunteer work of Commission members and the limited part-time staff support the Commission has received from the District Department of Energy and Environment.

### **4. Please describe the Commission's activities in FY 2019.**

In FY2019, the Commission organized its activities in the following manner:

- *Quarterly Meetings* - The Commission conducted quarterly meetings which were advertised and open to the public. In these meetings the Commission organized presentations from various District agencies, including the Office of the City Administrator and the District Department of Energy and Environment, among others.
- *Strategic Planning Retreat* - The Commission conducted an off-site strategic retreat to establish the future agendas for quarterly meetings and discuss the strategic organizational development of the Commission. One of the key outcomes of the retreat was to establish sub-committees to conduct research tasks relevant to the Commission's mission. These were organized along the following themes:
  - Knowledge and Risk Management;
  - Governance and Accountability; and
  - Communications and Engagement.
- *Agency Engagement* - Individual members represented the Commission at dozens of strategic planning and stakeholder engagement meetings organized by various D.C. agencies. Typically these meetings informed specific agency reports, such as Resilient DC which was produced by the Chief Resilient Officer in the Office of the City Administrator.
- *Interim Report* -- Per the legislation, the Commission prepared its inaugural report on the basis of activities conducted by the Commission. This report was transmitted to the Mayor and the Council at the conclusion of FY2019. The production of this report was made possible by many

hours of in-kind service by individual members, meetings of the sub-committees and by the Commission as a whole.

**5. Please describe the Commission's three biggest accomplishments in FY 2019.**

The biggest overall accomplishment of FY2019 is the completion of a first entire year of regular public meetings and activities in accordance with the legislation creating the Commission.

Specific accomplishments we would like to highlight include:

- The production of the inaugural report produced by the Commission, entitled *First Report to the District of Columbia*, which was transmitted to the Mayor and the Council on October 15, 2019. This report has been attached to this testimony as [Attachment B](#). This report is described in the legislation as the “Interim Report”.
- In-depth collaboration, support and assistance to the D.C. Chief Resilience Officer, associated staff in the Office of the City Administrator and representatives of the Rockefeller 100 Resilient Cities initiative to help guide the formulation of the landmark *Resilient DC* planning document. This landmark document was released by the Mayor on April 29, 2019. Activities which were conducted in support of this effort included a special joint workshop between the Commission, agency directors and other members of the Mayor’s “Resilience Cabinet”.
- In-depth collaboration, support and assistance to DOEE staff and Council staff in support of ongoing activities, including the passage of the landmark CleanEnergy DC Omnibus Amendment Act of 2018 (D.C. Law 22-257, passed by Council January 18, 2018, the DOEE *Climate Ready Strategic Roadmap*, to be released by DOEE January 2020, and the Draft Resilient Design Guidelines, developed by DOEE in 2019. We believe that these milestones and other ongoing DOEE projects represent precedent-making international best practices in the mitigation and adaptation to climate change.

**6. Please describe the Commission's goals for FY 2020 and the plan/timeline for completion.**

The Commission's goals for FY2020 include:

- Conduct a Commission workshop in February which develops the agenda of upcoming quarterly meetings and a workplan for the Commission's activities in FY2020. (February)
- Conduct four quarterly meetings with targeted agendas. (December, March, June, and September)
- Per the legislation, prepare a report to be transmitted to the Mayor and Council that establishes the timeline of regular report production by the Commission on a running three-year basis. (September)
- Provide ongoing feedback and support to District agencies to advance the recommendations of the Interim Report, including establishing a process to monitor ongoing work of all agencies and communicating this to the public. (Ongoing)

**7. What challenges does the Commission face, if any?**

As a newly formed body, the Commission faces important challenges. The following represent the key challenges which restrain the Commission from reaching its full potential as envisioned by the legislation:

- The Council-appointed position for Environmental Justice remains vacant. The Commission believes filling this position is of immediate, short-term priority.
- The Commission is in need of additional staff support. While DOEE has been extremely supportive, no dedicated funds have been appropriated to DOEE or to the OCA to expressly support the administrative operations of the Commission.
- The Commission has no dedicated communications portal (website or dedicated webpages) with which to communicate with the public in a normal, businesslike manner.
- The Commission is still in the process of refining its approach to strategically engage stakeholder agencies and organizations beyond those that participate in the Mayor's Resilience Cabinet. These stakeholders include federal and regional agencies and industry

organizations. They also include other District agencies, such as the Public Service Commission.

- The Commission is still in the process of refining its approach to the subject matter of environmental justice and climate justice in the context of the work of the Commission. These systemic challenges require special analysis in order to understand how the Commission can formulate a coordinated and integrated approach. The Commission has commenced this work, but it has not yet reached maturity.

**8. Please provide a copy of all official correspondence sent by the Commission in FY 2019 and FY 2020 to date.**

- See Meeting Agendas & Minutes in [Attachment C](#).
- See Commission Report in [Attachment B](#).

**9. Please identify the Commission's top recommendations for addressing climate change and resilience in FY 2020.**

The Commission's top recommendations are outlined in our inaugural Interim Report and are outlined below. These are described in greater detail in the full report, which is included as [Attachment B](#).

1) *Prioritize and Integrate Climate and Resilience Strategies* (p.7)

Coordinate, prioritize, and integrate existing documented resilience strategies and objectives.

- a) Prioritize and align the many resilience initiatives included in DC plans.
- b) Establish high-level and District-wide climate change resilience indicators or metrics of success that have the necessary budget and authority to achieve outcome-based goals.

2) *Integrate Climate and Resilience into Budget and Managerial Decision-making* (pp. 7-8)

Integrate resilience strategies into the process of formulating and finalizing the District's overall budget.

- a) Adopt a resilience framework for all operating and capital budget investments and general government management decisions that prioritize the avoidance of long-term costs associated with climate change

and resilience, and which is based on best practices of performing vulnerability assessments.

3) *Increase Accountability and Oversight* (p. 8)

Increase accountability and oversight to support short-term actions designed to meet long-term goals.

- a) Ensure that the Mayor, Council and Commission have actionable information on District agencies' existing climate mitigation, adaptation, and resilience efforts that will allow each of these bodies to identify needs as well as play a strategic role in exercising appropriate agency oversight.
- b) Integrate resilience planning into the District Comprehensive Plan on an ongoing and regular basis in order to create a foundation for future legally binding and enforceable measures.
- c) Ensure that environmental justice is expressly incorporated into the formulation of all climate and resilience strategies and that these strategies can be effectively monitored and managed in order to enable all District citizens to thrive.

4) *Access and Apply All Available Climate Data* (pp. 8-9)

Develop and adopt consistent direction for assessing climate vulnerabilities in planning and investment decision-making that can be used by government agencies and critical infrastructure public authorities and private utilities.

- a) Establish Resilience Standards for development in the District and establish directives to standardize and regularly update existing climate models and risk assessments.
- b) Ensure continuity of operations for critical facilities, including non-District managed facilities, to help verify readiness for extreme weather events.

5) *Improve Communications and Engagement* (p. 9)

Improve engagement and communication tailored to a diverse set of stakeholders including the public and private sectors, as well as District residents.

- a) Develop new information and communication frameworks such as dashboards and performance reports.
- b) Increase the visibility of Resilient DC and Climate Ready DC plans for broader dissemination and increased public awareness.
- c) Improve social media presence to promote and educate individuals on the District's climate change and resilience actions/goals.
- d) Integrate resilience actions and sustainability initiatives into community engagement, outreach, and educational programs.

- e) Foster new innovation platforms which empower knowledge and innovation partners to make game-changing contributions to the way that the District embraces its climate and resilience challenges.

# Attachment A



First Name	Last Name	Seat Designation	Appointment Status	Appointee Designation	Term End	Ward of Residence	Attendance at FY19/FY20 Meetings (Only including meetings in which the member was confirmed)
Sandra	Knight	Emergency Preparedness Member	Active / filled seat	Mayoral Appointee, Public Member	5/25/2020	Ward 6	5/5
Kathryn	Zyla	Energy Member	Active / filled seat	Mayoral Appointee, Public Member	5/25/2020	Ward 6	4/5
Maureen	Holman	Environmental Science Member	Active / filled seat	Mayoral Appointee, Public Member	5/25/2022	Ward 5	4/5
Jason E.	Turner	Environmental Science Member	Active / filled seat	Mayoral Appointee, Public Member	5/25/2022	Ward 4	3/5
Molly	Rauch	Public Health Member	Active / filled seat	DC Chairman/Council appointee	11/8/2022	Ward 4	4/5
Anthony	Kane	Transportation Member	Active / filled seat	Mayoral Appointee, Public Member	5/25/2020	Ward 2	2/5
Stephen	Moore	Transportation Member	Active / filled seat	DC Chairman/Council appointee	11/8/2022	Ward 2	3/5
James	Dougherty	Natural Resources Member	Active / filled seat	DC Chairman/Council appointee	11/8/2022	Ward 6	4/5
Alan	Etter	Emergency Preparedness Member	Active / filled seat	DC Chairman/Council appointee	11/8/2020	Ward 6	5/5
Peggy	Keller	Public health Member	Active / filled seat	Mayoral Appointee, Public Member	5/25/2022	Ward 3	4/5
Melissa	Lavinson	Energy Member	Active / filled seat	DC Chairman/Council appointee	11/8/2020	Ward 1	4/5
Vaughn	Perry	Environmental Justice Member	New member appointment in progress	Mayoral Appointee, Public Member	5/5/2020	Ward 8	0/0
Uwe	Brandes	Natural Resources Member	New member appointment in progress	Mayoral Appointee, Public Member	5/5/2022	Ward 3	5/5
Vacant		Environmental Justice Member	Vacant / unoccupied seat	DC Chairman/Council appointee			
Chester	McPherson	Insurance Member	Active / filled seat	DC Chairman/Council appointee	11/8/2022	Ward 5	1/1
Colin	McCormick	Environmental Science Member	Active / filled seat	DC Chairman/Council appointee	11/8/2020	Ward 1	1/1



# The Commission on Climate Change and Resiliency

First Report to the District of Columbia

October 15, 2019

October 15, 2019

The Honorable Muriel Bowser  
Mayor of the District of Columbia  
1350 Pennsylvania Ave. NW  
Washington, DC, 20004

The Honorable Phil Mendelson  
Chairman, Council of the District of Columbia  
1350 Pennsylvania Ave. NW, Suite 504  
Washington DC, 20004

Dear Mayor Bowser and Chairman Mendelson:

Pursuant to the Commission on Climate Change and Resiliency Establishment Act of 2016, effective February 18, 2017 (D.C. Law 21-185), the Commission on Climate Change and Resiliency is pleased to submit the enclosed First Report. This report describes the progress the Commission has made since it first convened on March 8, 2018. It details our work completed to date, preliminary recommendations for steps the District should take to mitigate climate change impacts and vulnerability, and preliminary recommendations to coordinate adaptation strategies across agencies and other entities.

We began our work with a strong foundation that included rigorous and robust plans developed by District of Columbia staff with input from the public and national experts, particularly Climate Ready DC, Sustainable DC 2.0, and Resilient DC.

Over the last 18 months, we organized our work into three thematic committees: Knowledge and Risk Management; Governance and Accountability; and Communications and Engagement. As a result of this work, we came to five key findings with ten associated recommendations detailed within:

1. **Prioritization and Integration.** Better coordinate, prioritize, and integrate existing resilience strategies;
2. **Budget and Managerial Decision-making.** Integration of resilience into management and budget (operating and capital) decisions;
3. **Accountability and Oversight.** Introduction of measures of accountability to support short-term actions designed to meet long-term goals;
4. **Application of Climate Data.** Develop greater consistency of data and assessments of climate vulnerabilities; and
5. **Communications and Engagement.** Improve engagement of stakeholders impacted by climate change.

The District has a global reputation for climate and resilience leadership. Adopting these recommendations will help DC strengthen this leadership reputation and help enhance the resilience of the District itself and its residents in the face of a warming planet.

On behalf of the Commission, we are grateful for the opportunity to serve the District of Columbia.

Sincerely,



Kevin Clinton  
Chair, Commission on Climate Change and Resiliency

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Uwe Brandes, Environmental Science

Kevin Clinton, Natural Resources

James Dougherty, Natural Resources

Alan Etter, Emergency Preparedness

Thomas Hampton, Insurance

Maureen Holman, Environmental Science

Anthony Kane, Transportation

Peggy Keller, Public Health

Sandra Knight, Emergency Preparedness

Melissa Lavinson, Energy

Stephen Moore, Transportation

Molly Rauch, Public Health

Jason E. Turner, Environmental Science

Kathryn Zyla, Energy



## EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

Following its legislative mandate, the Commission on Climate Change and Resiliency (the ‘Commission’) has spent the last year analyzing the current state of resilience in the District and synthesizing existing resources and best practices. The Commission recognizes all the work the Council and District agencies have undertaken to strengthen the District’s current and future resilience in a rapidly changing climate, and especially appreciates the recent Resilient DC report released by the Mayor. The District has a strong framework for implementing its aggressive climate mitigation and adaptation goals and a demonstrated history of stakeholder engagement in the climate change resiliency space.

The Commission gathered and reviewed information from various internal and external sources. Based on that review and their own expertise, the Commission noted gaps and opportunities for improvement in the District's investments, regulations, and governance.

Our key findings are that there is a need for:

- ❖ Coordination, prioritization, and integration of existing resilience strategies and objectives;
- ❖ Integrating the consideration of resilience into all operating and capital budget investments and general government management decisions;
- ❖ Implementing measures of accountability and oversight to support short-term actions designed to meet long-term goals;
- ❖ Developing and adopting consistent direction for assessing climate vulnerabilities in planning and investment decision-making that can be used by government agencies and critical infrastructure companies; and
- ❖ Improved engagement and communication tailored to a diverse set of stakeholders including the public and private sectors, as well as District residents.

The Commission recommends taking a comprehensive approach to monitoring and benchmarking the District’s progress on resilience through the explicit inclusion of climate resilience goals in the District's Comprehensive Plan and the ongoing disclosure of climate indicators, which are monitored and reported over time. We urge District leadership and agencies to prioritize existing initiatives, identify short-term commitments for resilient actions, and support those initiatives through funding.

Going forward, there is a need to develop cross-agency accountability and oversight mechanisms, collaborative processes for envisioning future risk scenarios, and highly-effective stakeholder engagement strategies which result in far greater preparedness of District residents to climate-related risks.

We believe that the Commission has a critical, ongoing role to play as the District refines and expands its climate change and resilience activities. Its oversight and advice can provide needed guidance to the Mayor and the Council on the complex and multi-faceted issues associated with climate change mitigation and adaptation. Please see Appendix A for recommendations on the mandate and administration of the Commission moving forward.

## COMMISSION WORK TO DATE

The Commission was formed by the Council of the District of Columbia to identify and advise on best practices in climate resiliency, projected impacts of climate change on critical infrastructure, and proactive solutions to mitigate these impacts. Since the official formation of the Commission in March of 2018, Commissioners have conducted an extensive literature review to fully understand the current state of resilience in the District and establish a foundation on which to build future recommendations. The Commission represents a diverse set of stakeholders with far-reaching arms into the city beyond traditional environmental constituencies, including: universities, national advocacy groups, utilities, environmental justice organizations, local experts, and broad-based civic organizations.

### The Mandate of the Commission

1. Assess the potential effects of climate change on the District;
2. Assess the District's ability to adapt to and mitigate the effects of climate change;
3. Assess the District's ability to prepare for, respond to, and recover from severe, adverse weather events;
4. Identify vulnerabilities related to climate change effects and preparedness and prepare recommendations to the Council and the Mayor to mitigate those vulnerabilities; and
5. Provide comments and recommendations to all District agencies on climate change adaptation and vulnerability mitigation plans.

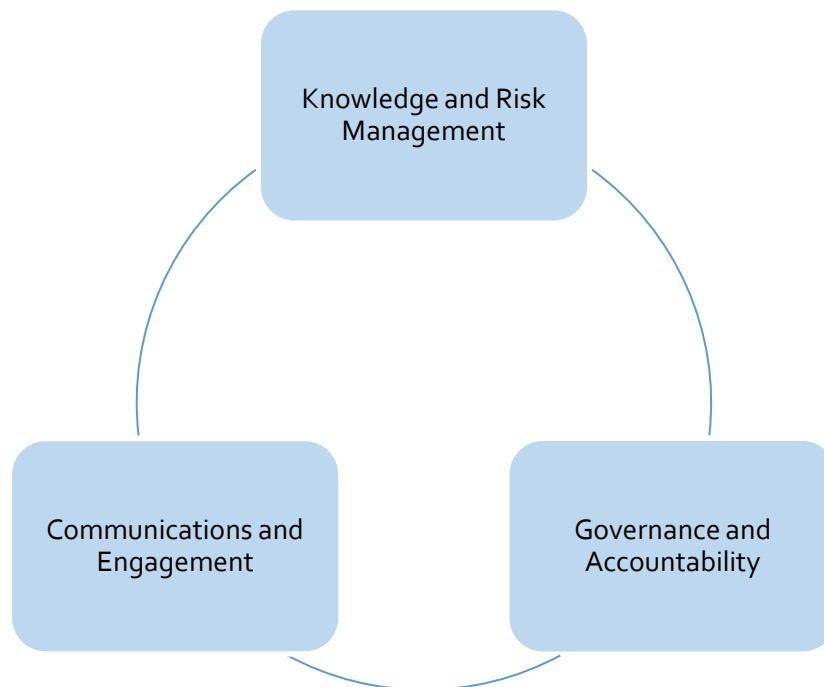
Since the original legislation that established the Commission, District government agencies have undertaken significant efforts to assess, analyze, and develop strategies and initiatives to combat climate change and build resilience in the District of Columbia. During the Commission's first year of work, Commissioners met with District government representatives who worked on plans that advance the District's resilience goals, including Climate Ready DC (DOEE), Clean Energy DC (DOEE), and Resilient DC (OCA), among others. These representatives provided insight into the preparation of each of these plans and the strategies employed to address climate change impacts in the District.

The Commission also had an opportunity to provide strategic input on the Resilient DC plan as it was being developed. During the summer of 2018, Commission members participated in the Resilient DC kickoff and in five discovery area working groups that met on a biweekly basis. Members of the Commission who participated in the groups helped to conduct analysis and diagnostic work that advanced new opportunities. The Commission also participated in the Resilient DC Vision Setting Workshop, which included the Mayor's Resilience Cabinet. At the meeting, the Commission took part in an exercise to finalize an outline for DC's Resilience Strategy that included the vision, goals, and objectives for the strategy.

Since the release of these plans, the Commission has focused on developing recommendations for mitigation of climate change impacts and coordinated adaptation strategies across agencies and other entities. At the beginning of 2019, the Commission held a facilitated strategic planning retreat hosted by Georgetown University with the purpose of developing a strategic work plan and

timeline for meeting the Commission’s legislative requirements. Given that the District has already developed a climate vulnerability assessment and published numerous agency-based plans outlining climate adaptation and mitigation strategies, Commissioners focused on three broad areas of potential improvement for District government action on climate change and resilience.

### Areas of Potential Improvement for District Government Action on Climate Change and Resilience



The Commission has since established committees based on these focus areas to help execute this work plan and provide a deeper dive into each topic area. The section below is a synthesis of the key findings and recommendations of all three groups. The following three sections outline the observations of each committee, including existing strengths and gaps in the District’s resilience work. Appendix B presents a matrix outlining the recommendations that came out of this work.

This report is reflective of the work of volunteer Commission members who have met more frequently than their mandate of quarterly meetings. With dedicated staff, the Commission could play an even more substantive role in ensuring the District is a leader in this space in the years to come.



## SUMMARY OF KEY FINDINGS AND RECOMMENDATIONS

The key findings and recommendations below originate from the work of three Commission subcommittees. For a detailed look at each of these recommendations, please see Appendix B.

### Prioritization and Integration

Coordinate, prioritize, and integrate existing resilience strategies and objectives.

While indicators that aim to measure progress have been established in published plans such as Climate Ready DC, Sustainable DC 2.0, and Resilient DC, these metrics remain in silos with no clear cross-cutting relationship or reporting mandate. The Commission recommends establishing high-level metrics or indicators that are publicly reported in regular intervals. These indicators should be tied to agency performance, and should be supported by funding and regulations needed to achieve outcome-based goals.

Additionally, there are many climate and resilience actions in the plans, but no clear roadmap on where to start or how to prioritize resource allocation. The Commission sees an opportunity to prioritize these strategies and establish near-term deadlines for completing specific actions. This prioritization should be based on feasibility, funding, and alignment with long-term goals so as to maximize positive impact.

Specifically, we recommend that the District:

1

Prioritize and align the many resilience initiatives included in DC plans.

2

Establish high level/District-wide climate change resilience indicators or metrics of success that have the necessary budget and authority to achieve outcome-based goals.

### Budget and Managerial Decision-making

Integrate resilience strategies into the budget and funding decision-making process.

The Commission found that funding to support climate and resilience initiatives does not match ambitions in the plans. This has resulted in significant challenges in implementation. As such, the Commission recommends supporting the high priority climate and resilience actions with dedicated funding. Additionally, resilience should be an explicit factor in the preparation of the Capital Improvement Plan in order to ensure that investments are taking into account future conditions. Finally, a sound resilience implementation strategy does not necessarily mean that an

entirely new set of budget line items be generated; integrating and better coordinating existing funded actions may actually achieve greater efficiency and more comprehensive outcomes.

Specifically, we recommend that the District:

3

Adopt a resilience framework for all operating and capital budget investments and general government management decisions that prioritizes the avoidance of long-term costs and is based on contemporary vulnerability assessments.

### Accountability and Oversight

Increase accountability and oversight to support short-term actions designed to meet long-term goals

In its review, the Commission found the lack of resilience requirements in existing regulations as a significant barrier to creating widespread participation in resilience actions. The Commission recommends integrating resilience planning into the District's Comprehensive Plan in order to create legally binding and enforceable measures that will support implementation. The Comprehensive Plan is the District's long-term vision for our community and it provides the basis for legally enforceable actions which may take many years to implement.

Specifically, we recommend that the District:

4

Ensure that the Commission has information on District agencies' existing climate mitigation, adaptation, and resilience efforts that will allow the Commission to map needs as well as play a role in agency oversight.

5

Integrate resilience planning into the District Comprehensive Plan to create legally binding and enforceable measures.

### Application of Climate Data

Develop and adopt consistent direction for assessing climate vulnerabilities in planning and investment decision-making that can be used by government agencies and critical infrastructure companies.

While the District has developed climate projections and inventoried climate vulnerabilities to infrastructure and neighborhoods, the Commission has found that forward-looking climate science is not consistently used for strategic decisions in planning, investments, and design.

Specifically, we recommend that the District:

6

Establish Resilience Standards for development in the District and establish directives to standardize and regularly update existing climate models and risk assessments.

7

Ensure continuity of operations for critical facilities, including non-District managed facilities, to help verify readiness for extreme weather events.

## Communication and Engagement

Improve engagement and communication tailored to a diverse set of stakeholders including the public and private sectors, as well as District residents.

Though the District has conducted strong community engagement while developing climate change and resilience plans, less work has been done to keep community members engaged after a plan is released. Even more, communication strategies may not be reaching a diversity of audiences including the private sector and residents of all ages. The Commission recommends expanding climate change and resilience outreach and communication modalities to make information more accessible and to empower residents to actively learn, understand, and interact with resilience initiatives and accomplishments in the District. For example, the District should develop an interactive website that shows climate challenges and resilience progress. The District should also integrate resilience actions and sustainability education into various outreach and educational contexts, including certification programs and elementary education curricula.

Specifically, we recommend that the District:

8

Increase the visibility of Resilient DC and Climate Ready DC plans for broader dissemination and increased public awareness.

9

Improve social media presence to promote and educate individuals on the District's climate change and resilience actions/goals.

10

Integrate resilience actions and sustainability initiatives into community engagement, outreach, and educational programs.

*The recommendations outlined in section 2 were developed through a research process looking at current efforts in the District through three lenses: knowledge and risk management; governance, accountability and reporting; and communications and engagement. The following three sections outline more detailed observations of each committee.*

## KNOWLEDGE AND RISK MANAGEMENT

The Knowledge and Risk Management committee reviewed the underlying science, technology, data, standards, and analysis that informed the vulnerabilities to climate change and the resilience strategies developed by District government across plans and agencies. The committee reviewed existing climate change and resilience plans in the District, noting that each plan includes a series of actions and initiatives, some with overlapping objectives and many that are interrelated, such that, when implemented, one initiative could impact the outcome of others. Several of the plans reference the need for inter-agency partnership and participation, as well as the need to partner with non-governmental organizations and critical infrastructure providers, such as water, electric and natural gas.

### Existing Strengths Identified by this Committee:

- ❖ Existing plans focused on climate change mitigation and adaptation provide a strong framework and a set of recommendations for immediate action to address climate change and build resilience in the District
- ❖ Efforts have already been undertaken to apply climate scenarios, model vulnerabilities, and conduct vulnerability assessments
- ❖ Existing reports have already utilized a number of key strategies directly related to the Commission's efforts including:
  - Data collection on existing and expected future hazards
  - Climate change impact evaluation
  - Vulnerability assessments for critical infrastructure
  - Development of recommendations to address vulnerabilities, increase resilience and address climate adaptation and mitigation

### Existing Gaps Identified by this Committee:

- ❖ Lack of connectivity between the goals and objectives outlined in the District's climate and resilience plans and how these plans align with a higher set of measurable indicators of success
- ❖ Lack of prioritization among the various goals, objectives, and initiatives
- ❖ No mandate to update vulnerability assessments/climate models, nor direction as to how they can be used by District government agencies and other key partners
- ❖ Capital funding does not consider operational costs and savings from resilience and clean energy goals

- ❖ Objectives and initiatives identified in District plans are high-level with no clear process or funding mechanism for translation into actions for implementation
- ❖ Lack of buy-in and involvement from other federal entities, neighboring jurisdictions and private sector stakeholders
- ❖ Lack of a governance and accountability model to align and prioritize plans, goals and objectives.
- ❖ Use of historic flood maps does not accurately capture current or future flood risks

Overall, there is a need to identify areas of overlap in existing plans, better understand the extent of coordination and integration required, and identify additional needs and clear accountability for successfully completing initiatives, including clear timelines and desired outcomes.

## GOVERNANCE, ACCOUNTABILITY AND REPORTING

The role of this committee is to examine how oversight is done for existing climate change mitigation and adaptation plans and how the Commission can support and uplift climate action through strengthened accountability and oversight. This committee's efforts extend to administrative, regulatory, enforcement and reporting recommendations related to feasible and efficient implementation of risk mitigation. One of the key action items identified by this committee is to conduct formal outreach to District government agencies requesting information on agency operations related to climate change and resilience.

### Existing Strengths Identified by this Committee:

- ❖ Council action has created legislative mandates for aggressive climate mitigation
- ❖ Many agencies have already been identified as partners to coordinate implementation of existing plans
- ❖ The City Administrator's Resilience Cabinet is a body which shares information on existing climate change priorities
- ❖ Sector pledges under the Sustainable DC plan are a strong example of ways to engage non-government stakeholders and set valuable vision for next steps
- ❖ The Commission has a diverse set of non-government expertise from the private sector, academia and non-profit organizations

### Existing Gaps Identified by this Committee:

- ❖ Lack of accountability and enforcement for achieving actions outlined in existing plans, even when agencies have been identified as lead actors
- ❖ Lack of inter-agency integration of emergency preparedness strategies with climate mitigation and adaptation strategies which involve a wider net of participants
- ❖ Lack of legislative and regulatory mandates which make various resilience strategies a required course of action
- ❖ Lack of clear short-term actions which are first steps to achieve long-term goals
- ❖ Lack of a clear approach to resource allocation for the many climate adaptation and mitigation strategies which are currently unfunded, including the lack of resilience goals in the capital improvement plan decision-making process

While the governance committee has made a number of observations thus far, it believes that additional strategic outreach is needed to a variety of government agencies. Ongoing engagement would allow the Commission to ask targeted questions, explore future scenarios, and provide more detailed recommendations. The Commission plans to spend the next year playing this role.

## COMMUNICATION AND ENGAGEMENT

The Communication and Engagement committee was formed to make recommendations on engaging external stakeholders outside the District government and supporting inclusive public participation.

This committee found that the District of Columbia has a number of characteristics that indicate it is ripe for high levels of community engagement regarding climate change and resilience. Increasing outreach with key groups and expanding the message beyond the usual targets could increase momentum for more widespread action. This can help drive public engagement with resilience and sustainability.

### Existing Strengths Identified by this Committee:

- ❖ Strong commitment to addressing climate change as demonstrated by the Clean Energy DC Omnibus Amendment Act of 2018 committing the District to 100% renewable energy by 2032 and carbon neutrality by 2050
- ❖ Demonstrated commitment to stakeholder engagement and communications in the climate resilience space. Past and current examples of this work include:
  - National Park Service flood mitigation work
  - Resilient DC stakeholder engagement and feedback process
  - Ward 7 Equity Advisory Group and Resilience Hub Community Committee
- ❖ Existing consortium among local universities in the District studying the effects of climate change locally and globally and developing best practices for communicating this information

### Existing Gaps Identified by this Committee:

- ❖ Not enough focus on co-benefits of climate resilience, such as sustainable development or improved public health. There is a need to draw the connection between climate change and individual welfare
- ❖ Limited opportunities and modalities available for District residents to learn about, understand, and interact with the Resilient DC Plan, Climate Ready DC, and other DC accomplishments in the areas of climate change and resilience
- ❖ Lack of integration of resilience strategies to existing preparedness trainings, outreach, and educational programs

Initiatives recommended by this committee are intended to help coordinate engagement and communication strategies on climate change and resilience across public and private sector agencies as well as to improve engagement and communication with District residents.



## APPENDIX A

### Recommended Considerations for the Mandate and Administration of the Commission

Over the last two years, the Commission has taken concrete steps to fulfill its legislative duties to assess the effect of climate change and identify opportunities to adapt to climate change. Along the way, the Commission has reflected on how its duties, functions, procedures, and powers could be enhanced to better meet the objective of encouraging meaningful climate change and resiliency action in the District. To effectively address the shocks and stressors related to climate change - including complex governance and social inequalities - the Commission has a series of recommendations to institutionalize its efforts.

Some of the recommendations the Commission believes will strengthen its resilience management efforts include the need to:

<b>1</b>	Make it a priority to immediately fill the two environmental justice positions that are currently vacant.
<b>2</b>	Ensure that the reporting requirements for the Commission are in alignment with ongoing performance reporting by the District. Resilient DC recommends that the Commission’s work should be presented in conjunction with a dashboard that tracks District Government implementation of Climate Ready DC, Clean Energy DC, Sustainable DC, and the All-Hazards Mitigation Plan (Objective 2.2.3 of Resilient DC).
<b>3</b>	Revise the duties of the Commission to include strategic oversight and implementation support. In addition to its role of identifying climate vulnerabilities and risks to encourage tangible action, the Commission proposes to monitor progress by District agencies to assess ongoing progress, identify challenges, and propose potential solutions. This work would be catalyzed by the District’s progress on Objective 2.2.2 from the District’s Resilience Strategy that recommends there be formally designated climate champions in each government agency.
<b>4</b>	Appropriate funds for an administrative budget for the Commission to support the following functions:
<b>Paid and Assigned Staff</b>	The Commission members are extremely knowledgeable in their sectors; however, there is a need to have engaged staff to help synthesize the ideas and information generated by the Commission to guide program development and actions. From this first year of operation, it is recommended that at least one full-time and one part-time staff member be provided to support the Commission with capabilities to synthesize member ideas and expert inputs into summary documents, help steer the activities of the Commission, provide

	logistical support, and has the authority to connect the Commission to District Government Climate Champions when needed to bridge the communication between the Commission and agencies.
<b>Additional Expertise</b>	The Commission may at times need access to a staff attorney, project managers, and/or external expert reviewers, especially scientists and technical analysts.
<b>A website that is accessible to the public</b>	<p>A website is needed with key content such as:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1) Accessibility to resources such as annual reports, laws and executive orders, and publications where the Commission’s work is highlighted.</li> <li>2) Availability of key publications in multiple languages.</li> <li>3) A list of members of the Commission and their committees/working groups.</li> <li>4) Identification of staff supporting the Commission to manage the website, including external expert reviewers.</li> <li>5) A calendar identifying future meetings, work plan schedules, and actions of the Commission.</li> </ol>
<b>5</b>	Review the best approaches or coordinating structure for engaging District agencies, federal, non-profit and industry partners, recognizing the many evolving governance committees and commissions in the region and country.

## APPENDIX B

### Recommendations of the Commission

#	Recommendation	Knowledge	Governance	Communications	Progress to Date	Gaps	Potential Next Steps	Timeframe (Short term = <1 year, Medium term = 2-4 years, Long term = 5+ years)
1	Prioritize and align the many resilience initiatives included in Dc plans, and establish near-term deadlines for completing specific resilience actions that have long-term impacts.	X	X		Climate Ready DC has prioritized actions within the plan itself.	No prioritization across plans and prioritization is not linked to funding. Prioritization should be based on feasibility and long-term impacts.	The Chief Resilience Officer should work in close coordination with District agencies to incorporate priority projects into the District Hazard Mitigation Plan (HSEMA) and other critical plans.	Short
2	Establish high level/District-wide climate change resilience indicators or metrics of success that have the necessary budget and authority to achieve outcome-based goals.	X			Some metrics have been established in other District plans including Climate Ready DC, Resilient DC, and Sustainable DC 2.0.	Current plans/metrics are unfunded and have no regulatory requirements. There is no clear relationship between the metrics in the various District plans.		Medium

#	Recommendation	Knowledge	Governance	Communications	Progress to Date	Gaps	Potential Next Steps	Timeframe (Short term = <1 year, Medium term = 2-4 years, Long term = 5+ years)
3	Adopt a resilience framework for all operating and capital budget investments and general government management decisions that prioritizes the avoidance of long-term cost and is based on contemporary vulnerability assessments.	X	X		This recommendation is echoed in strategies within Resilient DC, Climate Ready DC, and Sustainable DC 2.0.	Necessary mandates to consider climate change not yet developed nor a process by which to do so.	Increase pacing of producing Resilient Design Guidelines and incorporate them into capital budget process.	Short
4	Ensure Commission has information on District agencies' existing climate mitigation, adaptation, and resilience efforts that will allow the Commission to map needs as well as play a role in agency oversight.		X		Commission has drafted letters to send to agencies. DOEE and the Chief Resilience Officer have attended Commission meetings.	Lack of information on resilience work done by government agencies, especially beyond DOEE and the Resilient DC office.	Send letters to District agencies.	Short

#	Recommendation	Knowledge	Governance	Communications	Progress to Date	Gaps	Potential Next Steps	Timeframe (Short term = <1 year, Medium term = 2-4 years, Long term = 5+ years)
5	Integrate resilience planning into the District's Comprehensive Plan to create legally binding and enforceable measures.		X		Work has been done to identify resilience strategies in the comprehensive plan and a current draft is underway.	Lack of resilience requirements in existing regulation and strategies.		Short
6	Establish Resilience Standards for development in the District and directive to standardize and regularly update existing climate models and risk assessments.	X	X		Resilient Design Guidelines currently under development by DOEE will provide a voluntary, beta-version of what development guidelines could look like. Climate modeling and risk assessments have been conducted for the district.	Lack of resilience requirements in existing regulation and strategies.		Medium
7	Ensure continuity of operations for critical facilities, including non-District managed	X			Resilience Hub working group tasked with siting a resilience hub in	Overall lack of coordination between existing efforts, lack of capacity to improve facilities, and no clear	Direct HSEMA to provide to the Council a quarterly report that verifies the readiness of those facilities	Short

#	Recommendation	Knowledge	Governance	Communications	Progress to Date	Gaps	Potential Next Steps	Timeframe (Short term = <1 year, Medium term = 2-4 years, Long term = 5+ years)
	facilities, and help verify readiness for extreme weather events				Ward 7 that can be used during extreme weather events / disasters. Climate Ready DC has outlined a plan for assessing resilient power in case of emergencies. HSEMA has developed a critical facility assessment.	guidance and rules on facility requirements.	identified as critical to public safety in the case of an extreme weather event, including those facilities that are designated as heating and cooling centers, evacuation centers, and hospitals. Coordinate efforts with private sector utilities, water, and metro.	
8	Increase the visibility of Resilient DC and Climate Ready Dc plans for broader dissemination and increased public awareness.			X	Resilient DC received significant public input from a variety of forums. Sustainable DC 2.0 process actively engaged residents from across the district to receive feedback. Climate Ready DC is developing public-facing implementation roadmap.	Governmental plans should be supplemented with information on individual actions that can increase resiliency and reduce vulnerability; these plans need to be more accessible and digestible to the public. Existing plans not designed to support action outside of government processes.	Translate climate plans into an infographic or other visual to make it easier for individuals to understand the plan. Develop a public facing portal about Resilient DC and other climate strategies that could solicit input from individuals for the strategies and measures, into a matrix to score public reactions to the plan.	Short
9	Improve social media presence to promote			X	Individual agencies have social media	Current efforts do not reach most District residents.	Establish a public-facing website to educate	Short

#	Recommendation	Knowledge	Governance	Communications	Progress to Date	Gaps	Potential Next Steps	Timeframe (Short term = <1 year, Medium term = 2-4 years, Long term = 5+ years)
	and educate individuals on the District's climate change and resilience actions/goals.				presence where they can disseminate information and promote other agencies' initiatives. Sustainable DC has an active newsletter and social media account.		individuals on the actions undertaken by the Commission.	
10	Integrate resilience actions and sustainability initiatives into community engagement, outreach, and educational programs.			X	Disaster preparedness programs already in place. DOEEE's GZEP program provides sustainability lessons to participating high school students. PSSE has developed environmental literacy curriculum. Ready.DC.Gov has action items for preparedness available on their website.	Need more specific focus on sustainability and resilience in existing emergency training programs. No District-wide sustainability/resilience curriculum.	Integrate sustainability education and community resilience actions into Community Emergency Response Team (CERT), Serve DC youth preparedness program (Commander Ready), and develop sustainability and community resilience curriculum for elementary and middle school students. Add resilience strategies to District's preparedness education outreach.	Medium

# Attachment C



**From:** [Kevin Clinton](#)  
**To:** [Nielsen, Marc \(DOEE\)](#); [rauchmolly@gmail.com](#); [ronda@groundworkdc.org](#); [zyla@georgetown.edu](#); [smoore@swbid.org](#); [hampton5207@aol.com](#); [cemkeller@gmail.com](#); [alaneetter@gmail.com](#); [uwe.brandes@georgetown.edu](#); [maureen.holman@dcwater.com](#); [jeturner12@gmail.com](#); [kane@SustainableInfrastructure.org](#); [aleksandra.sasha.george@gmail.com](#); [jimdougherty@aol.com](#); [kathryn.zyla@dcbc.dc.gov](#); [maureen.holman@dcbc.dc.gov](#); [jason.turner@dcbc.dc.gov](#); [kevin.clinton@dcbc.dc.gov](#); [anthony.kane@dcbc.dc.gov](#); [Bush, Kevin \(EOM\)](#); [DeLorenzo, Maribeth \(DOEE\)](#); [Johnson, Katherine \(DOEE\)](#); [Rockett, Ayana \(EOM\)](#); [kaz3@georgetown.edu](#); [Lavinson, Melissa A.\(PHI\)](#); [Deas, Melissa \(DOEE\)](#)  
**Subject:** NOTE LOCATION: Upcoming Commission on Climate Change and Resiliency Meeting  
**Date:** Monday, December 3, 2018 9:25:04 PM

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**CAUTION:** This email originated from outside of the DC Government. Do not click on links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know that the content is safe. If you believe that this email is suspicious, please forward to [phishing@dc.gov](mailto:phishing@dc.gov) for additional analysis by OCTO Security Operations Center (SOC).

Members of the Commission on Climate Change and Resiliency,

I am told that not everyone received the meeting announcement for our next Commission meeting. Our apologies.

The next Commission on Climate Change and Resiliency meeting will be held at DOEE:

December 5, 2018  
4:00-6:00 PM  
1200 First Street, NE #790

Please go to the fifth floor receptionist and ask her to contact Melissa Deas. Melissa will come down and escort them to the meeting room.

Note that the staff has been working behind the scenes to address the concerns you raised at the last meeting. I will provide an update on the status of those discussions to start the meeting. The full agenda will be as follows:

**Agenda:**

4:00 – 4:15 – Administrative Update  
4:15 – 5:15 – Resilient DC  
5:15 – 5:30 - American Cities Climate Challenge update/overview  
5:30 – 5:45 - Clean Energy DC Act update  
5:45 – 6:00 - Discussion

We will also circulate draft dates and times for next year’s meetings on Wednesday. If there are any dates or times you’d like us to work around, let me know.

Sincerely,  
Kevin

## Commission on Climate Change and Resiliency

**Meeting Date:** 12/5/2018

**Meeting Location:** DOEE, 1200 1<sup>st</sup> Street NE

**Attendees (In person):** (*\*denotes members of the Commission on Climate Change and Resiliency*)

Ayana Rockett (OCA), Maribeth DeLorenzo (DOEE), Melissa Deas (DOEE), Maureen Holman (DC Water)\*, Kate Zyla (Energy Foundation)\*, Kate Johnson (DOEE), Kevin Bush (OCA), Kevin Clinton (Federal City Council)\*, Harrison Newton (OCA), Molly Rauch (Moms Clean Air Force)\*, Melissa Lavinson (Pepco)\*, Anthony Kane (Institute for Sustainable Infrastructure)\*, Peggy Keller\*, Sandra Knight (UMD)\*, Jim Dougherty (Sierra Club)\*, Uwe Brandes (Georgetown)\*, Alan Etter\*, Jason Turner\*

**Attendees (by phone):**

Aleksandra George\*

### Introductions (All)

#### Administrative Update – Kevin Clinton

- Update on discussions to staff the Commission

#### Resilient DC – Kevin Bush

- Resilient DC has been hosting workshops and open houses to collect strategy ideas from community.
- All ideas have been collected on the Neighborland site
- Discussion of need to elevate health risks in Resilience Strategy

#### Climate Ready DC – Melissa Deas

- DOEE is preparing implementation plans for a select number of high priority actions in Climate Ready DC through a contract with the Cadmus Group. Issues that will be included are:
  - Neighborhood level resilience strategies including Resilience Hubs
  - Energy resilience at critical facilities
  - Community capacity building for disaster preparedness
  - Comprehensive heat planning
  - Resilience of sewer and stormwater systems
  - Financial support for mitigation investments
- DOEE is also preparing resilient design guidelines.

#### American Cities Climate Challenge – Kate Johnson, DOEE

- \$75M, 20 cities, supporting near-term climate change solutions through 2020
- Not all cities have been announced, but those that have include good geographic diversity.
- Striking how similar the potential solutions are across disparate cities and geographies.
- No funds are awarded – all is in-kind. Bloomberg funds a platform of providers and provides a climate advisor who is based at DOEE. NRDC will be posting the job opening for DC soon.
- The press release for DC's award is available on DOEE website but much of the remaining information is not publicly available yet.
- 2.5 TW reduction goal across all cities.

- Large amount of reporting to Bloomberg throughout the program and beyond. Bloomberg will roll up and aggregate the progress to show joint progress towards the National Paris commitments.

**Clean Energy DC Act update – DOEE staff**

- First vote was November 27<sup>th</sup>, where it passed unanimously. Next vote anticipated December 18<sup>th</sup>. Content has changed slightly with latest version available on Council website.
- Bill sets renewable energy mandate by 2032.
- Requirement for all fleets (50+ vehicles) to be electrified by 2045.
- Includes Building Energy Performance Standards.

The meeting adjourned at 6:00pm ET.

The next meeting will be:

**TBD**

**Department of Energy & Environment  
1200 First Street NE, 5<sup>th</sup> Floor**

## DISCUSSION SUMMARY

### The District of Columbia Climate and Resilience Commission

Executive Session Strategic Planning Retreat

**Date/Time:** January 17, 2019, 8:30am – 11:00am

**Location:** Georgetown University Downtown Campus, Room C228  
640 Massachusetts Avenue NW

Attendees:

- Kevin Clinton
- Jim Dougherty
- Uwe Brandes
- Stephen Moore
- Alan Etter
- Molly Rauch
- Melissa Lavinson
- Anthony Kane
- Kevin Bush
- Kate Zyla
- Sandra Knight
- Kate Johnson
- Peggy Keller

Guests:

- Sarah Harvey (Georgetown student)
- Tom Renkes (Georgetown student)
- Nick Peavy (Georgetown student)
- Shubhada Ajay Varde (Georgetown student)
- Karla Farrell (Georgetown student)
- Rachel Ryan (Georgetown student)

*Preliminary draft prepared by Uwe Brandes*

### Opening Remarks by Kevin Clinton

Recent dialogue with government officials confirms that the value of the commission has been appreciated even though it has not yet been able to deliver outcomes which are in line with the mandates.

Review of Commission Mandates:

It is understood this deadline will not be met. A new deadline will be proposed.

1. March of 2018
  - a. Recommendations of climate impacts and vulnerabilities
  - b. Recommendations to coordinate adaptation strategies
2. January 2019
  - a. Inventory of at-risk infrastructure

- b. Action items to reduce vulnerability
- c. Recommendations for legislative actions
- d. Recommendations for updates to comprehensive energy plan, adaptation plan, all hazard mitigation plans

### **Discussion: Where We Stand?**

- Review District and RC100 Cities Commission outputs to create a benchmark for reports
  - Boston's climate ready explore tool
  - Baseline metrics analysis from other cities.
- Hire staff person for Commission - DC gov is working on it, but it isn't formally budgeted for - this limits administrative capacity. Commission does not want to wait until staff is hired to move forward.
- Determine how the Commission can support and accelerate the work of the District.
  - It carries weight to have the private sector agree with the district on needs
  - Voice of the Commission can carry weight in identifying what is working and what is not working.
  - There needs to be oversight of or reporting from, the other 59 District agencies.
- Improve on transparency/communication between Commission members.
- Clearly establish and communicate core vs. voluntary meetings.
- Better document the Commission's process and meeting minutes.
- Explore how we can support the work of the CRO to have the greatest impact possible.

### **Discussion: What Conceivable Impact Might We Have?**

- Highlight the risk to vulnerable populations.
- Establish agency accountability, integration and reporting requirements.
- Legislation in other areas of the country to determine issues that may be relevant here.
- Autonomous vehicles – summary of what is happening outside of the District in places that are ahead in the planning and reporting.
- Research team prepping the legislation.
- Updating the CRDC
- Public safety community - what exists and how it can incorporate sustainability and resilience.
- Allow experimentation – innovation zones
- Agency presentations on their climate change/resilience accountability and integration
- Developing recommendations for baseline assumptions about climate impacts and integrate into planning.
- Communicating climate risks and promoting a shared vocabulary
- Actionable steps for residents/neighborhoods/individuals
- Dashboard for plans, processes and data, metrics.

- Feedback – outspoken advocates and critics
- Levels of risk by sector that are acceptable

### **Discussion: Things We Need to do This Year**

- Complete a document review
- Create sub-groups to divide and conquer
- Generate recommendations and metrics
- Produce a preliminary report which identifies hotspots and establishes a process
- Explore engagement beyond CRO and DDOEE to include other agencies, other organizations and possibly citizens
- Create a roadshow
- Initiate aggressive communications
- Crowdsource other organizations and partners
- Influence the Comprehensive Plan process (when it comes to Council)

### **Closing: Overarching Themes**

- A sense of urgency (Note: Students are with us through beginning of May.)
- Need for subcommittees (see below)
- The Commission has an independent voice that should have a communications strategy.
- Use the Commissions convening power.
- Reporting: Consider a preliminary report in six months, and a final report in 18 months.

### **Proposed Subcommittees Based on Discussion**

*Note: Each of the committees has a different perspective, but needs to produce content that aligns with the legislative mandates for the Commission. Cross-cutting areas of documentation for all committees include:*

- *Climate Impacts*
- *Climate Vulnerabilities*
- *Adaptation Strategies*
- *At-Risk Infrastructure*
- *Actions to Reduce Vulnerability*
- *Future Legislative Action (New)*
- *Future Legislative Action (Updates)*

#### **1. Best Practices Committee**

*Mission: Identify precedent standards, practices and models.*

- Best practices in other commissions and cities, which at minimum needs to include MD, VA, Hawaii, San Francisco, Boston, NYC and should include London, Tokyo, Seattle
- Disaster preparedness, FEMA frameworks, prevailing national standards
- 100RC findings of international best practices.
- Literature Review

## 2. Knowledge and Risk Framework Committee

*Mission: Identify baseline knowledge frameworks and associated risk assumptions.*

- DC Plans and baseline resident knowledge – what is it? How do we know?
- How should the District harness climate science?
- Existing Data Availability and Knowledge Gaps
- Future climate scenarios: How to make assumptions for policy making?
- Established areas of focus: infrastructure, buildings, population, systems

## 3. Future Governance

*Mission: What long-term governance structures are needed?*

- Compelling future good behavior across multi-sector actors
- Investment flows, where it is coming from and where it is going? Is there enough to get the job done?
- Regulatory risk and long-term evolution of regulations and codes (update cycles)
- Long-term risks associated with incremental investment creep
- Public, private, special purpose entities, utilities, non-profit sector – what are the most ideal inter-relationships?

## 4. Agency Accountability

*Mission: Standard agency practices to ensure accountability and long-term outcomes.*

- Goal making and alignment with comprehensive plan
- Budget and forecasting process: metrics and review process
- Procurement: metrics and review process
- Performance review: metrics and review process
- Interagency accountability and reporting requirements (dashboard?)

## 5. Outreach and Engagement

*Mission: Finding ways to raise awareness and build support.*

- Enhancing public and general knowledge
- Summits, awards programs, communication mechanisms, social media
- Intentional innovation practices over time
- Iteration, responsiveness and evolution
- Measuring impact

**GOVERNMENT OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA**  
Department of Energy and Environment

**COMMISSION ON CLIMATE CHANGE AND RESILIENCY**  
**Meeting Agenda**  
**Wednesday, March 13, 2019**  
**4:00 – 6:00 PM**

**Department of Energy & Environment**  
**1200 First St. NE, Washington DC**  
**Conference Room 709**

- I. Call to Order
- II. Updates from Government
  - a. Office of the City Administrator, Kevin Bush
  - b. Department of Energy and the Environment, Melissa Deas
- III. Review of Council Hearing
- IV. 2019 Workplan
  - a. Retreat Review
  - b. Subcommittees
  - c. Timeline
- V. Adjournment

**Toll Free Conference Number: 866-459-6055**

**Passcodes: Participant: 9112782**



# Meeting Minutes (Draft)

## The District of Columbia Climate and Resilience Commission Quarterly Meeting

**Date/Time:** March 13, 2019 4:00 – 6:00 pm

**Location:** Department of Energy & Environment  
1200 First St. NE, Washington DC Room 709

Attendees (*\*denotes members of the Commission on Climate Change and Resiliency*):

Harrison Newton (OCA)	Maureen Holman*
Melissa Deas (DOEE)	Melissa Lavinson*
Kate Zyla*	Jason Turner*
Kevin Clinton*	Peggy Keller*
Jim Dougherty*	Tom Renkes (Georgetown student)
Uwe Brandes*	Nick Peavy (Georgetown student)
Sandra Knight*	Shubhada Ajay Varde (Georgetown Student)
Kate Johnson (DOEE)	
Alan Etter*	Karla Farrell (Georgetown Student)

I. Call to Order 4:13 pm

II. Government Updates

- **From Office of Administrator:** Resilience Strategy should be complete in April. Meeting with Mayor 3/14/19 to discuss plan content. Slight delay in hiring process, but new staff should be in place by May 10.
- **From DOEE:**
  - DOEE is part of a new cluster reporting to Deputy Mayor for Infrastructure and Operations, former head of DMV, now overseeing DDOT, DOEE, DCRAM, DMV, and others, operations and service delivery.
  - Overview on Climate Ready DC, Implementation Contract Deliverables, including:
    - Resilient Design Guidelines
    - Funding & Financing Matrix
    - Internal implementation strategies
    - Public Implementation Plan
  - Identify key performance indicators, methodology for prioritization. Priorities summarized on handout page 2 and 3. The consultant [CADMUS](#) is working on it. Plan includes resilient design guidelines for large development design projects. Looking to do an interagency workshop in April.
  - Uwe suggested the Commission on CCR might guide the public engagement process. Consider whether the public participation should be a broader engagement, or a more targeted action. It has been documented that engagement increases when specific issues are identified.

III. Review of Council Hearing

- Councilmember Cheh is particularly interested in the Climate Change and Resiliency work, and supports the work. The Commission should be proud of how much was accomplished in 2018 including work on Climate Ready DC and the Resilience Strategy. There are specific deliverables the Commission still needs complete, so 2019 should be a busy year. This will be easier to accomplish with staff.
- Commission members in attendance at the hearing are appreciative of Kevin's testimony (available elsewhere). If interested in viewing the video of the hearing, it can be found here: <https://dccouncil.us/event/performance-oversight-hearing-committee-on-transportation-the-environment/>
- Kevin to work with Commissioners to identify funding required for staff, and relay the need to Council.
- Reminder that the Commission has a fund available, but would need to find funding to go in that account.
- DOEE budget hearing is April 1<sup>st</sup> and anyone is welcome to attend.

#### IV. 2019 Workplan

- Retreat review (Uwe Brandes)  
Identification of the five themes that might serve as thematic organization of subcommittees. The themes are not there to replace the mandate, just helpful ways to deliver the legislative mandates. The five themes as outlined at the workshop are as follows (*pulled from workshop summary*):
  - **Best Practices Committee**
    - *Mission: Identify precedent standards, practices and models.*
    - *Best practices in other commissions and cities,*
    - *Disaster preparedness, FEMA frameworks, prevailing national standards*
    - *100RC findings of international best practices.*
    - *Literature Review*
  - **Knowledge and Risk Framework Committee**
    - *Mission: Identify baseline knowledge frameworks and associated risk assumptions.*
    - *DC Plans and baseline resident knowledge – what is it? How do we know?*
    - *How should the District harness climate science?*
    - *Existing Data Availability and Knowledge Gaps*
    - *Future climate scenarios: How to make assumptions for policy making?*
    - *Established areas of focus: infrastructure, buildings, population, systems*
  - **Future Governance**
    - *Mission: What long-term governance structures are needed?*

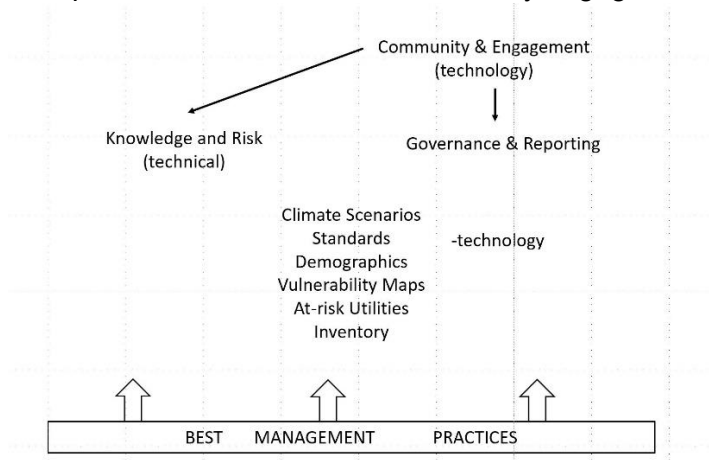
- *Compelling future good behavior across multi-sector actors*
- *Investment flows, where it is coming from and where it is going?  
Is there enough to get the job done?*
- *Regulatory risk and long-term evolution of regulations and codes  
(update cycles)*
- *Long-term risks associated with incremental investment creep*
- *Public, private, special purpose entities, utilities, non-profit sector  
– what are the most ideal inter-relationships?*
  
- **Agency Accountability**
  - *Mission: Standard agency practices to ensure accountability and long-term outcomes.*
  - *Goal making and alignment with comprehensive plan*
  - *Budget and forecasting process: metrics and review process*
  - *Procurement: metrics and review process*
  - *Performance review: metrics and review process*
  - *Interagency accountability and reporting requirements  
(dashboard?)*
  -
  
- **Outreach and Engagement**
  - *Mission: Finding ways to raise awareness and build support.*
  - *Enhancing public and general knowledge*
  - *Summits, awards programs, communication mechanisms, social media*
  - *Intentional innovation practices over time*
  - *Iteration, responsiveness and evolution*
  - *Measuring impact*
  
- Discussion:
  - Concerns about the proposed framework:
    - Should community outreach be its own committee or a facet of all the other committees?
    - Is community outreach core to what the Commission is designed to do given all of the other mandates?
    - What is the difference between governance, best practices, and accountability?
      - a. Governance is meant to be higher level
      - b. Best practices could include how other cities and states are using their commission and general best practices.
    - Is agency accountability the best framing? Should it be spun more positively to focus on overcoming challenges, or
    - Is there budget and time to do everything outlined in five buckets
      - a. Agreement to consolidate to 2-3 committees.
    - Reminder that EJ spots on commission are not filled and that voice is missing from the conversation.

- How big picture should the commission's feedback be? Concern with institutional barriers to resilience planning vs. smaller but questions like policies of leaving the lights on all night?
  - a. Sometimes policies such as leaving the lights on are actually more complicated and may be done for public safety.
- If each of the five themes is a subcommittee, the committees cut across the Commission's deliverables in a complex way.
- Is the timing reasonable? Can the commission deliver a report by the end of the fiscal year? Students will be engaged for the rest of the semester, which ends in May. Resources may be available in the summer.
- Where is the discussion about bringing new technology into the process? For example, less carbon intensive concrete faces regulatory or government-related barriers.
  - a. This might fit under best practices or engagement.
- Potential contributions of the Commission
  - This group could offer clarity and guidance around climate scenarios to ensure that the various projects and/or planning by agencies and stakeholders are aligned.
  - Jim D. is interested in being part of a group that invites other agencies including transportation, public works, housing, to discuss what they are doing on climate
    - a. This might be an opportunity to engage with the partner agencies essential to Climate Ready DC.
    - b. Can explore the barriers agencies face in making progress if there is a will or be an opportunity for the commission to provide direction.
    - c. Suggestions that the conversations be framed in terms of questions like "what do you need to move things forward?" "How are you tracking success"
    - d. Can also report on the good progress groups are making and provide for a long-range view of how the District is changing to incorporate climate.
    - e. Suggestion to start with big-level policy before becoming more granular. For example, could start the dialogue with the Chief Financial Officer and talk about the larger economic shifts in the resilience strategy.
  - Assistance with how to start mainstreaming climate into a wider range of District policies
  - Should the Commission just focus on agencies or a broader range of stakeholders including the private sector, federal agencies and NGOs that government has less opportunity to work with?
    - a. Perhaps this could include Pepco, Washington Gas, Aoba, Army Corp, NPS, WMATA, DC Water etc.
  - Best practices sounds like a research project that could be done by students, while accountability is more performance focused.

- Proposed modifications
  - Keep a knowledge and risk information committee
  - Keep an accountability committee but change name to be more positive – Jim D. interested in serving .
- Next steps
  - Set up a conference call for meetings between quarterly in-person meetings (Jim D. to send a doodle poll)
  - Develop a charter for each subcommittee that will move forward
  - Develop an outline for the report

- **Future Subcommittees**

- Knowledge & Risk (technical questions) and Governance & Reporting (accountability) are the proposed two subcommittees, fed by research on best practices and intentional community engagement.



- Knowledge & Risk to address climate scenarios, demographic info, maps, vulnerable communities, etc. They can get a landscape view of all the information that already exists.
  - Governance & Reporting to assess agency and non-governmental actions. May review existing key performance indicators from government.
  - May also keep an engagement & communications committee
- a. Timeline: Reasonable to have the report completed by mid-September 2019. There is no defined detail as to what needs to be included in the report. The report could be a PowerPoint presentation or a story map/Living report, which may be more accessible and sharable. Georgetown Students to provide best practices research prior to May 15, 2019.

Uwe to circulate a proposed structure, so that the committees can start doing their work. Legislative requirements should be embedded in the document. It's important to inform as to the relationship with the legislation.

V. Adjournment

# GOVERNMENT OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA

## Commission on Climate Change and Resiliency

### AGENDA

22 May 2019  
4:00 – 6:00 pm

- Call to Order, Welcome - Kevin Clinton
- Updates from Government:
  - Office of the City Administrator, Resilient DC – Kevin Bush
  - Department of Energy and the Environment Update:
    - Carbon Neutrality Plan, Kate Johnson
    - Climate Ready DC, Melissa Deas
- Status of Summary Document - Uwe Brandes
- 2019 Workplan Status - Kevin Clinton
- Committee Discussion
  - Intro of Chairs, Co-Chairs
  - Logistics, Timeline
- Next Steps
- Adjournment

In Person:

DOEE: 1200 First Street, NE, Room 790

Call-In:

Toll Free Conference Number: 866-459-6055

Passcodes: Participant: 9112782

# Meeting Minutes

## The District of Columbia Climate and Resilience Commission Quarterly Meeting

**Date/Time:** May 22, 2019 4:00 – 6:00 pm

**Location:** Department of Energy & Environment  
1200 First St. NE, Washington DC Room 790

*Attendees (\*denotes members of the Commission on Climate Change and Resiliency):*

Kevin Clinton*	Melissa Lavinson*
Melissa Deas (DOEE)	Jason Turner*
Jim Dougherty*	Peggy Keller*
Uwe Brandes*	Molly Rauch*
Sandra Knight*	Steve Moore*
Kate Johnson (DOEE)	Zach (Georgetown Student)
Alan Etter*	Nick Peavy (Georgetown student)
Maureen Holman*	

1) Call to Order, Welcome - Kevin Clinton 4:07pm

2) Updates from Government:

- Department of Energy and the Environment Update:
  - Carbon Neutrality Plan, Kate Johnson & Jenn Hatch
    - Just kicked off grant project lead by Integral Group on how to model to carbon neutrality, expanding upon Clean Energy DC plan (which currently models to 2032) - looks at energy, buildings, transportation, and will be adding waste. Will start modeling in next few weeks
    - Vision is to come back later in the summer after modeling is done to see where the District can end up in 2050 and possible scenarios of how to get there. The goal is to come to an “ideal” scenario and then build out policy framework from that
    - Going to be looking for feedback from the Commission on those scenarios/policy framework
    - This carbon neutrality work is part of the commitment made by the Mayor to C40 – 2020 deadline for strategy – pushes cities to raise the level of ambition so as to meet the Paris Climate Accord’s goal of limiting warming to 1.5 degrees
    - Project team will be integrating Climate Ready DC into carbon neutrality strategy – emphasis on climate resilience in addition to climate mitigation and adaptation
    - Will be defining what the District means by “carbon neutrality” - big part of the discussion as strategy development moves forward
    - **Discussion:** how are we measuring progress towards our goal?

- DC submits CDP report every year tracking GHG emissions so we are able to calculate emissions reductions
  - Strict guidance on GHG accounting that DC follows – have to include a minimum amount of sources and based on that we know what to include in our modeling
  - Integral is taking what was already created for the CEDC Plan and applying that to this carbon neutrality strategy
- Is there an opportunity for public input?
  - Later down the line there will be opportunities for public comment; very much thinking about how it is presented to the average viewer and how the strategy looks to a DC resident. Will get getting feedback on the different equity lenses that we should be using to evaluate potential scenarios
  - work previously done around equity and community engagement in DC can be used in this new strategy development
- Climate Ready DC, Melissa Deas
  - Public implementation plan draft is near complete and will be shared with the Commission soon. Should anticipate a version by next week, DOEE will collect individual comments from everyone with the goal of this being wrapped up in June. Hoping for a 2 week turnaround process
  - Design guidelines: to do guidelines well, we have to slow down the process of actually developing them; what we will be able to produce now is a “V1” that will need to be tried and tested before getting to something that is more robust and complete. In a lot of ways we need performance standards rather than guidelines, diverges from pathways of other cities who have taken a more design-centered approach
    - For new buildings? What’s the scope?
      - Mostly focused on major rehabs or new development. Checklist is a series of considerations/thresholds that need to be taken into account (what’s the lifespan, have you considered wind, etc.), other pieces are more technical that build on the responses from the checklist – guidelines will then help answer those questions and provide guidance on development. Mostly buildings-focused, a lot of focus on waterfront development (however this is more private focused based on the makeup of development on the waterfront)
    - Is there a set strategy for how the guidelines would be implemented?
      - Using Boston as a model – first released a checklist as something semi-voluntary; currently not required for private development, going to pilot in the public sector first. Working with Office of the City Administrator (OCA) and Department of General Services (DGS) to pilot

### 3) Status of Summary Document - Uwe Brandes



- Document is for internal use only at this point, developed by dedicated group of students at Georgetown. Genesis is with the retreat held back in January
- Qualifications: represents student work, has not been prepared in the form as academic research but rather a technical memo/tool that seeks to create a framework for the Commission's discussions (intended as a point of reference). Goal was not to reiterate things that DOEE is already doing and avoid redundancy
- Matrix of priority findings is the main focus of the document, section 7 outlines potential actions
- Pg. 3 – representation of legislation from Council
- Pg. 4 – highly abbreviated summary from January retreat, that was further refined in subsequent meetings; outcome was to establish thematic groupings of content around knowledge and risk assessment, governance and accountability, and stakeholder engagement and communications
- Methodology: Pg. 6 - summary matrix that is a crosswalk between the legislation and the 3 themes the commission has identified as management schema (column going down represents aspects of the legislation, columns across represent what the themes that the project team/Commission came up with)
  - Created specific question for each cell in the matrix in survey that was sent out
  - Cells represents synthesis of meeting notes, interviews with various staff, tried to come up with summary of priority findings that could be presented to Council in the future
- Students found a lot of innovation in the precedent set by San Francisco – the resilience planning process in SF has been directly hybridized with the capitol planning process – directly plugs resilience into high level planning processes
- Governance structure of MD Resilience Commission – is like the Resilience Cabinet mixed with this Commissions – scientists, agency staff, public members all working together on resilience goals
- Things happening in DC are simply not happening on other places in the nation, so we are not necessarily going to follow directly behind other jurisdictions because of how unique DC is
- Pg. 20 – recommendations for Commission (dedicated funding, dedicated staff, refining roles/responsibilities of Commission members, ensuring the Commission reflects the stakeholders in the city, opportunities to include other authorities)
  - Most important recommendation: thinking about the Commission's role in the financial/budget planning of the District
- Pg. 21 – recommended next steps --> big concern about the Commission's transparency - not many people know it exists; urgency to report to the Council
- Conversation with Kevin Bush – strategic role the Commission might plan in positioning all the technical work that is being done in the District in front of the Council. Resilience is not well vetted across stakeholders or in the Council
- **Discussion:**
  - What form do we see these recommendations taking?
    - Whatever form is needed (whatever paper is handed to Council)
  - What are some of the most potentially impactful aspects of San Francisco's resilience planning? Other cities?

- The governance piece most impactful, linking resilience to the broader planning process
- Stakeholder engagement platform in Boston – gets into neighborhood by neighborhood description of threats, explicitly identifies race and social determinants of health as a major area of threat to the city (could have strong ties to DC's planning)
- Boston's Green Ribbon Commission – driven resources to the work being done (driving private philanthropy to support initiatives) --> one of the benefits of this Commission is that we are able to go out and engage with the private sector to support the work being done
- NYC – work has been advanced through dedicated partnerships that engage industries/academia
- all projects we had to fund ourselves which makes them difficult to replicate, other cities have been able to leverage other resources (like universities) to do some of that leg work
- Driverless vehicles in Boston – funded by World Economic Forum and established a team of people working on driverless vehicles/other technologies and created a fast track of development and testing --> could do something similar to advance thinking very quickly in DC, would suggest a deep level of industry engagement
- Should own the leadership space on this work as the nation's capital, especially now that 100 Resilient Cities is going away
- Linking climate resilience to health impacts really explodes the amount of possibilities for partnerships and engagement
- Regional system as a way to leverage funding – expands the stakeholder base. Do we know what COG is doing in this space?
  - COG focuses more on climate mitigation and adaptation but there are some commissions focused on climate resilience and specifically trying to come up with regional solutions to resilience
- Are we able to raise money
  - ? Yes, managed by the government on our behalf (philanthropic, federal grants, private donations)
  - Necessitates someone staffing the Commission (too many administrative tasks) - this is a key priority moving forward
- The report recommends more significant staffing than we had previously considered. What places have that level of staffing?
  - This is taken from Maryland
  - The report recommends 20-30 part-time employees = someone in each agency responsible for answering questions about resiliency; resilience can/should be written into job descriptions. These would not all specifically be to staff the commission.
- Next steps?
  - Need to identify 2-3 boxes/recommendations where we get buy-in from the Council and the administration that there is a sense of importance of these topics and where the Commission is seen as the leader in this space --> work with DOEE to champion items with greatest impact and/or that no one else in the city is equipped to deal with

- Recommendations included in box – are these all for the Commission to do or just general recommendations?
    - They are examples of recommendations that the Commission could make to Council based on the Commission's responses to the survey – synthesizes the priorities of the Commission
    - Pg. 20/21 - only two pages where recommendations are being made directly to the Commission
  - Will have 3 additional students working on this through the summer
- 4) 2019 Workplan Status - Kevin Clinton
- The commission plans to submit a report/recommendation by the end of the fiscal year (was promised to Mary Cheh) about a 6 month delay from original statute – is this possible?
    - Process: establish 3 committees based on the 3 key themes/axes, these committees would be tasked with bringing full recommendations to the full Commission, with the help of the Georgetown students
  - Discussion
    - Seems overwhelmingly ambitious without dedicated staff – taking until the end of the calendar year would be more feasible
    - The Commission wouldn't actually be DOING the recommendations, simply identifying the key priorities to the Council in the form of a report
    - Could be Phase 1 and Phase 2, where Phase 1 is the report with the recommendations, Phase 2 is the actual work/implementation
    - Report is going to be a year to year living document, having recommendations collated together would be incredibly helpful
    - report could outline what the Council should ask of specific agencies regarding their resilience work, and could inform actual legislative requirements for agencies
    - Sept. Report would include the interim and final tasks, and then from there look at the continuing and future role of the Commission
    - Commission can rely on Climate Ready DC/Resilient DC for a lot of the recommendations/implementation
    - This is almost like a gap analysis to identify priorities of how to close those gaps and provide information on what agencies should do NOW and what they should do in the future
    - THIRA (threats and hazard identification and risk assessment) – there are existing documents that can inform these recommendations

#### 5) Committee Discussion

- Intro of Chairs, Co-Chairs
  - Draft of committees a first stab of breaking the Commission into specific committees
  - Chairs
    - Jim & Peggy – Governance & Accountability.
    - Melissa L & Sandra K – Knowledge & Risk Management
    - Alan & Molly – Communications and Engagement
    - Executive – Kevin C.

- every member of the Commission should be actively participating in at least one committee
- Logistics, Timeline
  - May want to move up in-person meeting from Sept., also probably want to reschedule July 3<sup>rd</sup> meeting
  - Want an in-person meeting before the final delivery of Sept. 30 – maybe convert August 7<sup>th</sup> meeting to in-person
  - : next in-person meetings should be more like a working group actively engaging with the report
  - Committee co-chairs can be responsible for finding time to meet
  - Students available through mid-August – want recommendations by early July so students have time to work on them
  - Committee for how to take recommendations to Council
  - Can all Commission members have access to one collaborative Google Doc?
  - DOEE as a resource for existing resources, what's legislatively required, what's happening already in the District, what's the process to transmit a report
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  - Any email can be used for Google Drive if sharing settings are set correctly - don't need a specific Gmail account
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    - OCTO can set up website, just needs someone with authority to make the request – DOEE to explore options

#### 5) Next Steps

- Google poll asking Commission members which committee they intend to be on, with a commitment of at least 1
- Committees need to be confirmed by June 5<sup>th</sup> - committee members plan to say a few words about their general scope of work
- Need to let DOEE know at least a few days in advance if we want to host a webinar

#### 6) Adjournment – 6:00pm

# GOVERNMENT OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA

## Commission on Climate Change and Resiliency

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22 May 2019  
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In Person:

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Call-In:

Toll Free Conference Number: 866-459-6055

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# Meeting Minutes

## The District of Columbia Climate and Resilience Commission Quarterly Meeting

**Date/Time:** May 22, 2019 4:00 – 6:00 pm

**Location:** Department of Energy & Environment  
1200 First St. NE, Washington DC Room 790

Attendees (*\*denotes members of the Commission on Climate Change and Resiliency*):

Kevin Clinton*	Melissa Lavinson*
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- Committees need to be confirmed by June 5<sup>th</sup> - committee members plan to say a few words about their general scope of work
- Need to let DOEE know at least a few days in advance if we want to host a webinar

#### 6) Adjournment – 6:00pm

# **GOVERNMENT OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA**

## **Commission on Climate Change and Resiliency**

### **AGENDA**

18 September 2019

4:00 – 6:00 pm

- Call to Order, Welcome - Kevin Clinton
- Updates
- Status of Commission Report
  - Discussion of how to finalize the report
- Next Steps
- Adjournment

In Person:

DOEE: 1200 First Street, NE, Room 790

Call-In:

Toll Free Conference Number: 866-459-6055

Passcodes: Participant: 911278

# Meeting Minutes

## The District of Columbia Climate and Resilience Commission Quarterly Meeting

**Date/Time:** September 18, 2019 4:00 – 6:00 pm

**Location:** Department of Energy & Environment  
1200 First St. NE, Washington DC Room 790

Attendees (\*denotes members of the Commission on Climate Change and Resiliency):

- JoAnna Saunders (DOEE)
- Maribeth DeLorenzo (DOEE)
- Sandra Knight\*
- Molly Rauch\*
- Alan Etter\*
- Steven Stickter
- Kate Zyla\*
- Peggy Keller\*
- Maureen Holman\*
- Anthony Kane\*
- Stephen Moore\*
- Melissa Lavinson\*
- Uwe Brandes\*
- Jim Dougherty

Notes:

- Review of Report – generally the report is viewed as on track, but some concerns were raised, including:
  - Worried that some elements of the report could be perceived as a budget ask; should be maximizing existing resources we have, and that if we don't take this seriously there will be greater costs down the line --> framing it as an investment to avoid costs later
    - The report should recommend that DC use resilience as a lens to inform capital budgets and investments
  - Vulnerability assessments have been done, recommendation is that they should be updated, but there is no requirement of how they should be used or who should use them. Requiring critical infrastructure companies to use similar assessments and modeling (avoid race to the bottom for types of assessments)
  - DC has a critical responsibility to develop resilience, NOT the Commission – the recommendation is for the good of the city, the point is for the city to take responsibility to enact the recommendations of the Commission
  - it's important to assert the Commission's leadership role in the resilience space;
  - the Commission is not responsible for accountability and oversight, need to make sure the report is not suggesting the Commission takes on this role
    - Resilient DC mentioned the Commission, suggested the Commission could
  - Suggestions to section 5 at the beginning and THEN into committees – reference the matrix if people want to dig in
    - Include after the "Commission work to date"
    - Matrix of recommendation formatted as an appendix
  - 1-pager of recommendations with just a short paragraph of introduction

- Modeled after National Academy reports
- Note on executive summary/role of Commission:
  - What is the role of the city and the role of the commission? Commission has no governance authority or ownership. Commission does not have the capacity to assert accountability and oversight. This is not something that the city has today, but we have to be forward looking. Other capacities are envisioned in the enabling legislation, including the ability to manage additional funding.
  - Allowing capacity to be built over time. Tied to recommendations so should this be narrower? “If it isn’t the commission, who is it?” No other commission has an explicit charge to consider climate change. Is the Council itself considering this fully?
  - Strong urging to city leaders to embrace roles to advance resiliency; 2) Commission can play a critical role to ensure that city leaders are meeting these expectations

#### Action Items

- write 5<sup>th</sup> recommendation around standardization of vulnerability assessments for critical infrastructure
- write an additional paragraph about the leadership of the Commission for the Executive Summary



# **GOVERNMENT OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA**

## **Commission on Climate Change and Resiliency**

### **AGENDA**

December 11, 2019

4:00 – 6:00 pm

- Call to Order
- Announcement of a Quorum
- Approval of the Agenda
- Approval of Minutes
- Commission Report Update/Oversight Hearing
- DC-OP Presentation on the DC Comprehensive Plan Update
- Staff Report from OCA
- Staff Report from DOEE
- Calendar Year 2020: Scheduled Meetings, Activities and Administrative Approach
- Public Comments
- Adjournment

#### **In Person:**

DOEE: 1200 First Street, NE, Room 790

#### **Call-In:**

Toll Free Conference Number: 866-459-6055

Passcodes: Participant: 9112782





## GOVERNMENT OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA

### Commission on Climate Change and Resiliency

#### Quarterly Meeting

December 11, 2019

Offices of the District Department of Energy & Environment  
1200 First Street, N.E.  
Washington, DC 20002

4:00 – 6:00 pm

#### MEETING ATTENDEES

##### *Commission Members*

Uwe Brandes  
Alan Etter  
Maureen Holman (phone)  
Anthony Kane (phone)  
Sandra Knight  
Peggy Keller  
Melissa Lavinson (phone)  
Colin McCormick  
Chester McPherson (phone)  
Jason Turner  
Kate Zyla

##### *District of Columbia Staff*

Kevin Bush, OCA  
Melissa Deas, DOEE  
Stephen Gyor, DCOP

##### *Members of the Public*

Kevin Clinton, Federal City Council (phone)  
Charles Sharp, Black Emergency Manager  
Association  
Bernard Jones, Black Emergency Manager  
Association  
Namratha Somayajvla, Human Rights Watch  
Cary Hinter, Public Service Commission

#### MEETING MINUTES

1. **Call to Order** -- Meeting called to order at 4:07pm by Melissa Deas. Kevin Clinton has stepped down from the chairperson position and Mayor Bowser has nominated Uwe Brandes to assume the chairperson role. Since he has not yet been confirmed, in absence of a chair, a motion was approved unanimously for Brandes to run the meeting.
2. **Swearing-in** -- Booker Rory, JR (MOTA) attended to swear in new member Colin McCormick.
- 3.
4. **Announcement of a Quorum** – A quorum is present.
5. **Approval of the Agenda** – A motion approved unanimously.
6. **Approval of Minutes** – A motion approved unanimously.
7. **Commission Report Update**



*Reflections from the Out-going Chair:* Kevin Clinton offered reflections on his tenure as chairperson in the previous year. Under his leadership the Commission completed and transmitted its Inaugural Report to the Mayor and to the Council.

*Presentation to MWCOG:* On November 21<sup>st</sup>, Uwe Brandes presented the findings of the report to the MWCOG Regional Resilience Summit and received very positive feedback. Government staff from across the region commended the positive leadership embodied by the climate change and resilience planning activities of the District of Columbia, including the Commission's report and the Resilient DC report.

*Upcoming Council Oversight Hearing:* The Commission will have a Council oversight hearing on January 16<sup>th</sup> at 11am. The Commission has received questions for that hearing, which have been provided to commission members. Uwe Brandes will circulate a draft initial response to the questions and these responses will be finalized in early January through online communications and a dedicated conference call. All members of the Commission are encouraged to attend the oversight hearing. Commission discussion clarified that while the Commission is able to accept and manage dedicated funds from both government and non-government sources, none have yet been identified.

## **8. Staff Report from OCA**

Kevin Bush provided an update on the implementation strategy associated with the ResilientDC report which is targeted to be released in April.

Bush reported that the Rockefeller Foundation has officially ended selecting new cities for the 100 Resilient Cities program, but has seeded a pool of money to keep the existing network of cities intact. Since the District of Columbia had already started the process of institutionalizing the position of the Chief Resilience Officer, the change in the 100 Resilient Cities program will have minimal impact on ongoing activities in DC. The primary impact is that access to centralized consulting expertise has been lost and the position of Deputy Director will no longer be funded.

Bush outlined ongoing activities which are creating a governance structure to implement the many measures and actions identified in Resilient DC, including: the re-instatement of the Mayor's Resilience Cabinet; a cross-agency budget review process which identifies alignment of next year's budget with the document.

Bush outline the following key goals for FY2020: 1) work to implement the Mayor's affordable housing targets, 2) establish a workforce housing fund, 3) create an entirely new flood model, 4) support more MPD officers to patrol on foot and on bicycles. Commission discussion affirmed that many of these measures were outlined in the Commission's Inaugural Report.

Bush outlined that each agency has been asked to develop their own KPIs in response to measures outlined in the Resilient DC plan. Many of these agency plans have already been made public as a component of the budgeting process and are available on the OCA website.

## **9. Staff Report from DOEE**



Melissa Deas reported that the Building Energy Performance Standard (BEPS) Task Force, established by the Clean Energy DC legislation has had its first meeting.

DOEE is working on an updated urban heat study which measures impacts of individual urban heat island interventions. Tree canopies and building typologies appear to have the greatest impacts.

DOEE is meeting with Ward 7 community members monthly in order to identify the needs of a potential future Resilience Hub in Ward 7.

DOEE is supporting a DDOT study on alternative flood interventions on Buzzard Point. Preliminary observations are that a living shoreline would meet most of the planning objectives but it might be one of the most expensive alternatives.

## **10. DC-OP Presentation on the DC Comprehensive Plan Update**

Stephen Gyor of the Office of Planning presented the amendment process to the DC Comprehensive Plan. More information at [Plandc.dc.gov](http://Plandc.dc.gov). The process has been underway since 2016, and OP has received over 3000 comments. The draft plan has 4 major themes – housing, equity, resilience, and public resources. The drafting of the amendment process has integrated recent planning documents prepared by other agencies, including all of the work completed by DOEE under the umbrellas of Sustainable DC, Clean Energy DC and Resilient DC.

The Comprehensive Plan includes a dedicated “Resilience Crosswalk” which is a chart showing where resilience is discussed within the plan. Neighborhoods and land areas which correspond to the 500-year floodplain have been designated as priority areas for future study. The issue of the social determinants of health are seen as critically important throughout the document.

Discussion confirmed that the Comprehensive Plan update does not include new dedicated climate modelling associated with climate change mitigation or adaptation. However, the theme of climate change is identified as one of two overarching priorities, along with affordable housing. The previously completed Comprehensive Plan (2006) had only briefly identified the issue of climate change. Resilience and social equity are themes that are featured throughout the updated plan.

Discussion confirmed the dynamic nature of climate change will require additional study and attention in the next iteration of the Comprehensive Plan, which is not an amendment cycle, but a complete re-write. The generalized policy map is illustrative and accepts that there will be change.

Discussion confirmed that greenhouse gas reduction goals associated with the built environment and with transportation appear in multiple sections. The plan recognizes that the built environment is the number one contributor of greenhouse gas emissions and proposes transit-oriented land uses as a key solution. Recent energy legislation is not discussed in the Comprehensive Plan because it is already law.

Discussion confirmed that the Commission may choose to submit dedicated comments on the Comprehensive Plan in addition to the submission of the Inaugural Report and that it would do so in advance of the January 31 deadline for government agencies. The Commission’s Inaugural



Report will be submitted as a public comment to the Office of Planning by the December 20 deadline.

## **11. Calendar Year 2020: Scheduled Meetings, Activities and Administrative Approach**

The Commission engaged in discussion regarding the administration of the upcoming year of meetings. Items discussed included the following:

- The need to make the work of the Commission as transparent to the public as possible. The creation of the Commission website is a good first step towards this goal, but additional work is needed to develop the website into a user-friendly source of information. Commissioners were encouraged to identify future improvements beyond the need to list all commissioners on the website.
- The timing of the quarterly Commission meetings will be the subject of a member survey.
- Commissioners expressed support of an executive retreat to further refine the dedicated strategy for 2020 activities.
- Additional digital tools will be introduced to make the administration of Commission work easier for members.
- A calendar will be created which identifies all meetings.

The Commission engaged in discussion regarding future activities, including:

- The need to focus on items which have not yet been discussed by the Commission.
- The need to build more capacity within the Commission itself.
- The need to focus on increasing community engagement.
- The need to hear from additional government agencies, including the possibility of hearing from multiple government agencies in a panel discussion format.
- Refinement of the specific content proposed for the 2020 Commission Report.

## **12. Public Comments**

Members of the public were invited to make comments and clarifying discussion ensued. Comments were made by the following organizations:

- The Black Emergency Managers Association International. Representatives underscored the internationalization of professional practices in emergency management and the international significance of practices innovated in Washington, DC.
- Human Rights Watch. Representatives expressed interest in the population health risks at the nexus of rising temperatures, heat island effect and pregnancy.
- DC Public Service Commission. Representatives invited the Commission to provide comments on a [Notice of Inquiry](#) seeking guidance on the need to identify metrics associated with reporting greenhouse gas emissions as well as the reporting regimes to be adopted in the District of Columbia. The deadline for comments is January 13.

## **13. Adjournment**



The Commission's next quarterly meeting will be scheduled in the month of March.

The meeting was adjourned at 5:55pm.