ADAPTATION/SEQUESTRATION TECHNICAL WORKGROUP MEMBERS

- **Robin Schoen**

Robin Schoen is the Director of the Board on Agriculture and Natural Resources (BANR) of the Congressionally-chartered, not-for-profit National Academies of Science, Engineering, and Medicine. BANR is the program unit of the Academies responsible for bringing scientific experts together around issues related to agriculture, forestry, wildlife, and the use of land, water, and other natural resources, in response to requests from Congress and the federal agencies, states, and the private sector. Robin is currently overseeing an assessment of the nation’s demand for and capacity to supply native plant seeds for ecological restoration. Robin joined BANR in 2005 from the Academies’ Board on Life Sciences and Office of International Affairs, and before that, the National Institutes of Health. A native Washingtonian, Robin received a B.S. in biology and chemistry from Frostburg State College, Maryland, and an M.A. in Science and Technology Policy from George Washington University.

- **Erica Bollerud**

Erica Bollerud is a Takoma Park resident. Through her work for EPA’s State and Local Energy and Environment Program, she supports state and local governments interested in investing in energy efficiency and renewable energy. She has a Masters in Public Policy from the University of Michigan’s Ford School.

- **Betsy Taylor**

Betsy Taylor is CEO of Breakthrough Strategies & Solutions, a small consulting firm working to advance climate solutions and nature-based solutions to the climate threat. She has a BA from Duke University and MPA from Harvard University. Taylor hosts a domestic online network of scientists, farmers, policy makers and NGO leaders working to advance municipal, state and federal policies advancing regenerative agriculture and a global network of key stakeholders from 35 countries working to advance nature based solutions to climate. She co-authored Sustainable Planet: Solutions for the 21st Century and previously served as executive director of Merck Family Fund, Center for a New American Dream, and the Stern Family Fund. She lives in Takoma Park and has 3 community garden plots and also helps manage an organic hay farm that she leases to an organic dairy farmer in Cecil County.

- **Dorcas Robinson**

Dorcas Robinson is an independent consultant, and part-time Director of the Resilience Measurement, Evidence and Learning Community of Practice, hosted by the Global Resilience Partnership. Her recent experience includes working on international initiatives to increase investments in climate adaptation and resilience, focused on promoting sustainable and equitable food systems, through climate-resilient agriculture with small-scale farming communities. Dorcas is a social scientist, with qualifications in public health and environmental economics.

- **Laurie McGilvray**

Laurie McGilvray has thirty-five years of experience in coastal resource science and management at the federal level, primarily with the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration. In 2013, she co-chaired the coastal workgroup of state and tribal experts in developing a National Fish, Wildlife, and Plants Climate Adaptation Strategy. In 2014, she co-chaired the coastal and ocean indicators of climate
change workgroup for the National Climate Assessment. Since 2017, she has been active in addressing climate change at the state, county and local level through the Takoma Park Mobilization Environment Committee.

- **Erika Drazen**

Erika Drazen is a proud resident of downtown Silver Spring since moving to Maryland a little over two years ago. She has largely worked on international climate change policy in the agriculture and land use sectors, at organizations like WWF, Climate Advisers, The ForestsDialogue and the United Nations Development Program. She holds a Master of Environmental Science and an MBA from Yale University, and approaches climate adaptation and mitigation through a social/environmental justice lens. In her spare time, Erika likes to visit Smithsonian museums, read, travel and explore nature in the DMV area with her husband Liam and dog Arnold.

- **Shanita Rasheed**

Shanita Rasheed has a Bachelors in Environmental Studies from Ursinus College and a certification in Climate Change and Health from Yale University. She is eager to step into her newfound role as a climate change and health adaptation advocate with an emphasis on equity and restorative justice. Shanita currently works as a consultant for Rodia, LLC and independently for environmental organizations. Shanita is also Program Associate for Children’s Environmental Health Network. Previously, she led focus groups in Annapolis, MD with Black community members, paving the way for her role as the Diversity Coordinator for the Environmental Protection Agency’s Chesapeake Bay Program in 2015. Shanita brings expertise in racial equity and climate justice.

- **Sara Via**

Dr. Sara Via, Professor and Climate Extension Specialist, University of Maryland, College Park. Dr. Via’s current specialties are climate change outreach, healthy soils education and the evaluation of evidence-based opportunities for carbon sequestration in both agricultural and non-agricultural landscapes. She frequently lectures on climate change impacts and solutions, climate-friendly gardening & landscaping, the biological basis of healthy soil, and how to increase carbon sequestration in soil. Recently, Dr. Via has helped the Maryland Department of Agriculture formulate an evidence-based program for increasing carbon sequestration in agricultural soils. She is now working with the Columbia Association and Howard County to develop strategies to reduce emissions and increase carbon sequestration in open space and other suburban landscapes. Dr. Via is a member of the US Climate Alliance’s Natural and Working Lands Workgroup and chairs the Community Engagement program of the Columbia Association Climate Change and Sustainability Advisory Committee.

- **Laura Yaffe**

I graduated with a B.A. in Biology and a J.D. from Lewis and Clark NW school of law, with an emphasis in environmental law. I also earned a M.S. in Urban and Regional Planning at the University of Wisconsin. I have worked as a professional planner and served as an appointed Planning Commissioner for the Village of Oak Park, IL. I was Associate Director for Legislative Affairs for the Maryland-National Capital Building Industry Association. I am currently serving as Chair of the Energy and Environmental Law Forum for the Women's Bar Association of D.C.
• **David Conrad**

David Conrad currently serves as a senior water resources policy advisor with the Association of State Floodplain Managers (ASFPM) in Washington DC. His recent work has focused on a comprehensive reauthorization and reform of the National Flood Insurance Program (NFIP), and on policy reforms and updating of disaster assistance legislation responding to hurricanes, flooding events and storms, and how our development and urbanization patterns are making fundamental changes in watersheds and how they convey stormwater and runoff. For more than forty years, David has served as an advocate for policies and practices supporting wise water resources management, including more than two decades as a senior water resources specialist with the National Wildlife Federation. He has written extensively on flood and floodplain management policy, including serving as a principal author of the Federation’s landmark Higher Ground report in 1998, which brought national attention to problems with "repetitive flood losses," and highlighting and describing the first extensive use of voluntary buyouts as a flood risk mitigation technique. David received a Bachelor of Arts in Environmental Sciences from the University of Virginia and lives in Chevy Chase, MD.

• **Cynthia Mackie**

Passionate about the conservation of tropical rainforests, I have focused most of my career on forestry and land use. This included working at the US Forest Service international office coordinating technical cooperation with Asian countries on issues such as climate change. Since retiring last year I am turning my attention to my own county to assist with identifying appropriate sequestration and adaptation measures, tapping experts engaged in these issues internationally. I am also an avid natural gardener and keen to protect our county’s biodiversity.

• **Sylvia S. Tognetti**

Sylvia Tognetti is an Environmental Science and Policy consultant and Adjunct Professor at UDC who has been engaged in issues associated with land water and climate, both professionally and as a citizen of Montgomery County for over 20 years. Recent activities include participation in research teams for a national study on water affordability conducted by the National Academy of Public Administration; on implementation of natural or green infrastructure initiatives, carried out by the World Resources Institute; and on the role of forests in protecting water quality in Montgomery County, conducted by the Ecologix Group. Within the County and state of MD I have also been an advocate, on behalf of the Sierra Club and Friends of Ten Mile Creek, for increased use of green infrastructure to manage stormwater and protect water supplies which have multiple benefits that include climate adaptation resilience. Not so recently, I served as a Lead Author for the Millennium Ecosystem Assessment Responses Workgroup. Prior to earning an MA in Geography at UMD, I held full-time positions at the former Congressional Office of Technology Assessment, and at the National Academy of Sciences.

• **Eliisa Carter**

Eliisa Carter is a Climate Change Adaptation Expert from Silver Spring, Maryland. In Summer 2019, she received her Master’s of Science in Disaster Risk Management and Climate Change Adaptation from Lund University’s Faculty of Engineering in Sweden. Her interest in climate change started during her time at American University’s School of International Service, where she studied international development and environmental politics. In turn, she developed experience working in the urban
design/planning, forestry, and global governance spheres. Most recently, she worked with the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change in 2018 and 2019 on the National Adaptation Plan and Policy Programme. With a passion for identifying the gaps, illuminating the potentials, and researching the evolving relationship between the human environment and a changing climate, she is excited to be a part of her home county’s workgroup on Climate Adaptation and Sequestration.

- **Kevin He**

Kevin is an avid conservation advocate and currently serves as a resource economist at The Pew Charitable Trusts. In that role, Kevin supports many of Pew’s teams in developing new research ideas and brainstorming broader organizational and campaign strategies for achieving conservation outcomes. Outside the workplace, Kevin also dabbles as a musician (clarinet and conducting), photography, and likely gets way too into sports. He is also a big fan of being outdoors in any capacity, although having grown up in the arid Southwest of Phoenix, AZ, Kevin still struggles every summer to come to terms with the humidity he's committed himself to.

- **Evan Notman**

My background is as a forest ecologist focused on research related to forest and biodiversity conservation. For the last ten years I have worked on international development working with countries to improve land use management to address climate change and improve livelihoods. I currently work with the UN Forest and Agricultural Organization, and previously worked with the US Agency for International Development and was part of the US interagency delegation to the UN Framework Convention on Climate Change. I have also worked on forest conservation and climate change with the US Forest Service and the Senate Agricultural committee. I live with my family in Takoma Park.

- **Karen Metchis**

Karen Metchis recently retired from the US Environmental Protection Agency National Water Program. She has worked for more than a decade on understanding the impacts of climate change on water resources, and led an EPA Workgroup on adaptation and resilience of EPA’s water programs, including working with other federal agencies to address these issues. She has lived in Montgomery County for over 30 years, and is committed to fighting the causes and impacts of climate change in our community and beyond. She is a member of the American Society of Adaptation Professionals.

- **Steven Stichter**

Steven Stichter is an environmental planner who has worked for over two decades on sustainability, resilience, and risk / vulnerability reduction in the face of current and future natural hazards. He was a co-founder of Kinetic Analysis Corp, a MD-based company that provides real-time tropical cyclone hazard and impact information to support informed responses to catastrophic events.

- **Douglas Boucher**

Doug Boucher is a retired scientist whose career included about 20 years as a college professor, 4 as Office Director for a member of Congress and 9 as director of climate research and analysis for the Union of Concerned Scientists. He continues to be active in science, with a focus on forests, agriculture, land use and climate change. He lives on a farm in Dickerson, MD, in Montgomery County's Agricultural Reserve.
**Melissa Lavinson**

Melissa Lavinson currently serves as Senior Vice President, governmental & external relations at Pepco Holdings. Lavinson is responsible for the design and implementation of Pepco Holdings' stakeholder relations, issues management and public policy programs, involving state and local officials, community leaders, business, consumer, and nonprofit groups in each jurisdiction. She is also responsible for leading the company's philanthropic activities and initiatives, as well as the large customer solutions, customer advocate and damages and claims teams. Lavinson previously served as the Vice President of Federal Affairs and Policy and Chief Sustainability Officer for PG&E Corporation, where she held a career of more than 20 years. In her dual role, she led a team responsible for the company's climate change and sustainability initiatives and strategy. Lavinson currently serves on several boards and commissions, including the Maryland Chamber of Commerce and the District of Columbia's Commission on Climate Change and Resiliency.

**Marcy Delos**

Marcy Delos is a senior studying environmental science at George Mason University. In addition to assisting with Montgomery County's climate planning, Marcy works with two scientists from the USGS National Climate Adaptation Science Center to synthesize findings from recent studies of climate impacts on ecosystem services. She has also conducted field research in grassland restoration, as well as assisted in a study of how games can educate national park visitors about linking individual behaviors to human/animal/ecological health. Previously, Marcy spent three years with a small non-profit offering programs for families and elementary school children. She especially looks forward to how Montgomery County's adaptation planning can incorporate ecosystem services, public health, and equity to enhance community well-being.

**Leah Haygood**

Leah Haygood has more than 25 years of experience in the sustainability field. She is founder and president of BuzzWord, Inc., where she has led sustainability strategy, disclosure and reporting projects for major U.S. and international companies, including Ford Motor Company, the Coca-Cola Company, Nike and Edison International. Leah is a founder and vice-chair of One Montgomery Green, and serves on the Wheaton Urban District Advisory Committee, where she had two terms as chair. Leah began her career working in renewable energy at the state level. She is a graduate of Barnard College and holds a master's degree from the Yale School of Forestry and Environmental Studies.

**Stan Boyd**

Stan taught high school U.S. History, including global warming 1975-2003. Activist in peace, civil rights, election integrity and environment. Served on Montgomery County Board of Appeals (zoning issues) past 10 years, and volunteered on Md chapter of Sierra Club working for 100% clean energy movement. Member of Faith Alliance Climate Group and Climate Mobilization. Democratic Party precinct chair and active in many Dem. Races.

**Thailynn Munroe**

I am a GIS Research Analyst working at the World Resources Institute for Global Forest Watch with a background in Atmospheric Science and Earth Systems Science. My current role spans from commodity
supply chain deforestation risk analysis to community level green house gas inventories. I also helped complete the baseline Montgomery County Land Use/Forest GHG Inventory, and am enthusiastic to see how it will be used for policy recommendations/implementation coming out of this workgroup.

• **Moira McDonald**

I am the Acting Program Director for the Environment Program at the Walton Family Foundation, an environmental philanthropy that works to protect oceans and rivers. For the past ten years, my work at the foundation focused on how to improve the health and resilience of the Mississippi River from the Upper Midwest to the Gulf. In the Upper River, we work to improve the environmental performance of agriculture – with a focus on practices that reduce nutrient runoff, sequester carbon in the soil, and reduce the loss of nitrous oxide. In the lower river, we work to address climate resiliency focusing on how changing the management of the river can help restore wetlands and reduce the effect of sea-level rise on coastal communities. I received her undergraduate degree in environmental science and Russian studies from Brown University and has a master’s and a Ph.D. in geography from the University of Minnesota.

• **Philip Bogdonoff**


• **Susan Eisendrath**

Susan Eisendrath is a civic and environmental activist with an expertise in curriculum development, project management, policy development, and urban gardening. She has served on numerous county work groups including the first Climate Protection Plan committee and the Commercial Building Benchmarking work group. She has a Master’s in Public Health, is a Master Gardener and Master Composter. She is a former Executive Committee Member for the Montgomery County Sierra Club and currently the Compost Lead, and she is currently a member of the Montgomery County Food Council, serving as Co-Chair of the Environmental Impact Working Group and on the Policy Committee. She is an amateur photographer, loves the outdoors, is a founder of a rural forest protection community and retreat, and she strives to live a low-carbon lifestyle.

• **Michael Boldosser**

Michael Boldosser has worked in the Planning Section of OEMHS for nearly 3 years. Prior to coming to MoCo, he was the Emergency Preparedness Manager for Shore Regional Health, encompassing 3 acute care hospitals and a stand alone Emergency Center, for 3 years. Prior to SRH, he was the Emergency Coordinator for Talbot County for 8 years.
• Victor Sousa
  o Manage the purchase of wind renewable energy credits (RECs) to offset carbon emissions for County buildings and DOT buses. The effort involved collaborating and coordinating with three other MC agencies and 12 municipalities and Townships.
  o Manage electricity procurement for the County since the advent of electricity deregulation in 2004.
  o Evaluate building HVAC system design and Life Cycle Cost Analysis for various systems to provide the highest possible energy efficiency for a given budget.

• Tina Laboy
Tina is a planner within the County's OEMHS. She is responsible for developing and maintaining several of the County's emergency plans such as the Emergency Operations Plan (EOP) and the Pre-Disaster Recovery Plan (PDRP). Tina also leads the development of the County's Emergency Management Program Strategic Plan.

• Marianne Souders
Marianne manages the Office of Emergency Management and Homeland Security's Planning Division. The planning division is responsible for coordinating with multiple county departments, agencies, as well as public and private partners to develop emergency plans and preparedness initiatives. Additionally, the Planning Division is responsible for community engagement and outreach activities that enhance the awareness and preparedness abilities of the citizens who live and work in Montgomery County.

• J. Michael Whitcomb
Energy Manager for Montgomery College for the past 32 years. Responsible for the management of the College's Resource Conservation Program. Duties include new and renovated building design, utility master planning, supervision of the College's Utility Analyst and project management duties related to the program. Past employment as the Energy Engineer for Montgomery College and Systems Mechanical Engineer with Bechtel Power Corporation working on Nuclear and Fossil power plants. Undergraduate and graduate degrees in Mechanical Engineering, specializing in energy conversion and conservation. U.S. Navy veteran.

• Mara Parker
My current work in OEMHS involves tracking and reporting on FEMA grant funding utilized by the county to help prepare for and mitigate the effects of disasters, sadly a growing problem as climate change continues to remodel our planet. I worked for over ten years as a Senior Legislative Aide at the County Council, so I understand the political complexity involved in effecting change. My prior experience was in the non-profit sector managing programs and volunteers, including work on water pollution for an environmental organization. As someone raised in Alaska, the immediacy of climate change is very real to me. I've lived in Seattle and Germany, two places ahead of the curve on environmental issues, so I know we can get there and look forward to being a part of the solution.

• David McDonough
David McDonough is the Director of Police and Homeland Security at WSSC Water. This position integrates the WSSC's emergency management and homeland security programs with the WSSC Police Department and security team to coordinate public safety, emergency management and security across
the enterprise. David brings with him more than a decade of experience in the field of Emergency Management and Homeland Security across the State of Maryland and in the National Capital Region. He previously served as the Director of Strategy, Policy, and External Outreach and as Director of Administration for the Maryland Emergency Management agency. Prior to his time at MEMA, he was deputy to the Governor’s Homeland Security Advisor from 2007 to 2011 and co-authored the State of Maryland’s Strategic Plan for Homeland Security.

- **Dan Sheridan**

Dan is a civil engineer with over 28 years of experience. He has over 18 years experience in MC DOT and 10 years experience in the private sector. He is a licensed professional engineer in Maryland with both a BS and MS in civil engineering. For MC DOT, he has been an engineer, project manager and a manager. Since 2016 he has served as the manager of the storm drain and outfall program for MC DOT.

- **Katherine Nelson**

Katherine Nelson has over twenty-five years of experience in land use planning in the metropolitan Washington DC area, with a focus on forest conservation, stream water quality protection, water supply/wastewater planning and GIS database development. She teaches Land Use Principles and Soil Ecosystems for the Graduate School of Washington DC. She is the recipient of the Outstanding Award for Planning from the American Planning Association and the Honor Roll award for conservation from the Izaak Walton League. She has a Master’s degree in Planning from the University of Virginia and a B.S. in Soil Environmental Sciences from Virginia Tech.

- **Heather Gewandter**

Heather Gewandter is the City or Rockville’s Stormwater Manager. She is responsible for ensuring the City is in compliance with its MS4, Phase II, National Pollution Discharge and Elimination System (NPDES) Permit. Including implementing a plan to treat historically untreated impervious surfaces in Rockville. Heather graduated with a Bachelor of Science in Biology from the State University of New York College at Geneseo and a Master of Arts in Environmental and Resource Policy from the George Washington University.

- **William Musico**

My formal education began with a BS in Civil Engineering with concentrations in Hydraulic & Ocean Engineering. After serving as a US Army Officer for 5 years I returned to graduate school to relearn all that I had forgotten. My graduate degree was in MS Engineering with a concentration in Open Water Hydraulics. Following 15 years of private practice in civil engineering and land development, I have returned to public service as a reviewer of sediment control and stormwater management and as the County’s Floodplain Administrator.

- **Amanda Aparicio**

Amanda Aparicio is the Sustainability Coordinator at the M-NCPPC, Montgomery County Department of Parks. In her role she works on a number of initiatives including energy and water conservation/efficiency projects, renewable energy projects, initiatives related to the agency's fleet, and recycling and solid waste management.