
**Governor's Council on Climate Change (GC3)
Public Health & Safety Working Group
MEETING MINUTES**

Meeting Date: 29 October 2020

Meeting Time: 10:30 am– 12:00
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 | Y |
| Mindy Chambrelli | Sanitarian | Darien Health Department | Y |
| Stewart Chute | Toxicologist | Connecticut Department of Public Health | |
| Steve Civitelli | Director of Health | Wallingford Health Department | |
| Amanda Clark | Environmental Analyst | Connecticut Department of Public Health | Y |
| Cynthia Costa | Environmental Sanitarian | Connecticut Department of Public Health | |
| Michele DeLuca | Deputy Director of Emergency Management | City of Norwalk | |
| Ken Dumais | State Hazard Mitigation Officer | Connecticut Division of Emergency Management and Homeland | |
| Caroline Dumont | Public Psychiatry Fellow | Yale University | Y |
| Nicholas Elton | MPH candidate | Yale University | Y |
| Paul Farrell | Director of Air Planning | Connecticut Department of Energy and Environmental Protection | |
| Mariana Fragomeni | Assistant Professor | University of Connecticut, College of Agriculture, Health and Natural | Y |
| 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 | |
| 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 | |
| Diane Mas | Chief Resilience Officer | Fuss & O'Neill, Inc. | Y |

| | | | |
|-----------------------|---|--|---|
| Lori Mathieu | Public Health Section Chief | Connecticut Department of Public Health | |
| Anne McWilliams | Environmental Scientist | EPA Region 1 | Y |
| Mark Mitchell | Associate Professor | George Mason University, Center for Climate Change Communication | |
| 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 | |
| Huân Ngô | Educator, Scientist | | |
| Martha Page | Executive Director | Hartford Food System | Y |
| Michael Pascucilla | Director of Health | East Shore District Health Department | Y |
| Marcia Pessolano | Supervisor, Nutrition, Physical Activity, and Obesity Program | Connecticut Department of Public Health | |
| Edith Pestana | Environmental Justice Administrator | Connecticut Department of Energy and Environmental Protection | |
| Mike Puglisi | Expanded Food and Nutrition Education Program Coordination | University of Connecticut Department of Nutritional Sciences | Y |
| Marissa Rivera | Advocate | Disability Rights Connecticut | |
| Michelle Riordan-Nold | Executive Director | Connecticut Data Collaborative | 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 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 | |
| Adam Whelchel | Director of Science | The Nature Conservancy | |
| Aicha Woods | City Plan Executive Director | City of New Haven | Y |
| 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 | |
| Rebecca French | Director of Office of Climate Planning | Connecticut Department of Energy and Environmental Protection | |

AGENDA & NOTES

Welcome and Announcements

Agenda Item(s)

Facilitated by Laura Hayes and Lori Mathieu, CT DPH

- Notes & Updates
 - We received 19 documents with comments on the report
 - The type of comments are pretty variable and might not be specific to our PH&S Working Group but glad to received feedback
 - Final revision is due next Friday, November 6th
 - There will be second public comment period for the document from the Council which will be a synthesis of all Working Group reports
- Response to Public Comments
 - Amanda Clark and Steven Wallet have been compiling the comments for our Working Group into one document (~60 pages)
 - 94 pages of comments have been sorted and sent to their corresponding Working Groups
 - Any changes should provide a summary of changes of how they responded to a comment
 - Changes can be made using track changes in MS Teams or emailed to Laura Hayes and Lori Mathieu
- Overview of MS Teams
 - The raw documents of public comments are in the General channel
 - The consolidated comments for our Working Group are in the Public Health and Safety channel
 - PHS_Report_CouncilReview.docx is the document everyone should be editing which is located in the Public Health and Safety channel
 - This is a document to the Council explaining how we are addressing individual public comments
 - Sorted by subtopic teams
 - General comments are at the end of the document
 - Multiple people can be working on the document in MS Teams
 - Review of uncategorized comments
 - Comment about public health directors and their responsibility over toxic sites, urban heat, pollution etc.
 - Public health directors are involved in these issues but there is still confusion of who is the main responsibility of these complex issues
 - CEPA clarifies that the main responsibility is a sponsoring state agency
 - This might have to be addressed in phase 2 due to time constraints
- Recommendation Prioritization
 - Prioritize staffing needs:
 - AFN coordinator for emergency response and communications
 - Public health entomologist
 - Climate and health coordinator

- Extreme heat specialist
 - GIS specialist
 - Managed retreat program director
 - A matrix table for recommendations
 - Recommendation
 - Time frame
 - What type of action is required
 - Cost estimate (might be unable to do)
- Public Comments
 - Diane Lauricella: we should prioritize and reexamine the roles and responsibilities of local health directors in order to address the environmental health issues that are often not addressed by local health directors; should be prioritized in phase I, not phase II
 - Amanda Clark: a higher level staffing might be needed to address the environmental issues; local health departments are different so some coordination and overall responsibility of a state coordinator would be helpful to address the environmental health issues
 - Mike Pascucilla: resources have been cut and most of the time local health directors are not contacted for environmental health issues
- Other comments
 - Further directions on how to address public comments and summary of changes will be sent out to everyone

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 | |
|--------------------------------|------------------------------|
| Connecticut Data Collaborative | Diane Lauricella, GC3 EEJ WG |
| Alanis Allen, new hire | |
| Lynn Towill, Eversource | |