Recommendations from the MCCC 2016 Annual Report

From the 2016 MWG Recommendations in the MCCC Annual Report:

- The MWG supports MDE’s efforts to develop and implement enhanced and spatially explicit tools for economic analysis and analysis of social equity issues as part of the planning process to research, analyze and develop new and enhanced greenhouse gas emission reduction programs to support the draft 40 by 30 plan due in 2018.
- The MWG supports the MDE efforts to hold public outreach meetings and listening sessions, which started in late 2016 and will continue into 2017, to specifically seek input from underserved communities that will be significantly impacted by climate change.
- MWG should continue to consult with CEJSC and the ECO Working Group to inform the equity considerations of future actions and recommendations.

A priority named in the MWG’s 2017 Work Plan:

- Continue partnership with the CEJSC and ECO Working Group to define and identify environmental justice and underserved communities within the State, and the conduct outreach meetings/listening sessions to engage these groups.

From the 2016 ECO Recommendations in the MCCC Annual Report:

Outreach should be informed by input from both the Commission on Environmental Justice and Sustainable Communities (CEJSC) and the Commission on Children’s Environmental Health & Protection Advisory Council (CEHPAC) on communities throughout the state that may need enhanced outreach.

- The ECO Working Group will continue to work with the above mentioned organizations to select locations on Maryland to hold targeted enhanced outreach (a letter from these groups is pending regarding some initial thoughts on specific locations).
- Locations should meet the needs of both the Maryland Commission on Climate Change and the needs of the environmental justice/health community with a focus on vulnerability to climate change.
- Vulnerability can be defined by exposure to increased flooding and sea level rise and other climate factors and/or by ability to respond to these events based on socioeconomic status.