

## COG Hosts EV Readiness Workshop

The metropolitan Washington region has over 3,000 registered plug-in electric vehicles\* (EVs), and nearly 500 electric charging stations, including public and private.

EV adoption presents environmental, economic, and energy security benefits to the country and to the region, particularly contributing to the region's air quality goals by reducing transportation-related greenhouse gas emissions. Although the region is making strides in investing in EV charging infrastructure, there is more that can be done to meet the growing demand for electric transportation technology.

COG's Electric Vehicle Planning Initiative released a report in 2012, which contained recommendations for removing barriers to EV adoption and infrastructure planning. Building on the report, on June 30th, in partnership with the Maryland Electric Vehicle Infrastructure Council COG co-hosted the Regional Electric Vehicle Readiness Workshop, bringing together experts from the private and public sectors and local leaders for a conversation about the purchase and integration of EV fleets. Participants also had an opportunity to test several electric vehicle models.

Kathy Kinsey of the Northeast States for Coordinated Air Use Management delivered the keynote remarks on the State Zero-Emission Vehicle Programs Memorandum of Understanding, an agreement by eight states, including Maryland, to put 3.3 million zero emission vehicles on the road by 2025.

Areas of opportunity for public and private regional investment in EVs and EV charging infrastructure highlighted by the workshop include:

- Need for focused approach on government incentives towards economic models that sustain for-profit businesses, moving away from grants and tax cuts for EVs and EV charging.
- Local governments can lead by example by setting EV fleet purchase goals, convening stakeholders, installing public charging stations and raising EV awareness and literacy through public outreach events.
- EV-friendly amendments in existing building codes can accelerate EV deployment.
- Building code amendments and EV readiness targets should initially focus on residential charging and expanding options for "orphan cars" or garage-less vehicles.
- Legislation is needed to clarify the rights of members of Home Owners Associations, condos and tenants (both residential and commercial) to invest EV charging infrastructure.

[View the presentations from the workshop.](#)

*\*Information provided by the Greater Washington Region Clean Cities Coalition and the Maryland Clean Cities Coalition.*

-----

Release Date: Jul 9, 2015  
Contact: Megan Goodman  
Phone: 202-962-3209