



LGAC Small Community Advisory Subcommittee (SCAS)

**Wednesday, November 14, 2018
4:00-4:30 pm (ET)**

Call in number- 1-866-299-3188, Conference Code- 202-564-3115#

LGAC Small Community Advisory Subcommittee (SCAS) Members:

Commissioner Robert Cope, Chair
Secretary Jeff Witte
Chairman Shawn Yanity
Councilor Andy Beerman
Council Member Mervin Wright
Mr. William Youngblood
Mr. Tom Willsey
Mr. Brian Holter
Mayor Jose Carlos Aponte Dalmau

County Administrator Brian Fulton, Vice-Chair
Supervisor Ryan Sundberg
Mayor Bob Dixson
Mr. Rodney Bartlett
Commissioner Libby Szabo
Ms. Susan Lessard
Commissioner Dennis Scott
Commissioner Carvel Lewis

SCAS Agenda

4:00 pm- 4:05 pm

Introduction/Welcome

Commissioner Robert Cope, Chair
County Administrator Brian Fulton, Vice-chair

EPA Updates

Jack Bowles, Director, State and Local Relations

4:05 pm- 4:10 pm

Draft PFAS Report

Subcommittee Discussion

4:10 pm- 4:15 pm

Public Comment

4:15 pm- 4:20 pm

Draft WOTUS Letter

Subcommittee Discussion

4:20 pm- 4:25 pm

Informal Presentation of Draft EPA Community Revitalization Strategy Charge



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Matthew Dalbey, Director, Office of Community Revitalization (ORC), Office of Policy (OP) or
Chitra Kumar, Director, Federal and State Division,
OP/ORC

4:25 pm-4:30 pm

Wrap Up and Next Steps

Commissioner Robert Cope, Chair

4:30 pm

Adjournment

Commissioner Robert Cope, Chair

Attachment:

Draft Charge for LGAC/Revitalizing Communities Workgroup on EPA's Office of Policy/Revitalizing Communities Strategy



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EPA's Local Government Advisory Committee's (LGAC) Revitalizing Communities Workgroup

About the LGAC-The LGAC is a federally chartered advisory committee made up of elected and appointed officials of state, local and tribal government. The LGAC provides advice and recommendations on key agency priorities of environmental and public health that impact local government and communities.

Charge for LGAC/Revitalizing Communities Workgroup: Review of EPA's Community Revitalization Strategy

Background:

EPA's Office of Policy (OP) under the Office of the Administrator is the primary policy arm of EPA and works to support EPA priorities and enhance decision-making. This office provides multi-disciplinary analysis and special expertise in a variety of areas, including community revitalization. OP's Office of Community Revitalization (OCR) supports locally led, community-driven efforts to revitalize local economies and improve environmental and human health outcomes.

To accomplish this work, OCR collaborates with other EPA programs, federal agencies, regional, state, and local governments, and a broad array of nongovernmental and private-sector partners to bring additional resources to communities and to leverage public and private sector investments. Assistance is provided at the community's request on issues such as reuse and redevelopment of abandoned and underused properties; diversifying economies and revitalizing main streets through local and regional food systems, broadband infrastructure investments, health care organizations, tourism and other community assets; disaster recovery and resilience and green and complete street designs.

Helping communities reuse existing buildings and infrastructure and revitalize neighborhoods brings economic and quality of life benefits while also using resources wisely, preserving undeveloped farmland and open space, and reducing pollution. Over the past 20 years, OCR has supported more than 600 projects in all 50 states, the District of Columbia, Puerto Rico and the U.S. Virgin Islands through a variety programs, such as:

- Local Foods, Local Places (<https://www.epa.gov/smartgrowth/local-foods-local-places>);
- Healthy Places for Healthy People (<https://www.epa.gov/smartgrowth/healthy-places-healthy-people>);
- Cool & Connected (<https://www.epa.gov/smartgrowth/cool-connected>);
- Greening America's Communities (<https://www.epa.gov/smartgrowth/greening-americas-communities>);
- Produces tools, research, case studies and other information on a variety of topics;
- Shares examples of community strategies and projects that can be models for other places; and
- Convenes diverse interests to encourage better growth and development.



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Charge:

EPA is seeking the advice and perspective of the LGAC's Revitalizing Communities Work Group and Small Community Advisory Subcommittee on EPA's approach with respect to supporting community revitalization and improving human health and the environment. Areas for LGAC feedback include:

1) **Review and advise on EPA Office of Community Revitalization's programs and strategies** - EPA offers on-the-ground technical assistance, publications, research, and tools that communities can use to set goals and make more informed decisions about how and where they grow and redevelop. OCR's technical assistance program started with local economic drivers like local food, healthcare, and broadband access, and hope to expand to other assets, like tourism and light manufacturing. OCR also works on infrastructure needs and barriers, such as disaster recovery and resilience, green infrastructure, complete streets, equitable development, and reusing vacant properties. Are there additional areas that EPA should consider? Which areas of support are of greatest need/interest? What are key measures of success?

2) **Advise on gaining access to capital to implement community visions**- EPA programs on community revitalization focus on provision of assistance in developing community-driven visions and support planning efforts that help communities diversify their economies. Once communities use this assistance to develop plans, how can they best access capital to implement the actions and projects that emerge? Other than funding, how can the Federal government and EPA be more supportive of overcoming barriers to achieving community goals? Are there good examples of how communities have made significant progress?

3) **Case studies that demonstrate success around community revitalization planning approaches and environmental impacts** – EPA is interested in hearing from local leaders about keys to success in how they have developed revitalization plans around any of our priority areas, and how they were able to successfully access investment to implement those plans, resulting in more vibrant, thriving, environmentally sustainable neighborhoods.

Proposal: The LGAC Revitalizing Communities Workgroup proposes to convene Workgroup meetings to engage local officials in providing recommendations based on their unique perspectives as state, local and tribal elected and appointed officials. This input may include:

- Ongoing and robust dialogue with EPA on programmatic approaches focused on revitalizing communities
- Local government perspective on focus recommendations (above)
- Ideas for working with communities from the perspective of local governments



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Details of the LGAC Workgroup Meetings

Proposed Meeting(s): The LGAC Revitalizing Communities Workgroup proposes to convene a series of workgroup meetings to gather information on a wide perspective of issues from large, urban cities; rural counties; tribal communities; and small and disadvantaged communities. The Workgroup will also convene a face to face public meeting to discuss the charge and outline a strategy for accomplishing it. The Workgroup will convene monthly teleconference calls to provide ongoing consultation as needed.

Deliverables: The Workgroup will participate in ongoing consultations with EPA's Office of Policy/Office of Community Revitalization on individual recommendations of Members detailing their findings and recommendations related to its charge. If consensus advice is desired or needed on issues they can be discharged to the Full Committee to provide consensus advice and recommendations (pursuant to FACA). In addition, either the Revitalizing Communities Workgroup and/or the SCAS will submit a letter of recommendation responding to the charge and the questions therein, including providing case studies on successful approaches.