



## State of New Jersey

### DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION

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SHAWN M. LATOURETTE  
*Commissioner*

### Environmental Justice Advisory Council Meeting Minutes

June 8, 2022

Via Microsoft Teams and In Person

#### Council Members

**Present:** Kim Gaddy, Dr. Amy Tuininga, Jackie Park Albaum, Yvette Viasus, Tyrese Gould-Jacinto, William Casey, Jeffrey Perlman, Melissa Miles, Phyllis Reich, Mike Morgan, Katharina Miguel, Dr. Robert Laumbach, Dr. Denalerie Johnson-Faniel, Charlotte Colon Alvarez

**Absent:** Joann Held, Andy Kricun, Meredith Taylor, Dr. Nancy Griffith

**OEJ Staff:** Kandyce Perry, Nadia Akbar, Anna Maria Peñaherrera

**DEP Guests:** DEP Commissioner Shawn M. LaTourette, Helaine Barr, Nick Horiates

**EJIC Representatives and Other State Agency Guests:** Mariel Didato, Abigail Zorn, Timothy Idland, Claire Hill, Morgan Clauser, Emily Cheng, Barbara Vadnais, Francine Wright, Merissa Shebell, Richard Wille, Gabrielle Turley, Terri Goldberg, Domenico Stockton Rossini, Chris Hillmann, Sean Thompson, Morgan Clauser, Tammori Petty

#### Call to Order

The meeting was called to order by Vice-Chair Kim Gaddy at 10:02 am.

#### April 2022 Minutes

Kim Gaddy moved that the April Meeting Minutes be accepted. All present approved.

#### Opening Remarks (Commissioner LaTourette)

Commissioner LaTourette discussed the upcoming EJ rule proposal and the importance of the work going forward, especially from the EJAC and DEP collaboration. He also discussed flooding, specifically the need for communities to increase flood preparedness and flood resistance. Mentions the expansion of [the Blue Acres buyout program](#), which provides a proactive approach for community resilience through acquisition of flood-prone or damaged land.

#### EJAC 2022 Work Plan (Kandyce Perry)

OEJ staff has prepared a 2022 Work Plan in Conjunction with the EJAC Workgroups and Executive Board. NJDEP management also has additional areas in which they would like to

solicit advice from the Council. This as a living document which may change throughout the year. Each Workgroup briefly described the primary focus of their workplans.

**Air Workplan (Kim Gaddy)**

- ~ Emergency Communications and Response Protocols
- ~ Warehouses

**Water Workplan (Anna Maria Peñaherrera)**

- ~ Infrastructure Funding Workshop
- ~ Green Infrastructure and Workforce Development

**Land (Jackie Park Albaum)**

- ~ Brownfield Revitalization
- ~ Increasing Urban Agriculture

**Environmental Education & Communication (Nadia Akbar)**

- ~ EJ Primer
- ~ Webinar and Short Video Series

**RGGI**

Helaine Barr gave a presentation about the cap-and-trade program for greenhouse gases. Money raised from the program circles back to NJ for clean energy funds. The RGGI Climate Investments Dashboard, tutorial, and webinar for the 2023-2025 Strategic Funding Plan are available [online here](#).

**State Representatives**

Barbra Vadnais will share details about the brownfields tax incentive program and information on their draft rules.

**Ethics**

DEP Ethics Liaison Officer Nick Horiates gave a presentation about filing and training requirements for EJAC. Each member is required to acknowledge receipt of the Uniform Ethics Code and Plain Language Guide, take an annual ethics training, cannabis training, and complete the outside employment questionnaire (all new members already completed this form).

**Announcements**

- Elections for E-Board and chairs/vice chairs of working groups in October
- Headshot, bio, or any edits to your current bio on the [EJAC webpage](#) by June 15.
- June 10<sup>th</sup>: NJBIA Environmental Compliance Seminar with Kandyce on EJ panel

**Adjournment**

Meeting was adjourned at about Noon.

**Next Meeting**

October 26, 2022, at 10am virtually via Microsoft Teams