

2022 Air Quality Update for the Austin-Round Rock-Georgetown MSA

Clean Air Force of Central Texas'
Air Quality Professional's Forum

July 14, 2022



CAPCOG – Regional Planning Commission in Statute; more often called a COG.



- Emergency Communications 9-1-1
- Area Agency on Aging/Aging & Disability Resource Center
- Homeland Security Planning & Training
- Regional Law Enforcement Academy
- Air Quality Planning
- Solid Waste Planning
- Economic Development Analysis & Technical Assistance
- Transportation Planning

Ten – county service area; State of Texas planning region 12



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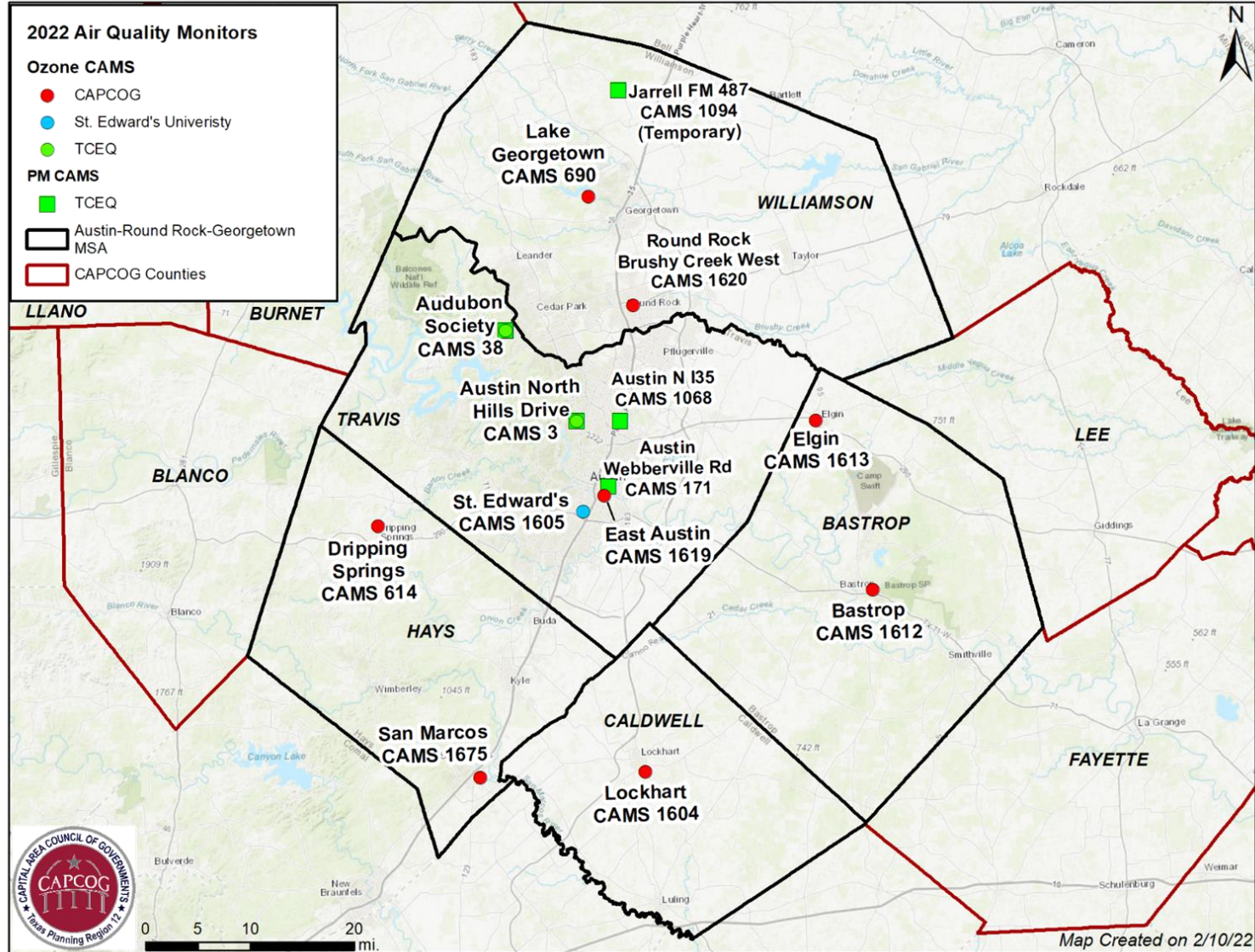
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O₃ and PM_{2.5} 2022 Monitoring Locations



Air Quality Index (AQI)



Daily AQI Color	Levels of Concern	Values of Index	Description of Air Quality
Green	Good	0 to 50	Air quality is satisfactory, and air pollution poses little or no risk.
Yellow	Moderate	51 to 100	Air quality is acceptable. However, there may be a risk for some people, particularly those who are unusually sensitive to air pollution.
Orange	Unhealthy for Sensitive Groups	101 to 150	Members of sensitive groups may experience health effects. The general public is less likely to be affected.
Red	Unhealthy	151 to 200	Some members of the general public may experience health effects; members of sensitive groups may experience more serious health effects.
Purple	Very Unhealthy	201 to 300	Health alert: The risk of health effects is increased for everyone.
Maroon	Hazardous	301 and higher	Health warning of emergency conditions: everyone is more likely to be affected.

2022 AQI Days by Month



January

February

March

April

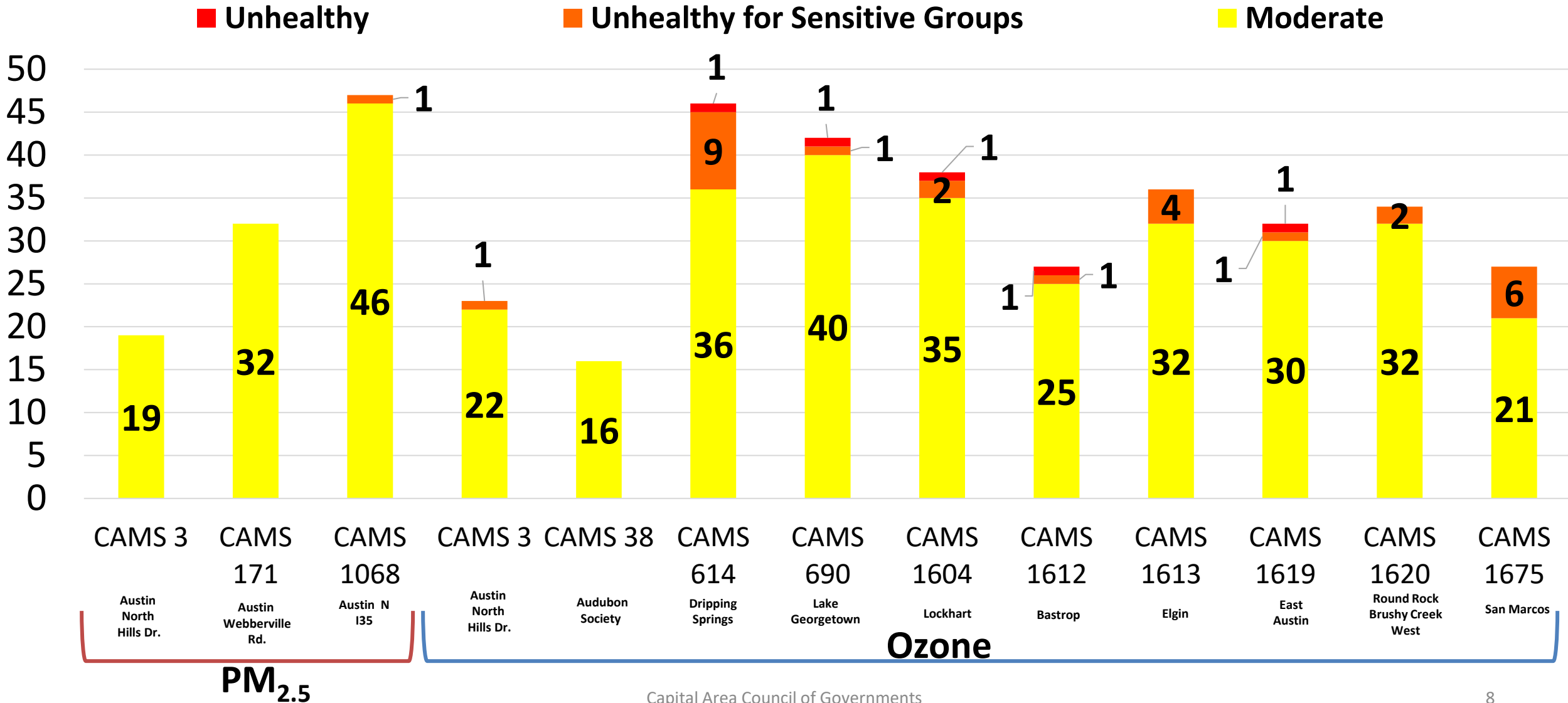
May

June



● Good ● Moderate ● Unhealthy for Sensitive Groups ● Unhealthy

2022 Moderate or Worse AQI Days by Monitor



4th Highest Ozone



CAMS	4 th Highest of 2022 as of 7/13/2022	3-year Average (2020-2022)
<u>Austin North Hills Drive C3/A322</u>	66	N/A
<u>Audubon C38</u>	63	63
<u>Dripping Springs School C614</u>	75	70
<u>CAPCOG Lake Georgetown C690</u>	71	66
<u>CAPCOG Bastrop CAMS1612</u>	67	63
<u>CAPCOG Elgin C1613</u>	69	64
<u>CAPCOG East Austin C1619</u>	67	64
<u>Lockhart C1604</u>	69	63
<u>St. Edwards University C1605</u>	47	53
<u>CAPCOG San Marcos Staples Road C1675</u>	73	66
<u>CAPCOG Round Rock Brushy Creek W C1620</u>	70	N/A

O₃ NAAQS Reconsideration





- [On Nov. 1st, EPA announced its decision to reconsider the previous administration's decision to retain 2015 O₃ NAAQS.](#)
 - EPA is targeting the end of 2023 to complete this reconsideration.
- On April 29, 2022, EPA released their [draft policy assessment](#) for reconsideration of the 2020 O₃ NAAQS. In this document they concluded that the **2015 primary standard was adequate to protect public health**
- On June 15, 2022, the Clean Air Scientific Advisory Committee (CASAC) reviewing the O₃ NAAQS submitted [a letter to the EPA administrator](#) stating that they would pause the review of the Ozone PA so that they could **deliberate on whether a fuller discussion of the science is needed before the PA could be reviewed**
- On July 12, 2022, the CASAC announce they would hold public meeting on 9/12, 9/14, & 9/16
 - These meetings were originally scheduled to occur in June 2022



O₃ NAAQS Reconsideration Timeline

Key Milestones in the O₃ NAAQS Reconsideration

Date	EPA	CASAC and Public Review
October 2021	Announcement of Reconsideration	
April 28, 2022	Release of Draft PA	Initiation of CASAC review and public comment period
 April 29, 2022		CASAC Public Meeting: Overview of Reconsideration and Draft PA
 June 8, 10, 13, and 17, 2022		CASAC Meeting to Review the Draft PA
Fall 2022		CASAC Follow-up Meeting Final CASAC Letters
Late 2022	Final PA	
Spring 2023	Proposed decision	Public comment period and public hearings
December 2023	Final decision	

PM_{2.5} NAAQS Reconsideration

(<https://casac.epa.gov/ords/sab/f?p=113:1>)



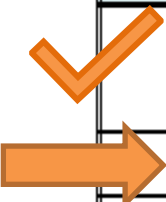
- Currently waiting on an announcement from the EPA administrator on the proposed PM NAAQS, this is expected some time in summer 2022.
- Following are EPA staff and CASAC findings.
 - **Annual PM2.5**
 - EPA Staff - Regarding Annual PM2.5 studies: “... an annual standard with a level below 10.0 µg/m³ and as low as 8.0 µg/m³ , could be supported...”
 - CASAC – Majority recommend lowering standard to between 8-10 µg/m³, minority recommend lowering standard to 10-11 µg/m³.
 - **24-hr PM2.5**
 - EPA Staff - “...lowering the level of the 24-hour standard is likely to have a more variable impact on public health than lowering the level of the annual standard.”
 - CASAC – a majority recommended a lowering it to between 25-30 µg/m³
 - **PM10**
 - EPA Staff - “... the available evidence does not call into question the scientific judgments that informed the decision in the 2020 review to retain the current primary PM10 standard.”
 - CASAC – no recommendation made

PM_{2.5} NAAQS Reconsideration Timeline

<https://casac.epa.gov/ords/sab/f?p=113:19:14538376097957:::19:P19 ID:961>



Key Milestones in the PM NAAQS Reconsideration		
Date	EPA	CASAC and Public Review
June 2021	Announcement of Reconsideration	
September 30, 2021	Release of Draft PM ISA Supplement	Comment period closes November 29
October 8, 2021	Release of Draft PA	Comment period closes December 14
October 14, 2021		CASAC Public Meeting: Overview of Reconsideration and Draft PM ISA Supplement and Draft PA
November 17-19 and December 1-2, 2021		CASAC Meeting to Review the Draft PM ISA Supplement and Draft PA
Winter 2022		CASAC Follow-up Meeting Final CASAC Letters
Spring 2022	Final PM ISA Supplement	
	Final PA	
Summer 2022	Proposed decision	Public comment period and public hearings
Early 2023	Final decision	



Fleet Monitoring Software Project



- The telematic software data will refine emissions inventories for on-road fleets.
- The software can collect various data, such as:
 - Speeds
 - Fuel consumption
 - Emissions
 - Idling & Idling cost
 - & Savings potential
 - More!
 - Average MPG
 - Run time
- **CAPCOG is seeking feedback in who would be interested in this software.**
 - The equipment and software would be available at no-cost to users with a sharing requirement.
- Please contact Anton if you are interested.



PurpleAir PM Sensor Loan Project



- CAPCOG has 18 PurpleAir PM sensors to deploy across the region.
- Goal: Place 1 sensor in each CAC community and the remaining sensors in non-CAC cities or unincorporated areas (such as Del Valle), in partnership with the Central TX Clean Air Force (CAF).
- In order to increase the educational opportunity, it would be ideal for the sensors to be installed at schools, but libraries could work.
 - A 1-day curriculum (middle school level) has been developed by CAF to support the sensor data.
- The sensors would be on loan at no-cost via a written agreement.
- **Please contact Anton if you are interested or have a school connection.**



Other Updates



- The 2021 Air Quality Annual Report will be released by the end of the month.
- The 2021 Air Quality Data Analysis will also be released by the end of the month.
- Starting planning for several Emission Inventory projects.
- Awaiting a decision from EPA on two PM monitoring grants that we applied for earlier this year.
 - Decision is expected in Aug-Sep 2022.

Thank You



Capital Area Council of Governments

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