


# Middle Georgia Clean Air Coalition

January 11, 2024

# Standard Order of Business

## Roll Call and Establishment of Quorum

# Approval of Minutes

- Distributed Prior to Meeting

- Need Motion to Approve & 2nd
  - November 2023 Minutes

# Financial Report Approval

- See insert at right

- Need Motion to Approve & Second

**Middle Georgia Clean Air Coalition**

**Financial Report**
**As of December 31, 2023**

| | | | |
|---|---|---|---|
| Beginning Balance -November 30, 2023 | | | $ 155,193.70 |
| Revenues | | | |
| Bank Interest | $ 7.06 | | |
| Reimbursement from I-75 CCC for the Clark Group | $ 22,500.00 | (deposited Jan 2024) | |
| Member Contributions | 35,224.00 | | |
| Total Revenues | | | $ 57,731.06 |
| Subtotal | | | 212,924.76 |
| Expenditures | | | |
| Ray Clark | 5,000.00 | | |
| Total Expenditures | | | 5,000.00 |
| Ending Balance -December 31, 2023 | | | $ 207,924.76 |




# Updates on Clean School Bus Projects

Sam Kitchens




# Review of Goals and Plans for 2024

Greg Boike

# 2023 Goals

## Goal #1: Improve Readiness for Electric Vehicle Transitions

- Create a brand for this initiative (Example: "Charge Forward Middle Georgia")
- Partner with Georgia Power & EMCs to cross-promote incentives for installation of chargers
- Further develop and refine an EV deployment strategy for Middle Georgia
- Apply for federal transportation grant funding to install EV charging infrastructure, and leverage the MGCAC Clean Air Incentives Grants to help match funding for new federal grants
- Provide technical resources and identify financial resources for local governments and school systems interested in converting fleets and machinery to EVs and other clean alternative fuels

# 2023 Goals

## Goal #2: Expand Middle Georgia Solar Programs

- Pursue SolSmart recognition for Middle Georgia region
- Assist cities and counties with enactment of Model Solar Ordinance, and partner to provide training opportunities on best practices for solar permitting and inspections
- Support education and workforce development related to the solar industry
- Identify next signature project opportunity for large-scale solar development, and apply for funding through the Rural Energy Pilot Program ($10M allocation of USDA funding)
- Implement new Solar Energy Procurement Agreements (SEPAs) to install solar panels on rooftops and canopies for schools and local government facilities
- Focus on industry partnerships for new potential solar installations
- Develop annual targets for new solar installed capacity within the region
- Explore research partnerships to deploy additional energy storage technologies

# 2023 Goals

## Goal #3: Undertake Projects for Green, Efficient, and Healthy Buildings

- Continue technical assistance for energy savings audits and HVAC system improvements on public buildings and encourage retrofits of outdated lighting and building mechanical systems

## Goal #4: Support Transit and Smart Growth Planning to Improve Air Quality

- Continue financial partnership with the I-75 Central Corridor Coalition (I-75 CCC) as a model for Smart Growth potential in Georgia
- Utilize data from the EPA GLIMPSE model to highlight the benefits of new mass transit systems and smart growth development patterns within the I-75 Central Corridor
- Support efforts of the I-75 CCC to develop passenger rail from Hartsfield to Robins AFB

# 2023 Goals

## Goal #5: Tell the Story of 20 Years of the MGCAC

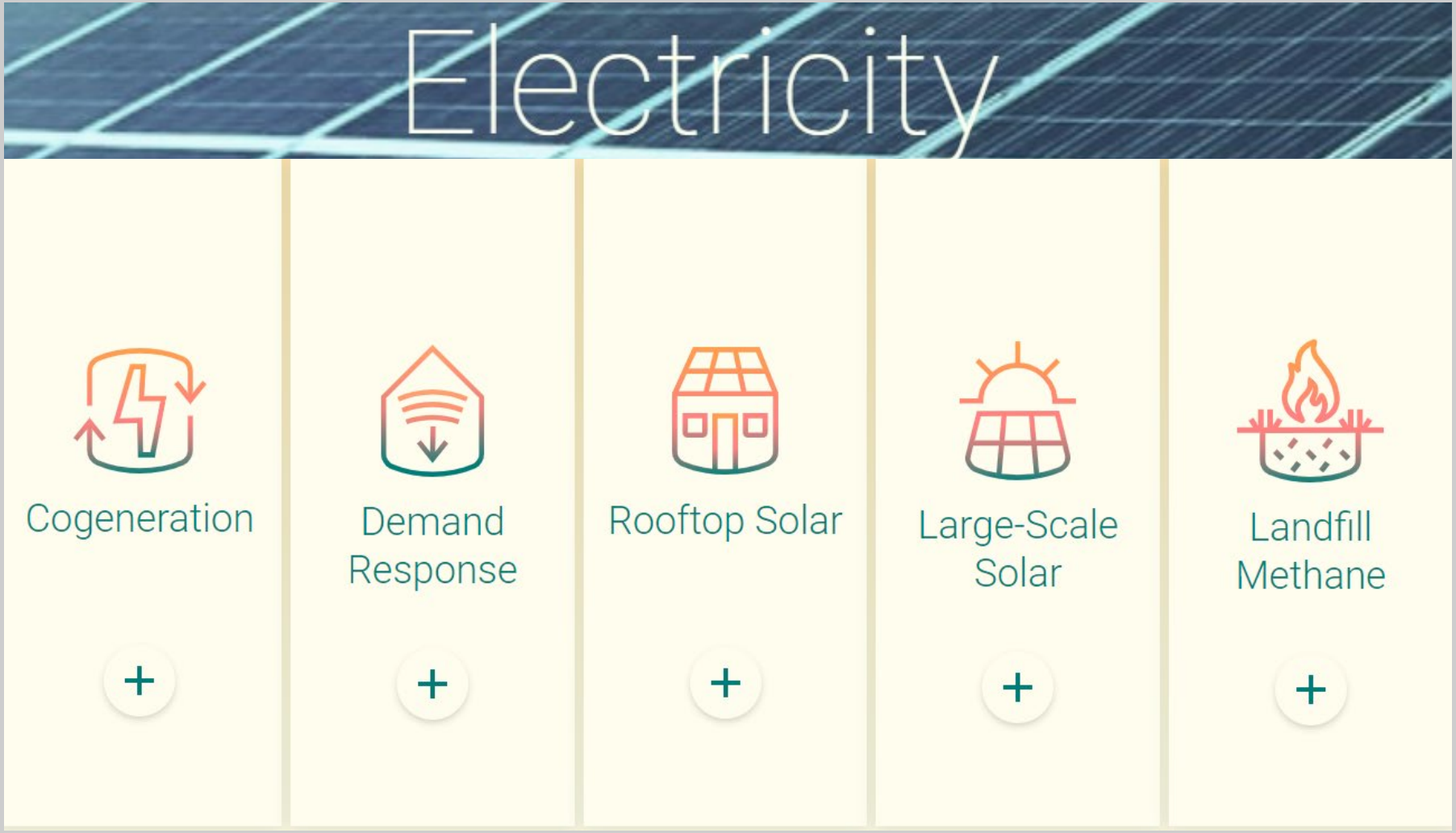
- Identify metrics on NOx reduction, cost savings, energy savings, and Ozone/PM2.5 measures
- Develop a report that can be shared to highlight our strategies and successes
- Identify new "good news" stories and share these with the press monthly
- Work with Middle Georgia Innovation Project and Living in Middle Georgia Initiative to market our environment as why Middle Georgia is a great place to live

# Climate Pollution Reduction Grants

**If we want to support grant applications from Middle Georgia, we need to know ASAP!**

Examples of projects on the following slides:
see Drawdown GA for more details
https://www.drawdownga.org/

# Climate Pollution Reduction Grants



# Climate Pollution Reduction Grants



# Climate Pollution Reduction Grants



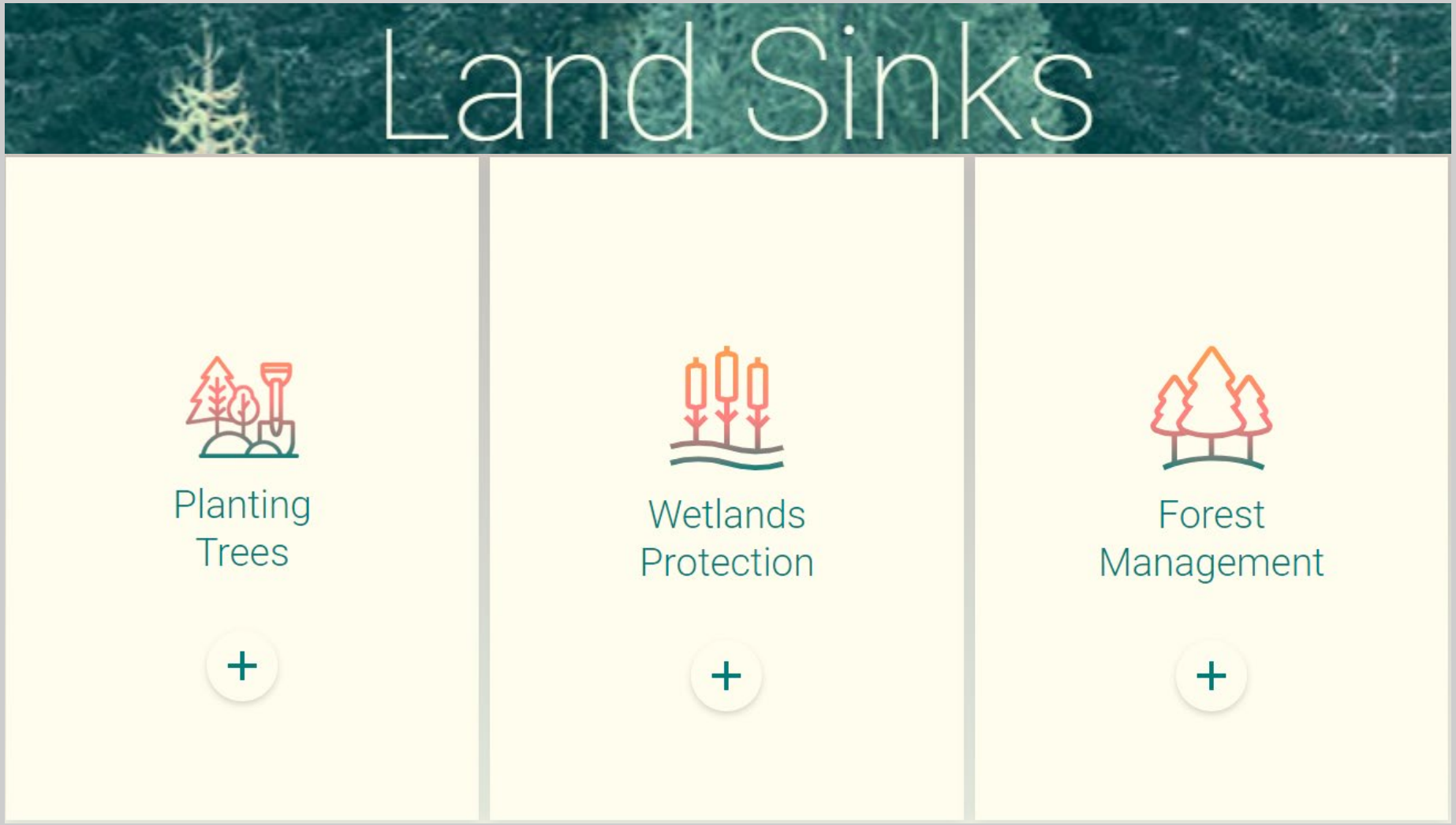

Composting +

Climate Smart Agriculture +

Plant-Based Diet +

Reduced Food Waste +

# Climate Pollution Reduction Grants



# Climate Pollution Reduction Grants




| Mass Transit | Electric Vehicles | Energy Efficient Cars | Energy Efficient Trucks | Alternative Transportation |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| + | + | + | + | + |

# Climate Pollution Reduction Grants

To apply for implementation funds:

A) Can apply directly as a local government

Note: MGRC can assist if needed

B) MGRC can collect projects from communities




# Clark Group Contract Update

Greg Boike

# Clark Group Contract

## Ongoing advisory services for MGCAC

The current contract is $5,000 per month -- $2,500 from I-75 CCC and $2,500 from MGCAC

Proposal to clarify and add travel costs – Travel expenses to include:

Mileage up to $150 (300mi x2 (2 ways)x .25mi
Hotel up to $300 per night
$150 stipend

**Total of expenses and stipend flat $500**

Need a motion to adopt the travel stipend/reimbursement of $500




# General Discussion

MGCAC Members

# Adjournment

Next Meeting: Thursday, February 8, 2024, at 4:00 PM

Middle Georgia Regional Commission