

Just Transition Employment and Retraining (JTWG) Working Group Meeting Minutes

Friday, March 21, 2025, 10:00am-11:30am E.T.

Meeting Location: Online via Google Video

Attendees

Members

<i>Name</i>	<i>Member type</i>	<i>Present</i>
Senator Dawn Gile	Maryland State Senate	X
Senator John Mautz	Maryland State Senate	
Del. Regina Boyce	Maryland House of Delegates	
Del. David Fraser-Hildago	Maryland House of Delegates	
Cindy Osorto	Maryland Department of the Environment, Designee	X
Chanel Viator	Maryland Department of Labor, Designee	X
Allison Gost	Maryland Department of Transportation, Designee	X
Jason Ascher	Mid-Atlantic Pipe Trades Association	X
Rico Albacarys	IBEW Local 24	X
Donna S. Edwards	Maryland American Federation of Labor and Congress of Industrial Organizations (AFL-CIO)	
Gerald Jackson	Maryland AFL-CIO	
Jerry R. Williford Jr.	IBEW Local 1900	
Sean Straser	Steamfitters United Association (UA) Local 602	
Casey Ross	Lorax Partnerships	
Stephanie Johnson	Edison Electric Institute	
Moira Cyphers	American Clean Power Association	
Erin Appel	UnitedHealth Group	

Brad Philips	Maryland Council of Community College Presidents	
Lynn Nash	Maryland Military Coalition & Maryland Council of Chapters, Military Officers Association of America	
Kimberly Haven	JustLeadershipUSA	
Jennifer Walsh	Frostburg State University	X
Suzanne K. McCoskey	Frostburg State University	
Tifani Fisher	NAACP Maryland State Conference	
John Hines	Easton Utilities	X
Tanya Terrell	Baltimore Gas and Electric (BGE)	
Khalid Malik	GEMM COMM	X
Michael Walsh	Capitol Strategies	X
Kendrick Wilson	IUPAT DC51	X

Participants

Amy Lambert (EA Engineering, Science, and Technology, Inc.), Robert Macnee (Climate Resilience Consulting), Ashley Vanstone (MDE), Jared Williams (MDE), Noble Smith (MDE), Jennifer Laszlo (Mizrahi Family Charitable Fund), Lindsay Ryan (University of Maryland), Stephanie Vo (University of Maryland), Jamie Lopp, Jared Temanson, Lisa Post

Introduction

- Cindy Osorto welcomed the JTWG and all the members in attendance did introductions.
 - Maryland Commission on Climate Change (MCCC): Advises the Governor and General Assembly "on ways to mitigate the causes of, prepare for, and adapt to the consequences of climate change."
 - JTWG charge: Support employment and retraining of Maryland workers in ways that support the implementation of sustainable climate solutions across sectors.
 - The JTWG is grounded in supporting implementation of the Maryland Climate Solutions Now Act of 2022.
- Review of 2025 priorities
 - Priority 1: Explore green workforce
 - Priority 2: JTWG Green Workforce Study
 - Priority 3: Deliver four recommendations to the MCCC

Guest Presentation on Climate Risk, Dr. Robert Macnee

- Overview of climate language and definitions of the following: climate change, climate mitigation, climate adaptation, and climate resilience.
- Climate change predictions and regional impacts in Maryland relate to erosion, sea level rise, extreme heat, landslides, and inland flooding.
- Community-centered approaches to creating climate resilience (protecting what we have and transforming systems into something better)
- Planning and design examples:
 - Bethlehem Lutheran Church in St. Louis, Missouri
 - PT Partners in Bridgeport, Connecticut
 - Eastside Community Network in Detroit, Michigan
- Shared climate resilience resources:
 - [Community Climate Resilience Design Ideas](#): Short video of CRC's community climate resilience design projects
 - [Resilience Hub Compendium](#): CRC and partners' guide to planning and designing resilience hubs
 - [HUD Community Resilience Toolkit](#): Overview of common climate-related hazards
 - [FEMA National Risk Index](#): A comprehensive online mapping tool showing natural hazard risks to guide community planning and resource allocation.
 - [Risk Factor](#): Provides property-level risk assessments for climate hazards
 - [Ready to Fund Resilience Toolkit](#): Practical guide to identifying, developing, and funding local resilience projects, tailored for community leaders & decision-makers.
- Website: www.climateresilienceconsulting.com

Member Discussion

- Successes:
 - Cindy Osorto: Sent out the first JTWG newsletter with updates and resources.
 - Chanel Viator: Offshore wind program with overarching goal to diversify registered apprenticeship programs partnered with [Maryland New Directions](#) to establish an [Industry Advisory Committee](#) and will be piloting a workforce development program, Building Trade Career Pathways.
 - Khalid Malik: Awarded a grant from the Maryland Energy Administration's Higher Education Clean Energy Grant Pilot Program to support Morgan State University in support of meeting BEPS compliance.
 - Jennifer Walsh: working on MEA-funded project toward renewable energy microgrid, currently reviewing agreement with Optimal Renewables, project offers \$7.5 million in savings over 20-yr period
 - Allison Gost: Waiting on federal funding for project and determining where workforce efforts align with MDOT's efforts; implementation will begin in 2026
- Share-outs:
 - Maryland Climate Teach-In (April 13-19): any climate education events can register!
 - HOP25 Conference will occur on April 12, 2025.