

2024 Performance Oversight Pre-Hearing Questions
Commission on Climate Change and Resiliency

Due by COB Friday, February 23

1. Please provide a list of the Commission's current members and note any existing vacancies. For each member, please provide the following:
 - a. The member's name.
 - b. The agency or organization the member represents.
 - c. Who appointed the member.
 - d. When the member's term expires.
 - e. Attendance record; and
 - f. For any vacant seats, how long the seat has been vacant.

See [DC-CCCR Members & Attendance FY23/24.](#)

2. Please provide a list of the Commission's meeting dates, times, and locations for FY23 and FY24, to date.

FY23 Meetings:

- **December 8, 2022, 3-5:30pm, WebEx, Quarterly Meeting**
 - **Speakers:**
 - Hilari Varnadore, USGBC
 - Kate Johnson, C40 Cities
 - Tommy Wells, DOEE
- **January 20, 2023, 9am-12pm, 640 Massachusetts Ave. NW, Annual Strategy Retreat**
 - **Speakers:**
 - Councilmember Charles Allen
- **March 9, 2023, 3-5:30pm, WebEx, Quarterly Meeting**
 - **Speakers:**
 - Madeline Hairfield, DDOT
 - Melissa Deas, HSEMA
- **June 8, 2023, 3-5:30pm, WebEx, Quarterly Meeting**
 - **Speakers:**
 - Danielle Gurkin, PSC
 - Katie Bergfeld, DOEE
 - Jamie Donovan, DOEE
 - Theresa Backhus, Building Innovation Hub
 - Andrea Foss, Steven Winter Associates
- **September 14, 2023, 3-5:30pm, WebEx, Quarterly Meeting**
 - **Speakers:**
 - Commissioner Richard Beverly, PSC

- Melissa Deas, HSEMA
- Anica Landreneau, Green Building Advisory Council
- Oana Leahu-Aluas, DOEE

FY24 Meetings

- **December 14, 2023, 3-5:30pm, WebEx, Quarterly Meeting**
 - **Speakers:**
 - Alyssa Wooden, DOEE
 - Howard Kurtzman, Climate Psychiatry Alliance & Climate Psychology Alliance
 - Karen Sistrunk, OPC
 - Minnie Quartey Annan, Boys & Girls Club of Greater Washington
 - Julie Lawson, DOEE
 - Maureen Holman, DC Water
 - Kevin Bryan, Equival Partners
- **February 2, 2024, 9-11:30am, 640 Massachusetts Ave. NW, Annual Strategy Retreat**
 - **Speakers:**
 - Councilmember Charles Allen

3. Please identify any experts or agency staff who presented or held discussions during the Commission’s quarterly public meetings in FY23 and FY24, to date, including:
 - a. Their name;
 - b. The agency or organization they represent; and
 - c. Date of meeting attended.

See response to question 2.

4. Did the Commission receive funds in FY23 and FY24, to date? If so, please provide the following:
 - a. The amount of the funding;
 - b. The source of the funding;
 - c. A list of any expenditures; and
 - d. A description of how the expenditures furthered the Commission’s mission.

The Commission has not received funds in FY23 or FY24.

5. What is the current balance of the Climate Change and Resiliency Fund?
 - a. What was the balance at the close of FY23?

The Climate Change and Resilience Fund has no balance (\$0.00).

- b. Did the Commission receive any appropriations, private gifts, donations, or federal grants which were added to the Fund in FY23 or FY24, to date? If so, please provide the amount of funding received and its source.

The Commission did not receive any appropriations, private gifts, donations, or federal grants in FY23 or FY24.

- 6. Please describe the Commission's activities in FY23 and FY24, to date, including the Commission's three biggest accomplishments.

The Commission fulfilled its legislative mandate to conduct quarterly public meetings, which featured invited experts and agency staff to present and discuss ongoing work and best practices to mitigate and prepare for impacts of climate change. Public attendance to the meetings has been growing and the Commission's role as an independent forum for the discussion of climate change is being validated.

Three biggest accomplishments:

- 1. Engagement with District agencies, including core participation in the DC Flood Task Force and Clean Energy 2.0.
- 2. Engagement with stakeholders to advance the formation of a Youth Climate Council.
- 3. Exploration of key emerging issues and challenges, including: 1) heat & mental health, 2) heavy vehicle conformance with air quality standards, and 3) the coordination of planning methodologies between DOEE and the PSC.

- 7. Did the Commission achieve the following reported goals for FY23 and FY24, to date? If not, why not?
 - a. Continue to brief stakeholders and disseminate its Second Report;

The Commission continues to engage with stakeholders to advance the recommendations included in its Second Report. The report serves as our central communications vehicle for engaging the public.

- b. Continue to participate in the Flood Task Force;

The Commission continued to participate in the DC Flood Task Force. The Flood Task Force concluded its work with the release of a final report in the Summer of 2023. This process was an outstanding effort to align many stakeholder agencies around key issues of flooding in the District.

- c. Use Quarterly Meetings to provide on-board feedback to agencies and stakeholders;

The Commission continues to use quarterly meetings to provide feedback to agencies and stakeholders, including DOEE, PSC, DDOT, DGS, OP; and many non-profit organizations.

- d. Track the District's legislative and agency progress in support of the recommendations contained within the Second Report; and

Through ongoing engagement with agencies and Council, the Commission has monitored the District's progress in support of the recommendations, and has created a tool to begin tracking accomplishments and challenges.

- e. Explore the formation of a DC Youth Council on Climate Change.

The Commission has continued to explore the formation of a Youth Climate Council through engagement agencies and external stakeholders, including DOEE, OPC, OSSE, DC Health, the Boys & Girls Club of Greater Washington, Black Millennials for Flint, and others.

8. Please describe the Commission's goals for the remainder of FY24, including the plan and timeline for completion of each goal.

- **Continue to foster collaboration and engagement between District agencies, stakeholders, and the public to advance the Commission's recommendations.**
- **Coordinate with the Office of the People's Counsel to host a Youth Climate Summit in May 2024.**
- **Host a DC Climate Research Summit in January 2025.**
- **Begin preparing the Commission's next report for anticipated publication in FY25.**

9. What challenges, if any, did the Commission face in FY23 and FY24, to date.

The Climate Commission's primary challenges are:

- **Insufficient staff support;**
- **No available funding;**
- **Weak reporting requirements for DC agencies in our enabling legislation.**

10. Please provide a copy of all official correspondence sent by the Commission in FY23 and FY24, to date.

Correspondence listed and linked below.

- **[Letter to Councilmember Allen about a DC Youth Climate Council](#)**
- **[Letter to DOEE about CEDC 2.0](#)**
- **Provided testimony to the Zoning Commission in a hearing about the DC Archives project.**
- **Provided testimony to the Committee on Business & Economic Development in the performance oversight hearing for the Public Service Commission.**

11. Please identify the Commission’s top recommendations for addressing climate change and resilience in the District.

- 1. Phase out fossil gas for commercial and residential buildings.**
- 2. Increase proliferation of renewable energy on the electricity grid.**
- 3. Advance the efficiency and electrification of the transportation system.**
- 4. Establish greater accountability and integrated coordination on climate actions.**
- 5. Better incorporate flood preparedness in standard practices.**
- 6. Mitigate the impacts of extreme heat.**
- 7. Advance resilience and preparedness for residents and businesses.**
- 8. Expand public communications and education programs.**
- 9. Establish resilience hubs across the District with community-based leadership.**
- 10. Expand workforce development for a green economy.**
- 11. Foster new partnerships in technology and innovation.**

12. Please provide the status of efforts to hire a new staff member to support the Commission. If a dedicated staff member has been hired, please explain how this hire has assisted the Commission with carrying out its duties and activities.

DOEE has hired a new staff member to support the Commission, who will begin work on February 26, 2024. The previous DOEE staff member supporting the Commission moved to a new role within DOEE in October 2023, but has continued to staff the Commission throughout the hiring process and will ensure a smooth transition to the new hire.