

**2021 Performance Oversight Pre-Hearing Questions**  
***Commission on Climate Change and Resiliency***

1. Please provide a list of the Commission’s current members, and note any existing vacancies. For each member, please provide the following:
  - The member’s name.
  - The agency or organization the member represents.
  - Who appointed the member.
  - When the member’s term expires.
  - Attendance record.

**Document attached in Appendix A.**

2. Please provide a list of the Commission’s meeting dates, times, and locations for FY 2020 and FY 2021 to date.

<b>Date and Meeting Type</b>	<b>Location</b>	<b>Time</b>
<b>09/18/19 – Quarterly Meeting</b>	<b>DOEE 1200 First Street, NE</b>	<b>4:00 -6:00 PM</b>
<b>12/11/19 – Quarterly Meeting</b>	<b>DOEE 1200 First Street, NE</b>	<b>4:00 -6:00 PM</b>
<b>03/12/20 – Quarterly Meeting</b>	<b>DOEE 1200 First Street, NE</b>	<b>4:00 -6:00 PM</b>
<b>06/18/20 – Quarterly Meeting</b>	<b>Online through Zoom</b>	<b>3:00 - 5:30 PM</b>
<b>09/10/20 – Quarterly Meeting</b>	<b>Online through Zoom</b>	<b>3:00 - 5:30 PM</b>
<b><i>12/10/20 – Quarterly Meeting</i></b>	<b><i>Online through Zoom</i></b>	<b><i>3:00 - 5:30 PM</i></b>
<b><i>01/08/21 – Strategic Retreat</i></b>	<b><i>Online through Zoom</i></b>	<b><i>9:30-11:00 AM</i></b>
<b><i>01/15/21 – Strategic Retreat</i></b>	<b><i>Online through Zoom</i></b>	<b><i>9:30-11:00 AM</i></b>

3. Did the Commission receive funds in FY 2020? If so, please provide the following:

**The Commission received no funds in FY2020. All activities and work products have been produced through the volunteer work of Commission members and limited part-time staff support received from the District Department of Energy and Environment.**

4. Please describe the Commission's activities in FY 2020.

**In FY2020, the Commission organized its activities in the following manner:**

- ***Quarterly Meetings*** - The Commission conducted quarterly meetings which were advertised and open to the public. In these meetings the Commission organized presentations from various District agencies, including the Office of the City Administrator and the DC Department of Energy and Environment, DC General Services, DC Water and others.
- ***Strategic Planning Retreat*** - The Commission conducted an off-site strategic retreat to establish the future agendas for quarterly meetings and discuss the strategic organizational development of the Commission.
- ***Agency Engagement*** - Individual members represented the Commission at strategic planning and stakeholder engagement meetings organized by D.C. agencies.

5. Please describe the Commission's three biggest accomplishments in FY 2020.

**In October 2019, the Commission transmitted to the Mayor and Council its First Report. This report can be found here: <https://dccccr.org/reports/>**

**Since then, the Commission has commenced the process of preparing its second report, due to be transmitted in October 2022. The Commission's three biggest recent accomplishments include:**

- **Environmental Justice Practices** - A dedicated meeting agenda (June 2020) which explored issues of environmental justice, community vulnerability and which culminated in the Commission adopting a formal statement on the nexus of institutional racism and climate change. This statement can be found here: <https://dccccr.org/>
- **Resiliency Prioritization in DC Budgeting** - A targeted review and discussion of how the District integrates considerations of climate change and resilience into the process of formulating the District's annual Capital Budget. This was explored in-depth in a dedicated meeting panel and discussion in December 2020.
- **Commission's Administrative Practices** - The Commission has adopted dedicated bylaws, elected officers and has created a public-facing website in order to advance transparency and accountability to the public. Specific rules have been established to encourage the public's participation in quarterly meetings.

6. Please describe the Commission's goals for FY 2021 and the plan/timeline for completion.

**The primary goal of the Commission in FY2021 is to complete its Second Report by October 2022.**

**The three primary themes which will be incorporated into the Second Report include:**

- **The New Federal Context** -- Ensuring that the District of Columbia develops sufficient administrative capacity and administrative practices to appropriately leverage all federal climate change and resilience programs and initiatives. The Commission anticipates that this could benefit the District on the order of many millions of dollars in grant funds per year.
- **Environmental Justice** – Continue to further refine the issues, definitions and practices associated with formally integrating environmental justice into decision-making and resource allocation in the District of Columbia.

- **2050 Carbon Neutrality Action Plan – Engage, assist, review and provide feedback to the Department of Energy & Environment in the formulation of a comprehensive strategic action plan which seeks to achieve the legislated goal of District-wide carbon neutrality by the year 2050.**

7. What challenges does the Commission face, if any?

**The District has not allocated any resources to the Commission since its creation by legislation in 2016. The Commission has no budget. The Commission has no dedicated staff. This absence of administrative resources cripples our capacity to fulfill our legislative mandate. Currently, all administrative functions and work products are a result of pro-bono volunteer efforts of individual members of the Commission.**

8. What role does the Commission play in pursuing changes in energy policy? Does the Commission interact with the Public Service Commission, whether through the submission of comments, meetings with Commission staff, or in other ways?
- Where the Commission has submitted comments to the Public Service Commissions on any matters, please share the docket number, date, and a copy (either as an attachment to these responses or a link) of any submissions.

**The Commission is active in matters of energy policy. Beyond the Commission's direct engagement with the Department of Energy & Environment, we have opened dialogue with the Public Service Commission, the Green Bank and other agency stakeholders. At this time, the Commission has not submitted formal comments on any specific pending action before the Public Service Commission.**

9. Please provide a copy of all official correspondence sent by the Commission in FY 2020 and FY 2021 to date.

**Documents attached in Appendix B.**

10. Please identify the Commission's top recommendations for addressing climate change and resilience in FY 2021.

**The resilience of the District of Columbia and its citizens has been tested in many extraordinary ways by the public health crisis**

associated with Covid-19. As the Commission looks forward to FY2021, we recommend the following areas of action:

- **Coordination, prioritization, and integration of existing resilience strategies and objectives;**
- **Integrating the consideration of resilience into all operating and capital budget investments and general government management decisions;**
- **Implementing measures of accountability and oversight to support short-term actions designed to meet long-term goals;**
- **Developing and adopting consistent direction for assessing climate vulnerabilities in planning and investment decision-making that can be used by government agencies and critical infrastructure companies; and**
- **Improved engagement and communication tailored to a diverse set of stakeholders including the public and private sectors, as well as District residents.**

11. Did the ongoing public health emergency or COVID-19 pandemic impact the operations of the Commission during FY 2020 and FY 2021, to date? If so, how? How does the Commission intend to mitigate these effects, moving forward?

**The public health emergency had a direct impact on the manner in which the Commission conducts its meetings. Just prior to the emergency, the Commission created a plan to conduct all of its quarterly meetings in a rotating manner in neighborhood locations across all wards of the District.**

**Commencing with our March 2020 meeting, the Commission has conducted all of its meetings virtually via Zoom. We have not postponed a single meeting and members of the public have attended each meeting. As a way of advancing our goals of community-based engagement, we have invited neighborhood-based stakeholders to participate in these meetings, including the opportunity to make a neighborhood-based presentation to the Commission.**

**Pending the resolution of the public health emergency, we look forward to the opportunity to conduct in-person meetings in a community-based context.**

## **APPENDIX**

- 1. List of all current Commission members.**
- 2. Itemized correspondence.**

# Appendix A

## Appendix A:

First Name	Last Name	Seat Designation	Appointee	Status	Term End	Residence	Affiliation	Total Attendance
Vaughn	Perry	Environmental Justice Member	Mayor	Active	5/5/2020	Ward 8	Building Bridges Across the River	4/6
Sandra	Knight	Emergency Preparedness Member	Mayor	Active	5/25/2020	Ward 6	Water Wonks LLC	7/7
Kathryn	Zyla	Energy Member	Mayor	Active	5/25/2020	Ward 6	Energy Foundation	7/7
Anthony	Kane	Transportation Member	Mayor	Active	5/25/2020	Ward 2	Institute for Sustainable Infrastructure	7/7
Alan	Etter	Emergency Preparedness Member	Council	Active	11/8/2020	Ward 6	AE Consulting	4/4
Melissa	Lavinson	Energy Member	Council	Active	11/8/2020	Ward 1	Pepco Holdings	7/7
Colin	McCormick	Environmental Science Member	Council	Active	11/8/2020	Ward 1	Georgetown University	5/6
Uwe	Brandes	Natural Resources Member	Mayor	Active	5/5/2022	Ward 3	Georgetown University	7/7
Maureen	Holman	Environmental Science Member	Mayor	Active	5/25/2022	Ward 5	DC Water	6/7
Jason E.	Turner	Environmental Science Member	Mayor	Active	5/25/2022	Ward 4		3/7
Peggy	Keller	Public health Member	Mayor	Active	5/25/2022	Ward 3	HealthBest Services, Inc.	7/7
Molly	Rauch	Public Health Member	Council	Active	11/8/2022	Ward 4	Moms Clean Air Force	6/7
Stephen	Moore	Transportation Member	Council	Active	11/8/2022	Ward 2	Southwest BID	5/7
James	Dougherty	Natural Resources Member	Council	Active	11/8/2022	Ward 6		5/7
Chester	McPherson	Insurance Member	Council	Active	11/8/2022	Ward 5		6/6
Chelsea	Mervenne	Environmental Justice Member	Council	Appointed	tbd	tbd	U.S. Department of Energy	2/2

## Appendix B



**GOVERNMENT OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA**  
**Commission on Climate Change and Resiliency**

Chair  
Uwe S. Brantner

Commissioners  
Alicia Ether  
Benjamin Holloman  
Anthony Kaine  
Sandra Knight  
Peggy Kollar  
Belinda Lavinson  
Colin McComack  
Thomas McPherson  
Vaniglia Perry  
Scott Turner  
Kate Oyle  
Melby Rasch  
Stephan Wilson  
Tim Dougherty

Staff Director  
Kate Anderson

September 10, 2020

Neil Albert  
President  
DC BID Council  
1275 K Street NW, Suite 1000, Washington, DC 20005

**Subject:** District of Columbia Commission on Climate Change & Resiliency

Dear President Neil,

On behalf of the District of Columbia Commission on Climate Change and Resiliency (“Commission”), I would like to introduce you to the Commission and request the identification of a point-of-contact from your agency.

The Commission was established in 2016 by an act of Council to assess the impacts of the changing climate, the District's ability to mitigate and adapt to climate change, and the District's ability to prepare, plan for, absorb, recover from, and adapt to adverse events. The Commission is required to transmit reports and recommendations to the Council and the Mayor. Specific duties and functions of the Commission include identifying best practices, evaluating projected impacts on critical infrastructure, and developing proactive solutions to mitigate impacts.

In its first two years, the Commission has supported Mayor Bowser’s team in the preparation of new coordination documents, including ResilientDC and ClimateReadyDC. In October 2019, the Commission transmitted its first independent report to the Mayor and Council, which can be found here:

<https://doee.dc.gov/sites/default/files/dc/sites/doe/publication/attachments/First%20Report%20from%20The%20Commission%20on%20Climate%20Change%20and%20Resiliency.pdf>

The Commission is now busy at work on our second report to the Mayor and Council. We collaborate closely with the Department of Energy and Environment to monitor climate-change related activities across public and private sectors. To further advance our work, we ask the following:

- Please identify a member of your staff to serve as liaison to the Commission;



- Please identify long-term challenges that you believe the Commission is uniquely positioned to explore.

I recognize the Coronavirus emergency has placed new demands on all District agencies and I would like to thank you in advance for your attention to this request. Always feel free to reach out to me with any clarifications or additional questions at 202-286-1103. Please send you response to our request to [staff@dcccr.org](mailto:staff@dcccr.org).

Thank you in advance for your time and attention to this very important issue.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Uwe S. Brandes".

Uwe S. Brandes  
Chair

Copy: Kate Johnson, Designated Staff Executive



**GOVERNMENT OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA**  
**Commission on Climate Change and Resiliency**

Chair  
Uwe S. Brantner

Commissioners  
Alicia Ether  
Matthew Hoffmann  
Anthony Kaine  
Sandra Knight  
Peggy Kollar  
Belinda Lavinson  
Colin McCormick  
Thomas Murphy  
Vaniglia Perry  
Jason Turner  
Katey Wolf  
Melby Rasch  
Stephan Wilson  
Eric Dougherty

Staff Director  
Kate Anderson

September 10, 2020

Lisa María Mallory  
CEO  
DC Building Industry Association  
650 F St NW #690, Washington, DC 20004

**Subject:** District of Columbia Commission on Climate Change & Resiliency

Dear CEO Lisa María,

On behalf of the District of Columbia Commission on Climate Change and Resiliency (“Commission”), I would like to introduce you to the Commission and request the identification of a point-of-contact from your agency.

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Uwe S. Brandes

Chair

Copy: Kate Johnson, Designated Staff Executive



**GOVERNMENT OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA**  
**Commission on Climate Change and Resiliency**

Chair  
Lewie S. Brantley

Commissioners  
Arlene Eisen  
Matthew Hoffmann  
Anthony Kaine  
Sandra Knight  
Peggy Kollar  
Belinda Lavinson  
Colin McCormick  
Thomas McPherson  
Vaniglia Perry  
Jason Turner  
Kate Cyle  
Melby Rasch  
Stephan Wilson  
Tim Dougherty

Staff Director  
Kate Anderson

September 25, 2020

Jeff Marootian  
Director  
DC Department of Transportation  
55 M Street, SE, Suite 400, Washington, DC 20003

**Subject:** District of Columbia Commission on Climate Change & Resiliency

Dear Director Marootian,

On behalf of the District of Columbia Commission on Climate Change and Resiliency (“Commission”), I would like to introduce you to the Commission and request the identification of a point-of-contact from your agency.

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Chasler McPherson  
Vaniglia Perry  
Jason Turner  
Kate Zyla  
Melby Rasch  
Stephan Wilson  
Eric Dougherty

Staff Director  
Katie Anderson

September 25, 2020

Andrew Trueblood  
Director  
Office of Planning  
1100 4th St SW, Washington, DC 20024

**Subject:** District of Columbia Commission on Climate Change & Resiliency

Dear Director Trueblood,

On behalf of the District of Columbia Commission on Climate Change and Resiliency (“Commission”), I would like to introduce you to the Commission and request the identification of a point-of-contact from your agency.

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Chief  
Lance S. Brantner  
  
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Sandra Knight  
Peggy Kollar  
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Thomas McPherson  
Vanilla Perry  
Scott Turner  
Kate O'Neil  
Melby Rasch  
Stephan Wilson  
Eric Dougherty  
  
Staff Director  
Katie Anderson

October 1, 2020

Peter May  
Associate Regional Director  
US National Park Service - National Capital Region  
900 Ohio Dr SW, Washington, DC 20024

**Subject:** District of Columbia Commission on Climate Change & Resiliency

Dear Associate Regional Director May,

On behalf of the District of Columbia Commission on Climate Change and Resiliency (“Commission”), I would like to introduce you to the Commission and request the identification of a point-of-contact from your agency.

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[www.dcccr.org](http://www.dcccr.org)

1200 First St NE, Washington, DC 20002



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Stephan Malone  
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Staff Director  
Katie Anderson

October 1, 2020

Marcel Acosta  
Executive Director  
US National Planning Commission  
401 9th St NW #500N, Washington, DC 20004

**Subject:** District of Columbia Commission on Climate Change & Resiliency

Dear Director Acosta,

On behalf of the District of Columbia Commission on Climate Change and Resiliency (“Commission”), I would like to introduce you to the Commission and request the identification of a point-of-contact from your agency.

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Melby Rasmussen  
Stephan Malone  
Eric Dougherty  
  
Staff Director  
Katie Anderson

October 1, 2020

Chuck Bean  
Executive Director  
Washington Council of Governments  
777 North Capitol St NE #300, Washington, DC 20002

**Subject:** District of Columbia Commission on Climate Change & Resiliency

Dear Director Bean,

On behalf of the District of Columbia Commission on Climate Change and Resiliency (“Commission”), I would like to introduce you to the Commission and request the identification of a point-of-contact from your agency.

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Chair

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