Middle Georgia Clean Air Coalition
Strategy Session Summary – December 11, 2019
Updated at MGCAC Meeting – January 9, 2020

1. **Engage Georgia Department of Transportation**

- Explore opportunities with GDOT to advocate policy or legal changes to allow EV charging stations at rest areas to expand the infrastructure corridors for EVs
- Pursue Alternative Energy Infrastructure Corridor (FHWA initiative)
- Encourage use of alternative fuel equipment for mowing and right of way maintenance

2. **Data Collection**

- Develop / Collect other indices that tell the clean air story, such as ER visits for asthma

3. **Continue Focus on Electric Vehicles**

- Expand the number of electric vehicle charging stations in region
- Seek low emission opportunities with schools and local governments
- Create model procurement incentives for alternative fuel vehicle use

4. **Expand Middle Georgia Solar Programs**

- Develop and implement education / information campaign on the benefits of solar
- Assist with the development of real cost / savings of solar to the end user and to the utility provider in order to foster productive dialogue between solar advocates and local government energy providers
- Develop model ordinance for the installation of solar – both at the homeowner level and solar arrays
- Standardize process for how solar is permitted
- Assist local governments with amendments to zoning regulations to address solar
- Expand partnerships with Georgia Power, Oglethorpe Power, and MEAG to promote utility scale solar development

5. **Elected Officials Engagement (local, state, federal)**

- Develop briefing package on the success / history of the Clean Air Coalition
- Conduct orientation for new elected officials in Coalition communities
- Invite other counties in Middle Georgia to join Coalition
- Attend / present MGRC Council meetings
- Hold reception / program for elected officials (local, state, federal)
- Explore opportunity to present at Macon-Bibb County Legislative Listening Day to engage with state elected officials
- Promote local activities to support energy efficiency in local governments
- Continue clean air incentives program for cost-sharing on local projects
- Explore grant opportunities to support work of Clean Air Coalition in communities
- Consider MGCAC day at the Georgia Capitol.

6. **Expand existence of Clean Air Coalitions across United States**

- Pursue Support from National Association of Counties (NACO) to include legislation that authorizes and funds organizations like Clean Air Coalition
- 209 counties in US are in non-attainment
- Develop model / kit that other regions can use to create a similar organization

7. **Encourage Local Planning to Support Air Quality**

- Promote Smart Growth principles, especially along major corridors
- Expand usage of public transit and bicycle/pedestrian transportation
- Advocate for commuter rail service to Atlanta