



**EAST-WEST GATEWAY  
Council of Governments**

Creating Solutions Across Jurisdictional Boundaries

**Chair**

Steve Ehlmann  
County Executive  
St. Charles County

**Vice Chair**

Kurt Prenzler  
Chairman  
Madison County Board

**2nd Vice Chair**

Lyda Krewson  
Mayor, City of St. Louis

**Executive Committee**

Tim Brinker  
Presiding Commissioner  
Franklin County  
  
Robert Elmore  
Chairman, Board of Commissioners  
Monroe County

Dennis Gannon  
County Executive, Jefferson County

Mark A. Kern  
Chairman, St. Clair County Board

Dr. Sam Page  
County Executive, St. Louis County

**Members**

Honorable Rita Heard Days  
Councilwoman, 1st Council District  
St. Louis County  
  
Robert Eastern III  
Mayor, City of East St. Louis

Mark Kupsky  
President, Southwestern Illinois  
Council of Mayors  
  
Cheryl Maguire  
Vice President, Southwestern Illinois  
Council of Mayors

Robert Marquart  
Alderman, City of Union  
Franklin County

Roy Mosley  
St. Clair County

Lewis Reed  
President, Board of Aldermen  
City of St. Louis

Herbert Simmons  
President, Southwestern Illinois  
Metropolitan & Regional  
Planning Commission

Ruth Springer  
Municipal League of Metro St. Louis

Donald R. Summers, Jr.  
St. Louis County

Michael Walters  
Madison County

John White  
St. Charles County

**Regional Citizens**

Barbara Geisman  
C. William Grogan

John A. Laker  
Ron Williams

**Non-voting Members**

Holly Bieneman  
Illinois Department of Transportation  
Vacant

Illinois Department of Commerce  
and Economic Opportunity

Patrick McKenna  
Missouri Department of Transportation

Taulby Roach  
Bi-State Development

Aaron Willard  
Missouri Office of Administration

**Executive Director**

James M. Wild

**AGENDA  
AIR QUALITY ADVISORY COMMITTEE\*  
TUESDAY, October 27, 2020  
10:00 a.m. – 11:00 a.m.  
VIRTUAL MEETING – GOTOMEETING**

**DUE TO COVID-19 OUTBREAK, EAST-WEST GATEWAY’S OFFICES ARE CURRENTLY CLOSED TO THE PUBLIC AND WILL BE UNTIL FURTHER NOTICE**

**You can listen/talk and/or view the meeting via:**

Computer, tablet or smartphone  
<https://global.gotomeeting.com/join/910121293>

You can also dial in using your phone.

**United States: +1 (571) 317-3122**

**Access Code: 910-121-293**

**I. Call to Order**

- Carol Lawrence, Chair, East-West Gateway Council of Governments  
A. Minutes of August 25, 2020 Meeting

**II. Air Quality Monitoring Trends**

- Stephen Hall – Missouri Department of Natural Resources

**III. 2020 Ozone Season**

**IV. Midwest Climate Summit**

- Phil Valko, Washington University

**V. American Fuel Report**

- St. Louis Clean Cities Program

**VI. Update Activities of the States**

- Illinois Environmental Protection Agency
- Missouri Department of Natural Resources

**VII. Other Business –**

- The next meeting will be in 2021

**VIII. Adjournment**

\* Please note that this meeting will serve as a part of the Inter-Agency Consultation

Gateway Tower  
One Memorial Drive, Suite 1600  
St. Louis, MO 63102-2451  
314-421-4220  
618-274-2750  
Fax 314-231-6120  
  
webmaster@ewgateway.org  
www.ewgateway.org

MINUTES  
AIR QUALITY ADVISORY COMMITTEE  
Tuesday, August 25, 2020  
10:00 am – 11:00 am  
VIRTUAL MEETING - GoToMeeting

Members Present:

Carol Lawrence, Chair – East-West Gateway Council of Governments  
Kevin Jemison – Illinois Department of Transportation  
David Bloomberg – Illinois Environmental Protection Agency  
Kathrina Donegan – St. Louis County Department of Health  
Michael Henderson – Missouri Department of Transportation  
Susannah Fuchs – American Lung Association  
Jeanine Arrighi – City of St. Louis Health Department  
Mark Leath – Missouri Department of Natural Resources  
Betsy Tracy  
Mallory Box – Citizens for Modern Transit

Others Present:

Roger Walker - REGFORM  
Kimberly Bauman – Mississippi Lime  
Stephen Whitworth - Ameren  
Francisco Cortalezzi – Missouri Department of Natural Resources  
Christine Favilla – Sierra Club, Piasa Palisades Chapter

Staff:

Mary Grace Lewandowski Jennifer Vuitel Aaron Young Lubna Shoaib Rachael Pawlak  
Amir Poorfakhraei Maureen McCarthy

**1. Call to Order**

- Carol Lawrence, Chair, East-West Gateway Council of Governments

The virtual meeting of the Air Quality Advisory Committee (AQAC) was called to order by Chair Carol Lawrence, East-West Gateway Council of Governments (EWG). The minutes of the June 23, 2020 AQAC meeting were approved as circulated.

**2. Citizens for Modern Transit Activities and Programs**

- Mallory Box, Citizens for Modern Transit

Citizens for Modern Transit (CMT) was established in 1985 to help bring light rail to St. Louis and works to develop, support, and enhance programming and initiatives to ensure safe, convenient and affordable access to the region’s integrated public transportation system. CMT has a staff of three and they work to develop programming to support transit and transit providers

across Missouri and parts of Illinois. The 36<sup>th</sup> CMT Annual Meeting will be on September 17, 2020 starting at 11:30 am. All are welcome to participate and more information about this virtual event can be found at [cmt-stl.org](http://cmt-stl.org).

There are three main programs run by CMT to help support riders and encourage ridership. The first is the Try and Ride program which has a 70 – 80 percent retention rate of those who try transit with this program. Those who sign up for the program are committing to two months of riding on public transit and CMT will cover the first month's tickets. The participants are also asked to fill out two surveys about how the program works for them. CMT will assist the participants with figuring out the routes they will need to take to get to home, work, school, etc. It has been determined that a long term commitment to transit is established when people dedicate at least two months to using it. Currently CMT is partnering with Mission St. Louis, a non-profit organization that provides job skills training and workforce placement, on a pilot project. Mission St. Louis will cover the second month of tickets for those participating in their program as well as the Try and Ride program.

The Guaranteed Ride Home program is the second program from CMT. If you enroll in the Try and Ride program you are automatically enrolled in Guaranteed Ride Home. This program works by guaranteeing those who ride transit, bike, or walk to school at least three days a week up to 80 percent of the cost of an Uber, Lyft, or cab when needed. This program is especially helpful to parents who ride transit to work and have to unexpectedly pick up their child from school as well as service workers who may be asked to work an extra shift which will cause them to miss their bus or train.

CMT partners with AARP for the third program which is the Ten Toe Express. This program helps to teach active older adults how to use transit, but is not limited to seniors. Groups will meet at a Metro Link stop and ride to different stops and walk to explore the neighborhoods and businesses in that area. There is a high retention rate for this program. Veterans of the Ten Toe Express have been very helpful to the new members of the program by showing them around and providing tips.

Safety and security of Metro Link has been a top concern for those wishing to use transit. CMT is relaunching the Metro Monitor Program which has volunteers secretly monitor metro stations for safety measures and provide a monthly report on their findings. CMT serves on the Transit Advisory Working Group (TAWG) which works with local organizations to advise on safety and security for the transit systems. There is a new contract security team as of April 1, 2020 that has been focused on connecting with the riders and providing a more customer service driven presence. The members of the security team are also applying a stricter Ride and Abide policy that will remove conduct violators from the transit system. Another safety initiative on Metro is the Ride Along with Metro Public Safety Program. This provides opportunities for Bi-State Development commissioners, elected officials, and stakeholders to see firsthand current and future safety measures.

East-West Gateway Council of Governments (EWG) puts out a quarterly Metro security scorecard. EWG hired the security firm WSP to conduct a safety and security study on Metro

Link and WSP came up with 99 recommendations. EWG has been working closely with Metro Link to implement those safety recommendations and monitoring their progress.

A new addition to transit in the region is on-demand service. Starting in September, rides can be booked with the Via app and will be offered seven days a week from 5:00 am – 9:00 pm in South St. Louis County (Fenton/ Valley Park area). The cost will be \$2 per ride. In North St. Louis County rides will be available seven days a week between 11:30 pm – 5:30 am. The St. Clair County Transit District is also offering on-demand rides from 7:00 am – 7:00 pm five days a week within the boundaries of East St. Louis. Rides in East St. Louis can be requested via the TransLoc app.

Local transit in the St. Louis region relies heavily on federal funds. Missouri spends \$0.28 per capita on transit while all of the states bordering Missouri spend far higher amounts.

CMT's current campaign is "Do You Wanna Go?" which provides STL Transit Passports to encourage people to use transit to get out and explore St. Louis. A recently completed CMT project is the Maplewood Transit Stop Transformation Project. This project revamped an old bus stop and was done in partnership with AARP, Kaboom, the City of Maplewood, and Citizens National Bank. There were lights, benches, and local art installed at this stop to provide a brighter and more interactive space for those using transit. This was the first infrastructure project for CMT and will act as a pilot project for future bus stop remodeling.

Current transit ridership and participation in CMT programs has been down due to the COVID-19 health crisis. There are still member of the Ten Toes Express getting together to walk outside while socially distant and they make sure to use the Metro Link trains to ensure social distance on transit.

Upcoming events include the Ten Toe Kick Off on September 2, the CMT 2020 Virtual Conference on September 9 and 10, and the Virtual CMT 36<sup>th</sup> Annual Meeting on September 17. More information about these events and CMT can be found at [cmt-stl.org](http://cmt-stl.org).

### **3. 2020 Ozone Season Snapshot** - East-West Gateway Council of Governments

The ozone season is from March 1 to October 31 each year. The ozone data sharing project covers a daily twelve hour monitoring period from 9 am to 9 pm. East-West Gateway acts as a clearing house for ozone data by compiling data provided by Missouri and Illinois and then disseminating it to our local and state partner agencies. The ozone monitoring network is located within the 2015 ozone standard non-attainment area and is made up of five monitors in Missouri and 4 monitors in Illinois. There is also a transport tracking ozone monitoring network that is made up of three monitors in Missouri and three monitors in Illinois that sit outside of the non-attainment area. The transport tracking monitors help to monitor the air entering and leaving our region.

EWG looks for exceedances of the 2015 ozone standard which is when the ozone level is at 71parts per billion (ppb) and higher. So far this season from March 1 to July 31 there have been a

total of eight exceedances over five days in Missouri and four exceedances over two days in Illinois. EWG utilizes the Air Quality Index (AQI) tool which indicates the level of health concern in relation to the air quality. The index utilizes a color coded system where exceedances of the 2015 standard start at the orange level which also indicates that the air is unhealthy for sensitive groups. EWG turns the AQI into a monthly calendar that provides a visual of the air quality throughout each month.

Questions about ozone can be directed to Maureen McCarthy at [Maureen.mccarthy@ewgateway.org](mailto:Maureen.mccarthy@ewgateway.org) More information on the ozone data can be found at [ewgateway.org](http://ewgateway.org)

#### **4. Update Activities of the States**

- David Bloomberg, Illinois Environmental Protection Agency

There was a notice of intent to sue filed by environmental groups against US Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) for failing to approve or disapprove the State Implementation Plan (SIP) submittal for the sulfur dioxide (SO<sub>2</sub>) non-attainment area in Alton, IL. The area in Alton is small and there was only one source of SO<sub>2</sub> causing an issue. The source has fixed the problem which would allow the area to be in attainment. However, there is a source on the Missouri side of the river that has modeled allowable emissions (not actual) which shows the area not in attainment. As of yet EPA has not been able to resolve this issue.

The Chicago area has violated the 2008 ozone standard and redesignation of the area for 2015 standard is not currently possible.

IEPA will soon be filing a rule with the Illinois Pollution Control Board about the aerospace coating Control Techniques Guidelines (CTG) regulation for the Metro East.

- Mark Leath, Missouri Department of Natural Resources

The Maryland Heights monitor has had four exceedances so far this ozone season and its fourth highest average is currently at 74 ppb. This monitor is at risk of violating the 2015 ozone standard based on the last three years of data. If it does violate the standard based on the 2018-2020 data, the St. Louis area may be reclassified from a marginal to moderate non-attainment area. EPA will make a decision about reclassification after the attainment deadline in August 2021. If the area is reclassified next year it will trigger several State Implementation Plan (SIP) actions for Missouri and Illinois such as a reasonably available control technology SIP and a reasonable further progress SIP. The West Alton monitor has had three days with eight-hour averages that were greater than the 2015 standard of 70 ppb. If there is one more day with an average of 71 ppb or higher at this monitor, it will likely be in violation. All the monitoring data still has to be quality assured.

The Missouri Air Conservation Commission (MACC) met three times in July 2020. The meetings on July 8<sup>th</sup> and 10<sup>th</sup> were focused on proposal to increase the emission fees and MACC action to approve proposal. The fee is currently set at \$48 per ton and the proposed increase is to \$53 per ton in 2021 and then \$55 per ton in 2022. MoDNR is planning to discuss the proposed increase in emission fees with the stakeholders in the coming months. There was also a MACC meeting on July 30<sup>th</sup> that had two SIP action public hearings. The first was for the Glover historic lead smelter in Iron County and the second was a redesignation request for the Ameren Labadie energy center in Franklin County. Monitor data shows that SO<sub>2</sub> levels around the Labadie power plant have come into compliance with the 2010 SO<sub>2</sub> standard and it is being recommended that EPA designate this area to attainment from unclassifiable. There were comments received about this action, however the commission is recommending that that action be adopted at their August 27, 2020 meeting.

There is currently an application period open through October 15, 2020 for funding for electric vehicle charging stations from the Volkswagen Trust. MoDNR is trying to establish what the stakeholders call a minimum practical charging network. There is \$6 million available for this project, but not all of it will be used in this first phase. The goal is to create about 12 charging stations in this initial round of funding. MoDNR is also seeking to update the Beneficiary Mitigation Plan (BMP) under the Volkswagen Trust. The Trust has been earning interest over the last several years and MoDNR would like to specify which project categories should receive those interest funds. There will be a survey and a stakeholder meeting about updating the BMP.

The Diesel Emission Reduction Act (DERA) program is also allocated funds from the VW Trust and the application period for funding will most likely run through October 2020. More information will be made available on the MoDNR website.

## **5. Other Business**

OneSTL was planning on holding a Sustainability Summit in November 2020 but due to the current health crisis it has been postponed to November 2021. The OneSTL Sustainability Labs are still being held virtually and there is one today, August 25, at 3:30 pm. A link to the meeting can be found at OneSTL.org. This lab will be focusing on the recycling economy in St. Louis by looking at what and how materials are being recycled at recycling facilities. The September Sustainability Lab will be focused on biodiversity with presentations from the St. Louis Zoo and Botanical Gardens. The October Lab will be about the state of solar energy in the St. Louis region.

## **6. Adjournment**

The next meeting will be October 27, 2020. There being no other business, the meeting was adjourned.