The Middle Georgia Clean Air Coalition

CHARTER

Revised January 9, 2014

"We will act now to reduce NOx and Ozone in the Middle Georgia Community to ensure that we protect the region's public health, maintain a robust economic growth, and show leadership in environmental sustainability."

Article I
Identification

Section 1. The name of this organization shall be the Middle Georgia Clean Air Coalition. Its purpose is to provide leadership to promote clean air in the region and to develop strategies to reduce air pollution emissions below the National Ambient Air Quality Standards (NAAQS) of the Clean Air Act.

Article II
Principles

The Middle Georgia Clean Air Coalition:

a. Accepts and supports national air quality standards and advocates immediate community action to attain those goals.
b. Believes air quality is a regional issue that defies political boundaries and that collaboration is essential for solutions.
c. Recognizes all actions must be based on objective scientific data.

Article III
Activities

Section 1. The underlying principle of the Middle Georgia Clean Air strategy is to accept responsibility for cleaning our air-shed and to take actions that produce results. The Middle Georgia Clean Air Coalition will undertake the following activities:

a. Rapidly synthesize the best science available.
b. Engage the entire political and civic leadership to take actions.
c. Design an air-shed solution.
d. Develop a plan for short-term attainment and long-term maintenance of attainment status.
e. Develop alternatives that can be taken by each of the political jurisdictions.

f. Seek and support funding for mutual projects.
g. Develop a citizens' guide to reducing emissions.
h. Use existing organizations' expertise rather than creating new ones.

Section 2. Relationship to other organizations:

a. Middle Georgia Clean Cities Coalition: Serves as the primary coordinator for the Middle Georgia Clean Air Coalition activities and funding for mobile source initiatives.
b. RAFB environmental office: Work in concert to integrate civic and military effort.
c. Local industry: Share scientific information and coordinate compatible efforts.
d. Local NGOs: Create a section when needed that explains the goals of working with other organizations or relationships.
e. Georgia Environmental Protection Division: Fully cooperate with sharing and disseminating information for attainment and compliance with acceptable air quality levels.
f. Metropolitan Planning Organizations: Insure compatibility with transportation planning by coordinating activities and strategies with the Macon Area Transportation Study and with the Warner Robins Area Transportation Study.

Article IV
Meetings

Section 1. Frequency and place of meetings. The Middle Georgia Clean Air Coalition will focus on results, not meetings. Communication about activities will be posted on a web page and a weekly summary of actions by e-mail. Meetings will be called for decision making, as needed. However, not less than one time every other month, the entire coalition will meet to discuss progress, assign new responsibilities and to ensure accountability to the strategy. Meeting location will be at the Middle Georgia Regional Commission.

Section 2. Conduct of meetings. The Chairman of the Houston County Commission, acting as interim chair, shall chair the meeting at which the vote to approve this charter is to be made. Once the charter is approved, a permanent chair shall be elected by a majority vote and all meetings will be conducted in accordance with Roberts Rule of Order. The meetings shall be open to the public. Members shall be given at least seven days notice.

Section 3. A quorum at membership meetings shall consist of 30 percent of the voting members.

Article V
Membership

Section 1. Membership in the Middle Georgia Clean Air Coalition:

Executive Board: The mayors and County Commission Chairmen of cities and counties in Macon-Bibb, Crawford, Houston, Jones, Monroe, Peach, Twiggs counties. Members of the Executive Board or their designee will be the voting members of the Coalition.

Ex-officio Members: State director of the two United States Senators from Georgia; the Regional Director of the Second and the Eighth Congressional Districts of Georgia; the Superintendents of Education for the 20 Middle Georgia Clean Air Coalition jurisdictions; the Director of the 21st Century Partnership; the Garrison Commander of Robins AFB; the Presidents of Mercer University, Middle Georgia State College, and Fort Valley State University; the Director of the Middle Georgia Regional Commission; and the Central Georgia Technical College.

Board of Advisors: The President of the area Chambers of Commerce, local interest groups, and other local or national environmental groups with a specialty in air quality issues.

Sponsors: Oglethorpe Power, Georgia Power, Flint Energy, Philips Electric, and Walthall Oil.

Article VI
Organizational Structure

Section 1. Officers. Officers shall include a Chairman, Secretary, and Treasurer.

The Officers shall serve a period of one year. An election will be held within three weeks of the start of a new year. Officers must be a member of the Executive Board.

Section 1 A Officers. At the May 12, 2005 Middle Georgia Clean Air Coalition meeting, the board of the Middle Georgia Clean Air Coalition chose to exercise Article VIII, Section I which states, "Changes to this Charter may be approved by 2/3rds of the voting members present at a general meeting." The Board voted to create and enact the following new officer positions:

- 1st Alternate Chairman
- 2nd Alternate Chairman
- Alternate Secretary
- Alternate Treasurer

The original officer positions, Chairman, Secretary and Treasurer will remain unchanged.

Section 2. Appointment of Committees

a. The Executive Board may designate one or more committees to assist in conducting business for the Coalition. Each committee shall appoint a Chairperson who will preside over the Committee, and be responsible for making a report to the Executive Board on actions taken by the Committee.

Article VII
Annual Program Plan and Budget

Section 1. Annual Program Plan: The Executive Board shall adopt an annual program plan that reviews the accomplishments from the previous year and outlines the activities the Coalition will undertake during the upcoming program year. As a minimum, the program plan will identify:

a. Those responsible for implementing each activity
b. Projected cost
c. Projected source of funding if known
d. Timeline to complete the activity during the program year

The Annual Program Plan shall be available for review and comment for 30 calendar days prior to the approval by the Executive Board.

Section 2. Budget: The Executive Board shall adopt an annual budget that defines the revenues and expenditures necessary to implement the annual program plan.

The budget shall be available for review and comment for 30 calendar days prior to the approval the Executive Board.

Section 3. Assessment and Contributions. Budget assessment shall be based on a per capita basis as determined by the Executive Board. Members that are not up to date in paying assessments will lose their vote on items that come before the MGCAC.

Section 4. Grants and Private Donations: As much as possible, the Executive Board shall seek grants and private donations to finance the annual budget and implement the Coalition's Annual Program Plan.

Section 5. Staff and Consulting Services: The Executive Board shall hire staff and contract with consultants or other organizations as necessary to implement the Annual Program Plan.

Article VIII
Changes

Section 1. Changes to this Charter may be approved by 2/3ds of the voting members present at a general meeting.

Section 2. Any member may initiate changes to this Charter.

Article IX
Dissolution

Section 1. This Coalition can be dissolved with a vote of 2/3ds of the members.