

### A message from Secretary Grumbles



# Agenda

- What do you want?
- The Path
- The Plan
- Holding Ourselves Accountable
- What do you think?
- Next Steps

## What Do You Want?

# Maryland has a Proud Recent History of Climate Leadership

- 2006 Maryland Healthy Air Act
- 2007 Maryland Clean Cars Act
- 2008 Climate Action Plan
- 2009 Greenhouse Gas Reduction Act

### The Greenhouse Gas Emissions Reduction Act



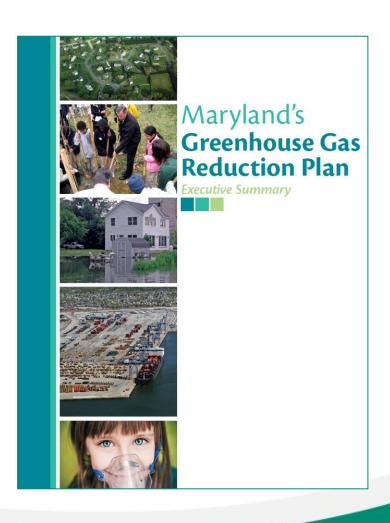
Reduce GHG emissions 25% from a 2006 baseline by 2020

Must have a positive impact on Maryland's economy and jobs

#### The GGRA Plan

(a.k.a. the greenhouse gas reduction, economic development, community resilience plan)

- 150 Programs and Initiatives
   Across 11 State Agencies
  - Diversifies energy sources
  - Promotes renewable energy
  - Encourages energy conservation
  - Achieves economic benefits of \$1.6 billion and supports over 37,000 jobs.
  - Promotes a green economy
  - Preserves valuable agricultural and forest land
  - Aids in restoring Chesapeake Bay
  - Protects Vulnerable Communities



# The Plan: Programs

Sector	Program (s)
Energy	<ul> <li>Renewable Energy Standards</li> <li>EmPOWER Maryland</li> <li>Regional Greenhouse Gas Initiative</li> </ul>
Zero Waste	Zero Waste
Transportation	<ul> <li>Maryland Clean Cars</li> <li>Public Transportation Initiatives</li> <li>Corporate Average Fuel Economy (CAFE) Standards</li> </ul>
Buildings	Building Codes
Agriculture	<ul> <li>Managing forests to capture carbon</li> <li>Planting forests in Maryland</li> </ul>

# **Accountability is Critical**

2016 Sunset

**Maryland Department of the Environment report in October** 

 Maryland Commission on Climate Change

**MCCC** report in November

# Maryland Commission on Climate Change

- Charged with advising the Governor and General Assembly on ways to mitigate the causes of, prepare for, and adapt to the consequences of climate change and maintaining and strengthening the State's existing Greenhouse Gas Reduction Plan
- Membership: Senate, House, State Agencies, business, non-profit groups
- Four working groups: Mitigation, Adaptation & Response Scientific and Technical and Education, Communication & Outreach

# Meet the Commissioners

## What Do You Think?

### **DID WE MISS ANYTHING?**

Are there any other areas of focus that the Commission should concentrate on that isn't listed? If so, please write it or them on your coupon and bring to the bag labeled other.

# Please submit all ideas to: <a href="mailto:climate.change@maryland.gov">climate.change@maryland.gov</a> by August 31, 2015

For more information on the Greenhouse Gas Reduction Act Plan, please visit: <a href="http://climatechange.maryland.gov/">http://climatechange.maryland.gov/</a>



### **Commission Questions: Assessments**

- 1. How will climate change impact the state's economy, revenues, and investment decisions? What steps should the state take to mitigate and prepare for these impacts?
- 2. How will climate change impact agriculture in the state, and what steps should the state take to mitigate and prepare for these impacts?

### **Commissioner Questions: Interventions**

- 1. How can we better communicate with and educate the urgency of acting to reduce the impacts of climate change? Are there particular segments of the population on whom our efforts should be focused?
- 2. How can we best prioritize and advance intergovernmental and public-private partnerships to address climate change and its impacts?
- 3.How can we ensure that steps to address climate change benefit all Marylanders? What can we do to address the fact that low income and vulnerable communities are impacted first and worst when it comes to by climate change?

### **Commissioner Questions: Support**

- 1. Should we assist local government in the creation of community-scale climate vulnerability assessments and the development and integration of specific strategies into local plans and ordinances?
- 2. Should we develop a comprehensive action plan with 5 year benchmarks to achieve science based reductions in GHG emissions beyond 2020? If so, how far out should we plan?