



**Chesapeake Bay Program**  
*A Watershed Partnership*

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# DEIJ Action Team Update

*March 2, 2021*

# Goals and Decisions for Today

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## Goals:

- ▶ Provide overview of:
  - ▶ Draft DEIJ Implementation Plan
  - ▶ Draft Options for forming a Community Advisory Board
  - ▶ Draft Communication and Outreach Plan
  - ▶ Proposed Schedule to Finalize Implementation Plan and CAB Recommendations

## Requested Decisions:

- ▶ Confirm draft documents meet intended need
- ▶ Confirm proposed schedule is feasible
- ▶ Identify preferred approach to assigning ownership for implementation plan moving forward
- ▶ Identify high level items of concern

# DEIJ Strategy Implementation Plan

***Vision:** Develop roadmap for implementing DEIJ Strategy Action Plans, identifying additional actions, subtasks, steps, and resources needed to ensure implementation by end of 2025*

ACTION	DESCRIPTION	TIMEFRAME	MEASURES OF SUCCESS	ROLES		POTENTIAL RESOURCES AND TOOLS	
3.2.b.	Develop a better understanding of environmental justice communities and organizations in the Chesapeake Bay watershed. This could include conducting stakeholder mapping exercise(s) to become familiar with what organizations are doing environmental justice work and related social justice work in the watershed. This could also include mapping exercises to identify communities of color and low income communities relative to CBP investments.	Phase 1: Conduct research to produce a better understanding of the EJ communities and organizations in the CB watershed. Ongoing: Update this research periodically.	What new organizations and communities have been identified? Has CBP found ways to build relationships with these entities?	Lead: Diversity Workgroup Supports: CBP GIS Team		Capture earnings from this task in related trackers (e.g., see 3.4.e)	
	Task	Description	Suggested Task Owner	Due Date	Date Completed	Current Status	Resource Needs
	Subtask 1	Refine the Chesapeake Bay Environmental Justice and Equity Dashboard	USGS GIS team	Dec-22	--	In progress. Beta version being circulated	

# DEIJ Strategy Implementation Plan

## Next Steps

- ▶ March-April: Obtain internal feedback on plan elements – (e.g., feasibility, ownership, timeline, priority, resources, and utility)
- ▶ April-May: Update draft based on feedback and engage external stakeholders, including public comment period and direct outreach with underrepresented communities.

## Questions for the PSC:

- ▶ Are there major red flags with the structure and intention of the implementation plan?
- ▶ How will ownership of implementation and tracking/reporting be determined?
- ▶ What will be timing of implementation and will it be based on SRS schedule?

# Community Advisory Board

*Vision:* Develop recommendations for establishing a Community Advisory Board composed of environmental justice leaders and representatives from underrepresented groups, identifying feasible options for board purpose, structure, membership, governance, funding/compensation, timing, etc.

# Community Advisory Board

## Previous PSC Decision

The PSC discussed the process for a Community Advisory Board (CAB) and **agreed that the preferred option to pursue would be Option 4 (Hybrid) CAB.** Option 4 is freestanding CAB with cross-pollination with CAC. E.g., the CAB Chair/Vice Chair or designated member would also serve as a member of CAC (and possibly LGAC and STAC) and CAC would be involved in the CAB as well.

## Previous PSC Guidance

- ▶ Options to facilitate participation of a diverse membership, including compensation, flexible reimbursement, travel vouchers, and other tools, will be carefully considered.
- ▶ Whether to sunset the CAB or not should be carefully considered.
- ▶ Review if there would be economies of scale with staffing the Action Team, the Diversity Workgroup, and CAB.

# Community Advisory Board

## Current Status

- ▶ Initial recommendations and options for establishment of CAB developed
- ▶ Four areas for consideration include:
  1. Appointing Authorities
  2. Size of Board
  3. Expectations of Role
  4. Budget/Funding Sources

## Next Steps

- ▶ March-April: Obtain internal feedback on CAB options.
- ▶ April-May: Refine options and recommendations based on feedback for PSC consideration at May meeting.
- ▶ May- : Engage external communities in providing feedback on CAB options and recommendations.

# Community Advisory Board

## Questions for the PSC:

Are options presented in the plan appropriate and sufficient?

- ▶ **Appointing Authorities**

- A. Appointed through EC
- B. Appointed by other body: PSC, Diversity Workgroup or contracted organization
- C. Hybrid by EC and NGO
- D. Recommendations from other bodies for PSC Appointment
- E. Established by each jurisdiction

- ▶ **Size of Board**

- A. Consistent with other Advisory Committees (up to 25 members) - not compensated
- B. Consistent with other Advisory Committees - compensated
- C. Compensated Board (7 to 10 members)
- D. Launch with Option C, then shift to options A or B after two years.



# Community Advisory Board

## Questions for the PSC:

Are options presented in the plan appropriate and sufficient?

- ▶ **Expectation of Role**
  - A. CAB members eligible to participate in GITs and Work Groups
  - B. CAB members eligible to participate in GITs and Work Groups and are compensated
  - C. CAB members expected to participate in GITs and Work Groups and are compensated
  - D. Staff representing CAB expected to participate in GITs and Workgroups as directed
- ▶ **Budget/Funding Sources (up to \$350K first year and \$300K thereafter)**
  - A. Jurisdictions share total cost from EPA grants or local funds
  - B. U.S. EPA identifies funds to supplement CBPO budget

## Questions for CAB Appointees:

- ▶ Name of Board
- ▶ Term of board (i.e., permanent or sunset after accomplishing goals?)

# Outreach & Communications

***Vision:** Engage underrepresented communities in the development of the implementation plan and recommendations for the Community Advisory Board. Use the engagement process as a foundation for organizational change and meaningful and long-term engagement with underrepresented communities*

## How do we define “Meaningful Engagement/Involvement”?

- ▶ People have an opportunity to participate in decisions about activities that may affect their environment and/or health.
- ▶ The public's contribution may influence the decision
- ▶ Community concerns will be considered in the decision-making process
- ▶ Decision makers will seek out and facilitate the involvement of those potentially affected

# Outreach & Communications

DEIJ Action Team has developed a Communications/Outreach plan and schedule to guide internal and external outreach.

- ▶ **February-April:** Internal CBP feedback and information gathering with Action Team, Diversity Workgroup, and Partnership entities (e.g., Management Board, GIT Chairs, Coordinators/Staffers, SRS Team, grants teams) on implementation plan and CAB planning document.
- ▶ **March-May:** Direct engagement with underrepresented communities via Action Team members and partner networks (including tracking); public comment period external review and comments. Develop stakeholder list with input from Action Team members.
- ▶ Efforts will build on the work of the CBP Communications Office and Diversity Workgroup who will help refine messaging and develop outreach materials.
  - ▶ Diversity Workgroup GIT-funded project , “Cultivating and Strengthening Relationships with Underrepresented Stakeholders”
  - ▶ Bay Program Primers: Who We Are. What We do.

# Proposed Timeline

## March 2021

- 3/2: PSC Meeting: progress update on CAB and Implementation Plan
- 3/3: Start internal outreach w/ Action Team and Partnership; start internal outreach for CAB.

## May 2021

- 5/1: CAB Options and Recommendations due
- 5/1: Public comment period opens
- 5/25: Public comment period closes

## December 2021

- 12/15: Executive Council action on CAB.

## February 2021

2/18:

- Draft Implementation Plan due
- CAB options memo due
- Draft Outreach and Communications plan completed

## April 2021

- 4/1: Compile feedback; start redrafting of implementation plan and CAB recommendations
- 4/15: Virtual briefing on implementation plan and CAB for EC.

## October 2021

- 10/1 Final Implementation Plan Due



Thank you for your time,  
attention, and input today.