

# UNITED STATES ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY CHARTER

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## LOCAL GOVERNMENT ADVISORY COMMITTEE

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1. **Committee's Official Designation (Title):**

Local Government Advisory Committee

2. **Authority:**

This charter renews the Local Government Advisory Committee (LGAC), which was established October 30, 1992, in accordance with the provisions of the Federal Advisory Committee Act (FACA), 5 U.S.C. App. 2. The LGAC, established October 30, 1992, is in the public interest and supports the United States Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) in performing its duties and responsibilities under federal environmental statutes.

3. **Objectives and Scope of Activities:**

The states, local governments and some tribes are ultimately responsible for the implementation of many public health and environmental programs that ensure Americans have clean air and water, safe drinking water, and environmentally sound waste disposal. The LGAC is an independent, policy-oriented advisory committee of locally elected and appointed officials that provides policy advice and recommendations to the EPA Administrator to assist the agency in ensuring that its regulations, policies, guidance, and technical assistance support and improve the capacity of local governments to implement and carry out these programs.

4. **Description of Duties:**

The LGAC provides independent policy advice and recommendations to the EPA Administrator on:

- a. How EPA's policies, procedures, and practices impact local government and how effective intergovernmental partnerships can help further the Agency's mission and priority areas, including climate change, environmental justice, water quality and water infrastructure, innovation, energy, air quality, and community revitalization, among others.
- b. Ways to improve performance measurement and disseminate new environmental protection techniques and technologies among local governments;
- c. Improvements to program management and regulatory planning, and development processes to involve local governments more effectively as partners in environmental management;
- d. Ways the EPA and states can help local governments strengthen their capacity to promote environmental quality;
- e. Projects to help local governments deal with the challenge of financing environmental protection infrastructure; and

- f. Any changes needed to allow flexibility and innovation and to accommodate local needs without compromising environmental performance, accountability, or fairness.
5. **Agency or Official to Whom the Committee Reports:**  
The LGAC will submit advice and recommendations, and report to the EPA Administrator, through the Office of Congressional and Intergovernmental Relations.
6. **Support:**  
The EPA will be responsible for financial and administrative support. Within the EPA, this support will be provided by the Office of Congressional and Intergovernmental Relations, Office of the Administrator.
7. **Estimated Annual Operating Costs and Staff Years:**  
The estimated annual operating cost of the LGAC is \$600,000 which includes the estimated costs for 3.5 staff years of support and includes \$75,000 in invitational travel.
8. **Designated Federal Officer:**  
A permanent employee of the EPA will be appointed as the Designated Federal Officer (DFO). The DFO or an alternate will be present at all meetings of the advisory committee and subcommittee. Each meeting will be conducted in accordance with an agenda approved in advance by the DFO. The DFO is authorized to adjourn any meeting when he or she determines it is in the public interest to do so and will chair meetings when directed to do so by the official to whom the committee reports.
9. **Estimated Number and Frequency of Meetings:**  
The LGAC expects to meet in person or by teleconference approximately three (3) to six (6) times a year. Meetings may occur approximately once every four (4) months or as needed and approved by the DFO. The EPA may pay travel and per diem expenses when determined necessary and appropriate.  
  
As required by the FACA, the LGAC will hold open meetings unless the EPA Administrator determines that a meeting or a portion of a meeting may be closed to the public in accordance with 5 U.S.C. 552b(c). Interested persons may attend meetings, appear before the committee as time permits, and file comments with the LGAC.
10. **Duration:**  
Continuing.
11. **Termination:**  
This charter will be in effect for two years from the date it is filed with Congress. After this two-year period, the charter may be renewed as authorized in accordance with Section 14 of the FACA.
12. **Membership and Designation:**  
The LGAC will be composed of approximately thirty (35) elected and appointed state, local, tribal, and territorial government officials. Members will serve as representative members of non-federal interests. In selecting members, the EPA will consider candidates who are

currently elected or appointed officials representing: states, counties, cities, other local governments, small communities, tribal governments, and territorial governments. The EPA will consider candidates such as mayors, city council members, county commissioners and executives, city managers, small town officials, public works directors, public health officials, school district officials, local government commissioners and board members, tribal government leaders, U.S. territory government officials, and state officials including legislators and environmental and agricultural directors.

13. **Subcommittees:**

The EPA, or the LGAC with the EPA's approval, may form subcommittees or workgroups for any purpose consistent with this charter. Such subcommittees or workgroups may not work independently of the committee and must report their recommendations and advice to the chartered LGAC for full deliberation and discussion. Subcommittees or workgroups have no authority to make decisions on behalf of the chartered committee nor can they report directly to the EPA.

14. **Recordkeeping:**

The records of the committee, formally and informally established subcommittees, or other subgroups of the committee, will be handled in accordance with General Records Schedule 6.2 and EPA Records Schedule 1024 or other approved agency records disposition schedule. Subject to the Freedom of Information Act, 5 U.S.C. 552, these records will be available for public inspection and copying, in accordance with Section 10(b) of the FACA.

Agency Approval Date

GSA Consultation Date

Date Filed with Congress