

**COUNTY OF FAIRFAX  
ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY ADVISORY COUNCIL (EQAC)**

**MEETING MINUTES**

**DATE: February 11, 2026**

**TIME: 7:15 p.m. – 9:42 p.m.**

**LOCATION: Fairfax County Government Center - Conference Room 4/5  
(12000 Government Center Pkwy., Fairfax, VA 22035)**

**EQAC Member Attendance**

<b>Name</b>	<b>Present/ Absent*</b>	<b>Name</b>	<b>Present/ Absent*</b>
Larry Zaragoza (Chair, Mount Vernon)	P	Eric Goplerud (Vice Chair, At-Large)	P
Kathryn Alsegaf (Providence)	P	Bryan Campbell (Braddock)	A
Alexis Dickerson (At-Large)	P	Ken Gubin (Dranesville)	P
Ken Lanfear (Hunter Mill)	P	Andreana Lin (At-Large)	A
Kersey Manliclic (At-Large)	P	Nishka Shah (Student Member)	P
Rich Weisman (Sully)	P	Clyde Wilber (Springfield)	V
Johna Gagnon (Franconia)	V (8:00pm)		

\* P indicates present; A indicates absent; V indicates attended virtually

**Staff Attendance**

Matt Meyers, Office of Environmental and Energy Coordination (OEEC)  
Maggie Beetstra (OEEC)  
Marcus Moore, Fairfax County Department of Transportation (FDOT) (online)  
Matthew Tatum (FDOT) (online)  
RJ Wiersma (FDOT)  
Shannon Curtis, Department of Public Works and Environmental Services (DPWES)  
Dan O'Brien (Franconia District Office) (online)  
Joe Gorney (DPWES) (online)  
Chris Herrington (DPWES)  
Devin Pharr (Mason District Office)  
Carly Aubrey, Department of Planning and Development (DPD)  
Emma Kindley (DPD)

**Visitor Attendance**

Norm Goulet, Northern Virginia Regional Commission (NVRC)  
Dr. Stanley Grant, Virginia Tech Occoquan Watershed Monitoring Laboratory  
Willie Woode (NVSWCD) (online)  
Bret Leslie  
Bryan Campbell  
Greg Prelewicz (Fairfax Water)

**Call to Order**

Chair Zaragoza called the meeting to order at 7:15 pm

Chair Zaragoza introduced the requirements to allow EQAC to meet virtually. He asked that all members introduce themselves and following, he moved that EQAC certify that the virtual meeting comported with EQAC's adopted policy for all-virtual meetings. He further moved that EQAC conduct the meeting electronically through a dedicated video- and audio-conferencing line, and that the public could access this meeting through the Microsoft Teams link provided on the agenda or by dialing in by phone at 571-429-5982 with the phone conference ID: 563 470 631#. The motion was moved by Dr. Weisman, seconded by Ms. Dickerson, and carried with a vote of 9-0-0, with Mr. Wilber not yet able to vote, Ms. Gagnon having not yet joined the meeting, and Mr. Campbell and Ms. Lin being absent from the meeting.

### **Agenda Items, Discussion, Decisions and Votes**

#### 1. Public Comment Period

There were no public comments.

#### 2. Transportation and Smart Growth Presentation

- a. Mr. Tatum led the presentation, supported by Mr. Moore and Mr. Wiersma.
- b. Topics:
  - i. Explained Transportation Demand Management (TDM).
  - ii. Required reductions in proffers are based on guidelines.
  - iii. Average trip reduction for sites with a TDM program is 61%; 55 programs are reporting annually. Continuing to move slightly upward.
  - iv. Predicting increasing trip reduction County-wide.
- c. Questions:
  - i. Mr. Lanfear: How are data obtained? Answer: From real observations.
  - ii. Dr. Weisman: What reductions are we seeing across the whole County? Answer: The TMD team does not have the data. We have surveys and other data provided by the region and state, but mostly self-reported.
  - iii. Dr. Weisman noted he would like to see any good data on single-occupancy trips.
  - iv. Mr. Wilber: Challenged the 53% reduction reported in 2012 as it is possible that people may not have needed their cars for trips that were counted in the reduction. He further noted that information on numbers of vehicles and vehicle occupancy is needed on a road specific level. Answer: VDOT collects data on actual roadway volumes.
  - v. Ms. Alsegaf: What percentage of buildings in Tysons fall under these requirements? Answer: Have programs only after 2007-8. KA: Improvement shown do not match her actual experience living in Tysons.
  - vi. Mr. Gubin: Asked for examples of alternative transportations modes and how people use them. Answer: Dunn Loring uses free shuttle; other buildings provide transit support.

- vii. Chair Zaragoza: Do the proposed reduction rates need BOS approval?  
Answer: Yes, lumped in with guidelines.
- viii. Dr. Manliclic: Are you seeing data on what are the preferred options?  
Answer: Metrorail. Walkability also helps. Location of the site plays a huge role. Telework is critical. Problem in Fairfax is many long-distance commuters need to drive. Data include only commercial and multi-family, not single family.
- ix. Mr. Gubin: How often are the surveys done and who decides when?  
methodology. Mr. Tatum answered that surveys take place on Tuesday, Wednesday or Thursday when school is in session.

3. PFAS Problem and Watershed Source ID Efforts, Salts and PFAS in the Occoquan, and Occoquan Watershed Modeling Framework Presentations

- a. Mr. Goulet, Dr. Grant and Mr. Curtis gave two presentations included in the meeting materials.
- b. Topics: Mr. Goulet
  - i. Key question is how does increasing imperviousness due to land use land/cover changes impact the watershed.
  - ii. Impervious increasing from 29% to 39%, higher nutrient and sediments, more seasonal sensitivity.
  - iii. Need a new model framework.
  - iv. Is the Occoquan legacy model accurate enough to trust its predictions? Generally satisfactory, but the study only focused on traditional water quality questions, not on PFAS or other emerging solutions.
  - v. New model framework will better predict where new development is expected.
  - vi. The new model will be a suite of models allowing for more flexibility to answer the questions we need to know.
  - vii. Gave a link (<https://www.novaregion.org/1643/Land-Use-Impacts-Study>) to a report describing the effort in detail.
- c. Topics: Dr. Grant and Mr. Curtis
  - i. Salt and PFAS in the Occoquan Reservoir.
  - ii. Serves about 1 million people and is undergoing significant development. Showed map of Griffith and Corbalis service areas.
  - iii. We need to manage growth and water quality.
  - iv. Sodium in Griffith water is rising. (Showed chart of data.) We would benefit from stopping this trend but noted Griffith still has far less salt than some western cities.
  - v. Exceeding contaminant levels for some PFAS.
  - vi. Mr. Curtis gave a quick primer on PFAS.
  - vii. Occoquan Water Monitoring Laboratory (OWML), VA DEQ, and USGS have collected data. Fairfax Water looked for suspected sites. Dulles Airport consistently comes up high, also the West Ox complex. **IMPORTANT FINDING:** There are significant spatial differences in PFAS concentrations.

- viii. PFAS measurement is permanently implemented in OWML.
- ix. Water Resources Project #5345 is underway to test a “One Water” framework. Looking for possible interventions to evaluate. Holding five workshops over two years.
- x. Dr. Grant noted that his group has many articles on the topic in progress and provided a citation to one study in this slides that examined salt in the Occoquan, as well as a study on road salt.
- xi. Models are becoming accurate enough to start regional salt tracking.
- d. Questions:
  - i. Mr. Wilber: Are hot spots based on concentration or loading? We must understand where the loads come from. Mr. Curtis: We now are starting to switch to looking at loads for a mass balance but still working on achieving enough quality for publications. Mr. Curits: There are not many regulations now, but more are involving.
  - ii. Vice-Chair Goplerud: Is there any look at PFAS coming from land? Dr. Grant: This is a complicated problem. There could very well be land sites. Mr. Goulet: USGS sampled storm-water management ponds in Maryland and found PFAS in almost all of them.
  - iii. Ms. Alsegaf: Supports regional salt tracking.
  - iv. Ms. Shah: Asked about volunteering monitoring. Mr. Curtis: Valuable in getting people engaged, but it is important to monitor correctly.
- 4. Selection of Student Member Nominating Committee
  - a. Normally the student member Ms. Shah, plus one volunteer. Ms. Dickerson stepped forward.
- 5. Approval of December 10, 2025, and January 14, 2026 Meeting Minutes

MOTION

- i. Dr. Manlicic moved adoption of the December and January minutes with two small modifications to January. Mr. Lanfear seconded the motion. Ms. Gagnon noted that her name was missing and that the Mason District representative should be listed with no name. and it carried by a vote of 10-0-1, with Mr. Campbell and Ms. Lin being absent from the meeting, and Mr. Wilber having left the meeting.
- 6. Chair’s Items
  - a. Still working on a retreat. Asked members to speak up about facilitation. Some members expressed a lukewarm reception to having an additional facilitator. Still remains open. Ms. Gagnon noted any facilitator should not have an interest in the outcome.
  - b. Met with Supervisor Palchik. One of her interests was clarifying roles with county staff.
  - c. Also met with Mr. Campbell and Supervisor Heizer. Supervisor Heizer is very involved with a lot of environmental issues.

- d. Still waiting for new Mason District representative. A new Franconia District representative will be named soon.

7. Council Member Items

- a. Ms. Dickerson: Received call to action from VA Soil and Water District. She will send a link to staff to distribute. Potomac Conservancy has sent a letter out concerning the recent Potomac sewage spill.

8. Staff Items

- a. Dr. Beetstra: BOS Environmental Committee meets February 24<sup>th</sup>. Send any comments to Chair Zaragoza soon.
- b. Dr. Beetstra: Land Development Services is working on a streetlight amendment. The amendment will be sent to EQAC members; return comments.

9. Adjournment

- a. Meeting ended at 9:42 p.m. following a motion for adjournment by Dr. Goplerud, which was seconded by Ms. Alsegaf and it carried by a vote of 10-0-1, with Mr. Campbell and Ms. Lin being absent from the meeting, and Mr. Wilber having left the meeting.