



## Executive Committee Meeting | Agenda

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10:00 a.m., Wednesday, March 9, 2022

CAPCOG Lantana Room

6800 Burleson Road, Bld. 310, Ste. 155

Austin, Texas 78744

Mayor Brandt Rydell, City of Taylor, **Chair**  
Judge James Oakley, Burnet County, **First Vice Chair**  
Mayor Lew White, City of Lockhart, **Second Vice Chair**  
**Secretary**  
Commissioner Debbie Ingalsbe, Hays County,  
**Parliamentarian**  
Mayor Jane Hughson, City of San Marcos,  
**Immediate Past Chair**  
Judge Paul Pape, Bastrop County, **Immediate Past Chair**  
Council Member Mackenzie Kelly, City of Austin  
Mr. Lyle Nelson, City of Bastrop  
Council Member Kevin Hight, City of Bee Cave  
Judge Brett Bray, Blanco County  
Mayor Lee Urbanovsky, City of Buda  
Commissioner Joe Don Dockery, Burnet County  
Judge Hoppy Haden, Caldwell County  
Judge Joe Weber, Fayette County  
Mayor Pro Tem Kevin Pitts, City of Georgetown

Council Member Esmeralda Mattke Longoria, City of Leander  
Commissioner Steven Knobloch, Lee County  
Judge Ron Cunningham, Llano County  
Mayor Pro Tem Doug Weiss, City of Pflugerville  
Council Member Matthew Baker, City of Round Rock  
Council Member Janice Bruno, City of Smithville  
Commissioner Ann Howard, Travis County  
Commissioner Brigid Shea, Travis County  
Commissioner Russ Boles, Williamson County  
Commissioner Cynthia Long, Williamson County  
Representative John Cyrier  
Representative Celia Israel  
Representative Terry Wilson  
Representative Erin Zwiener

1. **Call to Order and opening remarks by the Chair**
2. **Consider Approving Minutes for the February 9, 2022 Meeting**
3. **Consider Approving CAPCOG FY 2022/2023 TCEQ Solid Waste Grants Projects**  
**Ken May, Regional Programs Manager**
4. **Consider Approval of Grant Ranking for FY 2022 Homeland Security Grant Program**  
**Martin Ritchey, Director of Homeland Security**
5. **Consider Authorizing Submission of Enhanced PM<sub>2.5</sub> Monitoring Grant Applications to EPA**  
**Andrew Hoekzema, Director of Regional Planning and Services**
6. **Consider Adopting a Resolution Recognizing National Public Safety Telecommunicators Week**  
**Richard Morales, Director of Emergency Communications**
7. **Consider Approving Appointments to Advisory Committees**  
**Deborah Brea, Executive Assistant**
8. **Staff Reports**  
**Betty Voights, Executive Director**
9. **Adjourn**

A closed executive session may be held on any of the above agenda items when legally justified pursuant to Subchapter D of the Texas Open Meetings Act (Texas Government Code Chapter 551).



## Executive Committee | Summary Minutes

10:00 a.m., Wednesday, February 9, 2022  
6800 Burleson Road  
Building 310, Suite 165  
Austin, Texas 78744

### Present (19)

Mayor Brandt Rydell, City of Taylor, **Chair**  
Judge James Oakley, Burnet County, **1st Vice Chair**  
Mayor Jane Hughson, City of San Marcos,  
**Parliamentarian**  
Judge Paul Pape, Bastrop County, **Immediate Past Chair**  
Mr. Lyle Nelson, City of Bastrop  
Council Member Kevin Hight, City of Bee Cave  
Judge Brett Bray, Blanco County  
Mayor Lee Ubranovsky, City of Buda  
Commissioner Joe Don Dockery, Burnet County

Judge Hoppy Haden, Caldwell County  
Judge Joe Weber, Fayette County  
Council Member Esme Mattke Longoria, City of Leander  
Commissioner Steven Knobloch, Lee County  
Judge Ron Cunningham, Llano County  
Mayor Pro Tem Doug Weiss, City of Pflugerville  
Council Member Matthew Baker, City of Round Rock  
Council Member Janice Bruno, City of Smithville  
Commissioner Ann Howard, Travis County  
Commissioner Brigid Shea, Travis County

### Absent (10)

Mayor Lew White, City of Lockhart, **2nd Vice Chair**  
Commissioner Debbie Ingalsbe, Hays County, **Secretary**  
Council Member Mackenzie Kelly, City of Austin  
Mayor Pro Tem Kevin Pitts, City of Georgetown  
Commissioner Russ Boles, Williamson County  
Commissioner Cynthia Long, Williamson County

Representative John Cyrier  
Representative Celia Israel  
Representative Terry Wilson  
Representative Erin Zwiener

#### 1. **Call to Order and opening remarks by the Chair**

Mayor Rydell opened the meeting at 10:00 a.m. and led in the pledge of allegiance.

#### 2. **Consider Approving the Minutes for the January 12, 2022, Meeting**

Mayor Rydell asked for a motion to approve the January 12, 2022 Executive Committee meeting minutes. A motion was made by Judge Oakley to approve the minutes. Mayor Hughson seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

#### 3. **Consider Accepting the Quarterly Investment Report**

##### **Lisa Bowman, Director of Finance**

Ms. Bowman explained that all CAPCOG investments are in TexPool. She stated the ending balance for the quarter was \$28,464,596.12, and the interest rate earned during the quarter was about .037 percent, for \$2,623.68. She mentioned this interest rate is still down and was surprised it wasn't closer to the U.S. Treasury rate, which was .15 percent.

A motion was made by Commissioner Dockery to accept the quarterly investment report. Commissioner Shea seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

#### 4. **Consider Adopting Resolution for CAPCOG FY 2022/2023 TCEQ SW Grant Program Application**

##### **Ken May, Regional Programs Manager**

##### **Shelly Hargrove, Director of Community & Economic Development**

Mr. May said CAPCOG and all the other COGs get their Solid Waste Program funds from state tipping fees. He noted the state has allocated about 50 percent of the monies from the dedicated fund since 2012 although there have been changes to this process. Mr. May said these funds pay for the program's operational cost but more importantly fund community solid waste grant projects. Ms. Voights mentioned CAPCOG and other COGs are very interested in getting the funding increased in the next Legislative Session, but the COGs will need to do a better job telling their story of how these monies help the

community and will need to put together a better coalition of partners to address the legislature in the future.

Commissioner Dockery asked how this was affecting the grant funding for local communities. Mr. May said CAPCOG has been streamlining its Solid Waste Program for years to pass through as much money as possible to communities. Judge Bray asked if there was anything communities should be doing to help resecure greater funding. Ms. Voights said they need to be willing to tell legislators what the money means to their communities. Commissioner Howard asked if these funds could help communities who are losing garbage collection services because private companies can't profit from servicing those communities. Judge Oakley said Burnet has been faced with that problem as well, to which Commissioner Howard said the counties, that have no statutory obligation to do so, may have to start ensuring the service.

A motion was made by Judge Pape to adopt the resolution for CAPCOG's FY 22 and FY 23 TCEQ Solid Waste Grant Program Application. Judge Oakley seconded the motion. It passed unanimously.

**5. Consider Approving Purchase of DroneSense Software for CAPCOG Regional Interoperable Unmanned Aerial Vehicle (UAV) Public Safety Team**

**Martin Richey, Director of Homeland Security**

Mr. Richey explained the region has been instrumental in creating guidelines for using drones for public safety purposes throughout the state. He said this purchase is so jurisdictions in the region can make use of the same software when operating drones, making them interoperable for their public safety use. Mr. Richey said using drones has helped save lives and provided the recent Bastrop fires as an example. In Bastrop, drones used infrared to detect hotspots and prevent reignition where fires were mostly extinguished. Judge Pape said the drones helped protect property and save lives during the fire.

A motion was made by Judge Cunningham motioned to purchase the DroneSense Software. Commissioner Shea seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

**6. Consider Approving Appointments to Advisory Committees**

**Deborah Brea, Executive Assistant**

Ms. Brea said Judge Pape has nominated Eduardo Guerrero from Bastrop County to serve on the Solid Waste Advisory Committee. Mayor Rydell asked if there were any other appointments to be made. No appointments were made.

A motion was made by Judge Pape to appoint Mr. Guerrero to the Solid Waste Advisory Committee. Council Member Mattke Longoria seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

**7. Staff Reports**

**Betty Voights, Executive Director**

Ms. Voights said CAPCOG's annual audit process has begun, and the auditors will be emailing board members risk assessment questions related to the audit. The email will consist of a cover letter from CAPCOG's finance director. Ms. Voights also stated that Connected Nation has updated statewide broadband infrastructure maps, which are available on their website.

Council Member Baker also announced at 10:00 a.m. March 2, the TCEQ will provide a virtual air quality and monitory presentation for elected officials. The presentation was originally intended for Clean Air Coalition members, but Executive Committee members are welcome to attend.

**8. Adjourn**

Mayor Rydell adjourned the meeting at 10:26 a.m.

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Commissioner Debbie Ingalsbe, Secretary  
Executive Committee  
Capital Area Council of Governments

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Date

## EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MEETING

**MEETING DATE:** March 9, 2022

**AGENDA ITEM:** #3 Consider Approving CAPCOG FY 2022/2023 Solid Waste Grant Projects

### GENERAL DESCRIPTION OF ITEM:

CAPCOG awards its solid waste grants for projects that span the two-year biennium in an effort to maximize the implementation time for the grantees. This agenda item is seeking approval to award the 2022-2023 grants totaling \$264,000 to 11 local governments based on final rankings approved by the Solid Waste Advisory Committee (SWAC) on February 10, 2022.

The process includes posting applications online in the event private industry chooses to contest a project perceived to be competing, and no comments were received. Staff also reviews each application for eligibility and prepares scoring sheets for use during the SWAC scoring process. Each applicant is allowed to make a presentation. For this cycle, 13 applications were received requesting \$312,425 in funding for solid waste diversion projects. Two applications did not receive the 70-point minimum and were deemed ineligible and one project, Blanco County's Local Enforcement, was approved for the remaining funds of \$9,575 in the event that some aspect of the project can still be carried out.

The TCEQ directs that no COG should return unexpended monies at the end of the biennium; traditionally CAPCOG uses remaining funds after projects are completed as follows:

- to supplement a partially funded project if undertaken by applicant so in this case, Blanco County;
- to supplement an approved project that may have had an overrun, typically a collection event; and
- to purchase equipment and outreach materials for the Regional Environmental Task Force.

### THIS ITEM REPRESENTS A:

- New issue, project, or purchase
- Routine, regularly scheduled item
- Follow-up to a previously discussed item
- Special item requested by board member
- Other

**PRIMARY CONTACT/STAFF MEMBER:** Ken May, Regional Programs Manager

### BUDGETARY IMPACT:

Total estimated cost: \$264,000

Source of Funds: TCEQ

Is item already included in fiscal year budget?  Yes  No

Does item represent a new expenditure?  Yes  No

Does item represent a pass-through purchase?  Yes  No

If so, for what city/county/etc.? \_\_\_\_\_

**PROCUREMENT:** N/A

### ACTION REQUESTED:

Approve the CAPCOG FY 2022/2023 Solid Waste Grant Projects

**BACK-UP DOCUMENTS ATTACHED:** FY 2022-2023 Solid Waste Grant Applications Spreadsheet

**BACK-UP DOCUMENTS NOT ATTACHED:** None

**FY 2022-2023 Solid Waste Grant Applications - Scoring Meeting is February 10, 2022**

Applicant	Priority	Project Type*	Description	Amount Requested	Funding Remaining	Minimum Amount Acceptable for Same Scope	Minimum Amount Acceptable for Reduced Scope	Cash Match	In-Kind	Total Match and In-kind	Total Project Cost	Final Score	
3	Llano County	1	LIDC-CCE	Community Collection Event (2)	\$20,000.00	\$244,000.00	\$20,000.00	\$20,000.00	\$13,000.00	\$7,600.00	\$20,600.00	\$40,600.00	91.4
2	Lee County	1	Special Waste	Scrap Tire Collection Event (2)	\$16,750.00	\$227,250.00	\$13,950.00	\$13,950.00	\$60.00	\$8,391.50	\$8,451.50	\$25,201.50	88.2
10	Caldwell County/Hays County	1	LIDC-CCE	Community Collection Event (4)/Scrap Tire Event (1)	\$24,450.00	\$202,800.00	\$24,450.00	\$22,000.00	\$400.00	\$9,803.07	\$10,203.07	\$34,653.07	87.4
4	Fayette County	1	CCS	Citizens Collection Station - Warrenton	\$39,000.00	\$163,800.00	\$39,000.00	\$24,000.00	\$0.00	\$11,869.60	\$11,869.60	\$50,869.60	85.1
7	Burnet County	1	HHW	Household Hazardous Waste Event	\$35,000.00	\$128,800.00	\$35,000.00	\$35,000.00	\$50,795.00	\$17,338.00	\$68,133.00	\$103,133.00	85.1
6	City of Buda	1	HHW	Household Hazardous Waste Event	\$11,250.00	\$117,550.00	\$11,250.00	\$11,250.00	\$0.00	\$2,500.00	\$2,500.00	\$13,750.00	83.4
1	Blanco County	1	HHW	Household Hazardous Waste Event	\$40,000.00	\$77,550.00	\$40,000.00	\$40,000.00	\$5,000.00	\$5,000.00	\$10,000.00	\$50,000.00	79.5
8	City of Granite Shoals	1	LIDC-CCE	Community Collection Event	\$15,175.00	\$62,375.00	\$15,175.00	\$14,600.00	\$5,000.00	\$3,392.12	\$8,392.12	\$23,567.12	74.2
9	City of Creedmore	1	LIDC-CCE	Community Collection Event	\$19,800.00	\$42,575.00	\$19,800.00	\$17,512.00	\$0.00	\$3,296.84	\$3,296.84	\$23,096.84	71.8
5	City of Pflugerville	1	CCS	Citizens Collection Station - Upgrades	\$33,000.00	\$9,575.00	\$29,000.00	\$28,000.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$33,000.00	71.7
12	Blanco County	2	LE	Local Enforcement	\$58,000.00	-\$48,425.00	\$46,267.77	\$46,267.77	\$0.00	\$11,566.94	\$11,566.94	\$69,566.94	73.3
				<b>\$312,425.00</b>	<b>-\$57,333.00</b>	<b>\$293,892.77</b>	<b>\$272,579.77</b>	<b>\$74,255.00</b>	<b>\$80,758.07</b>	<b>\$155,013.07</b>	<b>\$467,438.07</b>		
<b>Available Funding</b>				<b>\$264,000.00</b>									
Fully Funded Projects													
Contingency Projects													
<b>Ineligible Projects:</b>													
13	City of Creedmore	2	CCS	Citizens Collection Station (2) Events	\$8,908.00	-\$57,333.00	\$8,908.00	\$7,908.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$8,908.00	
11	City of Kyle	1	SRR	Multifamily Residential Recycling Program	\$120,000.00	-\$177,333.00	\$72,000.00	\$60,000.00	\$20,000.00	\$50,000.00	\$70,000.00	\$190,000.00	

\*Project Type Key:  
 LIDC-CCE            Litter and Illegal Dumping Cleanup/Community Collection Event  
 HHW                Household Hazardous Waste  
 SRR                 Source Reduction and Recycling  
 Special Waste     Special Waste Collection Event - Scrap Tires  
 CCS                 Citizens Collection Station  
 LE                  Local Enforcement

\*\* Ineligible Projects: Applicants must score a minimum of 70 points to be deemed eligible

**EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MEETING**

**MEETING DATE:** March 9, 2022

**AGENDA ITEM:** #4 Consider Approval of Grant Ranking for FY 2022 Homeland Security Grant Program

**GENERAL DESCRIPTION OF ITEM:**

In accordance with the Regional Program Review Process Guidance adopted by the Executive Committee at its November 10, 2021 meeting, the Homeland Security Task Force (HSTF) conducts a multi-step process to solicit project applications from eligible jurisdictions. Subcommittees of the HSTF conduct preliminary review and discipline-based ranking in accordance with state and federal guidelines. The HSTF at its March 3, 2021 meeting will make the final review and ranking for consideration at the March 9 meeting of the Executive Committee.

The projects submitted by CAPCOG are subject to the Office of the Governor’s changes to align the state’s investment requirements to meet the mandatory federal guidance.

The OOG has provided a general estimate of funding expected this year at \$820,000. There are two subcategories of funding, Cybersecurity and Domestic Violent Extremism, that are ranked at the OOG and account for the large reduction in our funding. A table of all active pre-evaluated projects is included with this agenda item.

The Homeland Security Grant Program has changed significantly over the past two grant cycles. Our projects have been coordinated to meet FEMA Critical Priority Investment Area targets: soft targets/crowded places, information and intelligence sharing and cooperation, and emerging threats.

**THIS ITEM REPRESENTS A:**

- New issue, project, or purchase
- Routine, regularly scheduled item
- Follow-up to previously discussed item
- Special item requested by board member
- Other

**PRIMARY CONTACT/STAFF MEMBER:** **Martin Ritchey, Director of Homeland Security**

**BUDGETARY IMPACT:**

Total estimated cost: N/A

Source of Funds: Federal Homeland Security Grant Program

Is item already included in fiscal year budget?  Yes  No

Does item represent a new expenditure?  Yes  No

Does item represent a pass-through purchase?  Yes  No

If so, for what city/county/etc.? \_\_\_\_\_

**PROCUREMENT:** N/A

**ACTION REQUESTED:**

Approve Ranking for FY 2022 Homeland Security Grant Program projects.

**BACK-UP DOCUMENTS ATTACHED:**

HSGP 2022 Non-Prioritized grant list

**BACK-UP DOCUMENTS NOT ATTACHED (to be sent prior to meeting or will be a handout at the meeting):**

Final FY 2022 HSGP Prioritized Project List from HSTF

<b>Grant Number</b>	<b>Project Title</b>	<b>Grantee Name</b>	<b>Request</b>
2955808	ARIC/Regional Fusion Center	City of Austin	\$ 450,000
2956807	CAPCOG - Training and Exercises	CAPCOG	\$ 125,000
2956908	CAPCOG Regional Planning	CAPCOG	\$ 393,204
2957208	Williamson County Hazmat Monitor Maintenance	Williamson County	\$ 35,000
3529705	AET Hays County HazMat Team Monitor Maintenance	Hays County	\$ 10,000
3749304	AFD Spec Ops 2 - Analytical Equipment/CBRNE Detection/Sustainment	City of Austin	\$ 57,895
3757804	Tier II Reporting	CAPCOG	\$ 25,000
4410101	APD - SWAT 3 - Camero Xaver 400 - Advanced Imaging Technology	City of Austin	\$ 55,150
4410401	AFD Spec Ops 4 - Radiological Survey Backpacks	City of Austin	\$ 88,421
4410501	EMS 1 - Tactical Communications Equipment	City of Austin	\$ 38,691
4410901	EMS 2 - Unmanned Aircraft Systems Trailer	City of Austin	\$ 35,682
4413001	AFD SpecOps 3 - Regional Support Mobile Generator	City of Austin	\$ 41,579
4413801	AFD SpecOps 1 - Mobile Tactical Operations Center	City of Austin	\$ 394,737
4433901	CTRS Equipment Project	Pflugerville Police Department	\$ 172,681
4435701	SWAT 1 SCBA	City of Austin	\$ 89,901
4436201	SWAT 2 Camero Xaver 100	City of Austin	\$ 17,323
4436401	EOD 1 - Robots	City of Austin	\$ 375,474
4438201	AFD SpecOps 5 - Trench and Structural Collapse Equipment	City of Austin	\$ 159,821
4446901	EMS 3 Satellite Phones	City of Austin	\$ 25,515
4447101	Video Surveillance Trailer	City of Bastrop	\$ 49,950
			\$ 2,641,022



## EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MEETING

MEETING DATE: March 9, 2022

AGENDA ITEM: #5 Consider Authorizing Submission of Enhanced PM<sub>2.5</sub> Monitoring Grant Applications to EPA

### GENERAL DESCRIPTION OF ITEM:

Approval is requested to submit two applications to the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) for grants to enhance monitoring of fine particulate matter (PM<sub>2.5</sub>) air pollution. One application would be for “speciated” monitoring to better understand the types of particles contributing to high PM<sub>2.5</sub> pollution levels. The other application would be for expanded “continuous” PM<sub>2.5</sub> monitoring at several locations around the region to improve the understanding of the extent of PM air pollution and public access to information about PM pollution within their communities. Both of these were recommended by the Clean Air Coalition at its February 9 meeting.

While CAPCOG already operates a network of ground-level ozone (O<sub>3</sub>) research monitors in the region, it does not have funding for comparable PM<sub>2.5</sub> monitoring. The region has three continuous PM<sub>2.5</sub> monitors in Central Austin operated by the Texas Commission on Environmental Quality, which show that the area’s PM<sub>2.5</sub> levels are higher than about 90% of the rest of the country. The region does not have any speciated PM<sub>2.5</sub> monitoring. Due to mounting evidence of health impacts of PM<sub>2.5</sub> pollution, EPA now is considering tightening federal standards to levels that the Austin metro area would either be violating or close to violating. The additional PM<sub>2.5</sub> monitoring envisioned in these grant applications would be useful to prioritize emission reductions and enhance public health protections for the region’s residents. Remaining in attainment of federal standards also is important for the region’s economic development and transportation planning.

EPA’s “Enhanced Air Quality Monitoring for Communities” grant opportunity (RFA#: EPA-OAR-OAQPS-22-01) allows agencies to submit up to two grant applications each. Individual grant applications can range from \$25,000 to \$500,000, with no match required. This one-time grant is for three years, with an anticipated performance period of July 1, 2022 – June 30, 2025. Grant applications are due by March 25, 2022.

### THIS ITEM REPRESENTS A:

- New issue, project, or purchase
- Routine, regularly scheduled item
- Follow-up to a previously discussed item
- Special item requested by board member
- Other

PRIMARY CONTACT/STAFF MEMBER: **Andrew Hoekzema, Director of Regional Planning and Services**

### BUDGETARY IMPACT:

Total estimated cost: \$660,000

Source of Funds: U.S. Environmental Protection Agency

Is item already included in fiscal year budget?  Yes  No

Does item represent a new expenditure?  Yes  No

Does item represent a pass-through purchase?  Yes  No

If so, for what city/county/etc.? n/a

PROCUREMENT: n/a

ACTION REQUESTED:

Authorize submission of two grant applications for enhanced PM<sub>2.5</sub> monitoring under Grant Opportunity EPA-OAR-OAQPS-22-01

**BACK-UP DOCUMENTS ATTACHED:**

1. Memo on Proposed Scope of Grant Applications
2. Map of Current Regional Monitoring Stations

**BACK-UP DOCUMENTS NOT ATTACHED** (*to be sent prior to meeting or will be a handout at the meeting*):

None



BASTROP BLANCO BURNET CALDWELL FAYETTE HAYS LEE LLANO TRAVIS WILLIAMSON

## MEMORANDUM 2/18/2022

**TO: Executive Committee**

**FROM: Andrew Hoekzema, Director of Regional Planning and Services**

**RE: Summary of Proposed CAPCOG Applications for EPA American Rescue Plan Enhanced Air Quality Monitoring Grant Competition**

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### **Background**

The 2021 American Rescue Plan (ARP) provided the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) with funding for enhanced air pollution monitoring. In December, the agency announced a \$20 million nationwide request for applications (RFA) for enhanced community monitoring.<sup>1</sup> This RFA provides an opportunity for CAPCOG to compete for funding for enhanced monitoring of particulate matter (PM) air pollution within the region. While CAPCOG's Air Quality Program has primarily focused on ground-level ozone (O<sub>3</sub>) air pollution for the past 20 years, the program's focus has shifted in recent years to also include PM, especially small PM (known as "PM<sub>2.5</sub>") that can cause cancer, cardiovascular problems, nervous system problems, and death. While the Austin metro area's PM<sub>2.5</sub> levels are attaining current federal standards, they are higher than about 90% of the rest of the country and are high enough to violate or be close to violating potentially more stringent standards that EPA is currently considering. CAPCOG staff are developing two proposed grant applications that would address gaps in the region's PM<sub>2.5</sub> monitoring that were identified in the recently updated Regional Air Quality Plan: 1) a lack of "speciated" PM<sub>2.5</sub> data that would help target emission reduction efforts, and 2) limited spatial coverage of existing continuous PM<sub>2.5</sub> monitoring. The Central Texas Clean Air Coalition (CAC) unanimously supported these grant applications at its February 9, 2022, meeting. Applications are due by March 25, 2022.

### **PROJECT OVERVIEW**

CAPCOG two grant proposals are as follows:

1. "Speciated" PM<sub>2.5</sub> monitoring at a location with high PM<sub>2.5</sub> concentrations to better understand the composition and sources of the PM<sub>2.5</sub> pollution; and
2. Seven "continuous" research-grade PM<sub>2.5</sub> monitors to collect and report hourly PM<sub>2.5</sub> data in near-real time in areas beyond the 3 sites currently operated by the Texas Commission on Environmental Quality (TCEQ) in Travis County, along with approximately 20 low-cost sensors that could be installed or loaned to local organizations as issues arise or in response to local concerns.

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<sup>1</sup> <https://www.epa.gov/arp/enhanced-air-quality-monitoring-funding-under-arp> RFA#: EPA-OAR-OAQPS-22-01

While CAPCOG's recent increase in funding from TCEQ for the Rider 7 grant program can be used for O<sub>3</sub> monitoring, it cannot be used for PM<sub>2.5</sub> monitoring for the 2022-2023 biennium. This grant opportunity could help fill that gap. The grant period is expected to be July 1, 2022 – June 30, 2025.

### **SPECIATED PM<sub>2.5</sub> MONITORING**

PM<sub>2.5</sub> includes a wide variety of different types of pollutants - including organic carbon, elemental carbon, metals, crustal elements, sulfates, nitrates, ammonium, and others. However, most PM<sub>2.5</sub> monitors only determine the total mass of all PM<sub>2.5</sub>, not its composition (i.e., how much of the mass is from each different type of PM<sub>2.5</sub>). Knowing the composition of PM<sub>2.5</sub> enables a better understanding of which types of local sources are contributing to high pollution. This can help local governments, the state, EPA, and other partners better target emission reductions. While TCEQ operates speciated PM<sub>2.5</sub> monitors in Dallas, Houston, Corpus Christi, and Northeast Texas, there are no speciated monitors in Central Texas.

For this project, CAPCOG would purchase two samplers, which is necessary to collect the full spectrum of PM<sub>2.5</sub> species - one with a Teflon filter and one with a quartz filter. The samples are collected every 6 days and sent to a laboratory for analysis. CAPCOG would receive periodic reports (likely quarterly) on the data. Based on discussions with staff at TCEQ's monitoring division and CAPCOG's monitoring contractor, CAPCOG estimates that this grant application will be about \$200,000 - \$210,000.

### **CONTINUOUS PM<sub>2.5</sub> MONITORING PROJECT**

The second application that CAPCOG is preparing would involve expanded collection of continuous (i.e., hourly) PM<sub>2.5</sub> data within the region. CAPCOG would purchase and operate 7 high-quality, research/regulatory-grade equipment, similar to the type of monitoring CAPCOG currently conducts for O<sub>3</sub>. The proposed number of PM<sub>2.5</sub> monitors would bring the total number of continuous PM<sub>2.5</sub> monitors in the region up to 10, comparable to the current level of monitoring for O<sub>3</sub>. Additionally, with a total of 10 PM<sub>2.5</sub> monitors, the Austin metro area's coverage would be comparable to Las Vegas, Cleveland, and Cincinnati, each of which have between 2.1 and 2.3 million people and a total of 10 PM<sub>2.5</sub> monitors. The grant application would also include funding for approximately 20 low-cost sensors that could be loaned or granted to local organizations, if the existing combination of regulatory monitors, research monitors, and sensors does not fully meet the community's needs.

The continuous PM<sub>2.5</sub> data from the research-grade monitors would stream to EPA's AirNow website and (with TCEQ's permission) to TCEQ's website. The addition of more PM<sub>2.5</sub> near-real time data will cover a much wider set of neighborhoods than the current network. While CAPCOG does have low-cost "PurpleAir" sensors installed at each of CAPCOG's current O<sub>3</sub> monitoring stations, these data do not report out to EPA's main AirNow page or app. Also, PurpleAir sensors are not used for air quality forecasting, like CAPCOG's research-grade O<sub>3</sub> monitors. Nevertheless, the supplemental PM sensors can help meet additional community needs as issues arise. CAPCOG estimates that this grant application will be between \$450,000 - \$460,000.

### **MONITORING SITE SELECTION**

Community involvement, community engagement, and environmental justice are significant goals for this RFA, so these are important parts of our grant applications. If awarded funding, CAPCOG will undertake a process of soliciting feedback from the community on potential locations of the monitors. Using a subcommittee of the CAC Advisory Committee (CACAC), CAPCOG will coordinate a site selection process that factors in direct community feedback, existing air pollution monitoring and modeling data, environmental justice considerations, and logistical considerations in prioritizing potential sites. CAPCOG will then seek a recommendation from the CACAC and subsequent approval from the CAC on monitoring locations at its November 2022 meeting. CAPCOG

staff have created a web map to help guide the process and identify high-priority areas for monitoring:  
<https://capcog.maps.arcgis.com/apps/webappviewer/index.html?id=aba27754583a4114952bdb1c15621bb0>.

### **HOW THE DATA WILL BE USED**

Any speciated data collected will help guide future emission reduction efforts. Additional continuous data will be used to determine the spatial extent of high PM<sub>2.5</sub> air pollution within the region and whether emission reduction efforts need to be geographically focused on certain areas where there is high PM<sub>2.5</sub>. Additionally, the continuous data can be used by EPA and TCEQ for enhanced PM<sub>2.5</sub> forecasting. The continuous data can be used by the public to inform decisions about outdoor activities based on air quality forecasts and current conditions. Additionally, to the extent that the continuous data shows lower PM<sub>2.5</sub> concentrations in some places than the levels at TCEQ sites, it can help local communities make the case that if the area is ever under consideration for a “nonattainment” designation, that the geographic scope of any such area be limited. CAPCOG will include data collected from these sites in CAPCOG’s Annual Air Quality Report and Annual Air Quality Data Analysis Reports.

### **PARTNERSHIPS WITH LOCAL INSTITUTIONS OF HIGHER EDUCATION**

One unique feature of this grant application will be partnerships with St. Edwards University (SEU) and Huston-Tillotson University (HTU) to train faculty and students in the operation and maintenance of PM<sub>2.5</sub> equipment to sustain the monitoring following the end of the grant. Funding will be included in each application for sub-grants to these institutions to cover these training costs with the understanding that they would then be able to take over responsibility for maintaining the equipment in 2025 once the grant funding has been exhausted. Both SEU and HTU are supporting members of the CAC and with SEU’s role as a Hispanic Serving-Institution (HSI) and HTU’s role as a Historically Black University (HBU), these partnerships will also help advance the environmental justice goals for this grant opportunity.

### **OTHER CONSIDERATIONS FOR POST-GRANT PERIOD**

Based on the region’s history of supporting air quality monitoring and the potential for the Rider 7 grant to be able to be used for PM<sub>2.5</sub> monitoring in the future, CAPCOG believes that there is a good chance that some or all of this monitoring can be sustained in the future by CAPCOG or by SEU and HTU. If local governments, local institutions of higher education, or other CAC members do not wish to fund these activities beyond the life of the grant and Rider 7 grant funding is not able to be expanded to be able to be used for PM<sub>2.5</sub> monitoring in the future, CAPCOG can loan or surplus the equipment to one of the local institutions of higher education, TCEQ, or the EPA regional office. Otherwise, CAPCOG could sell the equipment and use the proceeds for other Air Quality Program activities in the future.



# Capital Area Council of Governments

6800 Burleson Road, Building 310, Suite 165

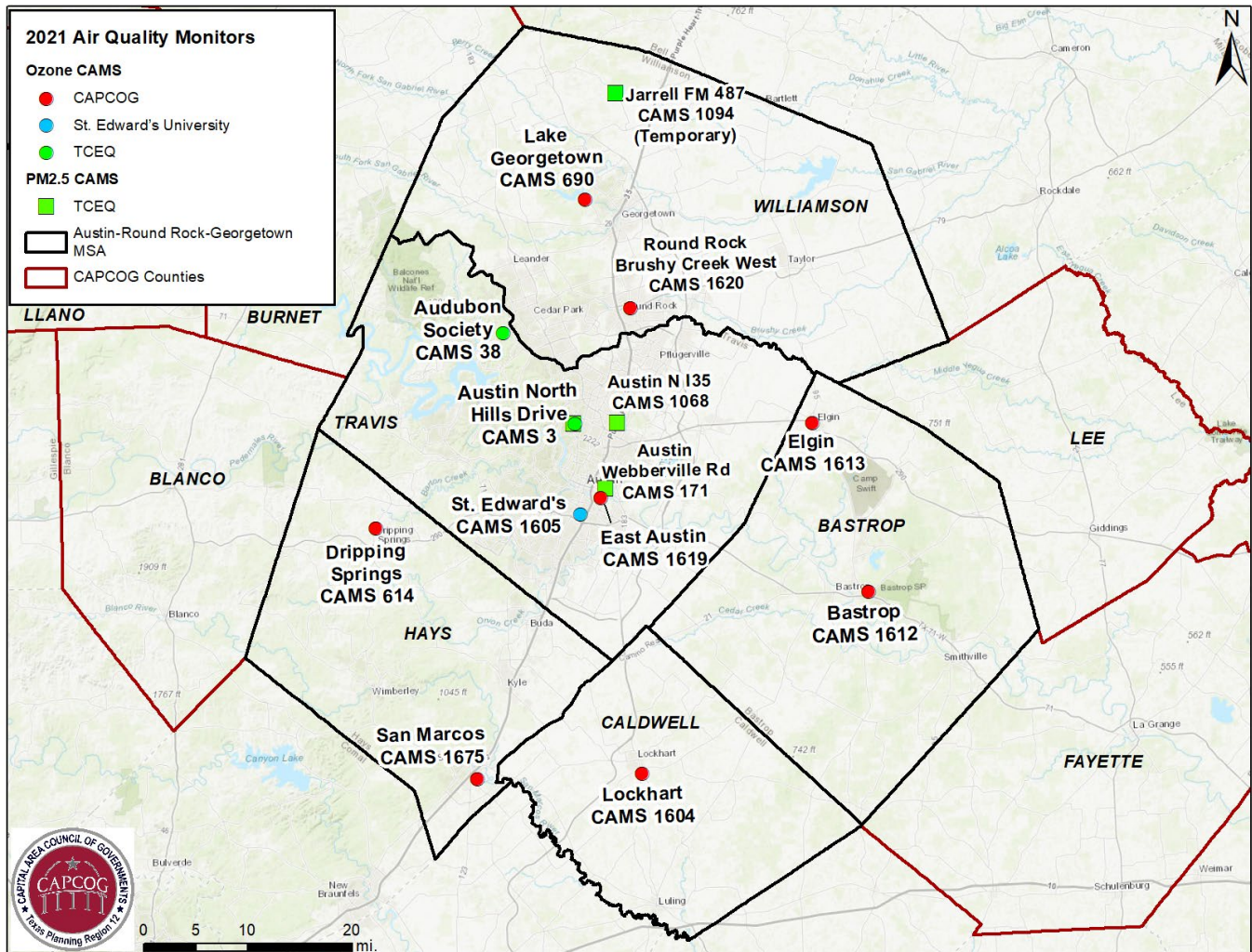
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BASTROP BLANCO BURNET CALDWELL FAYETTE HAYS LEE LLANO TRAVIS WILLIAMSON

## Map of 2021 Ozone and Fine Particulate Matter (PM<sub>2.5</sub>) Continuous Ambient Monitoring Stations (CAMS) in the Austin-Round Rock-Georgetown MSA



## EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MEETING

MEETING DATE: March 9, 2022

AGENDA ITEM: #6 Consider Adopting a Resolution Recognizing National Public Safety Telecommunicators Week

### GENERAL DESCRIPTION OF ITEM:

Each year, the second full week in April is designated as National Public Safety Telecommunicators Week to honor all Public Safety Telecommunicators across the nation. Both the U.S. President and the Texas Governor issue official proclamations recognizing the work of Public Safety Telecommunicators. This year, National Public Safety Telecommunicators Week is April 10 through 16, 2022. To express recognition, appreciation, and support of all Public Safety Telecommunicators in the region, staff recommends adoption of the attached Resolution.

### THIS ITEM REPRESENTS A:

- New issue, project, or purchase
- Routine, regularly scheduled item
- Follow-up to a previously discussed item
- Special item requested by board member
- Other

PRIMARY CONTACT/STAFF MEMBER: **Richard Morales, Director of Emergency Communications**

### BUDGETARY IMPACT:

Total estimated cost: N/A

Source of Funds: N/A

Is item already included in fiscal year budget?  Yes  No

Does item represent a new expenditure?  Yes  No

Does item represent a pass-through purchase?  Yes  No

If so, for what city/county/etc.? \_\_\_\_\_

### PROCUREMENT:

N/A

### ACTION REQUESTED:

Consider Adopting a Resolution Recognizing National Public Safety Telecommunicators Week.

### BACK-UP DOCUMENTS ATTACHED:

Resolution recognizing April 10 – 16, 2022, as National Public Safety Telecommunicators Week.

### BACK-UP DOCUMENTS NOT ATTACHED (to be sent prior to meeting or will be a handout at the meeting):

None



## **A PROCLAMATION AUTHORIZING RECOGNITION OF NATIONAL PUBLIC SAFETY TELECOMMUNICATORS WEEK**

**WHEREAS**, the Capital Area Council of Governments (CAPCOG) is a political subdivision of the State serving Bastrop, Blanco, Burnet, Caldwell, Fayette, Hays, Lee, Llano, Travis, and Williamson counties; and,

**WHEREAS**, CAPCOG is committed to providing a high-quality emergency communications system to the residents of the region; and,

**WHEREAS**, CAPCOG recognizes the professional and unending services of the telecommunicators who answer 9-1-1 calls on a daily basis; and,

**WHEREAS**, the 9-1-1 telecommunicators are the link between people calling for help in an emergency situation and the emergency response agencies who arrive on the scene ; and,

**WHEREAS**, the 9-1-1 telecommunicators are the true backbone of the 9-1-1 system; and,

**WHEREAS**, the President of the United States has historically acknowledged the second week of April as National Public Safety Telecommunicators Week ; and,

**THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED**, that, on behalf of the more than 800 telecommunicators in the CAPCOG region, the Capital Area Council of Governments Executive Committee hereby declares the week of April 10—16, 2022, to be National Public Safety Telecommunicators Week and encourages all local governments to sign a similar resolution and all 9-1-1 Emergency Communications Centers are encouraged to celebrate this week with appropriate activities and commemorations.

Resolution adopted by the Capital Area Council of Governments Executive Committee on this 9<sup>th</sup> day of March, 2022.

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Mayor Brandt Rydell, Chair  
Executive Committee  
Capital Area Council of Governments

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Mayor Debbie Ingalsbe, Secretary  
Executive Committee  
Capital Area Council of Governments



## EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MEETING

MEETING DATE: March 9, 2022

AGENDA ITEM: #7 Consider Approving Appointments to Advisory Committees

### GENERAL DESCRIPTION OF ITEM:

This is the monthly item for filling positions on our Advisory Committees; please let us know if our staff can assist in identifying interested persons to serve. It is presumed that both city and county representatives will collaborate when making appointments.

### THIS ITEM REPRESENTS A:

- New issue, project, or purchase
- Routine, regularly scheduled item
- Follow-up to a previously discussed item
- Special item requested by board member
- Other

PRIMARY CONTACT/STAFF MEMBER: **Deborah Brea, Executive Assistant**

### BUDGETARY IMPACT:

Total estimated cost: N/A

Source of Funds: N/A

Is item already included in fiscal year budget?  Yes  No

Does item represent a new expenditure?  Yes  No

Does item represent a pass-through purchase?  Yes  No

If so, for what city/county/etc.? \_\_\_\_\_

PROCUREMENT: N/A

### ACTION REQUESTED:

Approve any advisory committee recommendations.

### BACK-UP DOCUMENTS ATTACHED:

1. Summary memo with recommended appointments and vacancies.

### BACK-UP DOCUMENTS NOT ATTACHED (to be sent prior to meeting or will be a handout at the meeting):

1. Executive Committee attendance roster
2. Advisory Committee attendance rosters



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**BASTROP BLANCO BURNET CALDWELL FAYETTE HAYS LEE LLANO TRAVIS WILLIAMSON**

**MEMORANDUM**  
**February 18, 2022**

**TO: Executive Committee Members**

**FROM: Deborah Brea, Executive Assistant**

**RE: Advisory Committee Recommendations**

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This memo identifies current recommendations to CAPCOG Advisory Committees and serves as a reminder of vacancies that still need to be filled. Please see the Attendance Rosters for the Requirements & Responsibilities. For questions, please contact the Advisory Committee staff liaison.

**Blanco County**

- The Aging Advisory Council (AAC) has a representative vacancy.

**Burnet County**

- The Aging Advisory Council (AAC) has a representative vacancy.

**City of Austin**

- The Aging Advisory Council (AAC) has two representative vacancies.

**Fayette - Lee County**

- The Law Enforcement Education Committee (LEEC) has a citizen representative vacancy.

**Williamson County**

- The Aging Advisory Council (AAC) has a representative vacancy.