
Governor's Council on Climate Change (GC3)
Public Health & Safety, Adaptation Planning and
Implementation Working Group
MEETING MINUTES

Meeting Date: 14 May 2020

Meeting Time: 10:00 – 11:00
am EST

Meeting Location: Online
(Zoom meeting)

ATTENDENCE

Working Group Member	Title	Organization	Present
Heather Aaron	Deputy Commissioner	Connecticut Department of Public Health	N
Chris Bellucci	Monitoring Program Supervisor	Connecticut Department of Energy and Environmental Protection	N
Todd Berman	Manager of Environmental Programs & Projects	United Illuminating	N
Laura Bozzi	Director of Programs	Yale University, Yale Center on Climate Change and Health	Y
Tasheenah Brown	Deputy Executive Director	Operation Fuel	Y
Dean Caruso	Executive Director, Support Services & Sustainability	Yale New Haven Hospital	N
Mindy Chambrelli	Sanitarian	Darien Health Department	Y
Steve Civitelli	Director of Health	Wallingford Health Department	N
Amanda Clark	Environmental Analyst	Connecticut Department of Public Health	N
Ken Dumais	State Hazard Mitigation Officer	Connecticut Division of Emergency Management and Homeland	N
Caroline Dumont	Public Psychiatry Fellow	Yale University	Y
Mariana Fragomeni	Assistant Professor	University of Connecticut, College of Agriculture, Health and Natural	N
Cynthia Greene	Deputy Director	U.S. Environmental Protection Agency New England	N
Laura Hayes	Epidemiologist	Connecticut Department of Public Health	Y
Christine Kirchhoff	Assistant Professor	University of Connecticut Department of Civil and	Y
Sarah Lowe	Assistant Professor	Yale University, Yale School of Public Health	Y
Arie Manangan	Health Scientist	Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, Climate and Health	N
Diane Mas	Chief Resilience Officer	Fuss & O'Neill, Inc.	Y
Lori Mathieu	Public Health Section Chief	Connecticut Department of Public Health	N
Anne McWilliams	Environmental Scientist	EPA Region 1	Y
Mark Mitchell	Associate Professor	George Mason University, Center for Climate Change Communication	Y
Goudarz Molaei	Agricultural Scientist	The Connecticut Agricultural Experiment Station	Y
Jocelyn Mullins	State Public Health Veterinarian	Connecticut Department of Public Health	N
Dave Murphy	Manager of Water Resources Planning	Milone & MacBroom	Y

Michael Pascucilla	Director of Health	East Shore District Health Department	N
Marissa Rivera	Advocate	Disability Rights Connecticut	Y
Robert Scully	Sanitary Engineer	Connecticut Department of Public Health	N
Jodi Sherman	Associate Professor, Director of Sustainability	Yale University, Yale School of Medicine	N
Kirby Stafford	Chief Scientist/State Entomologist	The Connecticut Agricultural Experiment Station	Y
Ryan Tetrault	Supervising Environmental Analyst	Connecticut Department of Public Health	N
Brian Toal	Epidemiologist	Connecticut Department of Public Health	N
Orlando Velazco	Health Equity Director	Connecticut Department of Public Health	Y
Steven Wallett	Sanitary Engineer	Connecticut Department of Public Health	Y
Jeri Weiss	Regional Coordinator, Capacity Development	U.S. Environmental Protection Agency New England	Y
Kirk Westphal	Water Resources Leader	Brown and Caldwell	N
Adam Whelchel	Director of Science	The Nature Conservancy	N
Aicha Woods	City Plan Executive Director	City of New Haven	N
Joanna Wozniak-Brown	Senior Resilience Planner	Connecticut Institute for Resilience & Climate Adaptation	Y

Associated Staff	Title	Organization	Present
Mary-beth Hart	Director, Land and Water Resources	Connecticut Department of Energy and Environmental Protection	Y
Brian Thompson	Senior Environmental Planner	Connecticut Department of Energy and Environmental Protection	Y

AGENDA & NOTES

Welcome and Announcements

Agenda Item(s)

Facilitated by Laura Hayes, CT DPH

- Overview of GC3 Structure and Report
 - Our working group is the Adaptation Planning and Implementation Working Group
 - Public Health and Safety (PHS) is a theme area (or sub-group/subcommittee) within this working group and there are further subtopic teams within PHS
 - Multiple subcommittees with overlap among topics
 - Draft Table of Contents: Part III: Climate Change Adaptation and Resilience
 - Where this working group and subcommittee will be working and focusing effort
 - This sub-group will focus on the Public Health and Safety sub-section of Part III
 - Deadline is January 2021 for this report to coincide with the next legislative action
 - All subcommittees have their own section within the report
 - Goal: Try to accomplish actionable items that have high impact and are measurable
 - Question: Is there an established page count? No established page count/page limit
 - Question: Openness to funding? There is a working group dedicated to financing adaptation. So there will most likely be some coordination between the two working groups to include funding. Identify funding needs to establish a baseline. Funding might potentially change due to the current state of things regarding the pandemic.
- CDC (Building Resilience Against Climate Effects) BRACE Framework
 - Steps of the BRACE Framework:
 - Step 1: Anticipate climate impacts and assessing vulnerabilities
 - Identifying hazards and the timeframe
 - What are the known risk factors for vulnerable populations? Why are they vulnerable?
 - Step 2: Project the disease burden
 - Difficult to do quantitatively but qualitatively should be the minimum
 - Step 3: Assess public health interventions
 - This is a new area so there are not a lot of interventions present
 - Step 4: Develop and implement a climate and health adaptation plan

- This is what we are focusing on for the GC3 Report
 - Step 5: Evaluate impact and improve quality of activities
- Review and Update of Recommendation from the 2011 Connecticut Climate Change Preparedness Plan
 - Status updates and recommended actions by 26 May 2020
 - Update in the MS Teams PHS
 - There are other working groups that are reviewing some of these recommendations as well so the final update
- Public Health and Safety Work Plan
 - Identifying Priorities
 - Core planning team is working on developing a process for a standardized way to identify priorities
 - Using ASTHO's guide to develop a state health improvement plan
 - One suggested tool is to use a prioritization matrix: a simple way to quantify priority scores for health problems while considering a number of criteria
 - Identify health problems and develop criteria that give individual weight
 - Health problems on the y-axis and criterion on the x-axis
 - The prioritization matrix is completed by a number of stakeholders to incorporate multiple views and opinions to try and be as fair and just as possible
- Vision Statement
 - Guide vulnerability assessment, actions selection, and implementation tracking
 - Vision statements tend to be a narrative
 - Ideally it should note:
 - Equity
 - Inter-scalar cooperation
 - Coordinated action across state department and sectors
 - Policy needs
 - Decision making criteria
 - Recognize uncertainty
 - Set time frame
 - Recognize need for local just as much as state, action, and

- Implementation tracking

Public comments facilitated by *Mary-beth Hart, CT DEEP*

Mark Mitchell, GMU part of Equity and Inclusion

- We should focus on communities where hazards are causing the most harm.

Randy Anyway, architect from old Lyme

- An innovation policy should be considered
 - Innovation has costs and benefits that may differ; sometimes you pay first and sometimes you pay later

Diane Lauricella,

- Agrees that we should be prioritizing right away/creating priorities as soon as possible so that they can be addressed.
- Concerns about local health department procedures. We should take a look at the potential need to change local health departments.
 - Concerns about an accreditation issue: pollution-based health issues, there is a data gap that local health departments must do (as opposed to what they may do) with regards pollution-based health issues.

Adjourned at 11:02 am

NOTE: *Slides and/or presentations are available on GC3 Working Groups web page:
<https://portal.ct.gov/DEEP/Climate-Change/GC3/Subcommittee-and--working-groups>*

Provide comments to DEEP.Climate.Change@ct.gov

Public Attendance
Huan Ngo
Randy Anway
Rebecca Yungk
Diane Lauricella