

Climate Change Non-Departmental Account

Monthly Reporting

In May 2020, County Council approved reporting language in its Operating Budget miscellaneous provisions of Resolution 19-472 with regards to the Climate Change NDA:

This resolution appropriates \$400,000 to the Climate Change Planning Non-Departmental Account (NDA). Funds in this NDA must be used for the prioritization of greenhouse gas reduction strategies, developing an implementation plan to meet the County's goal of an 80 percent reduction in greenhouse gas emissions by 2027 and a 100 percent reduction by 2035, and to develop climate change adaptation strategies. Only after the previously described work is completed may funds be used for other climate change-related initiatives. The Executive must transmit within 15 days after the end of a month a report on the previous month's expenditures from this account.

In accordance with the resolution, the Executive hereby transmits the monthly report for July 2020.

July 2020 expenditures:

There were no expenditures of FY21 Climate Change NDA funds during this time period.

July highlights:

- Climate Planning update: The technical climate consultant has synthesized the 850+ climate workgroup recommendations and is creating a prioritized list of actions that offer the greatest impacts on GHG reduction and climate adaptation. The prioritized list of actions will be further assessed for co-benefits and for feasibility of implementation. A climate vulnerability assessment is also underway. The draft Climate Action & Resilience Plan is on track for issuance in November 2020 for public review and comment. (Note that the climate planning effort is being funded with FY20 Climate Change NDA funds.)
- 2018 Greenhouse Gas Inventory released: The Metropolitan Washington Council of Governments recently released the [2018 community-wide Greenhouse Gas inventory](#) for Montgomery County. The 2018 inventory shows that energy use in buildings accounts for 50% of total County emissions and transportation emissions make up the next greatest share with 42% of total County emissions. Compared to 2005, emissions in 2018 had dropped by 19%.
- Resilience Ambassador program launched: Five members of the Covid Corps program were placed to serve in the Resilience Ambassadors pilot. The goal of the Resilience

Ambassadors is to facilitate meaningful conversations with front-line community members to help shape the Climate Action & Resilience Plan so that it advances racial equity and center the concerns of front-line communities.

- Department of Defense Climate Resiliency Grant award: The County received a climate resiliency grant award from the Department of Defense totaling \$372,000. During the one year grant term, Montgomery County's Departments of Transportation and Environmental Protection will develop a Naval Support Activity Bethesda Military Installation Resiliency Review to assess approaches to minimize impacts from flooding caused by extreme storm events, evaluate opportunities for stormwater management to improve water quality, develop approaches to prevent or address adverse impacts to transportation logistics and the power grid, and ensure that this plan addresses climate resiliency challenges.
- Climate Change Awareness Survey for MCG staff launched: The County engaged the Association of Climate Change Officers to gather feedback from all MCG staff about their awareness and literacy of climate change. The [Climate Change Survey](#) is now open and Councilmembers and Council staff are invited to respond. The survey takes about 10 – 15 minutes to complete. Survey responses are anonymous and are collected through a confidential survey process.

For more information:

A description of the FY21 Climate Change NDA budget allocation is available at:

<https://www.montgomerycountymd.gov/green/Resources/Files/climate/fy21-climate-nda-budget.pdf>

The complete list of the County's FY21 climate initiatives is available at:

<https://www.montgomerycountymd.gov/green/Resources/Files/climate/fy21-montgomery-county-climate-work-plan.pdf>