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

Meeting Date: 28 May 2020

Meeting Time: 6:00 – 7:00 pm
EST

Meeting Location: Online
(Zoom meeting)

ATTENDANCE

Working Group Member	Title	Organization	Present
Heather Aaron	Deputy Commissioner	Connecticut Department of Public Health	
Chris Bellucci	Monitoring Program Supervisor	Connecticut Department of Energy and Environmental Protection	
Todd Berman	Manager of Environmental Programs & Projects	United Illuminating	
Laura Bozzi	Director of Programs	Yale University, Yale Center on Climate Change and Health	Y
Tasheenah Brown	Deputy Executive Director	Operation Fuel	
Dean Caruso	Executive Director, Support Services & Sustainability	Yale New Haven Hospital	
Mindy Chambrelli	Sanitarian	Darien Health Department	Y
Steve Civitelli	Director of Health	Wallingford Health Department	
Amanda Clark	Environmental Analyst	Connecticut Department of Public Health	
Ken Dumais	State Hazard Mitigation Officer	Connecticut Division of Emergency Management and Homeland	
Caroline Dumont	Public Psychiatry Fellow	Yale University	Y
Mariana Fragomeni	Assistant Professor	University of Connecticut, College of Agriculture, Health and Natural	
Betsy Gara	Executive Director	Connecticut Water Works Association and Connecticut Council of Small Towns	
Cynthia Greene	Deputy Director	U.S. Environmental Protection Agency New England	
Laura Hayes	Epidemiologist	Connecticut Department of Public Health	Y
Christine Kirchoff	Assistant Professor	University of Connecticut Department of Civil and	
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	
Diane Mas	Chief Resilience Officer	Fuss & O'Neill, Inc.	Y
Lori Mathieu	Public Health Section Chief	Connecticut Department of Public Health	Y
Anne McWilliams	Environmental Scientist	EPA Region 1	
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	

Dave Murphy	Manager of Water Resources Planning	Milone & MacBroom	Y
Huan Ngo	Educator, Scientist		Y
Michael Pascucilla	Director of Health	East Shore District Health Department	Y
Marissa Rivera	Advocate	Disability Rights Connecticut	Y
Robert Scully	Sanitary Engineer	Connecticut Department of Public Health	
Jodi Sherman	Associate Professor, Director of Sustainability	Yale University, Yale School of Medicine	
Kirby Stafford	Chief Scientist/State Entomologist	The Connecticut Agricultural Experiment Station	Y
Ryan Tetrault	Supervising Environmental Analyst	Connecticut Department of Public Health	
Brian Toal	Epidemiologist	Connecticut Department of Public Health	
Orlando Velazco	Health Equity Director	Connecticut Department of Public Health	Y
Steven Walleth	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	
Adam Whelchel	Director of Science	The Nature Conservancy	
Aicha Woods	City Plan Executive Director	City of New Haven	
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
Rebecca French	Director of Office of Climate Planning	Connecticut Department of Energy and Environmental Protection	Y
Anne Hulick	Connecticut Director	Clean Water Action	Y

AGENDA & NOTES

Welcome and Announcements

Agenda Item(s)

Facilitated by Laura Hayes, CT DPH

- ADPI Working Group Process
 - ADPI working group meeting Thursday June 4, 2020 2-4 pm
 - Finalized Statement of Scope is prepared for this meeting
 - Few predicted impacts within the theme areas are asked for this next meeting
 - Dr. Rebecca French is the newly appointed Director of Office of Climate Planning at DEEP
 - Presentations for planned projects to address climate adaptations are recommended to help inform the group
 - Subtopic teams should provide status updates for the 2011 recommendations so that a broader public can provide feedback
 - Working towards the deadline in August for a draft of the report out but the timeline or the contents of the draft may be modified due to issues of COVID-19 pandemic
 - GC3 is trying to work and modify to assemble a legislative package for January 2021
 - The priority for now is identifying critical issues and how to address those issues
 - Climate change parameters, concerns, and conditions should be a key area for the development of the draft
 - High-level outcomes and where we want to be in the future in terms of adaptations is an additional key focus for the draft
 - This is then followed by objectives that will lead to progress toward reaching desired outcomes
 - Then identify and offer strategies to carry out these proposed objectives
 - Also identify the resources that are needed and who is involved to carry out the proposed strategies
 - Then propose specific actions to carry out and implement the proposed strategies
- Statement of Scope
 - A draft of the statement of scope was sent out
 - Feedback and comments will be appreciated
 - The statement will involve health equity
 - It is also time-bounded to 2050
 - The impacts were adapted from the 2018 Northeast climate assessment because there is no assessment report for Connecticut
 - Comment: mentioned human health is related to the protection of all ecosystems and should be included in the statement
 - This is the concept of One Health
 - Comment: ecosystem health may or at least should be mentioned in other working groups
 - Comment: it is good to have crossover between many concepts and subject matter
 - Comment: we should keep our scope more narrowed to human health or public health of humans
 - Comment: is there/will there be a flagging or identification in the report about referring sections/topics that crossover to multiple working groups

- Response: there most likely will be a concept of flagging to identify these crossover concepts
- High-level Outcomes and Objectives
 - These are broad statements of what we want the future state to look like
 - A couple of options for outcomes (non-exclusive)
 - Outcome 1: Communities with health resilience (Candidate Objective Focuses - Wulff et al. 2015)
 - Health care systems
 - Social connectedness
 - Organizational resilience
 - Psychological resilience
 - Needs of at-risk individuals
 - We have the potential to ties to COVID-19 and that no other state has done this yet, but there can be a lot overlapping framework that may be beneficial for us
 - Outcome 2: Adaptation and resilience strategies to address prioritized health impacts due to climate change are implemented (BRACE 3 & 4)
 - Objectives are the prioritized predicated health impacts resulting from prioritization exercise
 - Pick 2 or 3 which may seem like a small number but is necessary regarding the timeframe of this draft report
 - Outcome 3: Strategic planning to address future health impacts due to climate change
 - Implementing the BRACE framework from the CDC
 - Multiple teams and working groups to address everything that we are unable to address currently
 - Open to other ideas and suggestions about what we want the future state to look like
- Stakeholder Engagement
 - We will invite stakeholders to engage in a prioritization exercise
 - It is recommended as a standard tool to come to consensus about how to identify priorities and move forward
 - It quantifies the impacts/outcomes based on a specified criteria
 - Hopefully this will be an active involvement of the public to try and maximize public engagement during the COVID-19 pandemic
 - 2016 Climate and Health Assessment
 - How to tweak the list of impacts to have it be more specific for Connecticut because it is currently at the national level
 - Comment: how to use what people have in their homes to help save lives; communication with the most vulnerable people about how to help themselves; how to communicate and get nontraditional approaches
 - Response: we identified implementing community resilience to focus on place-based strategies; health resilience will help address the system level approach
 - Response: we don't see strengthening the public health system to target these vulnerable communities and to reach those communities through health communication
 - Response: we should help address this issue and work together to come up with a strategy to address the people in the communities help themselves
 - We will be asking for public contributions about brainstorming how to implement these strategies

- Public Comments
- We save comments in the chat for the people who don't want to speak but have input; it is also possible to provide comments via email.
- A recording of this meeting will be available at the URL listed below/
- Anne Hulick – member of Science and Technology working group – wanted to thank everyone for their work; wanted to emphasize looking beyond the traditional approach and using a non-traditional approach to reach out to these communities
 - Additionally talked about the health of ecosystems in their working group and how there are impacts of healthy ecosystems that are wide-reaching
- Kirby Stafford – We should include in vulnerable populations those that are income- and food- insecure.
- Diane Lauricella – DPH and DEEP should look at asthma and roadways; some local health departments do not have a connection with old industrial sites; focus on the relationship of local health department director and the health of ecosystems because these systems affect public health; this is not a standardized focus area though it should be among all local health directors
- Cynthia Jennings – we need to bring in people like West Indians and islanders who have experienced flooding and non-exposure to health care; how to thrive when the health system is shut down or when we do not have access to health care; we should bring in the people who experience these disasters often to offer suggestion about how to deal with these issues in a non-traditional way

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

Others in Attendance
Cynthia R Jennings
Rebecca Yungk
Brian Basso
Diane Lauricella