Governor's Council on Climate Change (GC3)
EQUITY & ENVIRONMENTAL JUSTICE Working Group
MEETING MINUTES

Meeting Date: 7-29-20
Meeting Time: 4-6 pm ET
Meeting Location:
Zoom link
https://ctdeep.zoom.us/j/93953728910

ATTENDANCE

Working Group Member	Title	Organization	Present
Marianne Engelman-Lado (Cochair)		Yale School of Public Health, Vermont Law School	X
James Albis	Senior Advisor to the Commissioner	CT DEEP Commissioner's Office	X
Lee Cruz (Cochair)	Community Outreach Director	Community Foundation for a Greater New Haven	X
Charles Leigus	General Manager	Supreme Forest Products	X
Eric Hammerling	Executive Director	CT Forest and Park Association	X
Mary Pelletier	Founding Director	Park Watershed, Inc.	X
Amy Paterson	Executive Director	CT Land Conservation Council	X
Diane Hoffman		Hamden Alliance for Trees	X
Chris Martin	State Forester	CT DEEP: Forestry Division	X
David Gumbart	Director of Land Management	The Nature Conservancy (CT)	X
Cary Lynch	Climate and Energy Policy Manager	The Nature Conservancy (CT)	X
Melinda Tuhus		350 Connecticut	X

Brian Basso	Intern	GC3	X
Rick Newton	Treasurer	Avalonia Land Conservancy	X
Laura Bozzi	Director	Yale Center on Climate Change and Public Health	X
Chris Donnelly	Urban Forestry Coordinator	CT DEEP: Forestry Division	X
Joey Wraithwall	Manager, State Director's Office	The Nature Conservancy (CT)	X
Brenda Watson	Executive Director	Operation Fuel	X
Gina Calabro	Executive Director	American Institute of Architects (CT)	X
Maisa Tisdale	President	Mary and Eliza Freeman Center	X
Rebecca French	Director	Office of Climate Planning	X
Dara Ribikoff			X
David Gumbart	Director of Land Management	Nature Conservancy (CT)	X
Gannon Long	Policy & Public Affairs Director	Operation Fuel	X
Jonathan Lee		New Haven Planning	X
Kirsten Ek	Assistant Professor of Medicine	UCONN Institute of Health	X
Ruth George	Energy Efficiency Community Strategist	Eversource	X
Sandra Cady	Trail Volunteer		X
Scott Williams	Agricultural Scientist	CT Agricultural Experiment Station	X
Susan Masino	Professor of Applied Science	Trinity College	X
Jamie Flynn			X
Kathleen Donovan	Government Affairs	Public Service Enterprise Group (PSEG)	X
Thomas Easley	Assistant Dean of Community and Inclusion	Yale School of the Environment	X
Jennifer O'Brien	Program Director	Community Foundation of Eastern Connecticut	X
Mark Mitchell	Associate Professor	George Mason University	X

Rick Jacobson	Bureau Chief	CT DEEP	X
Huan Ngo	Educator, Scientist		X
Stacey Davis	Staff to City Plan Commission Planner II	New Haven City Plan	X
Guy West		Clean Water Action	X
Rep. Geraldo Reyes, Jr.	Representative of 75th Assembly District, Waterbury	Connecticut House of Representatives	X
Cynthia R. Jennings	Attorney	Law Offices of Cynthia R. Jennings, Esq.	X
Diane Lauricella	Principal	EIG	X
Sena Wazer	Co-Director	Sunrise Connecticut	X
Leticia Colon de Mejias	Executive Director	Energy Efficiencies Solutions	X

Associated Staff	Titl	Organization	Presen
Edith Pestana	EJ Administrator	CT DEEP: EJ Program	X
Max Teirstein	Intern	CT DEEP: EJ Program	X
Doris Johnson	Outreach & Education Coordinator	CT DEEP: EJ Program	X

AGENDA & NOTES
Welcome and Announcements

Agenda Item(s)
Facilitated by Lee Cruz, CFGN

- Forest Subgroup (Working Lands Workgroup) Presentation
    - Eric Hammerling, Exec Director, Forestry and Park Chris Martin, State Forester, CTDEEP
- Discussion
- GC3 Update- Rebecca French, PhD
- Draft Recommendations Discussion
- Reports from Subcommittees:
    - Mitigation, Sena Wazer, Sunrise CT
    - Equity, EJ & Adaptation, Dr. Mark Mitchell, George Mason
    - Public Participation, Alex Rodriguez, CT League of Conservation Voters
    - Mapping Tool, Marianne Engelman-Lado
    - Environmental justice webinar series- Mark Mitchell
- Public comments
- Next steps & adjourn

First time having full discussion of one of the reports
Copy of draft linked on GC3 website (*www.ct.gov/deep/gc3*)

Forests Subgroup Draft Report Presentation
Facilitated by Eric Hammerling,

- Presentation linked on GC3 website (*www.ct.gov/deep/gc3*)

Public Comments
Gannon Long, Operation Fuel

- [via chat] The transportation group has a recommendation for a moratorium or steep fee on developing rural areas in the state. Sounds like that might align well with that last statistic about the densest forests being lost the fastest.
- [via chat] Great data and presentation on why trees are so important in cities. Are there particular recommendations to address the urban canopy, heat island, and equity issues? Seems these are landscapes that are losing trees while forests in more rural areas are replenishing at 5x.
- [via chat] Some Hartford experts to reach out to about this are Herb Virgo, Charmaine Craig, Jack Hale, and Heather Dionne, if the committee hasn't already. Also, in Hartford at least, we need private landowners to plant trees (landlords, homeowners, businesses). Is the forest

  subgroup addressing that at all in recommendations?   is anyone from Knox in this group?
- [via chat] the greatest pollution is in the cities where CT puts the trash and the highways. that is where the greatest need for trees is.
- [via chat] a small state investment in urban forests would have many, many returns.
- [via chat] Heather Dionne, Hartford's City Forester, recently wrote a thorough report on urban forestry. If the committee hasn't looked at that yet, please do.
    - **Leticia Colon de Mejias**: [via chat] Has that report been distributed? Re: Heather Dionne, Hartford's City Forester, recently wrote a thorough report on urban forestry.
    - **Edith Pestana**: [via chat] Yes Leticia the report was shared. I can resend to the

group.

- [Via chat] On Albany Ave they recently redid the streetscape, chose trees that have a specific height and are suited particularly to the landscape/ light/ resilience needs/ etc.

- [via chat] We also need a lot more trees on private property.
  - In Hartford we need private landowners to plant trees. First time homeowners get a tree? Community education, door to door? Social media? How do we encourage private landowners and companies and big landowning corporations invested?
- [via chat] to some degree, this education work is happening on the ground with the experts we're talking about... but Heather, Herb et al need a lot more $$$ support to expand their work than the city of Hartford can alone provide. Urban forest/ canopy investment should be a coordinated statewide investment.
- Trees are a big part of green infrastructure.
- Given the scope of the need, we know the forests are shrinking in greatest need. In that case, the report should focus on the areas of greatest need.
- [via chat] again engaging local experts doing the work on the ground would likely direct the group to useful resources fairly quickly.

Kirsten Ek, UCONN
- [via chat] I am noticing so many dead trees around where I live. I worry about tree injuries along the roads and parks as more die off. I wanted to ask if there a dedicated group for monitoring that and a plan for increased funding for safely removing them if increases with climate change?
- [via chat] Hi Mary, Chris - when you were speaking it reminded me that there is a group in Avon - Save Nod Road - working to protect the long beautiful river stretch there from development - the developer wants to change current recreational zoning and build 100+ houses on the floodplain. I wanted to ask if there a plan at the state level to directly encourage each and every town's planning and zoning committees to be mindful of the issues you raise and the state's open space / tree cover goals?

Mary Pelletier, Park Watershed, Inc.
- [via chat] Hopefully the Forests subgroup will notice that riparian corridors in urban-suburban areas (such as the North and South Branch of the Park River) host robust forests that are often overlooked. Forests along riparian corridors are able to host the complete lifecycle of individual trees. Thus, trees are able to "die" and remain in place as critical habitat for migratory birds and insects.
  - A lot of the urban/suburban riparian corridors have overlooked the forests.
  - I'm totally for planting projects, but it is important to point out that conservation of existing trees in urban areas, especially along riparian corridors where there aren't any provisions for conservation, that's where you'll get the most significant benefit from trees. It's often a cost to plant new trees. There should be some sense that conservation is key here to minimize removal of trees where they can live their whole life cycle.
  - **Eric Hammerling:** In the report, I know we've recognized both the importance of large trees in urban areas and the importance of riparian areas and protection, but I'm not sure we include the protection of urban riparian trees.
- [via chat] Note also that there have been high mortality rates with free tree programs. So, there is a need to ensure that there is funding for jobs to maintain urban trees as well as plant trees in cities.
- [via chat] Please note that urban youth could also benefit from learning how to utilize technology to monitor conditions and health of urban forests, and urban biodiversity. In addition to jobs involving field labor skills, jobs related to field monitoring technology/data collection are also relevant.
- [via chat] In addition to science jobs related to monitoring field conditions, there is a need to support the evolution of architects, landscape and urban designers who understand issues

surrounding climate crisis. At this time the majority of developers and designers do not represent/of urban communities.

- The majority of our urban areas are not designed by people of color (POC). Even today, majority of Hartford is designed by non-POC developers. White ppl from Farmington and elsewhere come in and get those jobs. This is a problem, that is overlooked
    - o [via chat] fyi: Though African Americans made up 13 percent of the total U.S. population at the last census, only 2 percent of licensed architects in the U.S. are African American, according to the National Association of Minority Architects (NOMA). In 2007, African American women made up a scant two-tenths of a percent of licensed architects in the U.S., for a total of just 196 practitioners. (The University of Cincinnati's database of African American architects reports an increase in that number, to 385, of a total 107,581 licensed practitioners in the U.S.) https://www.curbed.com/2017/2/22/14677844/architecture-diversity-inclusion-race.

Amy Paterson, CT Land Conservation Council
- [via chat] www.communityinvestmentact.org
- If you look at the funding section, many are captured there in terms of programs. We have the urban community garden program. Lots of interrelationships between all of this. Eric and I have heard some discussion around that program and how to improve it.
- [via chat] Would also be very interested in thoughts, ideas, etc. related to potential for an Urban Forest Carbon Credit program: cityforestscredit.org

Cynthia R. Jennings, Law Offices of Cynthia R. Jennings, Esq.
- [via chat] The City of Hartford has a Tree Warden. Anyone planning to cut down trees in Hartford under certain conditions, must receive permission from the Tree Warden.
- There should be requirements of tree cover to support this. Important that there be legislation or some kind of mandate that says before you can site a facility, there has to be X amount of tree coverage to reduce health disparities. We have to take into consideration that we in the urban centers are suffering the bulk of the burden. Before we talk about any new facilities and even existing facilities, we need legislature that makes a connection between health effects and tree coverage and environmentally risky facilities. Now because of COVID-19 we have compromised lungs.

Marianne Engelman-Lado, Yale School of Public Health
- I deeply appreciate and applaud the inclusion of provisions. We're really focusing on the impact of a lack of greenspace and tree cover in vulnerable populations. The comment about terminology, although I also appreciate the need to model vulnerable natural communities, thought can be given about mapping vulnerable communities and mapping *natural* vulnerable communities. Some indices relate to both of them. There's a potential framing issue here.
- More substantively, there's a lot of attention to the threats to vulnerable populations and the need for urban greenspace, but govern the obstacles that you've identified (re: trust), what are the approached? Funding for community groups? New groups, if there's an RFP? To get to scale, in light of those variables—seems like the outline of the problem is greater than the solutions.
    - o **Eric Hammerling:** You're right about that. Scale of problems easier to understand than solutions. We should be thinking much more boldly about having solutions that can meet the scale of the problems. Of course, we know that climate change is happening now. This is where it gets tricky—it's not just a matter of trees, there are so many other factors involved. We've been admittedly a bit tunnel-visioned thinking about forests as one part of the solution and funding to *a* part of a solution. To overcome environmental racism is enormous and I just am glad that this is a focus of the GC3. I would hope the financing group would think about funding and resources behind the necessary solutions.
    - o Following up—just focusing on the topic of your report and trees and greenery—is there more that can be done in that area? More support for building trust or the

> > emergence of community-based organizations? Just focusing on the tree disparity, is
> > there more that can be done and recommended?
> > > ▪ **Eric Hammerling**: There are organizations that have some capacity that have
> > > been focusing in these areas for a while and with some additional support
> > > would be able to do so much more. There's a really good basis for building in
> > > Hartford, Bridgeport, and New Haven.

- Two immediate needs: 1. Now is the time to engage some of those community groups. 2. Now
  is the time to get some of those concrete policy ideas on the table. What are the challenges,
  precisely? Programmatic policy changes should go into the recommendation to make it
  equitable.

Laura Bozzi, Yale Center on Climate Change and Public Health

- Urban resources initiative—have they been asked what barriers they see? At the state level,
  any way to address those?

Chris Donnelly, CT DEEP

- Opportunity for a real jobs discussion here. Having that discussion, not necessarily at this
  moment, would be very helpful, because that's one of the problems in all of this—in Detroit,
  there was that sense that people were having trees imposed upon them. It wasn't a decision
  they were involved in making. Decisions weren't being shared.
  - To jump over to Urban Resources—there is a huge resource being wasted when these
    trees are cut down. How do you convert a wasted resource into a useful one?
    Potentially there is an artisan community out there and there are ways to use it
    within the city. It takes a certain amount of resources to get anything over barriers to
    an initiative.
  - Another opportunity: there is a shortage of good forest practitioners. The problem
    there with regard to cities in general is that that is seen as a rural economic
    opportunity. There are these artificial barriers about who should do the work.
- [via chat] I have always been frustrated that the urban forestry program has not been
  surrounded by an urban ecology program, that would bring in these wider issues that are not
  just trees.
- [via chat] We have Hartford, Bridgeport and New Haven already online - visit
  ct.gov.deep/treesandurbanforests
- [via chat] Another overlooked mapping resource are the COGs - many are already well
  equipped to provide the maps that are needed.
  - [via chat] that is true- the COGS have the capacity to create heat island maps
  - [via chat] **Gannon Long:** very good point about COGS. They and local universities and
    city staff/ commissions etc. probably have lots of information around this stuff.

Mark Mitchell, George Mason University

- Hartford is losing 1000 trees per year according to our Tree Commission. There are maps of
  perceived heat, which might indicate where trees are needed most. Are you prioritizing tree
  locations and funding for trees?
- [via chat] We need programing in urban forests. Many children are scared of the forests
  because they are unfamiliar with them. We need urban foresters. There is only one forester
  in Hartford.

Lee Cruz, Community Foundation for a Greater New Haven

- Example of a program employing local youth in tree planting and building green
  infrastructure: https://uri.yale.edu/programs/greenskills
- Urban Resources Initiative and GatherNewHaven both have excellent examples of urban
  youth as operators of small businesses that create value.
- [via chat] Regarding infant mortality and canopy coverage: Heat and Infant Mortality in
  Philadelphia | Drexel Urban ...drexel.edu/uhc/projects/themes/heat-infant-mortality-
  philadelphia/https://drexel.edu/uhc/projects/themes/heat-infant-mortality-philadelphia/
  Philadelphia, PA is a prime example of a city that is subject to the urban heat island effect.
  This pilot study investigates whether high ambient temperatures are associated with

increased risk of infant mortality, and if the association is stronger in poorer, minority areas with less vegetation or tree canopy.

Study in Philadelphia links growth in tree canopy to healthier baby outcomes

Dianne Lauricella, EIG

- [via chat] Has there been discussion also about which trees to plant/preserve as some trees are better for shade provision, vs air quality filtration and ability to grow in urban soil, by sunlight length, moisture in soil, etc. ??Great discussion!

    o [via chat] **Gannon Long:** Diane, arborists can absolutely do just that.   Has Herb Virgo or Charmaine Craig been in these meetings?

        ▪ [via chat] **Edith Pestana**: Herb has participated in this subgroup.

- [via chat] To go deeper, can we match tree type to corridors with high asthma rates or heat island effect that often leads to many health problems and acts as triggers?
- [via chat] Policy idea: All DPW /Tree Wardens should work with Health Departments to prioritize which streets and neighborhoods have, for example, high asthma rates...therefore, they get more trees...
- [via chat] DPW with Health Dept.: Begin by creating a map...visuals help everyone from all backgrounds understand...Graphics budget needed!

Leticia Colon de Mejias, Energy Efficiencies Solutions

- [via chat] Park St. planted a bunch of trees; each tree was over $1000 per tree. They were all cut down by local residents. The residents were not supportive of the tree, because they were not engaged. Trees cost $40. There needs to be accountability on how funds are spent to plant trees. We need inclusion of local to create local jobs for local people to plant the trees so they are engaged on the work and invested in caring for the tress,
- [via chat] Whatever is planned needs to be communicated to the communities to ensure they are engaged and will be part of the solution. We need an outward facing climate action plan that runs ads on TV and explains these trees are helping our lungs, helping our cities be safer and cooler etc. That way people will protect the trees, and not feel it is a waste of money. Trees are important, and so is helping people understand the connection between trees, air, health, and climate. Center for Latino Progress and KNOX would also be great partners for this tree planting work, again with a set realistic cost per tree.
    o **Eric Hammerling:** need to have a communications campaign. Pulled back from that at the end of the day. Will be well informed by our discussion.
- [via chat] Please keep in mind that most low income or at-risk folks aren't thinking about trees. They could however be looped in if they knew trees would help their kid's asthma, or lower heat index etc. We have to make the messages relevant to folks who are struggling with other issues.
    o **Chris Donnelly:** [via chat] Leticia, in addition, if they know people who worked with trees and who could communicate, in that personal way, their interest and passion for trees.
- [via chat] Nature and mental health as a connection is a great thing. But many low-income folks DON'T have ways to get to Farmington or Avon . We must ensure there are nature areas in urban areas and LMI areas as well. Not expect them to go to the affluent areas.
- [via chat] Urban kids are spending all day on Tv's and PC's and phones making tick toc videos and they miss science classes on basic info and have NO climate education in public school to connect with these topics.
- [via chat] We need a state law that would impact all the counties
- [via chat] My suggestion is that all reports place the EJ considerations at the front, then we plan with equity at the front of the work. There also needs to be public facing information that is easily understood by people who are busy and burdened and may not be experts on Trees, climate or energy. Thank you for your work on this. I hope we can ensure this results in local jobs, more trees, less heat, and science and climate education that includes local data, vs data from other states, or nations that may not hit HOME with local people.

Susan Masino, Trinity College

- In terms of the jobs issue, we need to expand our thinking that forests are such an interdisciplinary issue. There are really jobs related to all those things.
- In terms of the urban/suburban/rural continuum, one of the things I relate back to is that public land is really an equity issue. CT is LMI place for vacation. Swimming areas packed every weekend.
  - o DEEP started a partnership with addiction services rolling out on August 10th. Goal is to get people more comfortable in nature. Health and mental health benefits of nature, research is skyrocketing.
- In forests that aren't intended for wood as a resource, I would love to call it forest stewardship instead of forest management. I'm not prescribing how we would do that, but I think that reflects the interdisciplinary nature we should prescribe to these natural resources.
- Indigenous practices should be incorporated here. I don't know a lot about it, but those values bring higher returns.
  - o **Eric Hammerling:** That isn't included in the report, but I'd be interested in that.
- [via chat] total agree we need resources in urban areas. The bus does go to incredible areas outside the city, but the schedule is dysfunctional. would love to chat about this. . . .
- [via chat] PS should be careful re planting male trees, due to pollen issue
- Need more input from people on the ground.

Ralph Jones
- [via chat] One of the obstacles to the care of urban trees is the relatively low priority that some towns and school systems give their care. Education needs to reach many different audiences.
  - o [via chat] **Gannon Long**: Ralph - another reason engaging private land/ homeowners is so important. they're more likely to maintain for longer time and at lower public expense.
- [via chat] One or more members of HAT have attended each of the Forests public meetings.

Kathy
- [via chat] Urban Heat Islands mapping might be a good visual to include with EEJ mapping project
  - o **Chris Donnelly:** [via chat] Urban Heat Island mapping needs to be a priority.
    - ▪ **Gannon Long**: [via chat] @ Chris = yes, as powerful as the map of Detroit was, it would be even more so to see maps of Bridgeport, New Haven, Waterbury, Hartford, Willimantic with similar data.
    - ▪ **Kathy**: epa.gov/heatislands has good definitions and resources also Lawrence Berkley National Lab has a Heat Island Group

Doris Johnson, CT DEEP
- [via chat] Add a forestry program in Connecticut technical schools

Rep. Geraldo Reyes Jr., CT House of Representatives
- [via chat] Is this Legislation change or Municipal charter changes?
  - o **Gannon Long:** [via chat] @Rep. Reyes - the state, cities don't get much of a vote when the surrounding communities decide to dump their trash here (Hartford is 1/60 votes on MIRA)...   but I agree the municipalities could have tougher laws on that. may not require charter changes.
    - ▪ **Leticia Colon de Mejias:** [via chat] @Gannon, that is the literal concept of EJ issues. Trash goes to where poor people live.
      - • **Gannon Long:** [via chat] it doesn't just apply to trash, but yes totally!

Next steps:
- High-level recommendations from these minutes will be shared to ensure that all feedback is captured. Please review to ensure that your recommendations have been captured accurately.

GC3 Timeline

Facilitated by Rebecca French

- Reports are due for all other working groups by August 12th.
- Presentations will occur August 17th – 21st. If groups can get them done earlier than that may be good.
- Public comment and other feedback can happen in parallel.
- EEJ can produce its own report that can discuss stand-alone projects being produced.

Public Comments

Marianne Engelman-Lado, Yale School of Public Health

- We have a huge amount of work to do in August. There are a number going to EEJ-A, a number going to EEJ-M, and Public Participation will be launched into plans to get people more involved during the public notice and comment period. We need all hands on deck. If there's anyone who's not on a subcommittee and you're on the EEJ, I implore you to join one of the subcommittees!
- Subcommittees will give reports directly to the respective working group. In September, additional thinking can happen, but there isn't time for the working group to consider the recommendation and then have the entirety of EEJ come together, so that work will have to happen in September.

Edith Pestana, CT DEEP

- [via chat] Can we recommend that the presentations to our group that they present action items

Working Group Reports

Mitigation

Facilitated by Sena Wazer, Sunrise CT

- Started reviewing from Buildings and Mitigation.
- Like Marianne said, we always need more perspectives and people in the room. Please let Sena know if you're interested. (sena.wazer@gmail.com)

EEJ-A

Facilitated by Mark Mitchell, George Mason University

- 2 meetings since last EEJ meeting
- Discussed:
    o Approach to adaptation
    o Tools and resources that can be provided to EJ communities to allow them to engage in this process
        ▪ Tools and resources EEJ-A is providing from the National Climate Assessment
        ▪ Developing a vulnerability assessment in its own right and publicizing that, engaging vulnerable communities in that assessment
            • Can plan for themselves in some degree, limits to how much that can help
        ▪ Proposal for funding for community organizations to engage environmental justice communities in this planning process
    o A series of environmental justice webinars?
- Next meeting on Tuesday, Aug 11th, 4-5:30
- Another meeting on Tuesday, Aug 18th, 4-5:30 to discuss further
- EEJ-A will be reading 4 reports

Comments

Rebecca French, CT DEEP Office of Climate Planning

- You may get one report from natural lands but there will be some mitigation stuff in it too. Science and technology are also doing review for adaptation and resilience reports, they have some recommendations they'll still want to float through EEJ, but there will likely be less to look through.

Public Participation

Facilitated by Marianne Engelman-Lado, Lee Cruz, and Edith Pestana

- Some discussion on the last call on integrating social distancing recommendations into their broader recommendations. That work is pretty far along
- Helping with public engagement during the comment period will be a bigger lift.
    - If anyone has contacts that should be engaged, let Edith, Alex, or Lee know.
- There are links Alex supplied that should be shared. Version of the documents on the GC3 website and an email attached to that if anyone wants to comment on those documents.

Mapping Tool

Facilitated Marianne Engelman-Lado

- Make sure set the groundwork for the role of an EJ mapping tool to get a sense of the vulnerabilities to climate change
- Webinar series will include a webinar on the utility of these mapping tools
- Pulling together a recommendation for the GC3 to support the creation and maintenance of it
    - Private and public institutions already have a lot of expertise on this, but there isn't a comprehensive mapping tool yet
- Working groups should have awareness of what mapping tools are already out there, so Max Teirstein has circulated that to members of the subcommittee and others and will be shared with the broader subcommittee soon.
- Jointly Public Health & Safety and the Mapping Tool Subcommittee has a meeting on 11 am August 13th

EJ Webinar Series

Facilitated by Mark Mitchell

- Important for GC3 to have resources to understand EJ and CJ, and why it's so important and how people think about it
- 10 or so presentations, starting in September on Thursdays from 5-6 pm (30 min-45 min presentation plus time for questions and discussion)
    - Start with the history of environmental racism in CT and an overall background about EJ
    - Health and how health is central to EJ
    - Different areas of climate justice and how CJ fits into the work of GC3 and how EJ and CJ groups see the issue
- Special programming needed around housing

Next Steps

Facilitated by Marianne Engelman-Lado

- Opportunity to add recommendations, not just feedback to mitigation and adaptation. We need to think about what goes into our report. We need to have our own meeting—August 10th at 12 pm.

Public Comments

Dianne Lauricella, EIG
- Wonderful idea to have an EJ webinar series. Who is your target audience? If it's the public, is there any consideration to having this a little later in the evening?
    - o **Mark Mitchell:** Primary target is really the GC3 members, though we are interested in having the public participate. Open to that.

Mary Pelletier, Park Watershed, Inc.
- I would think this committee would want to bring in a lot more people, but I might be wrong. It's a complicated process, you have a lot of voices already, but isn't that one of the reasons why this group meets at 6 o'clock? So more folks could engage?
    - o **Marianne Engelman-Lado:** It's core to what we do, absolutely. Primary goal is to make sure that the decision makers on the GC3 have this information. We can also record them and make them available to the public.

Cynthia R. Jennings, Law Offices of Cynthia R. Jennings, Esq.
- We should put them on Public Access so they can run day and night. Put them in the local papers so people can find them. Hold a workshop on how to get on a webinar. We can share it with groups we're members of so we can be sure that people in our offices can participate.

Kathleen Donovan, PSEG
- Wanted to be sure that she was on the record.

Edith Pestana, CT DEEP
- Would having the webinar series offered at 12 make more sense? During lunch time?
    - o **Marianne Engelman-Lado:** Would GC3 members be available at noon?
        - ▪ **Rebecca French**: It's a mix of state agency folks who would prefer a noon meeting, but businesspeople might not.
    - o **Susan Masino:** [via chat] I think if it is just one hour noon would work.
    - o **Kathy**:[via chat] I am in the same boat as Cynthia
    - o **Cynthia R. Jennings**: Later is better for me. I can't schedule my time around meetings. This time works for me. A lot of people at the end of the day can do this and then head out and head home.

NOTE: *Presentations are available on GC3 web page: www.ct.gov/deep/gc3*

Recording link:
https://ctdeep.zoom.us/rec/share/vvRzNrz56nJOec-Wt07PfaE5BNT6eaa80yAe8_sNnki1pqCmmhPYdGNE2W7dslMa?startTime=15960530190000

Links shared during meeting (see above for source & context):
- https://www.curbed.com/2017/2/22/14677844/architecture-diversity-inclusion-race
- www.communityinvestmentact.org
- www.cityforestscredit.org
- www.ct.gov.deep/treesandurbanforests
- https://uri.yale.edu/programs/greenskills
- Regarding infant mortality and canopy coverage: Heat and Infant Mortality in Philadelphia www.drexel.edu/uhc/projects/themes/heat-infant-mortality-philadelphia/https://drexel.edu/uhc/projects/themes/heat-infant-mortality-philadelphia/