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**Governor's Council on Climate Change (GC3)  
Public Health & Safety Working Group  
MEETING MINUTES**

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**Meeting Date:** 29 October 2020

**Meeting Time:** 10:30 am– 12:00  
pm EST

**Meeting Location:** Online  
(Zoom meeting)

**ATTENDANCE**

| <b>Working Group Member</b> | <b>Title</b>                                          | <b>Organization</b>                                                        | <b>Present</b> |
|-----------------------------|-------------------------------------------------------|----------------------------------------------------------------------------|----------------|
| Heather Aaron               | Deputy Commissioner                                   | Connecticut Department of Public Health                                    |                |
| Chris Bellucci              | Monitoring Program Supervisor                         | Connecticut Department of Energy and Environmental Protection              |                |
| Todd Berman                 | Manager of Environmental Programs & Projects          | United Illuminating                                                        |                |
| Laura Bozzi                 | Director of Programs                                  | Yale University, Yale Center on Climate Change and Health                  | Y              |
| Tasheenah Brown             | Deputy Executive Director                             | Operation Fuel                                                             |                |
| Dean Caruso                 | Executive Director, Support Services & Sustainability | Yale New Haven Hospital                                                    | Y              |
| Mindy Chambrelli            | Sanitarian                                            | Darien Health Department                                                   | Y              |
| Stewart Chute               | Toxicologist                                          | Connecticut Department of Public Health                                    |                |
| Steve Civitelli             | Director of Health                                    | Wallingford Health Department                                              |                |
| Amanda Clark                | Environmental Analyst                                 | Connecticut Department of Public Health                                    | Y              |
| Cynthia Costa               | Environmental Sanitarian                              | Connecticut Department of Public Health                                    |                |
| Michele DeLuca              | Deputy Director of Emergency Management               | City of Norwalk                                                            |                |
| Ken Dumais                  | State Hazard Mitigation Officer                       | Connecticut Division of Emergency Management and Homeland                  |                |
| Caroline Dumont             | Public Psychiatry Fellow                              | Yale University                                                            | Y              |
| Nicholas Elton              | MPH candidate                                         | Yale University                                                            | Y              |
| Paul Farrell                | Director of Air Planning                              | Connecticut Department of Energy and Environmental Protection              |                |
| Mariana Fragomeni           | Assistant Professor                                   | University of Connecticut, College of Agriculture, Health and Natural      | Y              |
| Betsy Gara                  | Executive Director                                    | Connecticut Water Works Association and Connecticut Council of Small Towns |                |
| Cynthia Greene              | Deputy Director                                       | U.S. Environmental Protection Agency New England                           |                |
| Laura Hayes                 | Epidemiologist                                        | Connecticut Department of Public Health                                    |                |
| Christine Kirchhoff         | Assistant Professor                                   | University of Connecticut Department of Civil and                          | Y              |
| Sarah Lowe                  | Assistant Professor                                   | Yale University, Yale School of Public Health                              | Y              |
| Arie Manangan               | Health Scientist                                      | Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, Climate and Health             |                |
| Diane Mas                   | Chief Resilience Officer                              | Fuss & O'Neill, Inc.                                                       | Y              |

|                       |                                                               |                                                                  |   |
|-----------------------|---------------------------------------------------------------|------------------------------------------------------------------|---|
| Lori Mathieu          | Public Health Section Chief                                   | Connecticut Department of Public Health                          |   |
| Anne McWilliams       | Environmental Scientist                                       | EPA Region 1                                                     | Y |
| Mark Mitchell         | Associate Professor                                           | George Mason University, Center for Climate Change Communication |   |
| Goudarz Molaei        | Agricultural Scientist                                        | The Connecticut Agricultural Experiment Station                  | Y |
| Jocelyn Mullins       | State Public Health Veterinarian                              | Connecticut Department of Public Health                          |   |
| Dave Murphy           | Manager of Water Resources Planning                           | Milone & MacBroom                                                |   |
| Huân Ngô              | Educator, Scientist                                           |                                                                  |   |
| Martha Page           | Executive Director                                            | Hartford Food System                                             | Y |
| Michael Pascucilla    | Director of Health                                            | East Shore District Health Department                            | Y |
| Marcia Pessolano      | Supervisor, Nutrition, Physical Activity, and Obesity Program | Connecticut Department of Public Health                          |   |
| Edith Pestana         | Environmental Justice Administrator                           | Connecticut Department of Energy and Environmental Protection    |   |
| Mike Puglisi          | Expanded Food and Nutrition Education Program Coordination    | University of Connecticut Department of Nutritional Sciences     | Y |
| Marissa Rivera        | Advocate                                                      | Disability Rights Connecticut                                    |   |
| Michelle Riordan-Nold | Executive Director                                            | Connecticut Data Collaborative                                   | Y |
| Robert Scully         | Sanitary Engineer                                             | Connecticut Department of Public Health                          |   |
| Jodi Sherman          | Associate Professor, Director of Sustainability               | Yale University, Yale School of Medicine                         |   |
| Kirby Stafford        | Chief Scientist/State Entomologist                            | The Connecticut Agricultural Experiment Station                  | Y |
| Ryan Tetrault         | Supervising Environmental Analyst                             | Connecticut Department of Public Health                          |   |
| Brian Toal            | Epidemiologist                                                | Connecticut Department of Public Health                          |   |
| Orlando Velazco       | Health Equity Director                                        | Connecticut Department of Public Health                          | Y |
| Steven Wallett        | Sanitary Engineer                                             | Connecticut Department of Public Health                          | Y |
| Jeri Weiss            | Regional Coordinator, Capacity Development                    | U.S. Environmental Protection Agency New England                 | Y |
| Kirk Westphal         | Water Resources Leader                                        | Brown and Caldwell                                               |   |
| Adam Whelchel         | Director of Science                                           | The Nature Conservancy                                           |   |
| Aicha Woods           | City Plan Executive Director                                  | City of New Haven                                                | Y |
| Joanna Wozniak-Brown  | Senior Resilience Planner                                     | Connecticut Institute for Resilience & Climate Adaptation        | Y |

| Associated Staff | Title                                  | Organization                                                  | Present |
|------------------|----------------------------------------|---------------------------------------------------------------|---------|
| Mary-beth Hart   | Director, Land and Water Resources     | Connecticut Department of Energy and Environmental Protection | Y       |
| Brian Thompson   | Senior Environmental Planner           | Connecticut Department of Energy and Environmental Protection |         |
| Rebecca French   | Director of Office of Climate Planning | Connecticut Department of Energy and Environmental Protection |         |

## AGENDA & NOTES

### Welcome and Announcements

#### Agenda Item(s)

*Facilitated by Laura Hayes and Lori Mathieu, CT DPH*

- Notes & Updates
  - We received 19 documents with comments on the report
  - The type of comments are pretty variable and might not be specific to our PH&S Working Group but glad to received feedback
  - Final revision is due next Friday, November 6<sup>th</sup>
  - There will be second public comment period for the document from the Council which will be a synthesis of all Working Group reports
- Response to Public Comments
  - Amanda Clark and Steven Wallet have been compiling the comments for our Working Group into one document (~60 pages)
    - 94 pages of comments have been sorted and sent to their corresponding Working Groups
  - Any changes should provide a summary of changes of how they responded to a comment
  - Changes can be made using track changes in MS Teams or emailed to Laura Hayes and Lori Mathieu
- Overview of MS Teams
  - The raw documents of public comments are in the General channel
    - The consolidated comments for our Working Group are in the Public Health and Safety channel
  - PHS\_Report\_CouncilReview.docx is the document everyone should be editing which is located in the Public Health and Safety channel
    - This is a document to the Council explaining how we are addressing individual public comments
    - Sorted by subtopic teams
    - General comments are at the end of the document
    - Multiple people can be working on the document in MS Teams
    - Review of uncategorized comments
      - Comment about public health directors and their responsibility over toxic sites, urban heat, pollution etc.
      - Public health directors are involved in these issues but there is still confusion of who is the main responsibility of these complex issues
      - CEPA clarifies that the main responsibility is a sponsoring state agency
      - This might have to be addressed in phase 2 due to time constraints
- Recommendation Prioritization
  - Prioritize staffing needs:
    - AFN coordinator for emergency response and communications
    - Public health entomologist
    - Climate and health coordinator

- Extreme heat specialist
  - GIS specialist
  - Managed retreat program director
- A matrix table for recommendations
  - Recommendation
  - Time frame
  - What type of action is required
  - Cost estimate (might be unable to do)
- Public Comments
  - Diane Lauricella: we should prioritize and reexamine the roles and responsibilities of local health directors in order to address the environmental health issues that are often not addressed by local health directors; should be prioritized in phase I, not phase II
    - Amanda Clark: a higher level staffing might be needed to address the environmental issues; local health departments are different so some coordination and overall responsibility of a state coordinator would be helpful to address the environmental health issues
    - Mike Pascucilla: resources have been cut and most of the time local health directors are not contacted for environmental health issues
- Other comments
  - Further directions on how to address public comments and summary of changes will be sent out to everyone

**NOTE:** Slides and/or presentations are available on GC3 Working Groups web page:  
<https://portal.ct.gov/DEEP/Climate-Change/GC3/Subcommittee-and--working-groups>

Provide comments to [DEEP.Climate.Change@ct.gov](mailto:DEEP.Climate.Change@ct.gov)

| Others in Attendance           |                              |
|--------------------------------|------------------------------|
| Connecticut Data Collaborative | Diane Lauricella, GC3 EEJ WG |
| Alanis Allen, new hire         |                              |
| Lynn Towill, Eversource        |                              |