

A G E N D A
Baltimore County Advisory Commission on Environmental Quality (CEQ)
October 26, 2022 7 PM
Online Meeting on Webex

CEQ meeting dates, membership information, and reports are available at www.baltimorecountymd.gov/Agencies/ceq/index.html

Our thanks to Brian Lindley of EPS for coordinating Webex meetings during the pandemic.

I. Welcome. Everyone mute please.

II. New series on the expected increases in extreme weather and water-related challenges in Baltimore County, their projected impacts and the development of plans for resiliency to protect essential infrastructure and public health. Focus on the water-related challenges in our county, both coastal and non-coastal, that are expected due to global warming and exacerbated or lessened by local decisions and interventions. Goals are to present information and stimulate discussion in support of increasing resiliency through climate change adaptation.

Plan to invite County leaders who are currently involved in making those decisions, and facilitate communication including with the public. Possible topics include flooding from extreme storms, salt water intrusion related to sea level rise, storm water surges, sewage overflows, damage to other infrastructure, affects on access to medical care, changes in disease risks, and so on.

NEED VOLUNTEERS to organize speaker(s) and discussion around a specific topic.

PLEASE READ THIS: <https://www.washingtonpost.com/climate-environment/2022/08/23/flood-united-states-climate-explainer/>

Additional summaries if you are interested:

The current Balt County webpage on sustainability: <https://www.baltimorecountymd.gov/departments/executive/initiatives/sustainability/initiatives/>

Brief WYPR 10/10/22 article on plan to control Middle Branch flooding, Harbor Hospital: <https://www.wypr.org/wypr-news/2022-10-10/major-south-baltimore-environmental-restoration-project-to-combat-flooding>

Longer background reading on “Hell and High Water” <https://www.baltimoremagazine.com/section/historypolitics/climate-change-wreaking-havoc-baltimore-infrastructure-public-health/>

CEQ May 2019 report encouraging climate change resiliency work: <https://resources.baltimorecountymd.gov/Documents/CEQ/climateresiliencyreport.pdf>

III. Presentation: Is climate change causing more frequent intense rainfall and flooding? Some observations from a 22-year radar rainfall record. by Andy Miller, PHD, UMBC

Professor of Geography & Environmental Systems, and recent Chair of the Chesapeake Bay Program Scientific and Technical Advisory Committee.

IV. Minutes of 5/25/2022 and 9/28/2022 meetings, correct and approve.


V. Aspects of current efforts to ban plastic bags at grocery stores. Karen Wynn. Councilmember David Marks will introduce legislation in December or January.

VI. DEPS has not posted on the CEQ webpage the two May 2022 CEQ reports (as of 10/18/22):

1. Forest Conservation in Baltimore County: Challenges and Opportunities, May 1, 2022;
2. Chat Questions organized by topic area, asked by the public following a presentation on 5/12/22 by Go Ape at a virtual meeting hosted by the Department of Recreation and Parks, especially addressing Oregon Ridge Park, A Report from the Baltimore County Commission on Environmental Quality 5/18/22.

VII. Oregon Ridge Master Plan process:

A. Update from: <https://www.baltimorecountymd.gov/departments/recreation/programs/oregon-ridge-lodge/master-plan>

- **October 6 and 8:** Held virtual (77 attendees) and in-person (over 100 attendees) public input meetings to receive feedback on possible future uses of the park
- [Public survey](#)  conducted to collect feedback. This survey is open through October 31 and has already received over 200 responses
- **November 12 and November 16:** In-person and virtual public meetings on proposed enhancements (Nov 12 at 1 pm at Nature Center)
- **Late 2022 or Early 2023:** Public meeting on final plan to be scheduled.

B. Nature Center Council article on outdoor and Environmental Education experiences of 1000's of students from all parts of Baltimore County every year:

<https://www.oregonridgenaturecenter.org/news-views/>

C. Nature Center Council survey: <https://forms.gle/oJK39BxeMMkfH71u6>

VIII. CEQ Meeting dates: 12/7, 1/25, 2/22, 3/22, 4/26, 5/24

IX. Closing Comments: Carol Newill