North Central Texas Council of Governments: RISE Coalition Meeting

Monday July 27th, 2020

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WHY CITIES MATTER

More than 50% of the world’s population live in cities
Cities account for more than 70% of global CO2 emissions
Cities consume more than 66% of the world’s energy

Global Covenant cities and local governments could collectively reduce...

17 billion tons CO2e by 2030
60 billion tons CO2e by 2050
170 GCoM Signatories in the USA

Texas members:

• Austin
• Brownsville
• Houston
• San Antonio
“Signatories become a part of a historical and powerful response by the world’s cities and communities and join the largest global coalition of local governments, supported by city networks and committed to greater climate impact and recognition.”

- Networking, cooperation and knowledge exchange
- Amplifying the voice of local governments at the global level
- Collaboration across all levels of government
- Support through the Data4Cities, Innovate4Cities, and Invest4Cities initiatives
Three Game-Changing Initiatives: Mobilizing Innovation & Resources for Scale

**INNOVATE4CITIES**
- Accelerating transformational innovation
- Addressing critical data, research and technology gaps
- Deploying for speed and scale

**INVEST4CITIES**
- Unlocking project pipelines
- Mobilizing innovative finance solutions
- Integrating urban issues into national climate investments

**DATA4CITIES**
- Standardizing city reporting to level the playing field
- Driving consistent and transparent progress reporting
- Enabling data-driven decision making
GCoM Commitment

✓ GHG emission inventory;

✓ An assessment of climate risks and vulnerabilities;

✓ Ambitious, measurable and time-bound target(s) to reduce GHG emissions;

✓ Ambitious adaptation vision and goals;

✓ A formally adopted plan
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Reporting Elements</th>
<th>Commit to join GCoM (Year 0)</th>
<th>Year 1</th>
<th>Year 2</th>
<th>Year 3</th>
<th>Year 4</th>
<th>Year 5</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>GHG emissions inventory</td>
<td>submit by year 2 at the latest</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Risk and vulnerability assessment</td>
<td>submit by year 2 at the latest</td>
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<tr>
<td>Targets and goals (mitigation and adaptation)</td>
<td>submit by year 2 at the latest</td>
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<tr>
<td>Climate action plan(s)</td>
<td>submit by year 3 at the latest</td>
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<tr>
<td>(mitigation and adaptation, or integrated plan)</td>
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<tr>
<td>Energy access plan</td>
<td>To be defined</td>
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<tr>
<td>Progress report</td>
<td></td>
<td>Every two years after submitted the climate action plan</td>
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</table>
GCoM Badges

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Badges</th>
<th>Inventory/assessment bars (within 2 years)</th>
<th>Target/goal bars (within 2 years)</th>
<th>Plan bars (within 3 years)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Mitigation badge</strong></td>
<td>The commitment badge is awarded upon committing to the initiative by submitting a commitment letter signed by an appropriately mandated official according to local government procedures, incl. the pledge to implement policies and undertake measures to (i) reduce/avoid greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions, (ii) prepare for the impacts of climate change, (iii) increase access to sustainable energy and (iv) track progress toward these objectives.</td>
<td></td>
<td>Separate or integrated climate action plan covering climate change mitigation (following GCoM framework) submitted and validated for meeting the GCoM requirements</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Adaptation badge</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Separate or integrated climate action plan covering climate change adaptation (following GCoM framework) submitted and validated for meeting the GCoM requirements</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Access to Energy badge</td>
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<td></td>
<td>The final badge is awarded to cities that have accomplished all steps under all three pillars. They will keep the badge as long as they keep submitting progress monitoring reports within the required timeframe, validated for meeting GCoM requirements.</td>
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</table>
### Options for Regions

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Opt.</th>
<th>GCoM Membership</th>
<th>Climate Action Plan</th>
<th>Role of regional entity</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>Local</td>
<td>Local (collaborating)</td>
<td>Support</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2</td>
<td>Local</td>
<td>Regional</td>
<td>Support</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3</td>
<td>Regional</td>
<td>Regional</td>
<td>Leading</td>
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</tbody>
</table>
Value in Regional Collaboration on Climate Change

- Shared resources and expertise (especially for smaller communities)
- Managing transboundary issues (i.e. transport, energy generation, waste)
- Economies of scale (joint procurement)
- Typically shared opportunities and threats from climate change
- Builds more political momentum
- Impact regional planning processes
- Fosters more regional autonomy
‘Metro-scale Climate Leaders’

Denver/Boulder Region
48 municipalities (TBC) 
(4 GCoM members)

Twin Cities Region
182 municipalities 
(2 GCoM members)

Metropolitan Kansas City
119 municipalities

Chicago Metropolitan Region
275 municipalities 
(4 GCoM members)

Metro Washington DC
24 municipalities 
(5 GCoM members)