

Middle Georgia Clean Air Coalition

February 9, 2023

Standard Order of Business

Roll Call and Establishment of Quorum

Approval of Minutes

- Distributed Prior to Meeting

- Need Motion to Approve & 2nd
  - January Minutes

Financial Report Approval

- See insert at right

- Need Motion to Approve & Second

Middle Georgia Clean Air Coalition

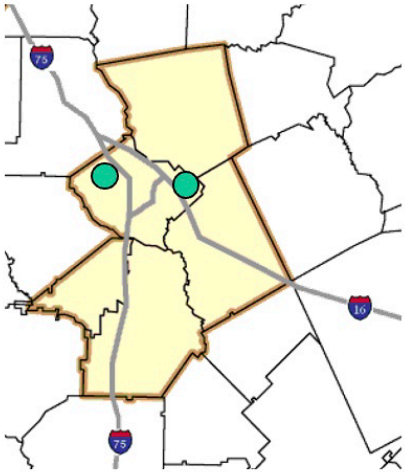
Financial Report
As of January 31, 2023

Beginning Balance - December 31, 2022			$ 185,989.39
Revenues			
Bank Interest	$ 7.67		
Member Contributions	433.00		
Total Revenues			$ 440.67
Subtotal			186,430.06
Expenditures			
Ray Clark	12,739.00		
Total Expenditures			12,739.00
Ending Balance -January 31, 2023			$ 173,691.06

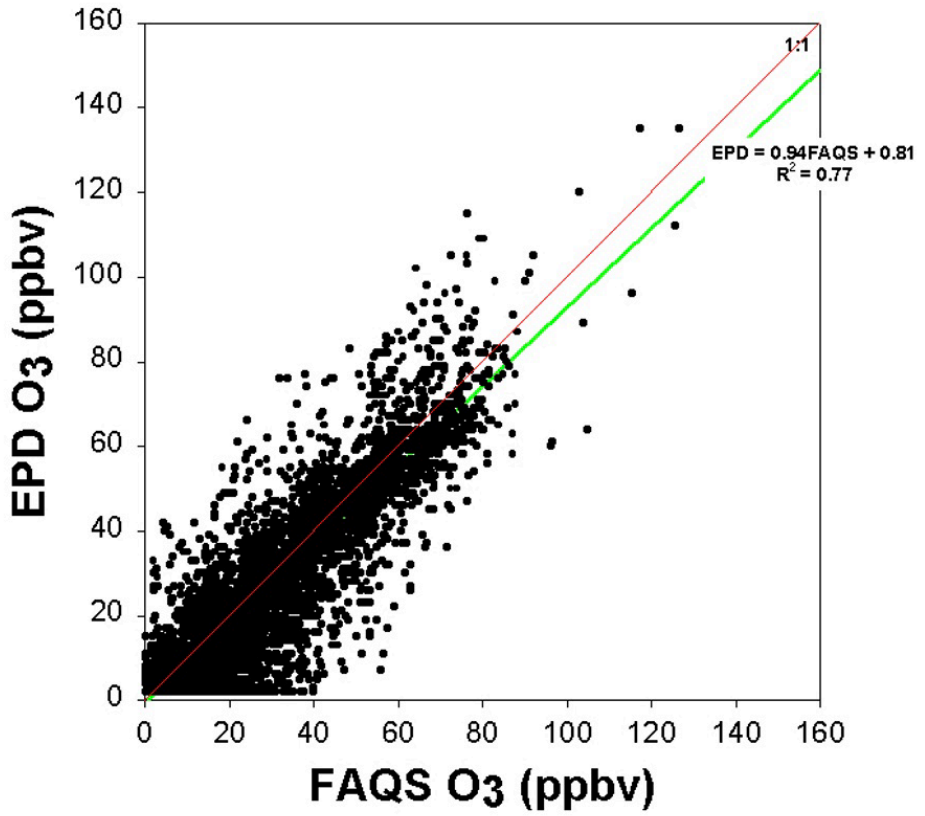
MGCAC Pictorial

Ray Clark

For the most part, the two monitors track each other.



All Hourly Ozone Observations in Macon area
April 1 – October 30, 2001



Macon Ozone Issues History

- July 18, 1997, EPA set the National Ambient Air Quality Standard (NAAQS) for 8-hour ozone at .08 ppm
- As the EPA moved to implement the standard in 2003, there was concern that designating Houston County as in non-attainment could lead to the loss of missions for Robins Air Force Base and could lead to a closure of Robins through the 2005 BRAC process.
- Working with The Clark Group, the communities in Middle Georgia formed the Middle Georgia Clean Air Coalition and launched a campaign to improve air quality and prevent the designation of Houston County as in non-attainment for ozone.

Robins AFB is in Attainment

Negotiated with EPA to keep Houston County and Monroe County from being designated as non-attainment for Clean Air Act Standards

Macon Ozone Issues History

- April 30, 2004, EPA designated Macon and part of Bibb County as in non-attainment for the 1997 standard.
- Houston County was listed as in attainment.
- November 2005, Congress enacts BRAC law - does not close Robins AFB.
- Over the next three years, the actions taken by the Middle Georgia Clean Air Coalition and others improved air quality in Macon and Bibb Counties.








SIGNET


ELECTRIC VEHICLE
CHARGING STATION

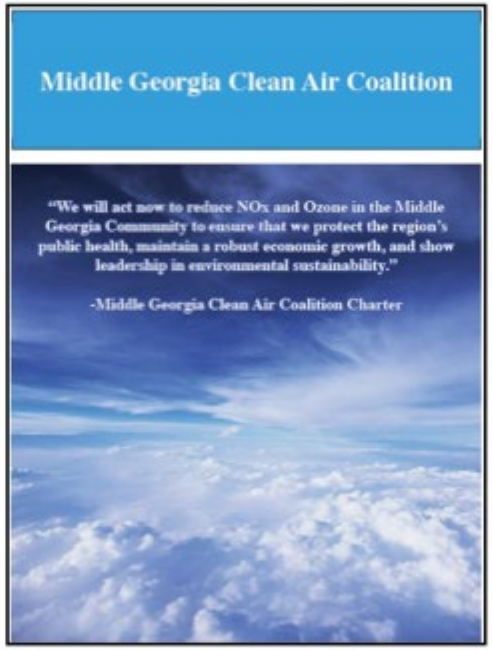

State Sen. Ross Tolleson
(R) DISTRICT 20


HOUSTON COUNTY
SOLID WASTE
DISPOSAL FACILITY

Education

Public Outreach Brochure





EPA and Congressional Outreach Brochure

Macon Ozone History

- September 19, 2007, EPA redesignated Macon and Bibb to “maintenance” under the 1997 standard and approved a state implementation plan to maintain compliance with the 1997 standard.
- June 15, 2007, GA asked EPA to redesignate Macon and Bibb as in attainment with the 1997 standard.

New NAAQS Standard

- March 27, 2008, EPA revised the NAAQS for 8-hour ozone from .08 to .075
- May 2008, environmental and public health advocates sued EPA arguing that .075 was not sufficiently protective of public health
- March 12, 2009, State of Georgia recommends that EPA designate Macon and a portion of Bibb County as in non-attainment for the .075 standard.

New NAAQS Standard

- September 2009, EPA announces intent to revisit the .075 standard
- January 2010, EPA suspends the .075 standard and announces its intent to set a new standard between .07 and .06
- August 2010 - EPA to Issue Final NAAQS Standard
- January 2011 - States Will Submit Non-Attainment Recommendations to EPA

NAAQS Timeline

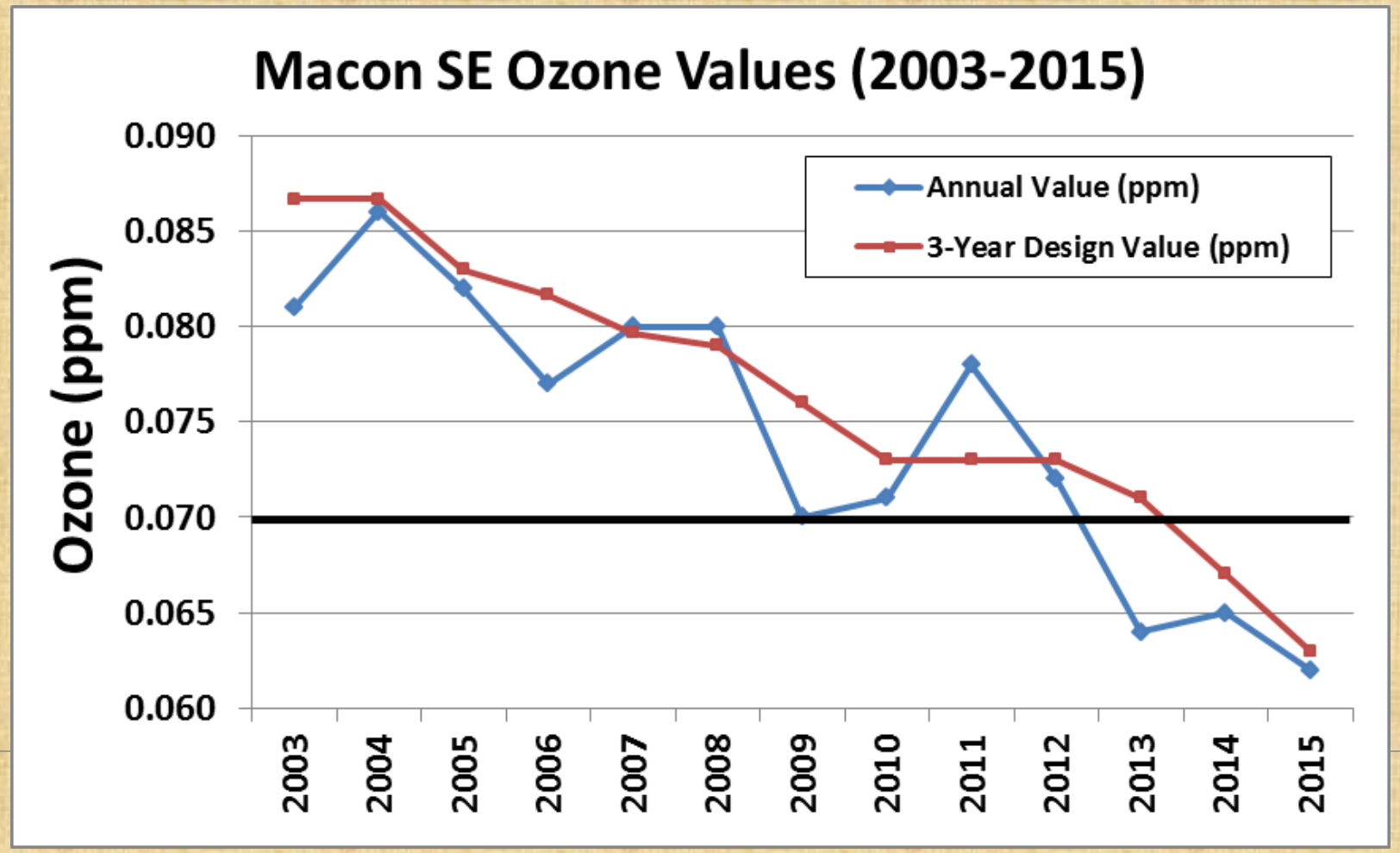
- July 2011 - EPA Will Issue Final Non-Attainment Designations
- August 2011 - Non-Attainment Designations Will Take Effect
- December 2013 - States Will Submit State Implementation Plans to EPA
- 2014-2031 - Non-Attainment Areas Must be Brought into Attainment

The New Ozone Standard

November 2014 EPA said the new standard would be between 70 ppb and 60ppb

"The available scientific evidence and exposure/risk information provide strong support for considering a primary O3 standard with a revised level in order to increase public health protection, including for at-risk populations and lifestages”

On 1 October EPA set a new ozone standard at 70ppb



NOTE: OZONE DATA FOR 2015 IS THROUGH 09/29/15. THE GEORGIA OZONE SEASON LASTS UNTIL OCTOBER 31, 2015..

The Process

* Standard became final on 1 October 2015

* States have 1 year to evaluate their monitoring data and make recommendations to EPA-October 2016

* EPA has one year to finalize October 2017

* 2017 they will act on state recommendations and designate counties



RESIDENTIAL SOLAR:

161.70 Total kW | Tier 6 ($2.75/watt)
303,350 annually lbs CO2 Avoided

COMMERCIAL SOLAR:

161.36 Total kW | Tier 4 ($1.75/watt)
302,700 annually lbs CO2 Avoided

TOTAL BATTERY STORAGE:

96.40 kWh





$4.5 Million Appropriations

Secured $4.5 million to partner with Norfolk Southern to procure a Clean locomotive.

This project was will improve air quality throughout the region

Remainder of the funds was used to develop clean energy projects throughout the region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R A CLEANER STATE


6210


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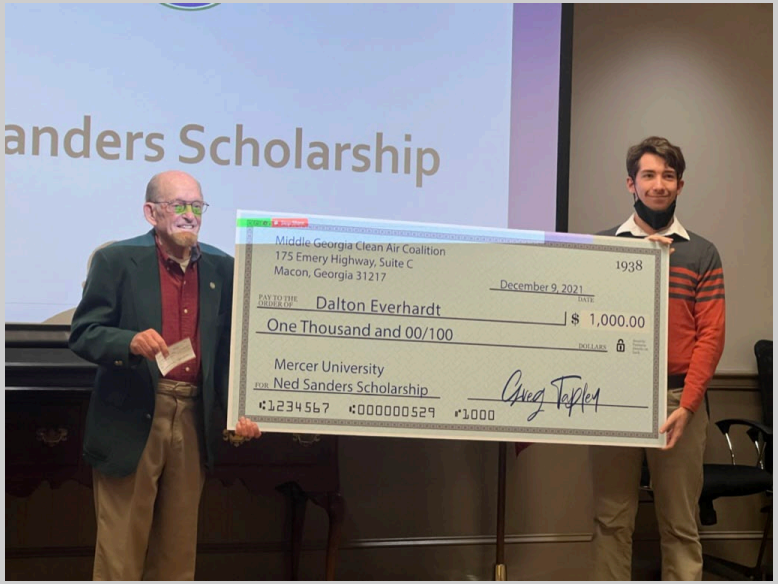
STATE


COMOTIVES TO IMPROVE AIR QUALI


anders Scholarship
Middle Georgia Clean Air Coalition
175 Emery Highway, Suite C
Macon, Georgia 31217
1938
December 9, 2021
DATE
PAY TO THE ORDER OF Dalton Everhardt
$ 1,000.00
One Thousand and 00/100
DOLLARS
Mercer University
FOR Ned Sanders Scholarship
⑆1234567 ⑆000000529 ⑈1000


Middle Georgia Clean Air Coalition
175 Emery Highway, Suite C
Macon, Georgia 31217
1936
January 11, 2018
DATE
Rebecca Etter
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DOLLARS
Mercer University
ed Sanders Scholarship
Daylon Martin
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Talking: MGCAC Audio
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October 8, 2020
$ 1,000.00
Middle Georgia Clean Air Coalition
175 Emery Highway, Suite C
Macon, Georgia 31217
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DATE
Ahniya Spellers
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Fort Valley State University
Ned Sanders Scholarship
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Middle Georgia Clean Air Coalition
175 Emery Highway, Suite C
Macon, Georgia 31217
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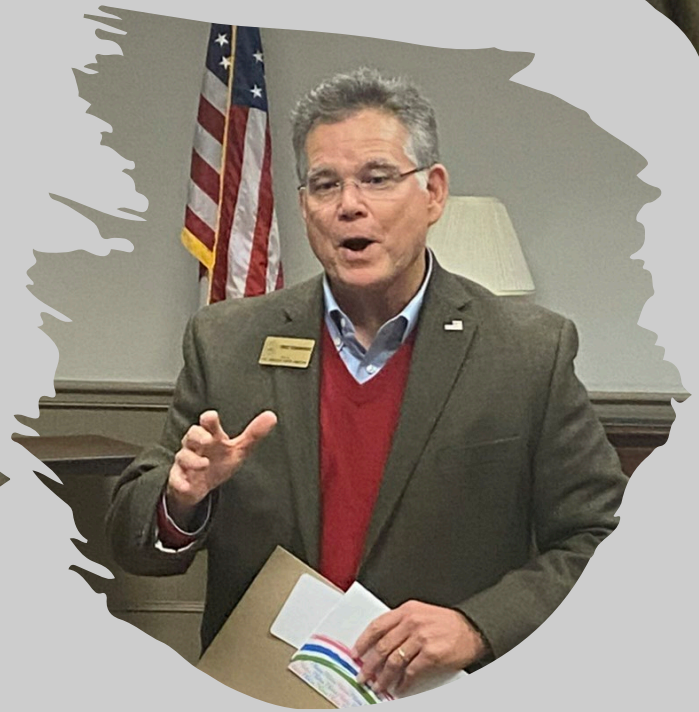


CLEAN


Excellence
Clean Air Excellence Award
Ned Sanders


CLEAN







Thomas W. Zosel Outstanding Individual Achievement Award









Pioneered the Efforts to Convert Streetlights to More Efficient and Safer Lighting



- Light-emitting diodes (LED) lighting reduces costs of that lighting by 50% and reduces the energy use by 50%
- The light increase safety of pedestrians and reduce crime
- An owner reaps savings immediately
- Mayor Harley has led the way

Annual/Cumulative Savings

Forsyth: $250K/ $4.9M - $6.7M

Jones Co: $89.3K/$1.8m

Warner Robins: $118K/$3.2m

Macon-Bibb: $1.35 m/$37.1m


rcstaff




Recording...
Talking: Chairman Greg Tapley
sanford.bishop
Chairman Greg Tapley
Pace Dillon


MTA-E-101
Build Your Dreams
MTA


MTA-E-100
MTA-E-100






Greg Beike
MIDDLE GEORGIA CLEAN AIR COALITION
MGCAC

Robins Solar Array

MGCAC initiated and was part of the negotiating team to deploy a 138 mgw solar array on encroachment lands around Robins


Encroachment Area
MACON-BIBB
247
TWIGGS
HOUSTON
247
RAFB















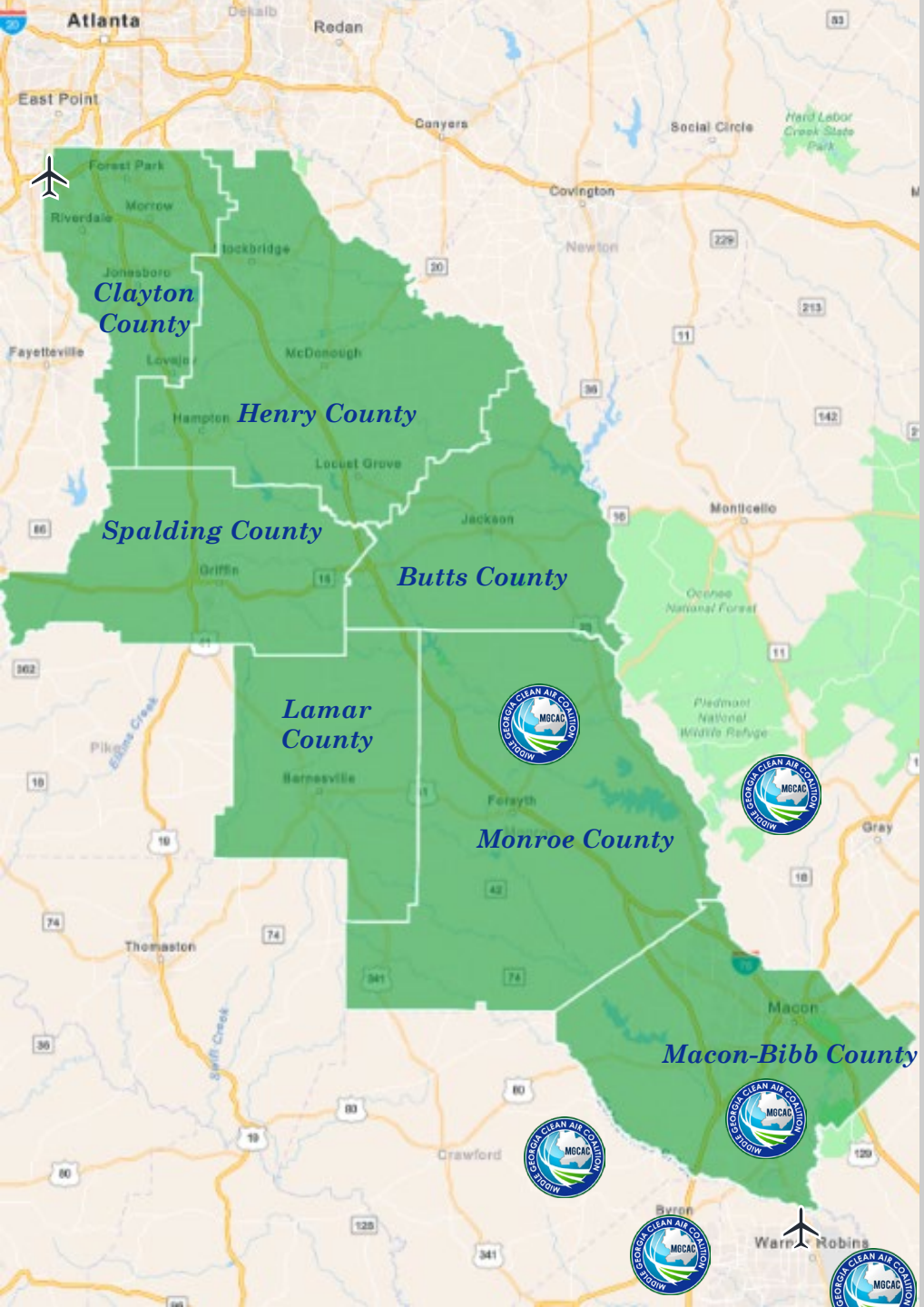

Smart Growth Vision

The corridor from Atlanta to Macon to become the most walkable, transit-served corridor in the South






Corridor
SINESS DEVELOPMENT



Recognition

- "The Holy Grail of the Clean Air Act" EPA Assistant Administrator
- "I wish we had more like you on other issues" Sen Isakson
- Southeast Diesel Collaborative will give an award to the MGCAC at the 14th Annual Partners Meeting on September 25



I-75 CCC Report

Ray Clark

EECBG Program

Greg Boike

Eligible state, local, and Tribal governments can now apply for $430M in funding from the Energy Efficiency and Conservation Block Grant (EECBG) Program!

Eligible entities can use flexible EECBG Program funding for projects and programs that



Cut Carbon Emissions



Improve Energy Efficiency



Reduce Energy Use

- Macon: $198,870
- Warner Robins: $135,070
- State of Georgia: $2,989,230

EECBG Eligible Activities

- (1) Development and implementation of an Energy Efficiency and Conservation Strategy
- (2) Retaining technical consultant services to assist the eligible entity in the development of such a strategy
- (3) Conducting residential and commercial building energy audits
- (4) Establishment of financial incentive programs for energy efficiency improvements
- (5) The provision of grants to nonprofit organizations and governmental agencies for the purpose of performing energy efficiency retrofits
- (6) Development and implementation of energy efficiency and conservation programs for buildings and facilities within the jurisdiction of the eligible entity
- (7) Development and implementation of programs to conserve energy used in transportation

EECBG Eligible Activities

- (8) Development and implementation of building codes and inspection services to promote building energy efficiency
- (9) Application and implementation of energy distribution technologies that significantly increase energy efficiency
- (10) Activities to increase participation and efficiency rates for material conservation programs, including source reduction, recycling, and recycled content procurement programs that lead to increases in energy efficiency;
- (11) The purchase and implementation of technologies to reduce, capture, and, to the maximum extent practicable, use methane and other greenhouse gases generated by landfills or similar sources;
- (12) Replacement of traffic signals and street lighting with energy efficient lighting technologies
- (13) Development, implementation, and installation on or in any government building of the eligible entity of onsite renewable energy technology that generates electricity from renewable resources
- (14) Programs for financing energy efficiency, renewable energy, and zero-emission transportation (and associated infrastructure), capital investments, projects, and programs
- 15) Any other appropriate activity, as determined by the Secretary

Next Steps:

- Look to GEFA for Statewide Info. GA will apply by July 2023.
  - Communities can start looking at local projects
  - At least 60% must be passed through to cities/counties ($1.8 Million)
- Macon and Warner Robins:
  - Need to submit Pre-Award Info Sheet by April 28, 2023
  - Identify Potential Projects
    - Explore Grant vs. Voucher Options
      - (Grants are more flexible, Vouchers have less admin)
  - Consider Teaming (Encouraged by DOE)
    - Ex. Regional Financing Program for Income-Qualified Energy Retrofits
    - Ex. Joint Energy Workforce Training Program
    - Ex. Energy Performance Audit with a Shared Energy Manager

Other Considerations

- Align with DOE Policy Priorities & Justice 40 Initiative
  - DOE Mapping Tools can highlight disadvantaged communities
- Each local government will need an Energy Efficiency and Conservation Strategy
- Can apply to State or Nationally for discretionary funding as well.
  - $8.8 Million nationwide
- MGRC can assist with applications and/or can work jointly through MGCAC.

General Discussion

MGCAC Members

Adjournment

Next Meeting: Thursday, March 9, 2023, at 4:00 PM

Middle Georgia Regional Commission