

## Air Quality

February 10, 2021

11:00am-12:00pm

Via Zoom

### NOTES

#### **I. Welcome and Introductions**

#### **II. CCI All Working Groups Meeting**

- a. Thank you for participating!
- b. Review of feedback.

#### **III. Develop 2021 Work Plan**

- Goal: To improve the overall air quality in Camden and the health of its residents through research and upstream level policy-making.
  - o Focus Areas
  - o Activities
  - o Education

*\*participants reviewed the regrouped priorities identified as per the January CCI All Working Groups meeting and developed a new list of work plan activities. See JamBoards for notes.*

i.

#### **IV. Other Discussion**

##### **a. EMR Fire Response and Community Meeting**

- Community meeting on EMR noxious fire incident called by Heart of Camden (which is taking the lead) will have representatives from DEP, Mayor's office, and EMR. Tentatively scheduled for next Wednesday, February 17<sup>th</sup>-- the details are still being worked out.
- A meeting specifically for Waterfront South residents was held on Monday, facilitated by Kate Cruz and the Center for Environmental Transformation.
- NJDEP Air Permitting and Enforcement staff are working on the investigation of the incident. Other agencies including the Camden County Health Department are also involved—and leading efforts.
- A resident indicated that communication by authorities was unclear—there was no official notification that it was safe for residents to return to their homes. There remains uncertainty about what happened and whether it can happen again.
- EMR has agreed to submit an application related to their operations.
- A resident expressed that a response to the incident should be government-led.

- b.** Compass Energy is now involved in the microgrid project.
- c.** Recommend making an effort to preserve old trees as well as plant new ones. Reference to the old ones cut down on 4<sup>th</sup> Street between Jackson and Atlantic.

DISCLAIMER: This is a summary of the meeting and is based upon the written notes and memory of individuals from Cooper's Ferry Partnership and members of the CCI Core Team. The notes are intended to capture only the main points made in the meeting, and they reflect comments on work-in-progress. The notes do not imply a specific opinion or commitment on the part of any individual or organization represented at the meeting. Report any corrections to [camdencollaborative@coopersferry.com](mailto:camdencollaborative@coopersferry.com)

# AIR - 2021 Camden Priorities

**Truck Routes**

**trucking**

**Mike Morgans Project**

**Idling Vehicles**

Limit time for large trucks to make deliveries.

**electric school buses**

vehicle fleet electrification

Electrified Equipment and Vehicles at Ports

Fugitive Dust - Comment at Clean Air Council Public Hearing

Dust Management

Educate residents about 1877WARNDEP and how they can report and recognize fugitive emissions and other air pollution issues.

Providing Information to Public (Air Permitting)

More air monitors and data sources from the DEP.

Citizen Science and school education

Track applications for Air Pollution Permits

Community benefit agreements

Indoor air quality - even classes for residents on how to grow house plants

distribute air quality monitors to all schools

Reducing environmental tobacco smoke

**Green cleaning practices**

Creating educational materials on how residents can advocate against new or expanding air permitting.

**Low VOC building standards**

Strict adherence to new NJ Environmental Justice rules for construction of facilities that produce emissions.

**EJ Law Impact on Camden**

EJ law implementation

**prioritize tree planting in asthmatic hot spots**

Examine tree canopy - Jersey City did a great crowd sourced program called Treespeech

**highway infrastructure accountability**

**Limiting pollution output from industrial sources.**

Advocating for a clean energy microgrid that does not rely on trash incineration.

Screening "Sacrifice Zone" - which is about Newark, but applicable to Camden. Can get a session with the directors

**advocate for air quality funding**

create environmental justice impact fund - state level

# Air-Draft Work Plan

- EJ Law
- Trucking
- Electric vehicles
- Dust managment
- Monitors and Reporting
- Indoor air quality
- Tree planting
- Source reduction
- Clean energy
- Air quality funding

## EDUCATION:

- Philadelphia PILOT project on electric bus route
- how similar cities get people involved on city commissions (ANJEC?)
- DVRPC/DOT?, increased bus traffic at WRTC; electrification of NJDOT buses

## EJ Law

Provide input/feedback on development of EJ Legislation discussions

## Trucking/Road Improvements

Participate in meetings/discussion on development of road improvement projects

Enforce truck routes/cameras

## Air Quality

Provide input to Compass Energy plan for the microgrid

Support fleet electrification/contact business

Increase protections that preserve natural resources

Tree planting to combat urban heat island effect/community education

Advocate for electric buses (increased busing with school closures)

Increase resident engagement in CCI working groups