

Implementation Status of 2009 Climate Protection Plan Recommendations

Item #	Short Description	Implementation Steps to Date
RE-1	Maintain the commitment of the County government and County agencies to purchase a percentage of annual electricity consumption from clean energy sources. Establish energy policy criteria recognizing the benefits and prioritizing the purchase of various clean energy options.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The County government, agencies, and municipalities renewed a contract to purchase, on average, 30% of their electricity from clean energy sources (via Renewable Energy Certificates). • WSSC continues to purchase a third of its power directly from a wind farm in southwestern Pennsylvania and will be paying a fixed price for this clean energy for a decade. According to EPA, WSSC is the #1 local government direct purchaser of clean, renewable energy in the United States.
RE-2	Adopt building design guidelines applicable to all County government and agency buildings requiring the use of geexchange, or the most effective system available, as the primary heating and cooling energy source.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • In FY11, MCPS increased the number of schools with geo-exchange from eight to ten including eight elementary schools, one middle school, and one high school. Each of these systems is the primary source of heating and cooling for the facility. An additional 12 geo-exchange projects are in construction or design. • All new and renovated Montgomery College buildings are achieving LEED Gold Certification and are connected to high efficient central or satellite plants that use ice thermal storage and co-generation strategies to reduce electrical demand.
RE-3	Support the installation of solar photovoltaic systems through the use of power purchase agreements in public facilities.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • MCPS is hosting production-scale solar photovoltaic (PV) systems on eight schools with a capacity of 1.2 megawatts (MW) through power purchase agreements (PPA). These systems will provide between 20-40% of the electricity requirements during peak production hours for these schools. MCPS is considering additional PV systems at suitable locations. However, installation is also dependent on favorable PPA terms. • The Department of Environmental Protection’s Division of Solid Waste Services completed the installation of approximately 200 kilowatts (kW) of capacity on the solid waste transfer station through a long term power purchase agreement. Final commissioning is pending. • The existing 83 kW of College-wide PV systems are being supplemented by an additional 25 kW on the new Rockville Campus Science Building, 35 kW on the new Germantown Campus Bioscience Education Center and 25 kW on the Rockville Campus Science East Renovation. Additional array opportunities are being examined as well as a condition assessment of the existing 900 evacuated tube solar thermal array on the Germantown campus.
RE-4	Provide revolving and low-interest loans for on-site renewable energy installations.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Montgomery County developed the Home Energy Loan Program (HELP) to provide loans to homeowners for energy efficiency improvements and renewable energy projects. However, actions by the Federal Housing Finance Agency (FHFA) pre-empted the launch of this program. The County is evaluating how it can help encourage other financing options and will attempt to restart program development if federal action is taken to remove program barriers.

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RE-5	The County should facilitate customer aggregation of renewable energy, including voluntary purchases of electricity from renewable sources or renewable energy certificates, and renewable energy installations.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Montgomery County provided technical assistance to Non-Profit Montgomery, the Arts and Humanities Council and Greater Washington Interfaith Power and Light to create the Non-Profit Energy Alliance (NEA) to pool the purchasing power of the non-profit community to secure competitive energy supply at a lower cost than the utilities' standard offer service. Nearly all participants opted for a 50% or 100% clean energy product. NEA has currently completed two "rounds" of purchases. Round one resulted in 14 participants purchasing 2,000,000 kWh of clean energy over three years and round two resulted in 12 participants purchasing 3,200,000 kWh of clean energy annually. Planning is currently underway for the third round.
RE-6	Establish a public-private, non-profit entity to promote, facilitate, develop and invest in clean energy sources for the benefit of Montgomery County agencies, businesses and residents.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • In March, 2009 Montgomery County was selected to host the Maryland Clean Energy Center (MCEC). The MCEC is providing a coordinated approach to building a strong, clean energy economy in Maryland through technology commercialization, business incubation, technology fund development and operation and workforce development and training. The County is working to bring the 2011 Maryland Clean Energy Summit to Montgomery County. An exhibit hall featuring Maryland companies working in the renewable energy sector will be open to the public.
RE-7	Investigate the feasibility of adding sustainable energy biogas/combined heat & power (CHP) facilities to WSSC Seneca and Piscataway wastewater treatment sites.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • WSSC has received \$570,900 in federal funding to investigate potential anaerobic digestion/combined heat and power technology alternatives at the Seneca and Piscataway Wastewater Treatment Plants to optimize gas and electricity production and residual solids volume reduction. The study/conceptual design phase is projected to be completed by the summer of 2011. At that time, if the results of the study are favorable and funding is made available, WSSC will proceed with the detailed engineering and construction of a commercial/demonstration scale project.

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EER-1	Develop promotional giveaways and buy-downs of low-cost energy efficient products.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Through a 2009 grant from the Maryland Energy Administration, DEP selected a contractor to install programmable thermostats in 352 Montgomery County homes, and instruct residents in efficient utilization of the thermostat. Through this program DEP developed relationships with the Montgomery County Housing Partnership, a housing and community organizing non-profit, and Glen Way Gardens, a common-ownership community. • Utilities serving Montgomery County (Pepco, BG&E and Allegheny) implemented the EmPower Maryland programs, providing incentives (e.g., rebates) to residential and commercial entities for energy efficiency improvements. • Montgomery County worked with the utilities and MD-PSC staff to expand the appliance rebate available to single family homes and individually metered housing units to all housing units in the County. • The County provided testimony to the MD-PSC on potential enhancements to the EmPower Maryland program that could be incorporated in the planned 2013 program updates. Key discussion points included the creation of financing programs, expansion of commercial food service programs, and increased accessibility to program benefits for residents of multi-family communities. • The County is utilizing \$1.3 million of its Energy Efficiency and Conservation Block Grant (EECBG) from the U.S. Department of Energy for a residential rebate program that would help offset the cost of residential energy efficiency improvements. The EECBG program was funded by the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act of 2009 (ARRA).
EER-2	Develop energy efficiency programs, in coordination with State and utility-based programs, to assist low income households address their energy needs.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The County, with support from ARRA funds, will weatherize 900 homes over the next three years through the Department of Housing and Community Affairs (DHCA). • Building on the Housing Opportunities Commission \$250,000 grant award to upgrade 25 to 40 agency-owned townhouses, the County will be expanding the upgrades by 50 or more properties with \$515,000 of EECBG funding. • Electric utilities serving Montgomery County received approval to administer ratepayer supported limited income weatherization programs in addition to federal and county programs.
EER-3	Enhance consumer awareness of energy consumption by advocating for utility programs that provide home-energy consumption displays and develop other County programs to increase availability and affordability of in-home energy displays.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Montgomery County advocated for an enhanced deployment of smart-meters and other smart-grid infrastructure that will increase consumer awareness of energy consumption and ultimately allow accurate information on personal consumption to be accessed online for many consumers.
EER-4	Develop a low cost loan program to facilitate residential energy efficiency improvements.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • See RE-4

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EER-5	Create an effective residential energy education and outreach program with the goal that 50% of Montgomery County homeowners will take steps to reduce the annual consumption of energy in their homes by at least 25% by 2020.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Through EECBG funds, DEP is developing a web-based resource to serve as a portal for all energy and environmental programs within Montgomery County. This “one-stop-shop” will help residents identify local programs, resources and actions to decrease their environmental impact, and also serve as an interactive community forum incorporating Facebook, blogs, community calendars and other social media. • Through EECBG funds, DEP is developing a program to utilize volunteers to promote Montgomery County energy programs, resources and information to diverse communities. These leaders will receive training from DEP on programs and resources, and will also be given techniques to influence and reinforce behavior change. • Electricity utilities serving the County have implemented a general awareness campaign in support of the EmPower Maryland program. The target of the entire program, including incentives, is to reduce per capita electricity consumption in the state 15% by 2015.
EER-6	Promote the deployment of smart grid technologies by utilities serving Montgomery County.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Montgomery County advocated for an enhanced deployment of smart-meters and other smart-grid infrastructure that will increase consumer awareness of energy consumption and ultimately allow accurate information on personal consumption to be accessed online for many consumers.
EEC-1	Require ENERGY STAR appliances and equipment, and EPEAT registered IT equipment, in public facilities.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • All County purchased laptops and desktops are EPEAT Gold certified and are ENERGY STAR qualified. • The Interagency Procurement Coordinating Committee (IPCC) has drafted a green procurement policy and plans to create a list of environmentally responsible products with bid and contract specifications (including model specifications), third party certification standards, information on cost and quality, and calculators to estimate financial and environmental benefits.

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EEC-2	<p>Improve the energy performance of public facilities through enhanced data acquisition and energy efficiency measures.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The County’s EECBG program includes \$2.5 million to improve public facility energy efficiency including: \$1.624 million to MCPS, \$554,000 to DGS, \$111,000 to M-NCPPC, and \$211,000 to Montgomery College. Each agency is responsible for defining its own projects. • As part of the County Executive’s Cross Agency Resource Sharing initiative, the Utilities Committee made five key recommendations to improve facility energy management: 1) Issue an RFP for Energy Performance Services, 2) Develop a budget mechanism that allows energy savings to be used to offset debt service payments, 3) Implement tactical retrofits of lighting systems with low wattage fluorescent lamps, 4) Conduct an internal interagency education campaign, and 5) Build operator certification to expand the skills of front line building operators. • DGS, MCPS, and M-NCPPC are pursuing utility Demand Side Management incentives that provide substantial buy-downs of the costs of energy efficiency equipment. • Montgomery College has enabled enhanced data acquisition via its Building Automation Controls (BAC) and is implementing enhanced measurement and verification protocols (M&VP) in all new College facilities. • MCPS requires enhanced commissioning on all new schools or modernizations; facility design guidelines have now set a goal of 30% improvement in energy performance over ASHRAE energy efficiency standards. By the end of FY11, MCPS will have installed over 38,000 square feet (SF) of vegetated roof on four different schools which will reduce the heat island effect, improve thermal insulation of buildings and retain and clean stormwater. An additional 67,500 SF of green roof is planned for two schools the following year. • By mid 2013, MCG is scheduled to complete 14 new LEED Silver Certified facilities totaling a minimum of 390,000 square feet; MCG incorporated Geo-exchange and vegetative roof technology on two new recreation centers. • DGS is working with DEP, HHS and DPS on a pilot program to treat and reuse rain water harvested from the vegetated roof on the Equipment Maintenance and Operations Center (EMOC). Water would be used for bathroom flushing as well as washing vehicles such as buses and wall hydrants. A waiver from WSSC is pending. Potentially, the County’s innovative pilot could spark a change in the International Plumbing Code.

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EEC-3	Establish specific energy performance requirements and timelines for the benchmarking, commissioning and improvement of new and existing commercial and multi-family buildings in order to reduce energy consumption by 25% by 2020. This will be achieved by a combination of education and outreach efforts, incentives, market forces and, if necessary, mandates.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The County’s EECBG program includes \$400,000 for a comprehensive analysis of the County’s commercial building sector. The analysis will identify a package of policies that can reduce the energy consumption of the commercial and multi-family sectors by 25% within 10 years. In addition, the study will explicitly address benchmarking requirements as well as retro-commissioning. • The County’s EECBG program includes \$1.7 million for a commercial/multifamily rebate program for energy efficiency improvements. The program is slated to begin in Spring 2011 and will operate until funds are fully used. • A retro commissioning study of the Bethesda North Conference Center identified a range of energy efficiency measures that could result in significant energy savings with a relatively quick ROI. The Conference Center Management Committee, in partnership with Marriott Corporation, which manages the County-owned facility, will develop priorities and a timeline for implementing recommendations, which will be funded out of a special Conference Center reserve account.
EEC-4	Develop a process for adopting new energy efficiency standards for commercial and multi-family buildings.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • At the 2010 International Code Conference, Department of Permitting Services supported a 2012 version of the International Energy Conservation Code (IECC) that has the potential to result in a 30% reduction in energy consumption by new buildings compared to the 2006 version of the code.
EEC-5	Advocate for cost-effective utility-based energy efficiency and demand reduction programs, and form partnerships with local utilities to extend programs to businesses and residents.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Utilities serving Montgomery County (Pepco, BG&E and Allegheny) implemented the EmPower Maryland programs, providing incentives to residential and commercial entities for energy efficiency improvements. The County’s EECBG programs are designed to complement these utility programs.
EEC-6	Advocate for peak pricing and tiered electricity rate structures that encourage energy conservation by providing pricing signals for energy consumption during peak periods or by large users.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The MCPS peak load management (PLM) program is in its fourth year and has steadily increased the cost avoidance from capacity charges through a system-wide program to limit demand during the summer peak hours. • The Interagency Committee on Energy and Utilities Management is evaluating options for PLM for County and agency facilities.
EEC-7	Develop and implement programs to support energy efficiency improvements by residents, managers and owners of multifamily properties, particularly affordable and low-income properties.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Proposed EECBG strategy includes \$185,000 to customize nationally recognized curricula to increase the energy management skills of new and incumbent facility energy managers of commercial and multi-family properties.

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EEC-8	Use energy efficient lighting technologies when installing new streetlights or replacing existing streetlights.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Montgomery College continues to design and implement energy efficient exterior and parking lot lighting which also limits light pollution and light trespass. Strategies include proper design for optimum light levels, fixture placement, high performance light sources, efficient fixtures and multiple controlled circuits which optimize light levels and reduce energy consumption. • M-NCPPC is implementing new park lights that include bi-level dimming functions to reduce light when parking lots and other facilities are not being utilized.
T-1	Conduct parking supply and pricing study to ensure parking policies and zoning requirements are consistent with transportation demand management goals.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The County Council authorized this study for the FY10 budget, with funding provided jointly via the Executive Branch and the Planning Department. Prior to completing the study, MCDOT and MNCPPC conducted three “outreach” briefings to affected stakeholders to obtain their feedback and reaction. The completed study is being put into final format. Scheduling coordination is in-progress to present a study briefing to the County Council in the March/April timeframe. The study will help shape the re-write of Chapters 59 and 60 in the County Code, which relate to zoning requirements and parking policies.
T-2	Establish a car sharing program in Parking Lot District facilities	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The County Department of Transportation (MCDOT) issued an RFP for use of public parking facilities by car share companies. Two vendors were selected and negotiations regarding terms, conditions, and specific locations of spaces are being conducted. Car sharing vendors are coordinating with the MCDOT on outreach to the community and should be able to begin using County parking spaces by second quarter of 2011.

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T-3	Support the Ridership Growth Initiative by 2020 by implementing bus rapid transit on Veirs Mill Road and Georgia Avenue, and study and implement where appropriate light rail transit and bus rapid transit systems in other corridors.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The Executive and County Council transmitted their joint recommendation on the Locally Preferred Alternative for the Corridor Cities Transitway to MDOT on November 30, 2009. MDOT has released a supplemental environmental assessment that examines CCT route changes to serve the Great Seneca Life Science Corridor Sector Plan and held a public hearing on December 2010. The alternative alignment to serve the Great Seneca Life Science Corridor will support the transit oriented growth being planned. • MDOT is advancing the Purple Line light rail project into the Federal Transit Administration New Starts Program and is entering into preliminary engineering and final EIS. Preliminary engineering approval by the Federal Transit Administration is expected summer 2011. • MCDOT has funding in FY10 for the Veirs Mill BRT study and FY11 for the Georgia Avenue Busway study. MCDOT has had an initial meeting with Maryland Department of Transportation to develop the scope of services for MDOT to take the lead technical role in the study. Veirs Mill and Georgia Avenue BRT corridors are waiting for results of the County BRT Study, expected in early 2011 before advancing planning and engineering. • The Washington Metropolitan Area Transit Authority (WMATA) has implemented a restructuring of the Q2 route to improve service reliability and route operations. This is an initial improvement in advance of BRT on Veirs Mill Road. New service on Veirs Mill Road began December 29, 2009. WMATA has also conducted a study of the K6 route along New Hampshire Avenue and is beginning a study of the Y routes along Georgia Avenue. • MCDOT is involved in a Council of Governments funded study of all the Bus Priority Corridors to determine the system benefits of implementing bus rapid transit services in these 24 corridors. • MCDOT has initiated a planning study for a countywide network of potential BRT corridors with study results expected during FY 11. The study evaluates the potential of 16 BRT corridors including Veirs Mill and Georgia Avenue corridors.
T-4	Conduct transportation planning studies during 2009 in order to better target transportation-related GHG reduction programs.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The County received a grant under the EPA Smart Growth Implementation Assistance program for technical assistance to develop a model to estimate transportation-related GHG emissions and tools for estimating emissions and assessing the effectiveness of various planning and policy countermeasures. The technical assistance study entered Phase 2 in fall 2010 with the selection of the INDEX model to incorporate refined trip generation and distribution algorithms with increased sensitivity to density, diversity, and design variables. The INDEX model will be pilot tested as part of the East County Science Center master plan work program.

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T-5	Identify pedestrian improvements to maximize walking and bicycling to recreation centers, libraries, shopping centers and schools.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • MCPS observed arrival and dismissal at 20 elementary, middle, and high schools in the county to identify pedestrian movements to and from school. • MCDOT has launched an annual program of a series of Pedestrian Roadway Safety Audits (PRSA) at High Incidence Areas (HIA) around the County to target areas in specific need of safety improvements. Audits develop recommended engineering improvements which are subsequently evaluated by MCDOT and MSHA for implementation within budget allocations. These improvements, while reducing crashes, will also serve to promote walkability and multi-modal connectivity. Education activities and enhanced enforcement are also targeted to these locations. As of December, 2010, 7 audits have been completed. Engineering work has also been started in these HIAs, which includes such work as signage and pavement marking improvements, refuge islands, countdown pedestrian signals, or sidewalk connections. Expenditures thus far have largely been for audits and design work. Education work expenditures in these HIAs in FY10 amounted to \$97,700. Enforcement work expenditures in these HIAs in FY10 amounted to \$84,500. • MCDOT undertakes traffic calming projects using roadway modifications with enhanced crosswalks, which reduce speeds, lower pedestrian collisions, and improve walking environments. Since 2009, a total of 19 traffic calming and intersection modification projects have been completed. Expenditures in FY10 for this type of work amounted to \$366,800. • MCDOT constructs new sidewalks which provide pedestrians with safe walking pathways to reach activity centers. In FY10, the division constructed 12,500 linear feet of new sidewalk, reconstructed 14,600 linear feet of non-compliant sidewalks and ramps to meet ADA specifications, and installed 7,000 linear feet of new sidewalk connections. Expenditures in FY10 for this type of work amounted to \$1,217,800. • All recent master and sector plans approved or under consideration recommend specific connections to improve walkability.

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T-6	Plan, design and construct bicycle paths, lanes and shared signed roadways, as well as facilities supporting bicycling, to encourage increased use of bicycling for commuting and other transportation needs.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • MCDOT has accomplished these countywide projects to encourage increased use of bicycling: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Completed 26 bike route sign plans ready for installation. ▪ Installed 17 bike routes with signs. ▪ Supported Bike to Work Day: May, 2010; supplied 1,000 brochures and maps. ▪ Purchased and installed 56 bicycle racks in the public rights-of-ways, upon request. ▪ Installed 10 new kiosk signs w/directional maps on the Bethesda Trolley Trail (BTT). ▪ Published and distributed 6,000 brochures for the BTT. ▪ Prepared concepts for 2 rest areas, 'Waysides' for the BTT. Design engineering plans are underway. ▪ Completed 500 linear feet of bike path on Glenbrook Parkway. ▪ Completed 1,500 linear feet of bike path on Jackson Road (New Hampshire Ave to ML K Park). ▪ Completed 1,000 linear feet of contraflow bike lane on Cedar Street (Wayne Ave to Bonifant St). ▪ Completed 1,300 linear feet of bike path on Henderson Corner Road (MD 355 to Ridge Rd.). ▪ Completed 1,000 linear feet of bike path on Carter Road (Democracy Blvd. to Carter Ct.). ▪ Commuter Services has created and published detailed bike/pedestrian/transit maps for several areas of the County, including the Silver Spring Transportation Management District, Medical Center, and White Oak/FDA and Vicinity. These maps show bike/pedestrian routes in these areas, along with access points from the broader regional system to those routes, amenities available in those areas, and bus and rail transit routes serving those areas. • Montgomery College has installed bike racks on all campuses and specifically implemented the practice during new building design or renovation to obtain LEED rating credit for this activity.
T-7	Explore ways to reduce vehicle travel to schools by expanding walking, bicycling and use of buses.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • MCDOT in FY11 (as of 12/31/10) completed engineering work on 6 elementary and middle school neighborhoods in order to increase safety for walkers and bikers. Education activities targeted to students and parents in cooperation with school officials was also implemented. MCDOT in FY11 (as of 3/4/11) held 8 school administrator or parent meetings and distributed 352 pieces of educational material at selected schools. • MCDOT is developing educational programs at 35 schools to increase pedestrian activity and safety among drivers near schools. • MCDOT observed arrival and dismissal at 8 elementary and middle schools in the county to identify pedestrian movements to and from school.
T-8	Develop a policy that requires the consideration of roundabouts whenever traffic signalization is being pursued.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • DOT analyzes roundabouts as an option when conducting traffic studies for modification of intersection traffic controls.

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T-9	Develop comprehensive idling policies supporting Maryland's vehicle anti-idling law with an emphasis on both education/outreach as well as effective enforcement of the law.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • MCDOT Transit Services has a SOP (OP0010) on bus idling which limits the idling of buses to three minutes. Decals with the policy have been installed on bus fareboxes. Transit Services strictly enforces this rule with progressive disciplinary action for violators of the policy. • Selected MCDOT buses have an anti-idling feature turned on which automatically shuts the bus down after 5 minutes of idling. • MCPS has been actively monitoring and enforcing an idle reduction policy for school buses that requires drivers to turn off engines immediately upon stopping if buses are expected to remain stopped for 5 minutes or more. The employee disciplinary code in the department includes an offense related to violating the idling policy.
T-10	Increase the County government employee commuter benefit to be consistent with US government agencies.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Given current fiscal constraints, MCDOT has not proposed increasing the direct transit benefit the County provides, called "Get-In." However, the County could facilitate pre-tax payroll deduction for employees with transit costs over the \$35 provided thru Get-In. This would permit those additional costs to be deducted tax-free from employees' salaries up to the federal maximum. That would save both the County and its employees money. The federal maximum is currently \$230/month but may revert to \$120/month after December 31, 2011. MCDOT has provided information to the County OHR on the advantages of such a program, and on alternatives for implementation. This pre-tax transit benefit arrangement was offered as a County proposal for the Collective Bargaining Agreement to be implemented in FY12. It received tentative approval during negotiations, but has not yet been formalized in a signed contract. We are hopeful it will be implemented in FY12 for all County employees. • Montgomery College continues the Ride-On Student U-Pass program that subsidizes MC student bus transportation. Parking fees collected from students, faculty and staff are deposited into a Transportation Fund which is distributed to this program and other capital parking projects. The College also offers a pre-tax public transportation flexible spending program to its employees.

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T-11	<p>Create an effective transportation education and outreach campaign to modify resident and business transportation behavior to reduce GHG emissions.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • MCDOT Commuter Services Section (CSS) is continuing to develop and implement transportation education and outreach campaigns targeted to businesses in the County with the goal of promoting the use of commuting modes other than the single occupant vehicle (SOV). Through its FareShare and Super FareShare programs the County partnered for a number of years with employers to buy down the cost of transit and vanpools for their employees, thus encouraging them to use these lower-emission commuting options. While the FareShare and Super FareShare programs have now been suspended due to budget constraints, most of the employers who were participating in them have continued to offer transit benefits to their employees. In addition, CSS continues to conduct outreach to employers to encourage them to offer either direct or pre-tax payroll deduction transit benefits. CSS recently published a brochure designed to promote participation in these benefit programs by employers and employees. The brochure has been posted on the CSS website and will be distributed to businesses and related organizations throughout the County. • MCDOT CSS also conducts a limited amount of outreach to residents of the County, within the constraints of current resources, and operates two TRiPS Commuter Stores – one in downtown Silver Spring, one in Friendship Heights – which sell transit fare media and provide information and assistance to all members of the traveling public. Each year several major events are conducted which target residents as well as employees with information about SOV alternatives, including Bike to Work Day in the spring, and Car Free Day in the fall. • Budget constraints have resulted in reduced funding available for outreach and marketing efforts. However, CSS is continuing efforts to promote use of non-SOV modes by making use of as many low-cost approaches as possible. These include working with employers to implement their Traffic Mitigation Plans and with developers to implement their Traffic Mitigation Agreements, and improving availability of transportation information through the website and other electronic media. For example, CSS distributes a bi-monthly e-newsletter with updates on transportation issues to businesses, employees, and other interested recipients. Periodic e-blasts on specific “hot topics” are also provided. • CSS has coordinated closely with DEP on the creation and implementation of transportation elements of the County’s Green Business Certification Program. Through this certification process more County businesses will become aware of CSS’s programs and services and hopefully will opt to implement strategies to reduce SOV commuting by their employees. • Montgomery College provides various transportation options through its transportation management program, web based information and supports free access to Montgomery County Ride-on for College students.

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T-12	Coordinate with other regional, state and federal governments and organizations on activities that will result in reduced emissions from the transportation sector as a result of a more efficient transportation system and the use of more efficient modes of transportation.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The Planning Department’s Transportation Planning Chief served as the Chair of the Sustainability Task Force for the Institute of Transportation Engineers (ITE). The task force mission is to “facilitate transportation solutions that incorporate economic, social, and environmental sustainability as span the range of ITE member interests.” • The White Flint Sector Plan, adopted in March 2010, proposes the establishment of the state’s first Bicycle Pedestrian Priority Area. • MCDOT is participating in the Transportation Planning Board’s “What Would It Take Scenario Study” that examines greenhouse gas emissions with different transportation, land use, and technology alternatives.
F&A-1	Develop an accurate inventory of forest cover and tree canopy in Montgomery County, and set forest cover and tree canopy goals.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The Planning Department has received a tree canopy analysis for the County prepared by the University of Vermont. This includes analyses by watershed, planning area, census tract and other delineations within the County. DEP is in the final stages of quality control on a separate canopy analysis project. • The Planning Department has completed the forest cover layer for the County.
F&A-2	Develop a comprehensive approach that protects and enhances forest and tree resources.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • DEP, the Planning Department, and a variety of stakeholders have been discussing proposed approaches to regulating the disturbance of forest and trees beyond the current FCL. Recommendations are expected to be presented to the County Council in spring 2011.
F&A-3	Lobby the State of Maryland and the Department of Natural Resources (DNR) to revise and update the State Roadside Tree Law (RTL) and its implementing regulations, as well as enforce the existing law. Explore opportunities to increase the role of the County departments and agencies in protecting trees in the right-of-way (ROW).	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The Maryland General Assembly passed the Natural Resources - Roadside Trees - Protection and Enforcement Bills (HB 800/SB 581) which requires a roadside tree permit from DNR prior to local jurisdictions issuing building permits if activity impacts street trees. The law gives local governments the ability to develop ordinances and regulations for closer supervision of trees along public rights-of-way.
F&A-4	Extend the County’s current property tax credit for energy conservation and renewable energy measures to include tree planting.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Current local and state coupon programs provide incentives for tree planting. Additional tax relief may not be necessary and would be difficult to enforce.
F&A-5	Create landscape incentives in urban areas to increase number, quality, and survivability of trees planted in the public right-of-way and on private property.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The Planning Department offers \$25 coupons for individuals to plant trees from authorized local nurseries. • DEP’s Rainscapes program includes incentives for the planting of trees on private property. • The Planning Department is in the process of developing an urban tree planting program on private property and public land holdings. This will include a stewardship element.

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F&A-6	Increase shade tree planting and maintenance in public and private parking lots.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The Planning Board has proposed a new commercial/residential zone that requires minimum canopy coverage of surface parking lots. • See F&A-5
F&A-7	Develop simplified processes to enable landowners to establish conservation easements or protection areas.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The Planning Department has simplified the process for easements recorded by deed. If plat recording is necessary, the legal process must be followed.
F&A-8	Encourage and foster school programs integral to curricula that promote increased student involvement and engagement in forest and tree planting, conservation and maintenance programs within their communities and on available public property. Engage surrounding communities in planting and conserving trees on private property.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • MCPS and the Montgomery County Forestry Board partnered on the student planting of 50 native trees on a local school site. Grade 3 students learn about the importance of plants, and this service project extended that learning to the importance of trees. • MCPS School Energy and Recycling Teams actively encourage conservation and recycling in each school and office via educational outreach, signage, contests, awards, and informative website. • The Planning Department is engaging with schools and other volunteer organizations to help provide maintenance for newly planted forests. The projects are certified for service learning credit. • Montgomery College has a Landscape Technology Program on the Germantown Campus that is actively promoting best practices of forest conservation and use of native, non-invasive species.
F&A-9	Develop an educational campaign to convey the vital role trees play in the long-term sustainability and health of the County.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • See F&A-5
F&A-10	Manage non-native invasive pests that threaten forests and trees.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The Department of Parks has an active program to manage invasive pests on parkland.

Implementation Status of 2009 Climate Protection Plan Recommendations

Item #	Short Description	Implementation Steps to Date
F&A-11	Expand local production of fruits and vegetables.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • In just three years, the Montgomery Parks community gardens program has grown from one garden to 10, with the most recent to be open at King Street in Silver Spring in April 2011. The gardens are located throughout the County and benefit over 600 gardeners. • The Montgomery Countryside Alliance is starting a Land-Link Program, constructing an online database to match those looking for land to farm and those with land to offer for long term lease, sale or donation to a non-profit CSA. • The Green Economy Task Force report recommended the creation of a small farm incubator to expand the production of local agricultural products. MNCPPC has identified Parks-owned properties that could be used for a farm incubator and DED staff visited the Intervale Farm Incubator in Burlington, VT to study best management practices. In late December 2010, DED, DEP, the Office of Community Partnerships and MNCPPC convened a half-day forum to discuss how a farm incubator could be integrated with other County initiatives. Another outcome of the forum that is being explored is the establishment of a Montgomery County Food Policy Council, modeled after successful initiatives in other jurisdictions. • MCPS is working with Montgomery County Master Gardeners to develop a vegetable garden template for container gardens on MCPS school properties. Interested staff and PTSA members will be able to use the guide to learn how to create and manage a vegetable garden with students. • MCPS is partnering with M-NCPPC to identify suitable locations on MCPS properties to site Community Gardens that will be administered under the M-NCPPC's Community Garden Program.
LUP-1	The County's Growth Policy should direct growth to areas with significant existing or planned transit resources, and promote development that fulfills smart growth criteria such as those required as part of the LEED) for Neighborhood Development or more stringent County standards.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The County Council adopted the 2009-2011 Growth Policy in November 2009, including a Special Mitigation Standard component that allows applicants near transit service to reduce area-wide traffic mitigation requirements (under Policy Area Mobility Review) by providing residential uses, including more energy-efficient development than would otherwise be required. • The County Council amended the Growth Policy in April 2011 to facilitate the orderly implementation of a robust street grid to serve transit-oriented development in the White Flint Sector Plan.
LUP-2	Amend the Zoning Code.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The first installment of the new zoning code, the Commercial/Residential (CR) zone has been adopted. This zone allows a mixture of businesses and homes around transit served areas as specified by the master plan. The minimum requirements include open space, shading of parking lots and provision of bike parking and shower facilities. Property owners wishing to build up to the maximum density and height allowed by the master plan will need to provide additional benefits to the environment, connectivity, design and diversity. • The draft of the code for residential and agricultural zones is in the formal comment period and the overall use tables and district descriptions are now available. Current drafts include sustainability requirements and have more provisions for distributed energy generation and urban farming.

Implementation Status of 2009 Climate Protection Plan Recommendations

Item #	Short Description	Implementation Steps to Date
LUP-3	Master Plans should plan for redevelopment to create compact, livable places with a variety of housing types and mixed uses that invite people to walk or bike safely to work, to shop, and to participate in community life without a long commute by car. The Agricultural Reserve should continue to be protected for food production, recreation, and carbon sequestration.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The following master plans have been approved by the County Council based on these principles: Germantown, Great Seneca Science Corridor, and White Flint. In 2011, Kensington and Takoma-Langley Crossroads will also be finalized by the County Council. Wheaton CBD, Long Branch and Chevy Chase Lakes Sector plans are underway, with Wheaton CBD having been transmitted to the County Council early in 2011. The East County Science Center plan will further incorporate emerging sustainability principles.
LUP-4	A Green Infrastructure Plan should be adopted to protect an interconnected network of forests, fields and wetlands and provide priorities for protection, restoration and mitigation of loss of natural resources. This plan will be considered in master plans, development proposals (both public and private) and park acquisition for natural resource protection.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The Green Infrastructure Plan has been put on hold due to budget and staff reductions.
LUP-5	A Water Resources Functional Master Plan should be adopted to provide priorities for water resources goals in other functional and area/sector master plans; development proposals; park acquisition that focuses on forest cover, wetland, and tree canopy protection; restoration and enhancement; as well as Environmental Site Design (ESD) implementation.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The Water Resources Functional Master Plan has been adopted. The Planning Department, DEP, DPS and WSSC staff are working on implementation of portions of the Plan via the County's Municipal Separate Storm Sewer System (MS4) permit.
ED-1	Develop a branded communication platform that will enable the County to speak with one voice about its mission to reduce GHG emissions.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • See EER-5
ED-2	Develop and provide presentation toolkits to support a social marketing campaign that raises awareness about Climate Protection Plan programs and encourages active participation throughout the County.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • See EER-5 • DED has launched a Montgomery County Green Economic Development Facebook page, which provides links to the Green Business Certification Program website and other information and resources for businesses seeking to “green” their business operations, reduce energy consumption and emissions and reduce costs.

Implementation Status of 2009 Climate Protection Plan Recommendations

Item #	Short Description	Implementation Steps to Date
ED-3	Develop, provide access to and promote an on-line tool to promote the Climate Protection Plan and other related programs in order to raise awareness of the need to reduce greenhouse gases, provide specific actions, and encourage community based sustainability.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The County, in partnership with the Montgomery County Chamber of Commerce, launched the Green Business Certification Program in the fall of 2009. The program, which includes a checklist of 260 actions, is designed to help businesses voluntarily reduce their ecological footprint through changes in day to day operations and policies (many of which reduce GHG emissions). Certified businesses are listed in the Green Business Directory. To date, 26 businesses have been certified ranging from multi-national companies to a 3-person IT company. • See ED-2. • Montgomery College, in partnership with Montgomery County, has become an educational provider for County-sponsored USGBC LEED AP, Green Business Certification Program and “green collar” training programs. In addition to other credit and non-credit “sustainability” course offerings, MC has partnered with DED and MCG, as part of the ARRA Stimulus money, to offer a Building Operators Certification program that enhances building operator energy and sustainability skills.
ED-4	Build and maintain an information network service that provides online Climate Protection Plan updates on County programs and regular specific suggestions such as “Green Tips” to inform and encourage residents to take action to reduce greenhouse gases.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • See ED-2 above. • DED’s website also contains links to the Green Business Certification Program, and as part of the Department’s homepage overhaul, it will incorporate a “Green Business Resources” section with links to DEP and external resources. • DED’s bi-weekly E-Biz newsletter now includes a ‘Green Tip’ (sourced from the Green Business Certification newsletter).
ED-5	Establish and coordinate a coalition with representation from a broad range of community organizations to support outreach, raise awareness of the climate protection plan and to provide opportunities and support for education programs.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • See EER-5
ED-6	Promote community-based education programs using the model of small, self-facilitated group discussions to motivate and empower members of the community on issues concerning sustainability.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Energy Leaders (See EER-5) will engage others to reduce energy consumption; however in many circumstances they may adopt this model using a mix of house parties, small informal sessions and other mechanisms for engaging members of their peer community.

Implementation Status of 2009 Climate Protection Plan Recommendations

Item #	Short Description	Implementation Steps to Date
ED-7	Establish, coordinate and maintain a County interdepartmental education and outreach plan.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The Cross Agency Resource Sharing Initiative’s Utilities working group recommended and is continuing to develop an educational platform to encourage energy conscious behaviors by employees and occupants of County and agency facilities. An implementation schedule has been developed and an intern is being recruited to assist in the development of this program. • As part of follow-up to the Green Economy Task Force Report, an inter-agency “Green Team” has been established with representatives from DEP, DED, Planning, DPS, DGS, MCPS and DOT. The Green Team has developed an implementation plan based on the Task Force’s recommendations, and meets every two months to report on progress and seek opportunities for cooperation and leveraging resources.
ED-8	The County Government and agencies should adopt broad-based sustainable practices and policies, and use these programs as a basis for outreach to the private sector.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • M-NCPPC (including Prince Georges County) have developed an operational sustainability initiative that includes specific recommendations for reducing carbon footprint, resource use, and increased recycling. This plan brings together several efforts that have been underway for several years and establishes a framework that can be updated as techniques improve and funds become available for capital improvements. • Beginning with FY10, all white, letter-size paper purchased by the County will be recycled paper only. In addition, as part of the County Executive’s “Paper and Printing Cost Reduction” initiative, all County departments and offices have been instructed to reduce paper use and printing and mailing costs by 15 percent.
ED-9	Replicate community-based organizations like Bethesda Green under a central umbrella organization.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The County provided Bethesda Green with an FY1 \$30,000 community grant to expand its Green Business Incubator and green job creation efforts. A white paper highlighting Bethesda Green’s unique structure and strategies was produced in FY10 and circulated to various community groups. • Community leaders in Poolesville founded “Poolesville Green” in February 2010 which was granted 501(C)(3) status in August 2010. • This spring, both Silver Spring Green and Green Wheaton became officially incorporated in the State of Maryland. Both organizations will be working on their bylaws and submitting their 1023 applications to the IRS.