

Breathing Room:

Improving Air Quality Beyond the Ozone Health Standard

Leslie Rhodes

Mecklenburg County Air Quality

MECKLENBURG COUNTY

AIR QUALITY

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Air Quality

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Code Enforcement

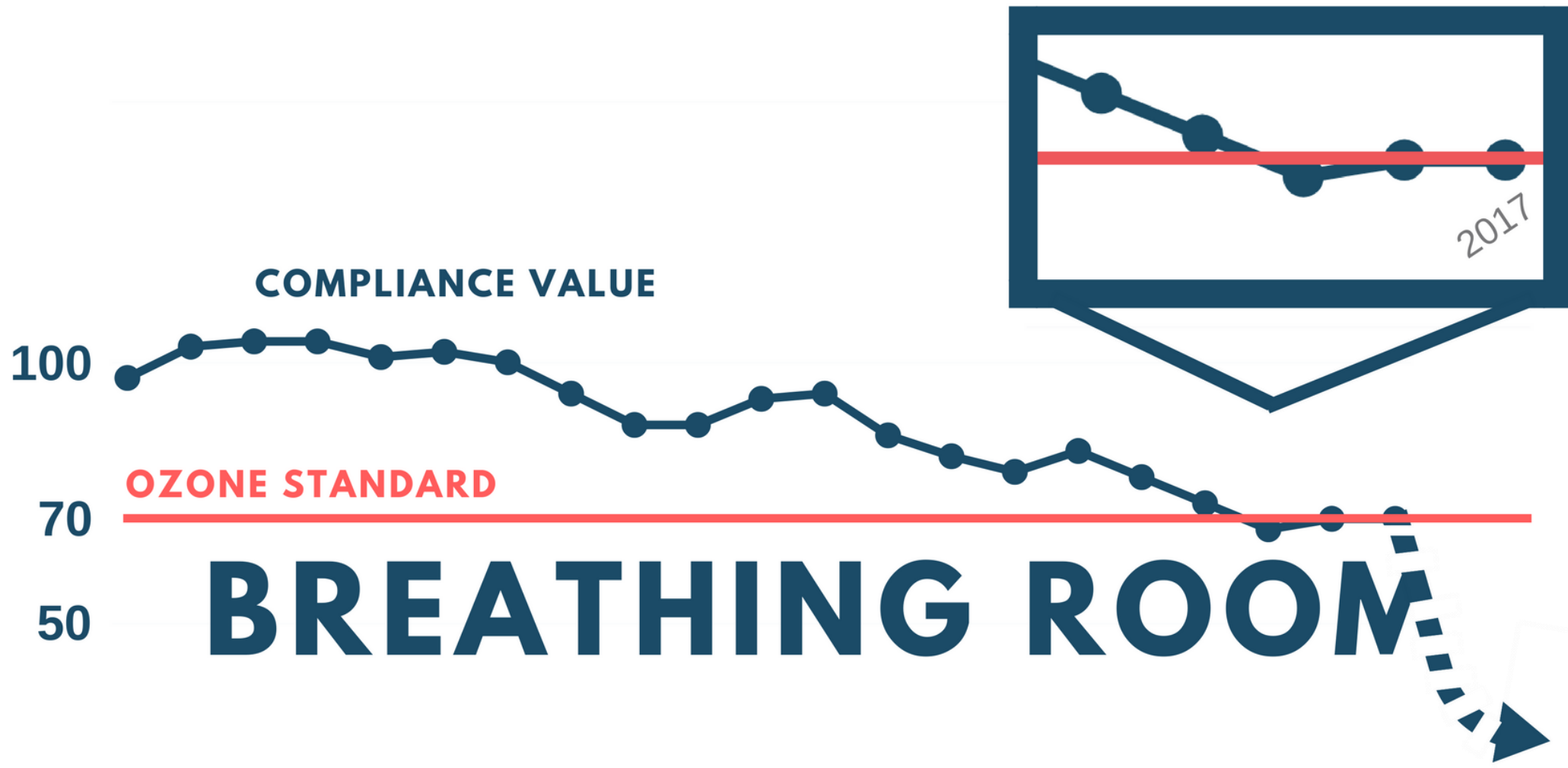
WHAT started this effort?



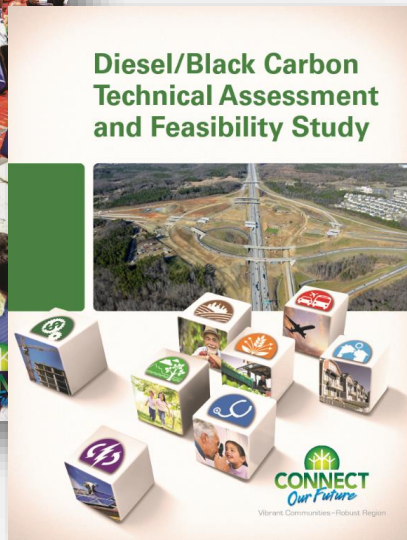
ADVANCE

A U.S. Environmental Protection Agency Program

As a local air quality agency, Mecklenburg County Air Quality's (MCAQ) goal is not just to maintain compliance with air quality standards, but to continue the positive trend of improving air quality and put some "breathing room" between our local data and the health-based standard. Therefore, MCAQ and the [North Carolina Division of Air Quality](#) (NCDAQ) are partnering through the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency's (EPA) [Advance Program](#) to take proactive steps to reduce ozone-forming air pollution and maintain healthy air quality in the Charlotte region. This is good for public health and decreases the likelihood that our region will violate the health-based standard in the future.



January-April 2018



LIVABLE MECK
YOUR VOICE. YOUR VISION.

Guiding Principles	WELCOMING	INNOVATIVE	CONNECTED	INCLUSIVE	PREPARED	HEALTHY	RESILIENT
Descriptors	Character, Entertainment, Opportunity, Safe Neighborhoods.	Jobs, Entrepreneurship, Commerce.	Engaged Residents, Transportation Choices.	Community Participation.	A Skilled Workforce, Quality Education.	Physical Activity, Healthy Foods, Clean Environment.	Future Well-being, Collaboration.
Strategies	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Build safe neighborhoods Increase access to community-based arts, science, and history education Continue to be an inviting destination for residents, visitors and businesses Calibrate and integrate history, culture and diversity 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Make it easier for new businesses to succeed and existing businesses to flourish Increase global economic competitiveness Promote the redevelopment, reuse, and rehabilitation of declining and vacant properties Leverage technology 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Expand capacity and increase use of sidewalks, bikeways, greenways/paved trails, bus routes, and rail Build stronger connections across diverse population groups 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Balance available housing options Coordinate the work of organizations addressing the needs of at-risk residents Expand the availability of affordable recreation and cultural services programs 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Expand and enhance learning across all age groups Enhance partnerships between workforce development initiatives and employers 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Create a culture of health and wellness Protect and restore the natural environment Coordinate open space, greenways/paved trails, and parks planning with neighborhood accessibility 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Manage zoning and development to revitalize community character and the natural environment while allowing for growth and innovation Manage resources wisely Develop community and neighborhood leaders for the future



The Ideas: 15 Ways to Create Breathing Room

- Airport Shuttle Electrification
- Cash for Clunkers
- Community Solar*
- Complete Streets Policies*
- Eco-driving Training
- Energy Audits
- Gas Cap and Tire Pressure Checks*
- Greenway Expansion
- Ground-support Equipment Electrification
- Property Assessed Clean Energy*
School Bus Electrification
- Taxi Electrification
- Transit Expansion
- Zoning Advocacy:
 - Eliminate Parking Minimum
 - EV Charging Infrastructure

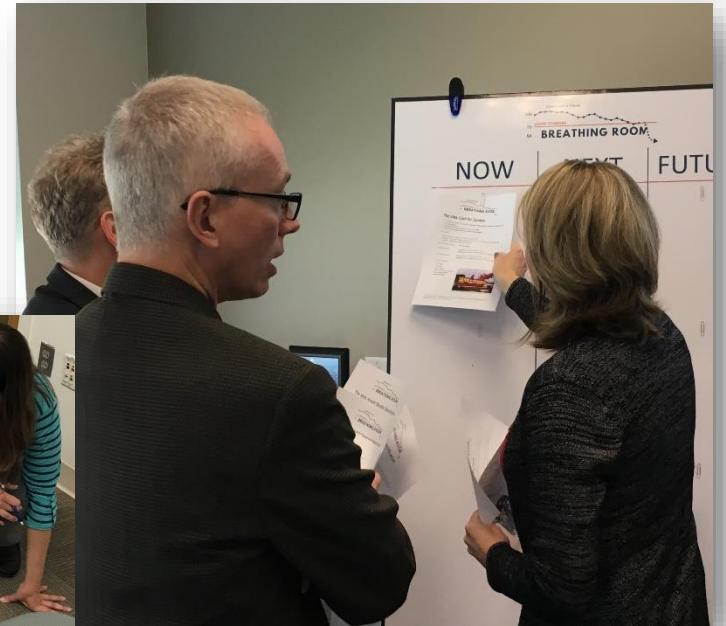
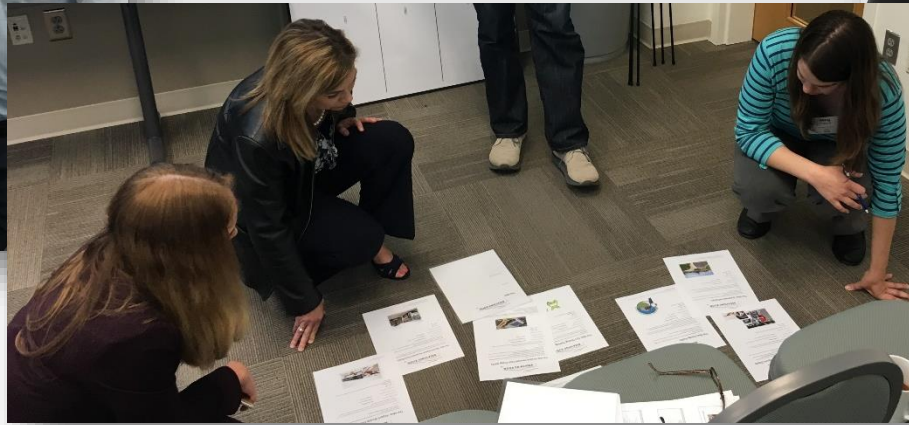
May – July 2018



Review Past Feedback

Prioritize Ideas

Create Path Forward



MECKLENBURG COUNTY

AIR QUALITY

Help Us Proritize



NOW

NEXT

FUTURE

The Idea: Airport Shuttle Electrification

- Replace diesel and gas shuttle buses with electric shuttles at regional airports like Charlotte-Douglas International Airport.
- Electric shuttles will have zero tailpipe emissions.

The Action:

- Identify and secure to defray the cost of new electric shuttles and charging infrastructure.
- Work with local airports to create a shuttle replacement schedule that prioritizes the highest emissions shuttle(s) for replacement first.

The Pollution Source: On-road Vehicles

The NOx Benefit: 0.66 lbs/day or 167 lbs/year per bus.

The Cost-effectiveness: \$418.06/lb NOx¹

The Other Benefits:

- VOC - Low
- PM - Low
- GHG - Medium
- Overall emissions will decrease as power grid emissions fall due to renewables or improved technology.

¹ Assuming \$700,000 per bus

older car* with a

air smoking

repaint

Checks

best air

recommended

fuel economy

air pollution

test

¹ Cars typically must meet eligibility requirements (ex. Old car at least 10 years old, failed emissions test, replaced with model year 2017 or newer, etc.)

Add Your Own Ideas!

If you think there is an important strategy that is missing, add it!



The Idea:

The Action:

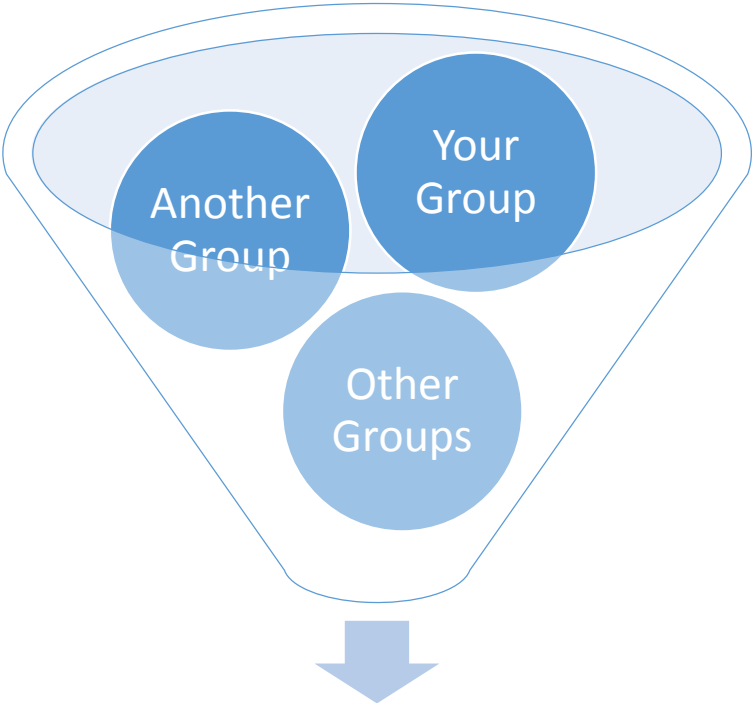
The Pollution Source:

Ground Rules

- Approach these ideas as concepts, not firm proposals
- Participation ≠ personal commitment
- Seek to understand – actively listen to other people
- Use the “parking lot” as a tool to keep focused
- Seek common ground, make decisions by consensus

Your group has up to 30 minutes to complete this activity

August 2018



Prioritized List of Strategies

Breathing Room Website

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