



## BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Wednesday, May 12, 2021

12:00 P.M. - 2:00 P.M.

WebEx Virtual Meeting (provided to members only by email)

Video livestream available to public on COG website

### AGENDA

- 12:00 P.M.**
- 1. CALL TO ORDER**  
*Robert C. White, Jr., COG Board Chair*
  - 2. CHAIRMAN'S REPORT**  
*Robert C. White, Jr., COG Board Chair*
- 12:05 P.M.**
- 3. EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S REPORT**  
*Chuck Bean, COG Executive Director*
  - 4. AMENDMENTS TO THE AGENDA**  
*Robert C. White, Jr., COG Board Chair*
- 12:15 P.M.**
- 5. APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES FROM APRIL 14, 2021**  
*Robert C. White, Jr., COG Board Chair*  
**Recommended Action: Approve minutes.**
  - 6. ADOPTION OF CONSENT AGENDA ITEMS**  
*Robert C. White, Jr., COG Board Chair*
    - A. Resolution R24-2021 – Resolution approving updates to COG's Title VI Plan and Program
    - B. Resolution R25-2021 – Resolution approving amendments to COG's Investment Policy
    - C. Resolution R26-2021 – Resolution approving amendments to COG's Operating Reserve Policy**Recommended Action: Adopt Resolutions R24-2021 – R26-2021.**
- 12:20 P.M.**
- 7. 2021 FOSTER PARENT APPRECIATION**  
*Robert C. White, Jr., COG Board Chair*

The board will recognize the 2021 foster parents of the year and view a video highlighting each family's fostering journey.

**Recommended Action: Receive briefing.**
- 12:25 P.M.**
- 8. FISCAL YEAR 2021 THIRD QUARTER FINANCIAL REPORT**

Reasonable accommodations are provided upon request, including alternative formats of meeting materials.  
Visit [www.mwco.org/accommodations](http://www.mwco.org/accommodations) or call (202) 962-3300 or (202) 962-3213 (TDD).

*Rodney Lusk, COG Secretary-Treasurer  
Julie Mussog, COG Chief Financial Officer*

The board will be briefed on the FY 2021 third quarter (July 2020 - March 2021) financial statements.

**Recommended Action: Receive briefing.**

**12:30 P.M. 9. FISCAL YEAR 2022 WORK PROGRAM AND BUDGET**

*Chuck Bean, COG Executive Director  
Julie Mussog, COG Chief Financial Officer*

The board will be briefed on the proposed FY2022 (July 1, 2021 to June 30, 2022) Work Program and Budget, reviewed and recommended for approval by the Budget and Finance Committee.

**Recommended Action: Receive briefing and adopt Resolution R27-2021.**

**12:40 P.M. 10. COG ELECTION OFFICIALS COMMITTEE**

*Richard Keech, Loudoun County Office of Elections Deputy Registrar  
Alysoun McLaughlin, Montgomery County Deputy Elections Director  
Terri Stroud, District of Columbia Board of Elections General Counsel*

The board will be briefed by the leadership of the COG Election Officials Committee on plans for upcoming elections in the region.

**Recommended Action: Receive briefing.**

**1:00 P.M. 11. 2021 REGIONAL HOMELESS ENUMERATION**

*Tom Barnett, Fairfax County Office to Prevent and End Homelessness Director  
Kristy Greenwalt, District of Columbia Interagency Council on Homelessness Director*

COG Homeless Services Committee Co-chairs will brief the board on the results of the Point in Time count, an annual enumeration of persons experiencing homelessness in the metropolitan Washington region.

**Recommended Action: Receive briefing.**

**1:25 P.M. 12. COG 2030 CLIMATE AND ENERGY ACTION PLAN**

*Jeffrey King, COG Director of Climate, Energy and Air Program  
Kanti Srikanth, COG Deputy Executive Director of Metropolitan Planning*

The board will be briefed on COG's 2030 Climate Energy Action Plan and updated on efforts of member jurisdictions to develop local climate action, resilience, energy and electric vehicle plans. The regional plan was developed last year by COG's Climate, Energy and Environment Policy Committee following the adoption of regional greenhouse gas reduction goals. The Plan establishes priority voluntary and collaborative actions for COG and its members to help the region achieve its 2030 climate goals.

**Recommended Action: Receive briefing.**

**1:55 P.M. 13. OTHER BUSINESS**

**2:00 P.M. 14. ADJOURN**

The next COG Board of Directors meeting is scheduled for June 9, 2021.

**AGENDA ITEM #2**

**CHAIRMAN'S REPORT**

# **AGENDA ITEM #3**

## **EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S REPORT**



## MEMORANDUM

**TO:** COG Board of Directors  
**FROM:** Chuck Bean, COG Executive Director  
**SUBJECT:** Executive Director's Report – May 2021  
**DATE:** May 5, 2021

## POLICY BOARD & COMMITTEE UPDATES

**National Capital Region Transportation Planning Board (TPB)** – At its April meeting, the TPB approved projects for funding through the Coronavirus Response and Recovery Supplemental Appropriations Act for Enhanced Mobility and approved 11 projects for technical assistance through the Transportation Land-use Connections program. The TPB also held a work session that sparked an in-depth discussion about the conformity projects for Visualize 2045.

**Region Forward Coalition (RFC)** – During its April meeting, RFC focused on accessibility and the future of transportation. Staff moderated a panel featuring leaders from WMATA, NVTA, and the Greater Washington Partnership and facilitated breakout group discussions about future changes to the transportation sector post-pandemic.



### D.C. STATEHOOD OUTREACH

COG members made the case for D.C. statehood through videos and social media posts following the Board of Directors' unanimous approval of a statehood resolution in April.

[View the campaign](#)

## OUTREACH & PROGRAM HIGHLIGHTS

**COG Presentations** – Chuck Bean provided remarks on transit-oriented communities at a Bisnow Digital Summit on April 21 and a D.C. Age-Friendly Ecosystem Regional Summit on May 4. Bean also participated in a Back to Work Regional Roundtable hosted by Washington Metropolitan Area Transit Authority (WMATA) on April 27.

**Fair Housing** – In honor of April being Fair Housing Month, COG supported regional fair housing events on April 27 in Fairfax County and April 29 in the District of Columbia. COG Board Chair Robert White provided remarks at the April 29 Equal Rights Center event, Fair Housing Beyond Borders in the DMV, which was supported by COG and the DC Department of Housing & Community Development.

**Earth Month 2021** – COG Chesapeake Bay and Water Resources Policy Committee Chair Laurie-Anne Sayles, COG Air and Climate Public Advisory Committee Chair Guillermo Ortiz, and COG Food and Agriculture Regional Member (FARM) Ad Hoc Advisory Committee Chair Mary Cheh participated in a video campaign encouraging residents to prioritize improving our environment and communities while exploring the outdoors during the month of April.

**Housing Targets** - Housing Programs Manager Hilary Chapman and Community Planning and Services Director Paul DesJardin participated in a Regional Housing Initiatives Peer-to-Peer Workshop hosted by the Mid-Ohio Regional Planning Council on April 14.

**Transit Within Reach Program** – The TPB’s Transit Within Reach Program provides technical assistance for design and preliminary engineering projects that will improve bike and walk connections to existing high-capacity transit stations or stations that will be open to riders by 2030. The application period is now open, and applications are due by July 1.

[Learn more about the program and apply](#)

**Street Smart** – COG’s pedestrian and bicyclist safety program, Street Smart, launched a 2021 campaign that will run from April 19 through May 16 and includes increased enforcement of traffic safety laws that protect people walking and biking in the District of Columbia, suburban Maryland, and Northern Virginia. The campaign offers safety tips to drivers, pedestrians, and bicyclists through a combination of transit ads, media outreach, digital engagement, video testimonials, and on-the-ground outreach.

[Learn more about the campaign](#)

**Inauguration Coordination** - Chuck Bean and Homeland Security and Public Safety Managing Director Scott Boggs attended a 59th Inauguration Recognition Luncheon on April 27 at Joint Base Myer-Henderson Hall. The event was hosted by the Joint Task Force - National Capital Region for regional partners that supported public safety coordination.



### **TPB SELECTS 11 PROJECTS FOR TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE**

Through the Transportation Land-Use Connections (TLC) Program, TPB selected 11 projects for technical assistance that will help build and enhance vibrant communities where it is easy to walk, bike, and take transit. They are all in or near Activity Centers, high-capacity transit stations, and eight of them are in Transit Access Focus Areas, making them very supportive of TPB policy objectives.

[Learn more about the projects](#)

**Anacostia River tree planting** – COG hosted a tree planting event within the Paint Branch subwatershed of the Anacostia River to reforest the historic White Oak Golf Course. With the help of 20 volunteers, 140 native trees were planted that will provide stream-side habitat and shading.

**DEA Drug Take Back Day** – COG joined regional partners in promoting the U.S. Drug Enforcement Agency’s National Prescription Drug Take Back Day by sharing tips for proper disposal of medications on social media.

## **MEDIA HIGHLIGHTS**

**Regional leaders endorse D.C. statehood** – Article covers COG Board discussion and resolution and quotes COG Board Chair White, Loudoun County Chair Phyllis Randall, and U.S. Congressman Gerry Connolly.

[Inside NOVA](#)

**The pandemic changed the workday, but will transit riders return?** – TPB’s Voices of the Region Survey informs Metro decisions for post-pandemic planning.

[The Washington Post](#)

**Report: Nearly 1 in 3 DC-area traffic deaths were on foot or bike** – COG Street Smart campaign reveals nearly one-third of the people killed in traffic crashes in the D.C. area in 2020 were pedestrians or bicyclists.

[WTOP](#)



### **TPB LAUNCHES NEW VISUALIZE 2045 SITE**

The TPB launched a new website for Visualize 2045, the region’s long-range transportation plan. The new site describes the plan requirements and uses graphics and videos to help explain the timeline, break down different components of the plan, and lay out strategies for addressing our region’s transportation challenges.

[Visit the new website](#)



## **MEMORANDUM**

**TO:** Transportation Planning Board  
**FROM:** Kanti Srikanth, TPB Staff Director  
**SUBJECT:** Summary of President Biden's American Jobs Plan  
**DATE:** April 15, 2021

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In response to requests and suggestions received, this memorandum provides a summary of staff's understanding of the various elements of the American Jobs Plan (AJP) announced by President Biden on March 31, 2021.

The summary focuses on elements related to the transportation system. Information in this memorandum is based on staff's review of official White House documents describing the plan and webinars, articles, and other publications of national organizations, including American Association of State Highway and Transportation Officials (AASHTO), American Public Transportation Association (APTA), National Association of Regional Councils, and particularly the Eno Center for Transportation.

It is important to note that details of the AJP continue to emerge and evolve. As such, the information below represents a "point in time" summary. Additionally, the White House has issued a "need for action" fact sheet for the various U.S. states and territories. The fact sheets for the District of Columbia, Maryland, and Virginia are attached to this memorandum (pages 5 – 10).

## **OVERVIEW**

On March 31, 2021, President Biden announced a \$2.3 trillion American Jobs Plan calling it "an investment in America that will create millions of good jobs, rebuild our country's infrastructure." The president noted the crumbling "roads, bridges and water system," vulnerability of our electric grid to "catastrophic outages," how "too many lack access to affordable high-speed Internet and quality housing," the state of employment, the "fragility of our caregiving infrastructure," and that the nation was "falling behind its biggest competitors on research and development." In describing the plan, the president noted that the plan "prioritizes addressing long-standing and persistent racial injustice" and "40 percent of the benefits of climate and clean energy infrastructure investments" will benefit "disadvantaged communities."

The plan organizes the proposed investments of the AJP under the following objectives:

- Fix highways, rebuild bridges, upgrade ports, airports, and transit systems.
- Deliver clean drinking water, a renewed electric grid, and high-speed broadband to all Americans.
- Build, preserve, and retrofit more than two million homes and commercial buildings, modernize our nation's schools and childcare facilities, and upgrade veterans' hospitals and federal buildings.
- Solidify the infrastructure of our economy by creating jobs and raising wages and benefits for essential home care workers.



- Revitalize manufacturing, secure U.S. supply chains, invest in research and development, and train Americans for jobs of the future.
- Create good quality jobs that pay prevailing wages in safe and healthy workplaces while ensuring workers have a free choice to organize, join a union, and bargain collectively with their employers.

## WHAT IS IN THE PLAN?

The AJP calls for investing \$2.3 trillion into a set of specific projects and programs. Using the Office of Management and Budget (OMB) definition for “federal investments,” the Eno Center for Transportation (Eno) groups the proposed investments as below (Table 1).

**TABLE 1: PROPOSED FEDERAL INVESTMENTS**

INFRASTRUCTURE	OTHER PHYSICAL CAPITAL	OTHER INVESTMENTS
Transportation (\$571B)	Affordable housing (\$213B)	Research & development (\$180B)
Drinking/Wastewater (\$111B)	Build public schools (\$100B)	
Broadband (\$100B)	Build community colleges (\$12B)	Invest in manufacturing (\$300B)
Power/electric grid (\$100B)	Build childcare facilities (\$25B)	
Resiliency for the above (\$50B)	Upgrade VA hospitals (\$18B)	Workforce development (\$100B)
	Federal buildings (\$10B)	

Source: Eno Center for Transportation, Webinar, March 31, 2021

Eno reported that the total federal investments in FY 2019 was \$556B including national defense, and \$337B excluding defense. The investment proposed by the AJP is about four times the total FY 2019 investment (or about 5.5 times the FY 2019 investment excluding national defense amount).

It is reported that this investment would be made over an eight year period and that legislative budget proposals are typically evaluated over a 10 year period.

## HOW IS THE PLAN TO BE FUNDED?

The AJP calls for an investment of about \$2.3 based a set of new revenues outlined in what is referred to as the Made in American Tax Plan. The general elements of the revenue plan are:

- Reset the corporate tax rate to 28 percent.
- Establish a minimum tax rate for U.S. Multinational corporations at 21 percent.
- Eliminate the rule that allows U.S. companies pay zero taxes on first 10 percent on returns on investments located in foreign countries.
- Enact a minimum tax rate of 15 percent on large corporations’ “book income.”
- Eliminate tax preferences for fossil fuels and restore payments from polluting industries into the Superfund Trust Fund.
- Eliminate tax incentives for “foreign derived intangible income” (tax break for shifting assets abroad).
- Disallow deduction to foreign corporations based in countries without a strong minimum tax to strip profits out of U.S.
- Deny companies expense deductions for “offshoring” jobs and provide tax credit to support “onshoring” jobs.

## QUESTIONS BEING EXPLORED

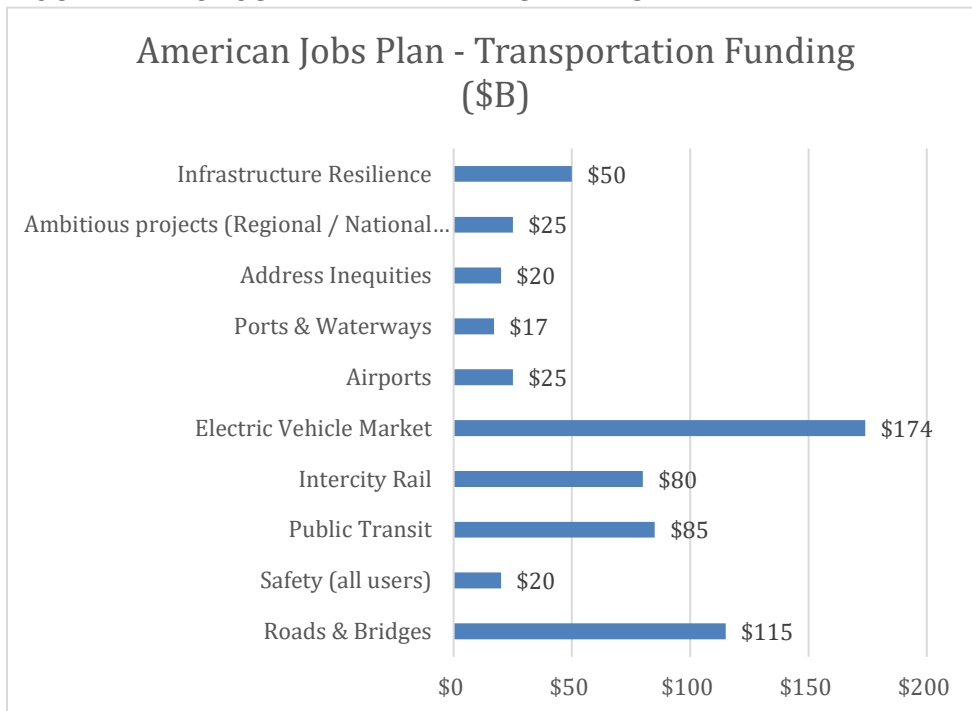
TPB staff are awaiting details on many aspects of the American Jobs Plan. The questions associated with the AJP include:

- How will the plan move through the Congress to become law and to include budget appropriations?
- What elements of the AJP and at what levels of funding will emerge at the end of the legislative process?
- Will this funding be additive to the regular federal funding and within the transportation related funding?
- What will the transportation related investments mean to the reauthorized Surface Transportation Act (and is there any growth in the underlying programs)?
- What will be the federal share of these funding amounts?
- How would these funds be distributed (formulas, dedicated, or discretionary grants)?

## PRELIMINARY REPORTS OF TRANSPORTATION FUNDING

The original announcement noted the transportation and resiliency investments at \$621B<sup>1</sup> with the breakdown as shown below (Figure 1).

**FIGURE 1: PROPOSED FEDERAL INVESTMENTS**



Source: White House Fact Sheet: The American Jobs Plan, March 31, 2021

<sup>1</sup> The White House Fact sheet document cites \$621B while the breakdown amounts specified (as in Figure 1) adds up to \$611B

TPB staff are awaiting the details of the above category of funds, particularly from programs within the U.S. Departments of Transportation. An Eno newsletter citing media reports<sup>2</sup> of documents—apparently from an US DOT official—provided the following breakdown of \$456B in transportation related funding from the US DOT as below (Table 2). It is important to underscore the evolving nature of the details of the AJP and that the process for and prospects with congressional action is yet to be finalized. As such, the amounts, and program categories in this memo is subject to change.

**TABLE 2: POTENTIAL BREAKDOWN OF TRANSPORTATION FUNDING IN AJP**

<b>Roads and Bridges</b>	<b>\$115B</b>	<b>Safety for All Users</b>	<b>\$20B</b>
<i>“Fix it Right” Road Modernization</i>	\$50B	<i>Expand (FHWA) HSIP</i>	\$ 8B
<i>Bridge Investment Program</i>	\$40B	<i>Support Safe Driving Behaviors</i>	\$ 1B
<i>Community Transpo. Block Grant</i>	\$ 5B	<i>Safe Streets For All, Fund</i>	\$10B
<i>Transportation Alternatives</i>	\$ 5B	<i>Pipeline Safety Modern. Grants</i>	\$ 1B
<i>Carbon Reduction Bonus Program</i>	\$10B		
<i>CMAQ</i>	\$ 5B	<b>Advancing Transformative Projects</b>	<b>\$44B</b>
		<i>Transformational Infra. Projects</i>	\$25B
<b>Public Transportation</b>		<i>ARPA-I and Basic Research</i>	\$ 2B
<i>“Fix it Right” State of Good Repair</i>	\$50B	<i>Predevelopment &amp; Planning Funds</i>	\$ 2B
<i>Replace Diesel Buses with Electric</i>	\$25B	<i>Infrastructure Grand Challenge</i>	\$ 5B
<i>Transit System Expansion</i>	\$25B	<i>Expand BUILD Program</i>	\$ 5B
<i>ADA Compliance Upgrades</i>	\$ 5B	<i>Expand INFRA Program</i>	\$ 3B
		<i>Other (RRIF, PAB, etc.)</i>	\$ 2B
<b>Intercity Rail</b>			
<i>Northeast Corridor Modernization</i>	\$39B	<b>Restore/Reconnect Thriving Communities</b>	<b>\$25B</b>
<i>AMTRAK National Network</i>	\$16B	<i>Thriving Communities Initiatives</i>	\$ 5B
<i>Other Intercity Passenger Rail</i>	\$20B	<i>Highways-to-Neighborhoods</i>	\$15B
<i>Freight Rail &amp; Rail Safety Upgrades</i>	\$ 5B	<i>Transpo. Workforce Training</i>	\$ 2B
		<i>Tribal Transportation program</i>	\$ 3B
<b>Aviation</b>	<b>\$ 25B</b>		
<i>FAA NextGen Air Traffic Control</i>	\$ 5B	<b>Build/Install 500,000 EV Chargers</b>	<b>\$15B</b>
<i>“Airside” AIP Grants</i>	\$10B		
<i>“groundside” Airport Grants</i>	\$10B	<b>PROTECT, Resiliency Grants</b>	<b>\$ 5B</b>
<b>Ports and Waterways</b>	<b>\$ 17B</b>		
<i>USACE Parts &amp; Inland Waterways</i>	\$ 8B		
<i>GSA Land Ports of Entry</i>	\$ 3B		
<i>Healthy Ports Initiative</i>	\$ 6B		

Source: Eno Center for Transportation, April 9, 2021 Newsletter

<sup>2</sup> Eno Newsletter, April 2, 2021: Reuters and POLITICO news outlets reported on the proposed US DOT programs to allocate AJP funds.

# AMERICAN JOBS PLAN

## *The Need for Action in the District of Columbia*

For decades, infrastructure in the District of Columbia has suffered from a systemic lack of investment. The need for action is clear:

The District of Columbia's infrastructure received a C- grade on its Infrastructure Report Card. The American Jobs Plan will make a historic investment in our nation's infrastructure.

- **ROADS AND BRIDGES:** In the District of Columbia there are 8 bridges and over 402 miles of highway in poor condition. Since 2011, commute times have increased by 2% in the District of Columbia and on average, each driver pays \$1,100 per year in costs due to driving on roads in need of repair. The American Jobs Plan will devote more than \$600 billion to transform our nation's transportation infrastructure and make it more resilient, including \$115 billion repairing roads and bridges.
- **PUBLIC TRANSPORTATION:** D.C residents who take public transportation spend an extra 25.2% of their time commuting and non-White households are 0.7 times more likely to commute via public transportation. 5% of trains and other transit vehicles in the state are past useful life. The American Jobs Plan will modernize public transit with an \$85 billion investment.
- **RESILIENT INFRASTRUCTURE:** The District of Columbia has experienced extreme weather events, costing the city millions in damages. The President is calling for \$50 billion to improve the resiliency of our infrastructure and support communities' recovery from disaster.
- **DRINKING WATER:** Over the next 20 years, The District of Columbia's drinking water infrastructure will require \$1.75 billion in additional funding. The American Jobs Plan includes a \$111 billion investment to ensure clean, safe drinking water is a right in all communities.
- **HOUSING:** In part due to a lack of available and affordable housing, 79,000 renters in the District of Columbia are rent burdened, meaning they spend more than 30% of their income on rent. The President proposes investing over \$200 billion to increase housing supply and address the affordable housing crisis.
- **BROADBAND:** Even where infrastructure is available, for many District residents, reliable broadband may be too expensive to be within reach. Nearly 13% of District households do not have an internet subscription. The American Jobs Plan will invest \$100 billion to bring universal, reliable, high-speed, and affordable coverage to every family in America.
- **CAREGIVING:** Across the country, hundreds of thousands of older adults and people with disabilities are in need of home and community-based services. The President's plan will invest \$400 billion to help more people access care and improve the quality of caregiving jobs.
- **CHILD CARE:** In the District of Columbia, 27% of residents live in a childcare desert. The American Jobs Plan will modernize our nation's schools and early learning facilities and build new ones in neighborhoods across the District and the country.
- **MANUFACTURING:** Manufacturers employ 1,000 residents in the District and account for \$300 million in total output. The American Job's Plan will invest \$300 billion to retool and revitalize American

manufacturers.

- **HOME ENERGY:** In the District of Columbia, many low-income families are forced to make tough choices between paying energy bills and buying food, medicine or other essentials. The American Jobs Plan will upgrade low-income homes to make them more energy efficient through a historic investment in the Weatherization Assistance Program, a new Clean Energy and Sustainability Accelerator to finance building improvements, and expanded tax credits to support home energy upgrades.
- **CLEAN ENERGY JOBS:** As of 2019, there were 15,383 District residents working in clean energy, and the American Jobs Plan invests in creating more good paying union jobs advancing clean energy production by extending and expanding tax credits for clean energy generation, carbon capture and sequestration and clean energy manufacturing.
- **VETERANS HEALTH:** The District of Columbia is home to close to 28,000 veterans, 14% of whom are women and 41% of whom are over the age of 65. The President is calling for \$18 billion to improve the infrastructure of VA health care facilities to ensure the delivery of world-class, state of the art care to veterans enrolled in the VA health care system. This includes improvements to ensure appropriate care for women and older veterans.

# AMERICAN JOBS PLAN

## *The Need for Action in Maryland*

For decades, infrastructure in Maryland has suffered from a systemic lack of investment. The need for action is clear:

Maryland's infrastructure received a **C** grade on its Infrastructure Report Card. The American Jobs Plan will make a historic investment in our nation's infrastructure.

- **ROADS AND BRIDGES:** In Maryland there are 273 bridges and over 2,201 miles of highway in poor condition. Since 2011, commute times have increased by 5.1% in Maryland and on average, each driver pays \$637 per year in costs due to driving on roads in need of repair. The American Jobs Plan will devote more than \$600 billion to transform our nations' transportation infrastructure and make it more resilient, including \$115 billion repairing roads and bridges.
- **PUBLIC TRANSPORTATION:** Marylanders who take public transportation spend an extra 66.3% of their time commuting and non-White households are 2.7 times more likely to commute via public transportation. 23% of trains and other transit vehicles in the state are past useful life. The American Jobs Plan will modernize public transit with an \$85 billion investment.
- **RESILIENT INFRASTRUCTURE:** From 2010 to 2020, Maryland has experienced 31 extreme weather events, costing the state up to \$10 billion in damages. The President is calling for \$50 billion to improve the resiliency of our infrastructure and support communities' recovery from disaster.
- **DRINKING WATER:** Over the next 20 years, Maryland's drinking water infrastructure will require \$9.3 billion in additional funding. The American Jobs Plan includes a \$111 billion investment to ensure clean, safe drinking water is a right in all communities.
- **HOUSING:** In part due to a lack of available and affordable housing, 353,000 renters in Maryland are rent burdened, meaning they spend more than 30% of their income on rent. The President proposes investing over \$200 billion to increase housing supply and address the affordable housing crisis.
- **BROADBAND:** 3.8% of Marylanders live in areas where, by one definition, there is no broadband infrastructure that provides minimally acceptable speeds. And 34.5% of Marylanders live in areas where there is only one such internet provider. Even where infrastructure is available, broadband may be too expensive to be within reach. 10.9% of Maryland households do not have an internet subscription. The American Jobs Plan will invest \$100 billion to bring universal, reliable, high-speed, and affordable coverage to every family in America.
- **CAREGIVING:** Across the country, hundreds of thousands of older adults and people with disabilities are in need of home and community-based services. The President's plan will invest \$400 billion to help more people access care and improve the quality of caregiving jobs.
- **CHILD CARE:** In Maryland, there is an estimated \$615 million gap in what schools need to do maintenance and make improvements and 51% of residents live in a childcare desert. The American Jobs Plan will modernize our nation's schools and early learning facilities and build new ones in neighborhoods across Maryland and the country.

- **MANUFACTURING:** Manufacturers account for more than 5.89% of total output in Maryland, employing 108,000 workers, or 3.92% of the state's workforce. The American Job's Plan will invest \$300 billion to retool and revitalize American manufacturers.
- **HOME ENERGY:** In Maryland, an average low-income family spends 6-8% of their income on home energy costs forcing tough choices between paying energy bills and buying food, medicine or other essentials. The American Jobs Plan will upgrade low-income homes to make them more energy efficient through a historic investment in the Weatherization Assistance Program, a new Clean Energy and Sustainability Accelerator to finance building improvements, and expanded tax credits to support home energy upgrades.
- **CLEAN ENERGY JOBS:** As of 2019, there were 84,549 Marylanders working in clean energy, and the American Jobs Plan invests in creating more good paying union jobs advancing clean energy production by extending and expanding tax credits for clean energy generation, carbon capture and sequestration and clean energy manufacturing.
- **VETERANS HEALTH:** Maryland is home to over 389,600 veterans, 13.3% of whom are women and 42.2% of whom are over the age of 65. The President is calling for \$18 billion to improve the infrastructure of VA health care facilities to ensure the delivery of world-class, state of the art care to veterans enrolled in the VA health care system. This includes improvements to ensure appropriate care for women and older veterans.

# AMERICAN JOBS PLAN

## *The Need for Action in Virginia*

For decades, infrastructure in Virginia has suffered from a systemic lack of investment. The need for action is clear:

- **ROADS AND BRIDGES:** In Virginia there are 577 bridges and over 2,124 miles of highway in poor condition. Since 2011, commute times have increased by 7.7% in Virginia and on average, each driver pays \$517 per year in costs due to driving on roads in need of repair. The American Jobs Plan will devote more than \$600 billion to transform our nations' transportation infrastructure and make it more resilient, including \$115 billion repairing roads and bridges.
- **PUBLIC TRANSPORTATION:** Virginians who take public transportation spend an extra 72.2% of their time commuting and non-White households are 1.6 times more likely to commute via public transportation. 10% of trains and other transit vehicles in the state are past useful life. The American Jobs Plan will modernize public transit with an \$85 billion investment.
- **RESILIENT INFRASTRUCTURE:** From 2010 to 2020, Virginia has experienced 40 extreme weather events, costing the state up to \$10 billion in damages. The President is calling for \$50 billion to improve the resiliency of our infrastructure and support communities' recovery from disaster.
- **DRINKING WATER:** Over the next 20 years, Virginia's drinking water infrastructure will require \$18.1 billion in additional funding. The American Jobs Plan includes a \$111 billion investment to ensure clean, safe drinking water is a right in all communities.
- **HOUSING:** In part due to a lack of available and affordable housing, nearly 500,000 renters in Virginia are rent burdened, meaning they spend more than 30% of their income on rent. The President proposes investing over \$200 billion to increase housing supply and address the affordable housing crisis.
- **BROADBAND:** 9.7% of Virginians live in areas where, by one definition, [there is no broadband infrastructure](#) that provides minimally acceptable speeds. And 39.4% of Virginians live in areas where there is only one such internet provider. Even where infrastructure is available, broadband may be too expensive to be within reach. 13.3% of Virginia households do not have an internet subscription. The American Jobs Plan will invest \$100 billion to bring universal, reliable, high-speed, and affordable coverage to every family in America.
- **CAREGIVING:** Across the country, hundreds of thousands of older adults and people with disabilities are in need of home and community-based services. The President's plan will invest \$400 billion to help more people access care and improve the quality of caregiving jobs.
- **CHILD CARE:** In Virginia, there is an estimated \$973 million gap in what schools need to do maintenance and make improvements and 47% of residents live in a childcare desert. The American Jobs Plan will modernize our nation's schools and early learning facilities and build new ones in neighborhoods across Virginia and the country.
- **MANUFACTURING:** Manufacturers account for nearly 9% of total output in Virginia, employing 246,000 workers, or 6.1% of the state's workforce. The American Job's Plan will invest \$300 billion to retool and revitalize American manufacturers, including providing incentives for manufacturers to invest in



innovative energy projects in coal communities.

- **HOME ENERGY:** In Virginia, an average low-income family spends 6-8% of their income on home energy costs forcing tough choices between paying energy bills and buying food, medicine or other essentials. The American Jobs Plan will upgrade low-income homes to make them more energy efficient through a historic investment in the Weatherization Assistance Program, a new Clean Energy and Sustainability Accelerator to finance building improvements, and expanded tax credits to support home energy upgrades.
- **CLEAN ENERGY JOBS:** Virginia has outsized potential for innovative energy technologies including carbon capture and sequestration and geothermal energy generation, that create good paying union jobs. As of 2019, there were 97,305 Virginians working in clean energy, and the American Jobs Plan invests in building that industry through a reformed and expanded Section 45Q tax credit and extending renewable energy tax credits.
- **VETERANS HEALTH:** Virginia is home to over 725,028 veterans, 14.3% of who are women and 36.3% who are over the age of 65. The President is calling for \$18 billion to improve the infrastructure of VA health care facilities to ensure the delivery of world-class, state of the art care to veterans enrolled in the VA health care system. This includes improvements to ensure appropriate care for women and older veterans.

**AGENDA ITEM #4**

**AMENDMENTS TO THE  
AGENDA**

## **AGENDA ITEM #5**

### **APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES**

**METROPOLITAN WASHINGTON COUNCIL OF GOVERNMENTS  
777 North Capitol Street, NE  
Washington, D.C. 20002**

**MINUTES  
COG Board of Directors Meeting  
April 14, 2021**

**BOARD MEMBERS AND ALTERNATES:** See attached chart for attendance.

**SPEAKERS:**

Dr. Danny Avula, State of Virginia Vaccination Coordinator  
Gerry Connolly, U.S. Congressman  
Chris Van Hollen, U.S. Senator  
Muriel Bowser, District of Columbia Mayor  
Karla Bruce, Fairfax County Chief Equity Officer  
Tiffany Ward, Montgomery County Chief Equity Officer  
Dr. James Crowe, Jr., Vanderbilt University Vaccine Center Director  
Stu Solomon, Connected DMV President & CEO

**1. CALL TO ORDER AND PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE**

COG Board Chair Robert C. White, Jr. called the meeting to order at 12:00 P.M. and led the Pledge of Allegiance.

**2. CHAIRMAN'S REPORT**

**3. EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S REPORT**

COG Executive Director Chuck Bean highlighted COG's Earth Day social campaign including a video from several COG policy committee chairs offering ways in which residents can celebrate Earth Day while enjoying the outdoors. Bean also briefed the board on COG's partnership with the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers Baltimore District to perform a coastal storm study. The study aligns with COG's Water Resources Technical Committee 2021 focus on flooding in the region. Bean also discussed Montgomery County's electric school bus initiative and how it benefits the school system.

**4. AMENDMENTS TO AGENDA**

There were no amendments to the agenda.

**5. APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

The minutes from the March 10, 2021 board meeting were approved.

**6. ADOPTION OF CONSENT AGENDA ITEMS**

- A. Resolution R20-2021 – Resolution authorizing COG to receive and expend grant funds from the American Rescue Plan Act of 2021 for the Enhanced Mobility of Seniors and Individuals with Disabilities program.
- B. Resolution R21-2021 – Resolution authorizing COG to receive and expend grant funds from the Federal Transit Administration for the Enhanced Mobility of Seniors & Individuals with Disabilities program.

**ACTION: Approved Resolutions R20-2021 – R21-2021.**

## **7. COVID-19: VACCINE DISTRIBUTION UPDATE**

Virginia State Vaccination Coordinator Dr. Danny Avula briefed the COG Board of Directors on the status of vaccine distribution in Virginia, including the pause the use of the Johnson & Johnson vaccine, changes in vaccine demand, and strategies to help alleviate vaccine hesitancy specifically in underserved communities.

**ACTION: Received briefing.**

## **8. STATEHOOD FOR THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA**

U.S. Congressman Gerry Connolly and U.S. Senator Chris Van Hollen briefed the board on the status of the path to statehood for the District of Columbia within Congress. D.C. Mayor Muriel Bowser then explained why statehood is so important not only for the District but for the entire region. Lastly, COG Board Statehood Task Force Co-chairs Derrick Davis and Christian Dorsey recommended a resolution to endorse statehood for the District.

**ACTION: Received briefing and approved Resolution R22-2021.**

## **9. COG CHIEF EQUITY OFFICERS COMMITTEE**

Fairfax County Chief Equity Officer Karla Bruce and Montgomery County Chief Equity Officer Tiffany Ward briefed the board on the progression of equity focused leadership and initiatives in the region and how regional collaboration has been essential in advancing racial equity. They also shared the goals of COG's new Chief Equity Officers Committee (CEOC) and presented a resolution to create a Racial Equity Training Task Force to provide input and direction to the CEOC and COG staff.

**ACTION: Received briefing and approved Resolution R23-2021.**

## **10. CONNECTED DMV GLOBAL PANDEMIC PREVENTION & BIODEFENSE CENTER**

Vanderbilt University Vaccine Center Director Dr. James Crowe, Jr. and Connected DMV President and CEO Stu Solomon briefed the board the new Connected DMV Global Pandemic Prevention and Biodefense Center and how it will accelerate regional pandemic preparedness for the future.

**ACTION: Received briefing.**

## **10. OTHER BUSINESS**

There was no other business.

## **11. ADJOURN**

Upon motion duly made and seconded, the meeting was adjourned at 1:56 P.M.

**April 14, 2021 Attendance**

<u>Jurisdiction</u>	<u>Member</u>	<u>Y/N</u>	<u>Alternate</u>	<u>Y/N</u>
<b><i>District of Columbia</i></b>				
<b>Executive</b>	Hon. Muriel Bowser	Y	Ms. Beverly Perry Mr. Wayne Turnage Ms. Lucinda Babers	Y
	Mr. Kevin Donahue		Eugene Kinlow	
<b>Council</b>	Hon. Phil Mendelson	Y		
	<b><i>Hon. Robert White</i></b>	Y		
<b><i>Maryland</i></b>				
Bowie	Hon. Tim Adams	Y		
Charles County	Hon. Reuben Collins	Y	Thomasina Coates Gilbert Bowling	P
City of Frederick	Hon. Michael O'Connor			
Frederick County	Hon. Jan Gardner		Ms. Joy Schaefer	Y
College Park	Hon. Denise Mitchell	Y	Hon. Patrick Wojahn	
Gaithersburg	Hon. Robert Wu		Hon. Neil Harris	Y
Greenbelt	Hon. Colin Byrd		Hon. Emmett Jordan	
Laurel	Hon. Craig Moe	Y	Hon. Michael Leszcz Mr. Bill Goddard	P
Montgomery County				
<b>Executive</b>	Hon. Marc Elrich	Y	Mr. Richard Madaleno	
<b>Council</b>	Hon. Tom Hucker	Y		
	Hon. Nancy Navarro	Y		
Prince George's County				
<b>Executive</b>	Hon. Angela Alsobrooks		Ms. Tara Jackson	
<b>Council</b>	Hon. Derrick Leon Davis	Y		
	Hon. Sydney Harrison	Y		
Rockville	Hon. Bridget Donnell Newton	Y		
Takoma Park	<b><i>Hon. Kate Stewart</i></b>	Y	Hon. Cindy Dyballa Hon. Peter Kovar	
Maryland General Assembly	Hon. Brian Feldman			
<b><i>Virginia</i></b>				
Alexandria	Hon. Justin Wilson	Y	Hon. Redella Pepper	
Arlington County	<b><i>Hon. Christian Dorsey</i></b>	Y		
City of Fairfax	Hon. David Meyer	Y	Hon. Jon Stehle	
Fairfax County	Hon. Jeff McKay		Hon. James Walkinshaw	
	Hon. Penelope Gross	Y	Hon. Daniel Storck	
	Hon. Rodney Lusk	Y	Hon. Walter Alcorn	
Falls Church	Hon. David Snyder	Y	Hon. David Tarter	
Loudoun County	Hon. Juli Briskman	Y		
Loudoun County	Hon. Phyllis Randall	Y		
Manassas	Hon. Mark Wolfe	Y		
Manassas Park	Hon. Darryl Moore	Y		
Prince William County	Hon. Ann Wheeler	Y		
	Hon. Andrea Bailey	Y		
Virginia General Assembly	Hon. George Barker	Y		

Y = Present, voting

(P) = Present as Alternate in addition to Primary

# **AGENDA ITEM #6**

## **ADOPTION OF CONSENT AGENDA ITEMS**

**ADOPTION OF CONSENT AGENDA ITEMS  
May 2021**

**A. RESOLUTION APPROVING UPDATES TO COG'S TITLE VI PLAN AND PROGRAM**

The Board will be asked to adopt Resolution R24-2021 updating COG's Title VI Plan and Program, which outlines how COG and the TPB ensure nondiscrimination in all programs and activities. The Program was prepared pursuant to the requirements of Title VI of the Civil Rights Act of 1964, and to comply with Federal Transit Administration (FTA) grant recipient guidelines. The Plan was prepared pursuant to FHWA requirements. The Plan is reviewed annually must be updated and submitted to the FTA for approval every three years. It is the intent of COG staff to continue to update these documents as often as necessary to make the documents "living" and a useful resource for the public. These updates include revised text, more recent Census data on low-income, minority and limited-English speaking populations, and a description of outreach efforts to these populations on transit-related issues. This update also includes changes related to Visualize 2045. COG's Executive Director and General Counsel have reviewed the updates and recommend approval.

**RECOMMENDED ACTION: Adopt Resolution R24-2021.**

**B. RESOLUTION APPROVING AMENDMENTS TO COG'S INVESTMENT POLICY**

The Board will be asked to adopt Resolution R25-2021 updating COG's Investment Policy. The purpose of the policy is to provide guidelines and operational factors governing the investment of working capital funds of the Metropolitan Washington Council of Governments. The proposed updates increase allowable investments in order to better meet the "Rate of Return" objective and better align the policy with COG's mission and vision. Updates to the policy include the additional investment objective of socially responsible instruments that support COG's mission and vision, alignment with Virginia and Maryland allowable investments for public monies, additional permissible investments including: Taxable Municipal Securities, Investment Grade Corporate Bonds, Mutual Funds, and Exchange Traded Funds. The Budget and Finance Committee has reviewed the policy amendments and recommends approval.

**RECOMMENDED ACTION: Adopt Resolution R25-2021.**

**C. RESOLUTION APPROVING AMENDMENTS TO COG'S OPERATING RESERVE POLICY**

The Board will be asked to adopt Resolution R26-2021 updating COG's Operating Reserve Policy. The purpose of the policy is to maintain an operating reserve to provide continuity of essential services in the face of unforeseen events that impact revenue or expense, such as unexpected and significant loss of funding, impairment of office facilities, economic downturn, unbudgeted one-time expenses. The operating reserve is intended to provide COG with the resources needed to meet its financial commitments in a fiscally prudent manner and maintain program stability while adjusting to unusual and unexpected circumstances. The proposed updates add financial flexibility that allows COG to better serve its members and mission. Updates include allowable use of reserve funds for one-time unbudgeted expenses, establishing a minimum reserve balance of \$5 million and a maximum calculated balance, and permitting the Executive Director, with notice to executive committee, to authorize use of funds up to \$100,000. The Budget and Finance Committee has reviewed the suggested policy amendments and recommends approval.

**RECOMMENDED ACTION: Adopt Resolution R26-2021.**



(Amended version approved by COG Budget and Finance Committee on April 26, 2021. Proposed for COG Board approval on May 12, 2021.)

## METROPOLITAN WASHINGTON COUNCIL OF GOVERNMENTS INVESTMENT POLICY

### Purpose

To establish guidelines and operational factors governing the investment of working capital funds of the Metropolitan Washington Council of Governments.

### Investment Objectives

**Safety of Principal** – Investments should be undertaken to ensure the preservation of capital within the Council’s portfolio.

**Diversification** – Investments should be undertaken to avoid unreasonable risk associated with specific securities, investment strategies and/or financial institutions.

**Liquidity** – Investments should be sufficiently liquid to enable the Council to meet all reasonable anticipated operating requirements.

**Rate of Return** – The Council’s investment portfolio should be designed to obtain a market average rate of return during budgetary and economic cycles,

**Socially Responsible/Mission Alignment** – Investments, when possible, should be selected that support COG’s overall mission and vision and meet socially responsible goals.

### Investment Guidelines

#### I. Authorized and Suitable Investments

##### A. Direct Federal Obligations

1. Any direct Federal obligations for which the United States has pledged its full faith and credit for the payment of principal and interest.
  - a. U.S. Treasury Bills
  - b. U.S. Treasury Notes
  - c. U.S. Treasury Bonds
2. Any direct obligations that a Federal agency or instrumentality issues in accordance with an act of Congress such as:
  - a. Federal Home Loan Mortgage Corporation
  - b. Federal National Mortgage Association
  - c. Federal Home Loan Bank System
  - d. Government National Mortgage Association
  - e. Federal Farm Credit Systems Banks
  - f. Student Loan Marketing Association

(Amended version approved by COG Budget and Finance Committee on April 26, 2021. Proposed for COG Board approval on May 12, 2021.)

B. Supranatural Issuers

1. An international development institution that provides financing, advisory services, or other financial services to the institution's countries to achieve the overall goal of improving the living standards through sustainable economic growth.
2. Is rated in the highest credit rating category by a national recognized statistical rating organization.
3. Supranatural issuers include:
  - a. The World Bank
  - b. The International Finance Corporation
  - c. The Inter-American Development Bank
  - d. The African Development Bank
  - e. The Asian Development Bank
4. Is issued and unconditionally guaranteed by a supranatural issuer denominated in United States dollars and is eligible to be sold in the United States.

C. Repurchase Agreements (Repo)

1. Collateral limited to bonds, notes, certificates of indebtedness, treasury bills or other securities guaranteed by the U.S. Government, its agencies, and its instrumentalities.

D. Deposits, Time Deposits, and Certificates of Deposit

1. May be purchased from any financial institution as defined by the criteria defined in the "Authorized and Suitable Financial Institutions & Dealers" section below.
2. Institution must provide one hundred two (102%) of collateral in the amount equal to the deposit plus interest of greater than the FDIC insured amount of \$100,000.000.

E. Bankers' Acceptances (BA) – Domestic and Foreign

1. Bankers' Association guaranteed by a financial institution with a short-term debt rating in the highest letter and numerical rating by at least one nationally recognized statistical rating organization as designed by the SEC.

F. Money Market Mutual Funds

1. Money market mutual funds registered under the amended Investment Company Act of 1940 and whose underlying securities are consistent with these guidelines.

G. Commercial Paper

1. Commercial paper rates in the two highest ratings categories established by at least one nationally recognized statistical rating organization as designated by the SEC and matures no more than 180 days from the purchase date.

H. Tax Exempt Securities

1. This investment vehicle is limited to bond proceeds only.

I. Domestic Corporate Bonds

1. No more than 10% of the Council funds may be invested with any one issuer at time of purchase.
2. Non-rated issues or issues below investment grade (below BBB) may not be purchased.
3. The average duration of corporate debt shall be no greater than 10 years.

J. Mutual Funds

K. Exchange Traded Funds

L. Taxable Municipal Securities

1. This investment vehicle is limited to bond proceeds only.

**II. Investment Limitations and Diversification**

A. Limitations by type of security

	Maximum Percentage of Portfolio
1. U.S. Government Treasury Securities	100%
2. U.S. Government Agency Securities	90%
3. Repurchase Agreements (Repo)	90%
4. U.S. Government Instrumentalities	80%
5. Supranational Issues	60%
6. Bankers' Acceptances (BA)	50%
7. Money Market Mutual Funds	50%
8. Certificates of Deposit (CD) (collateralized)	40%
9. Commercial Paper	10%
10. Domestic Corporate Bonds	30%
11. Mutual Funds	30%
12. Exchange Traded Funds	30%
13. Tax Exempt and Taxable Municipal Securities	40%

B. No limitations are placed on investments carrying the full faith and credit of the U.S. Government, including repurchase agreements collateralized by such investments.

C. Investments in any single federal agency not carrying the full faith and credit of the U.S. Government are limited to not more than fifty percent (50%) of the portfolio.

D. Investments in commercial paper in total are limited to not more than twenty-five percent (25%) of the portfolio investments in any one single issuer (excluding U.S. Treasury and federal agency securities).

### III. Authorized and Suitable Financial Institutions & Dealers

- A. Policy – Depository Investments should be limited to financial institutions which meet the following guides:
  - 1. Security – The Council shall maintain funds in a financial institution only if that institution is federally insured or invests strictly in securities, which have the full faith and credit of the U.S. Government.
  - 2. Percentages of Deposits: The Council will not select as a depository any financial institution in which the Council funds on deposit with the depository would exceed fifth event (50%) of the institution’s capital stock or net worth.
  - 3. Authorized and suitable investments may be purchased from registered broker/dealers listed with the New York Federal Reserve Board.
  
- B. Criteria – Depository investment should be limited to banks, savings and loan associations and credit unions which meet the following criteria:
  - 1. Banks must be insured by the Banking Insurance Fund of the FDIC.
  - 2. Savings and loan associations must be insured by the Savings Association Insurance Fund of the FDIC.
  - 3. All depository institutions must have a “satisfactory” or “outstanding” Community Reinvestment Act rating.
  - 4. All depository institutions should have a total capitalization of at least \$10,000,000.
  - 5. All depository institutions must have a FDIC Capital Classification of “Well Capitalized” or “Adequately Capitalized”.
  
- C. Additional considerations- The above policy and criteria are to be consistent with the Council’s Disadvantage Business Enterprise Policy.

### IV. Quality

All investments shall be made with judgment and care, which persons of prudence, discretion, and intelligence exercise in the management of their own affairs, not for speculation, but for investment, considering the probable safety of capital as well as the probable income to be delivered.

### V. Turnover

The portfolio will emphasize a “buy and hold” approach rather than an active trading strategy. Any security sales must be approved in advance by designed Council staff.

### VI. Prohibited Investments and Actions

- A. Uncovered options or futures contracts may not be purchased.
- B. Uncovered short positions may not be purchased.

(Amended version approved by COG Budget and Finance Committee on April 26, 2021. Proposed for COG Board approval on May 12, 2021.)

- C. Short selling is not permitted.
- D. There shall be no use of financial leverage.
- E. Private Equity Funds or positions are prohibited.
- F. Direct Real Estate investments are prohibited.

**VII. Amendments**

This policy will be reviewed no less than annually by the Budget and Finance Committee of the Board of Directors or other designated Committees of the Board of Directors.

(Amended version approved by COG Budget and Finance Committee on April 26, 2021. Proposed for COG Board approval on May 12, 2021.)

## **METROPOLITAN WASHINGTON COUNCIL OF GOVERNMENTS OPERATING RESERVE POLICY**

### **A. BACKGROUND**

Reserves position an organization to weather significant economic downturns, manage the consequences of outside agency actions that result in revenue reductions, and address unexpected emergencies and unbudgeted one-time expenses.

Maintaining an appropriately constructed reserve policy will align COG with best practices and current guidelines recognized by governmental and not-for-profit organizations.

In developing this policy, four primary risks were identified for COG:

1. Reduction of federal funding
2. Impairment of COG offices due to extreme events
3. Economic downturn
4. Unbudgeted one-time expenses

The Government Finance Officers' Association (GFOA) recommends 16 percent as a minimum baseline level for an operating reserve, which is approximately two months of an organization's recurring operating expenses. This recommendation, along with COG's overall financial health, its ability to adapt to funding shortages, and the availability of other emergency resources, were taken into consideration in developing this policy.

### **B. POLICY STATEMENT**

The objective of this policy is to establish an Operating Reserve to provide continuity of essential services in the face of unforeseen events that impact revenue or expenses, such as unexpected and significant loss of funding, impairment of office facilities, economic downturn, unbudgeted one-time expenses. The Operating Reserve is intended to provide COG with the resources needed to meet its financial commitments in a fiscally prudent manner and maintain program stability while adjusting to unusual and unexpected circumstances.

### **C. RESERVE LEVEL**

The reserve shall be maintained in an amount that will support personnel expense and fixed costs for three months. This reserve level recognizes that COG has some flexibility to respond to economic downturns or loss of revenue, a line of credit that is available for short-term cash needs, commercial business insurance that will provide reimbursement under certain circumstances, and additional resources that can be accessed in an emergency situation.

The maximum reserve level will be calculated annually as an amount equal to twenty-five percent of salaries, fringe benefits, and non-personnel support service expenses, including rent and administrative contracts. Excluded from the calculation will be direct program contractual and other non-personnel expenses, which are typically cost-reimbursable, have a lower priority, and can cause the operating reserve calculation to vary widely from year to year. The calculation will also exclude pension expense adjustments, funds passed through to sub-recipients, contributed services expense, and any other similar expenses that do not directly support COG's operations.

The reserve shall be considered 100% funded in the range of a minimum of \$5.0 million and up to the maximum calculation described above.

### **D. FUNDING**

Based on the calculation and provisions in Section C. of this policy, unrestricted net assets (accumulated operating surpluses) will be transferred to the Operating Reserve to maintain the

(Amended version approved by COG Budget and Finance Committee on April 26, 2021. Proposed for COG Board approval on May 12, 2021.)

target reserve level. If additional funds are needed to fund the reserve to the target level, the Executive Director will include a plan to provide the additional funding in the Work Program and Budget that will be approved prior to the start of the next fiscal year.

**E. ACCOUNTING AND INVESTING**

The Operating Reserve will be recorded in the accounting system and financial statements as a Board-Designated Reserve. Funds will be maintained as cash or cash equivalents, with a primary investment objective of capital preservation and liquidity.

**F. USE OF THE OPERATING RESERVE**

Use of the Operating Reserve under \$100,000 can be done with notice to the Board by the Executive Director. Use of the Operating Reserve in excess of \$100,000 must be approved in advance by the Board of Directors. To request use of the Operating Reserve, the Executive Director will make a recommendation to the Budget and Finance Committee that includes: a) analysis and determination of the proposed use of funds; b) efforts undertaken to obtain funding from other sources; c) a report on the current status of the reserve; and d) a plan to replenish the reserve. If approved, the Budget and Finance Committee will recommend the request to the Board of Directors for review and action.

**G. PROHIBITED USE**

The Operating Reserve will not be used to fund operating expenses in the normal course of business, or for any purpose other than the stated objective of this policy.

**H. OVERSIGHT AND REPORTING**

The Executive Director is responsible for ensuring that the Operating Reserve is maintained and used as described in this policy. The status of the Board-Designated Operating Reserve will be reported to the Board of Directors with COG's regular financial reports. The Budget and Finance Committee will review the Operating Reserve at least annually to ensure compliance.

**I. POLICY REVIEW**

The Executive Director will review the Operating Reserve Policy with the Budget and Finance Committee on an annual basis. At least every three years or earlier as may be warranted, the Budget and Finance Committee will assess the adequacy and effectiveness of this policy, and consider any changes that may have occurred with regard to COG's risk factors or financial health, accounting standards, industry best practices, and the regulatory environment. The Budget and Finance Committee will recommend any proposed policy changes to the Board of Directors for review and action.

**J. SUPERCEDES PREVIOUS POLICY**

This policy replaces the Reserve Fund Policy adopted by the COG Board of Directors on May 9, 2018 with Resolution R21-18.

**Related documents:**

By-Laws

Board Rules of Procedure

# **AGENDA ITEM #7**

## **2021 FOSTER PARENT APPRECIATION**





## 2021 Foster Parents of the Year

### **Heather and Curtis Marshall** City of Alexandria

Heather and Curtis Marshall have gone above and beyond making their home available to 4 of the 8-sibling group that came into the foster care system in 2019. They have provided a nurturing and judgement free environment where the children are able to openly express themselves and begin the healing process.

Nominating Social Worker: Jamala Williams, MSW

### **Nathan Wiehe and Cassie Ravo** Arlington County

Nathan Wiehe and Cassie Ravo have been foster parents with Arlington County for just over three years. They have thoughtfully created ways to make each youth feel like they are an equal part of their family with the same rights and responsibilities as anyone else.

Nominating Social Worker: Katrina Amartey

### **Jenna Monroe and Camella Caudill** Charles County

Jenna Monroe and Camella Caudill have provided care to a child with extensive medical needs since the child was placed in December 2019. They have remained a support to the birth parents in their efforts towards reunification.

Nominating Social Worker: Jason Harley, LCSW-C

### **Valencia Harvey** District of Columbia

Valencia Harvey has been a resource parent with the Child and Family Services Agency since 2003 and became a Specialized Older Youth (SOY) resource parent in 2015. Her dedication extends well beyond what is expected and she shares the wealth of information she's amassed over the years, with resource parents who are just starting the process.

Nominating Social Worker: Tawna Cox

### **Scott and Marie Kokotajlo** Fairfax County

Scott and Marie Kokotajlo found the right balance of nurturing and limits as they got to know

each child and developed supportive, trusting relationships where the kids felt safe and cared for. The children returned home to their mother more than a year ago and both families remain in touch giving further evidence of the strong, caring relationships the Kokotajlo's have built with the whole family.

Nominating Social Worker: Anne Ziegler

**Jarred and Mary Ellen Callura**  
**Frederick County**

Jarred and Mary Ellen Callura have fostered several children and have become champions of reunification and birth parents. They understand what it means to a child when their foster parents treat their birth parents with love, grace, and respect.

Nominating Social Worker: Becky Rice and Diane Ochalek

**Jamie and Kathryn Payton**  
**Loudoun County**

The Payton Family has gone above and beyond for years for the foster care youth in Loudoun County. They have proven steadfast dedication to not only fostering children, but also in exceeding caseworker expectations in communication, follow-through, and collaboration.

Nominating Social Worker: Heather Buller

**Jim and Mary Jo O'Brien**  
**Montgomery County**

Jim and Mary Jo O'Brien wanted to help older foster teens through the transition from childhood to adulthood. Throughout this challenging pandemic year, the O'Brien's have selflessly remained devoted, committed, and tireless advocates for the children.

Nominating Social Worker: Sophie Hotch

**Ingrid Burford**  
**Prince George's County**

Ingrid Burford has been a licensed resource parent with Prince Georges County Department of Social Service for 3 years. When she is called upon to assist with a child joining her family through placement, she is always ready and willing to open her home and heart.

Nominating Social Worker: Amorelle Hodge

**Timothy and Jessica Woodcock**  
**Prince William County**

Timothy and Jessica Woodcock and their three children, Kylie, Lexie and Logan, joined our Prince William County Foster Parent Program on May 9, 2016. They continually make themselves and their home available for emergency situations that have come up no matter the day or time.

Nominating Social Worker: Marcy Capers

# **AGENDA ITEM #8**

## **FISCAL YEAR 2021 THIRD QUARTER FINANCIAL REPORT**



## MEMORANDUM

**TO:** COG Board of Directors  
**FROM:** Chuck Bean, COG Executive Director  
Julie Mussog, Chief Financial Officer  
**SUBJECT:** Fiscal Year 2021 Third Quarter Financial Report  
**DATE:** May 5, 2021

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We are providing the following interim financial reports to the Board of Directors for the nine months ended March 31, 2021:

- Statement of Revenue, Expense, and Change in Net Position for the period July 1, 2020 – March 31, 2021
- Comparative Statement of Net Position as of March 31, 2020 and March 31, 2021

### SUMMARY AND HIGHLIGHTS

As of the first nine months of the fiscal year, the net surplus from operations is \$0.8 million. This surplus is primarily a timing issue where we have collected and recognized funds in advance of expenses being recognized. The two programs driving most the increase in project fund balance are the Regional Housing Impact Analysis (\$0.5 million) and the Regional Public Safety Fund (\$0.2 million). Both project's fund balance is expected to be spent in the FY2022 budget year. The increase in the undesignated fund balance of \$0.06 million is driven by various Public Safety Program projects that have received general funds in advance of spend. It is expected that this is a timing issue and these funds will be spent by year end.

Operating revenue and expenses are tracking lower than both the FY2021 budget and third quarter totals for the prior year. Lower federal and state revenue to the budget is driven by lower spend in Transportation Planning Board Work Program and Commuter Connections. These are cost reimbursement projects, so the year to date expenses are also lower than budget. Commuter Connections spend on advertising is significantly lower year over year and depending on COVID-19 restrictions may not rise to budgeted spend level.

Sub-recipient pass-through funds are at 37 percent of the budgeted amount. Pass-through funds for a \$2.7 million repower project budgeted for in FY2021 have not yet been received. However, the project was approved by the funding agency in late December and we expect that most of this revenue will push to FY2022.

The Statement of Net Position as of March 31, 2021 shows an overall increase in net assets of \$0.6 million. The increase reflects impact of the increases in designated project fund balances as well as undesignated funds due to net income over the prior 12 months.

Board-designated reserves, which include the operating and capital expenditures reserves remain 100 percent funded at \$10.5 million (\$5.2 million operating reserve and \$5.3 million capital reserve).

Metropolitan Washington Council of Governments  
 FY 2021 Statement of Revenue, Expense, and Change in Net Position  
 For the nine months ended March 31, 2021  
 With Comparisons to Approved Budget and Prior Year Results

*Prepared on an accrual basis*

	Fiscal YTD As of 3/31/2021	Budget FY2021	% of Budget	Prior FY As of 3/31/2020
<b>Operations Revenue</b>				
Federal and state revenue	13,613,100	23,455,900		15,771,900
Member dues	3,417,000	4,556,000		3,286,900
Regional funds	2,166,100	2,905,200		2,096,700
Building & investment revenue	224,400	565,900		480,400
Other revenue*	1,449,000	3,691,700		2,064,900
<b>Total Operations Revenue</b>	<b>20,869,600</b>	<b>35,174,700</b>	<b>59%</b>	<b>23,700,800</b>
<b>Operations Expense</b>				
Salaries - Direct program	8,009,000	11,431,800		7,946,400
Other employee benefits	1,944,700	2,807,200		2,050,700
Consultants	3,378,900	8,394,700		4,751,400
Other direct program expense	810,500	3,880,100		2,211,900
Support services, rent and other allocated expense	5,953,100	8,486,100		6,247,400
<b>Total Operations Expense</b>	<b>20,096,200</b>	<b>34,999,900</b>	<b>57%</b>	<b>23,207,800</b>
<b>Net Surplus (Deficit) - Operations</b>	<b>773,400</b>	<b>174,800</b>		<b>493,000</b>
<b>Increase (Decrease) in Designated Program Fund Balance</b>	<b>711,700</b>	<b>174,800</b>		<b>488,700</b>
<b>Change in Undesignated Fund Balance</b>	<b>61,700</b>	<b>-</b>		<b>4,300</b>

\*Other Revenue includes sponsorships, donations, fees for services, and other miscellaneous revenue.

Revenue - All Sources	FY2021 YTD	FY2021 Budget	
Operations	20,869,600	35,174,700	59%
Special Revenue Funds	61,600	119,300	52%
Subrecipient Pass-Through	2,182,800	5,903,100	37%
<b>Total Revenue - All Sources</b>	<b>23,114,000</b>	<b>41,197,100</b>	

Metropolitan Washington Council of Governments  
 Comparative Statement of Net Position  
 As of March 31, 2020 and March 31, 2021

	FY2021 as of 3/31/2021	FY2020 as of 3/31/2020	Increase (Decrease)
<b>Assets</b>			
Cash & Investments	11,847,400	8,601,800	
Accounts receivable	6,584,400	9,112,700	
Prepaid expenses and other assets	92,100	296,300	
Capital assets, net of depreciation	2,132,600	2,262,200	
<b>Total Assets</b>	<b>20,656,500</b>	<b>20,273,000</b>	<b>383,500</b>
<b>Liabilities</b>			
Accounts payable	290,800	1,380,200	
Accrued payroll, leave & other liabilities	2,499,400	1,354,100	
Deferred revenue	1,548,200	1,954,700	
Other Non-current Liabilities	726,100	552,600	
<b>Total Liabilities</b>	<b>5,064,500</b>	<b>5,241,600</b>	<b>(177,100)</b>
<b>NET POSITION*</b>			
Net investment in capital assets	2,132,600	2,262,200	
Board designated reserves	10,518,400	10,464,100	
Restricted project funds	2,614,400	2,300,800	
Undesignated	326,600	4,300	
<b>Total Net Position</b>	<b>15,592,000</b>	<b>15,031,400</b>	<b>560,600</b>
<b>Total Liabilities and Net Assets</b>	<b>20,656,500</b>	<b>20,273,000</b>	<b>383,500</b>

\*Excludes Net Pension Asset of \$2,040,300 which is available only for pension plan benefits.

## **AGENDA ITEM #9**

# **FISCAL YEAR 2022 WORK PROGRAM AND BUDGET**

[\(Click to view the FY2022 Work Program and Budget\)](#)





## MEMORANDUM

**TO:** COG Board of Directors  
**FROM:** Chuck Bean, COG Executive Director  
**SUBJECT:** Fiscal Year 2022 Work Program and Budget  
**DATE:** May 5, 2021

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I am pleased to submit the recommended Work Program and Budget of the Metropolitan Washington Council of Governments (COG) for Fiscal Year 2022. The work program and budget is transmitted through the Board's Budget and Finance Committee, for review and approval or modification by the Board of Directors.

### TOTAL BUDGET

The proposed budget for FY 2022 totals \$49.3 million, which includes operating, subrecipient pass-through, and other non-operating funds. The budget serves as a fiscal guide for the operation of COG beginning July 1, 2021 through June 30, 2022. Of the total budget, 69 percent supports transportation planning and operations, 20 percent supports environmental programs, 7 percent supports homeland security and public safety, and the remaining 4 percent supports community services and planning, member services, public relations, and strategic initiatives.

### OPERATING BUDGET

The operating portion of the budget for FY 2022 is \$38.7 million, which is approximately \$3.5 million more than the FY 2021 operating budget. This increase is primarily federal and state revenues for transportation planning and operating programs.

### SUBRECIPIENT PASS-THROUGH AND OTHER NON-OPERATING FUNDS

Subrecipient pass-through and other non-operating funds total \$10.6 million. Subrecipient pass-through funds budgeted for FY 2022 is \$4.6 million higher than the amount budgeted in FY 2021 and is related to additional Enhanced Mobility funds available in FY 2022.

### RESERVES

Board designated operating and capital reserves total \$10.5 million or 100 percent of policy level. An updated capital expenditure plan for FY2022 – FY2026 will be presented to the Board of Directors in September 2021.

# PROPOSED WORK PROGRAM AND BUDGET

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## Fiscal Year 2022

Chuck Bean  
COG Executive Director

Julie Mussog  
COG Chief Financial Officer

COG Board of Directors  
May 12, 2021

Agenda Item #7




1

## FY2022 Budget: Guiding Principles

---

- Balanced Budget
- Maximize leveraging of general funds focused on COG's mission and top priorities:
  - Transportation
  - Public Health
  - Economic prosperity, housing
  - Homeland security and public safety
  - Cost-effective environmental protection
- Promote a work environment that attracts top talent to ensure members and stakeholders have a great supporting staff team



Agenda Item #7: Proposed Work Program and Budget - FY2022 | 2  
May 12, 2021

2

## FY2022 Budget of \$49.3 Million

Operating Funds \$38.7 Million

Pass-Through Funds \$ 10.5 Million

Other Funds \$ .1 Million

3

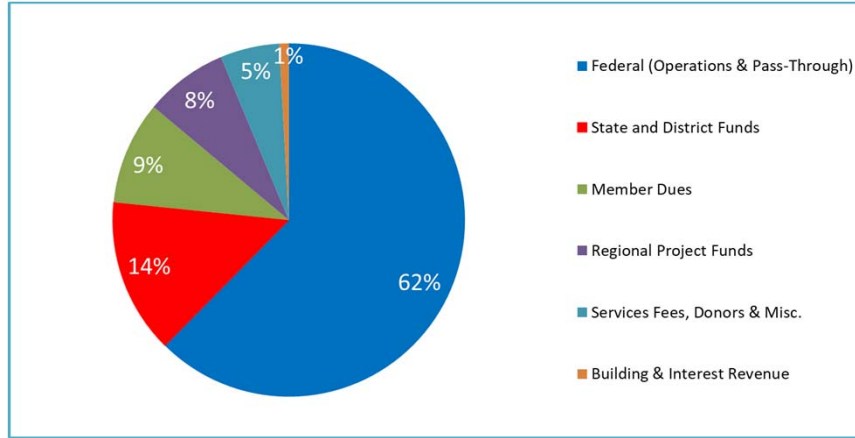
## Supporting COG's Region Forward Vision

COG's budget supports the following programs:

- a) Transportation Planning - \$18.1 million
- b) Transportation Operations - \$15.6 million (operating & pass-through)
- c) Water Resources - \$4.0 million
- d) Environmental Resources - \$4.8 million (operating & pass-through)
- e) Air Quality - \$1.1 million
- f) Homeland Security & Public Safety - \$3.3 million (operating & pass-through)
- g) Strategic Initiatives and Member Services - \$1.5 million
- h) Community Planning & Services - \$0.9 million

4

## FY2022 Revenue Sources



5

## Highlights of the FY2022 Work Program

**COVID-19 Response:** Support local COVID-19 response efforts, focus on economic recovery, and increase resilience.

**Advancing Equity:** Identify areas to advance racial equity within our programming and provide racial equity training to staff.

**Transit-Oriented Communities:** Continue to coordinate land-use and transportation planning in the region.



6

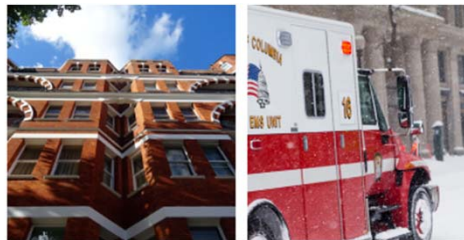
## Highlights of the FY2022 Work Program

**Transportation Planning:** Finalize the update to Visualize 2045, the region's long-range transportation plan.

**Fair Housing:** Prepare a Regional Analysis of Impediments to Fair Housing Choice for submission to HUD to ensure greater housing equity.

**Homeland Security and Public Safety:** Support regional public safety stakeholders to identify emerging threats and capabilities to address them.

visualize  
2045



7

## Highlights of the FY2022 Work Program

**Member Dues Rate Decrease of \$0.005 from FY 2021 rate**

**Operating Revenue Increase of \$3.5 million or 10% over FY 2021 Work Program**

- New Programs \$2.3 million
  - Transportation Operations program ATCMTD \$1.5 million
  - Environmental Resources grant for Military Installations Resilience Review \$0.6 million
  - Transportation Planning grant for State Planning and Research \$0.2 million
- Additional Funding for Existing Programs \$1.2 million

**Sub-recipient Pass-Through Increase of \$4.6 million or 78% over FY 2021 Work Program**

- Transportation Operations Enhanced Mobility grants

**Reserves Fully Funded (at new policy level)**

8

## Board-Designated Reserves

Forecast for the fiscal year ending June 30, 2022:

- Operating Reserve funded at \$5.2 million or 100% of policy target.
- Capital Expenditure Reserve will have a balance of \$5.1 million, available for leasehold improvements, IT maintenance and upgrades, and office equipment. The 5-Year rolling Capital Expenditure Plan for FY2022 – FY2026 will be presented to the board for consideration at the September 2021 meeting.

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## Budget Approval Process

- October:** Board of Directors approves the annual assessment of Member Dues and Regional Fees to be used in developing the Work Program and Budget.
- April:** Budget and Finance Committee reviews draft Work Program and Budget prepared by Management and recommends approval or modifications.
- May:** Board of Directors approves or modifies the proposed Work Program and Budget.
- July:** Work Program and Budget is implemented at the start of the new fiscal year.


10

**Julie Mussog**  
COG Chief Financial Officer  
(202) 962-3362  
jmussog@mwkog.org

[mwkog.org](http://mwkog.org)

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777 North Capitol Street NE, Suite 300  
Washington, DC 20002

 Metropolitan Washington  
Council of Governments

Resolution R27-2021  
May 12, 2021

METROPOLITAN WASHINGTON COUNCIL OF GOVERNMENTS  
777 NORTH CAPITOL STREET, NE  
WASHINGTON, DC 20002

**RESOLUTION ADOPTING THE FY 2022 WORK PROGRAM AND BUDGET**

**WHEREAS**, the Metropolitan Washington Council of Governments (COG) has adopted *Region Forward* as its strategic plan guiding the development of its fiscal year work program and budget; and

**WHEREAS**, the COG Board of Directors' policy boards and committees, with support from the COG management staff, have developed their proposed work programs and budgets based on *Region Forward* and anticipated revenue sources; and

**WHEREAS**, COG bylaws require the Executive Director to submit a proposed budget of the corporation to the Board of Directors for approval or modification; and

**WHEREAS**, the Budget and Finance Committee comprised of the chairs of the COG Board of Directors, the Transportation Planning Board and the Metropolitan Washington Air Quality Committee, and the COG Corporate Secretary-Treasurer, reviewed and recommended approval of the proposed FY 2022 Work Program and Budget,

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS OF THE METROPOLITAN WASHINGTON COUNCIL OF GOVERNMENTS THAT:**

The board approves the proposed FY 2022 Work Program and Budget.



# **AGENDA ITEM #10**

## **COG ELECTION OFFICIALS COMMITTEE**

## MEMORANDUM

**TO:** COG Board of Directors  
**FROM:** COG Election Officials Committee  
**SUBJECT:** May 12, 2021 Presentation to COG Board of Directors  
**DATE:** May 5, 2021

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The Election Officials Technical Committee appreciates the opportunity to meet with the Metropolitan Washington Council of Governments Board of Directors and provide an update of election activities throughout the Metropolitan DC Region. We look forward to our discussion with you on May 12, 2021.

A summary of documents enclosed in this packet follows below:

1. COG Election Officials Technical Committee Members and Officers
2. Summary of Election Data for Maryland, Virginia and Washington, DC
3. COG Election Officials Technical Committee By-Laws

**Metropolitan Washington Council of Governments**

**Election Officials Technical Committee 2020 Members and Officers**

<b>Name</b>	<b>Jurisdiction</b>
Angela Turner	Alexandria City
Gretchen Reinemeyer	Arlington Co.
Eric Olsen	Arlington Co.
Janeen Miller	College Park City
Terri Stroud (Secretary)	DC
Brenda Cabrera	Fairfax City
Gary Scott	Fairfax Co.
Dave Bjerke	Falls Church City
Renee Andrews	Falls Church City
Laura Reams	Hyattsville City
Judy Brown	Loudoun Co.
Richard Keech (Co-Chair)	Loudoun Co.
Susan Reed	Manassas City
Natalia Taylor	Manassas City
Alysoun McLaughlin (Co-Chair)	Montgomery Co.
Sara Taylor-Ferrell	Rockville City
Lois Neuman	Rockville City
Jessie Carpenter	Takoma Park City

	District of Columbia	Maryland	Virginia
<b>Election Cycle</b>			
Election Day Hours	7 a.m. to 8 p.m. (Early voting: 8:30 a.m. to 7 p.m.)	7 a.m. to 8 p.m.	6 a.m. to 7 p.m.
Number / Year	2 elections in even years, special elections as needed	2 elections for federal, state and county offices in even years, special elections when called. Municipalities have discretion in scheduling their own elections.	General Election every November. Primaries and specials when called.
Towns	N/A	Municipalities independently regulate and schedule their own elections.	Town elections are run by the County in which the town sits. Effective 7/1/21 all Town Elections moved to November. All statewide election laws are enforced.
<b>Before Election Day Options</b>			
By Mail Absentee Eligibility	Upon request, reason not required. If you are requesting a ballot for a primary election, you must be at least seventeen (17) years of age and eighteen (18) years of age on or before the next general election. If you are requesting a ballot for a general or special election, you must be at least 18 years of age on or before the date of the general or special election. The deadline to request mail ballot is the 15 <sup>th</sup> day before Election Day.	Upon request, reason not required. Any voter may request their ballot to be delivered to them by mail or electronically. Ballots must be returned by mail or in person. If you are requesting a ballot for a primary election, you must be at least seventeen (17) years of age and eighteen (18) years of age on or before the next general election. If you are requesting a ballot for a general or special election, you must be at least 18 years of age on or before the date of the general or special election. Request deadlines vary by requested delivery method.	Upon request, reason not required. Apply online or on paper app. If you are requesting a ballot for a primary election, you must be at least seventeen (17) years of age and eighteen (18) years of age on or before the next general election. If you are requesting a ballot for a general or special election, you must be at least 18 years of age on or before the date of the general or special election. Deadline to request ballot be mailed is 11 days prior to election.
Early Voting	Schedule set by Board each year, but the early voting period cannot exceed 12 days. For the 2020 Primary, it was May 22 through June 1. For the 2020 General, it was October 27 through November 2.	8 days, from Thursday to Thursday before the election.	Begins 45 days before each election at locality Office of Elections. Additional sites, dates and times determined by locality.
In Person Absentee	See "Early Voting" above.	In-person absentee voting is available as soon as ballots are printed, approximately 45 days before every election.	45 days before every election.

<b>Voter Registration</b>			
Methods	Automatic (DMV and soon at the Department of Corrections), online, in person, and by mail.	Automatic, online, in person, by mail.	Online, in person, by mail.
Deadline	Applications must be submitted by mail or online no later than 21 days prior to the election date OR voters may register in person during the early voting period or at their precinct on Election Day. (For the 2020 election cycle, the Board operated Vote Centers on Election Day as opposed to precinct-based polling places, so voters could register at any location during in-person voting.)	Applications must be submitted by mail or online no later than 21 days prior to the election date OR voters may register in person during the early voting period or at their precinct on Election Day.	Applications must be submitted or postmarked no later than 22 days prior to the election date.
Party Affiliation	Must select major party to vote on candidates in primary elections.	Must select party to vote on candidates for most contests in primary elections.	None.

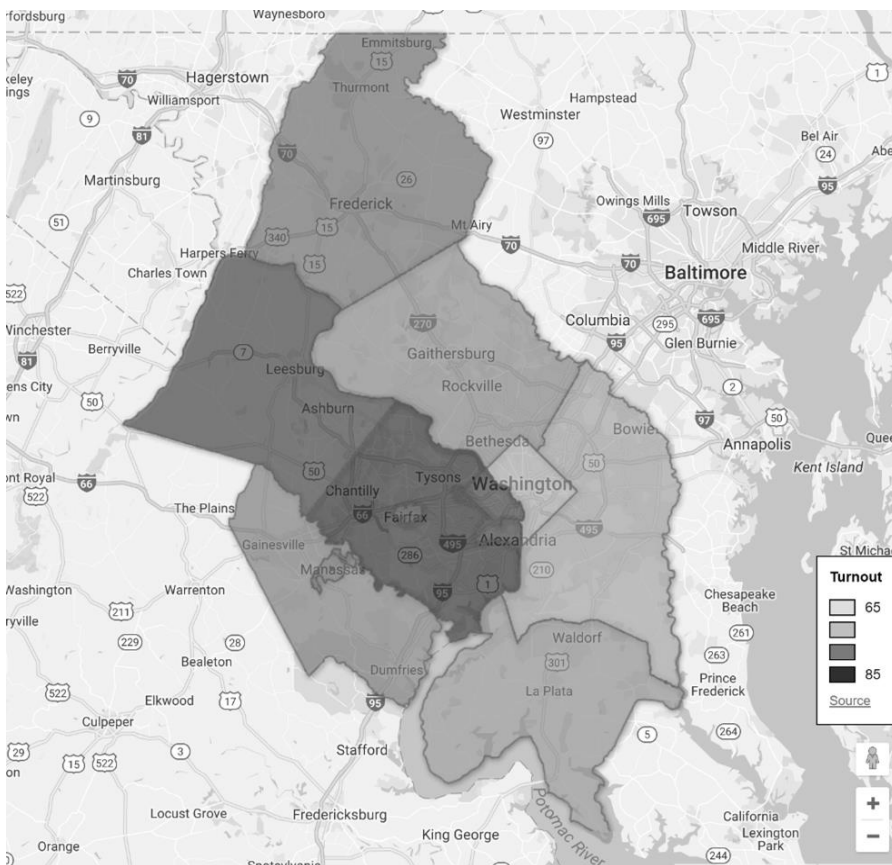
	District of Columbia	Maryland	Virginia
<b>Voter ID</b>			
Requirements to Vote	<p>None - To register by mail you must have either a driver's license number or a DMV-issued ID number or a social security number. When registering for the first time by mail you will additionally need to include a copy of one of the following:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- A copy of a current and valid government photo identification</li> <li>- A copy of a current utility bill</li> <li>- A copy of a current bank statement</li> <li>- A copy of a current government check</li> <li>- A copy of a paycheck</li> <li>- Other government document that shows the name and address of the voter.</li> </ul> <p>Same day registration is available during in-person voting. Additional proofs of residence are acceptable.</p>	<p>None required if driver's license number or last 4 of SS# provided on voter registration application can be verified with MVA or SSA. If not verified, voter must show one of the following:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- A copy of a current and valid government photo identification</li> <li>- A copy of a current utility bill</li> <li>- A copy of a current bank statement</li> <li>- A copy of a current government check</li> <li>- A copy of a paycheck</li> <li>- Other government document that shows the name and address of the voter.</li> </ul> <p>Same day registration is available during early voting and in person on election day and requires proof of residence.</p>	<p>Must present acceptable ID or sign affidavit. List includes:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>-Virginia Voter Card</li> <li>-Valid United States passport</li> <li>-Valid Virginia driver's license or ID card</li> <li>-Valid Virginia DMV issued veteran's ID card</li> <li>-Valid tribal enrollment or other tribal ID issued by one of 11 tribes recognized by the Commonwealth of Virginia</li> <li>-Valid student ID card from within Virginia if it includes a photo</li> <li>-Any other identification card issued by a government agency of the Commonwealth, one of its political subdivisions, or the United States</li> <li>-Employee ID card containing a photograph of the voter and issued by an employer of the voter in the ordinary course of the employer's business</li> </ul>
<b>Primary Elections</b>			
Date	Set by DC Council; currently 1 <sup>st</sup> Tuesday in June each presidential election year, and the 3 <sup>rd</sup> Tuesday in June each even-numbered non-presidential election year.	Fourth Tuesday in April for presidential election years. Last Tuesday in June for gubernatorial election years.	Third Tuesday in June (effective 2022).
Required?	Optional for major parties to select candidates. They may also opt to run their own process.	Required for parties to select candidates.	Optional for parties to select candidates. They may also opt to run their own process.
Open/Closed	Closed	Closed. Parties have the authority to open their primaries to unaffiliated voters.	Open. Declare the ballot for the party at the polling place on Election Day.
<b>Provisional Voting</b>			
Counting	Under normal circumstances, provisional ballots cast in wrong precinct on Election Day are not counted. (For the 2020 election cycle, the Board operated Vote Centers on Election Day as opposed to precinct-based polling places, so voting out-of-precinct was not an issue.) If a voter returns an absentee ballot and also votes a provisional ballot the provisional is rejected and the absentee is counted.	Provisional ballots cast out of precinct (including out of County) are counted in part for eligible contests. If a voter returns an absentee ballot and votes a provisional ballot, both are rejected. (For the 2020 election cycle, the provisional was rejected and the absentee was counted.)	Provisional ballots cast in wrong precinct are not counted. If a voter returns an absentee ballot and also votes a provisional ballot the provisional is rejected and the absentee is counted.

<b>Other Information</b>			
Felon Rights Restoration	Persons incarcerated for felonies may now vote in the District.	Felons can register if they have completed serving a court-ordered sentence of imprisonment.	Felons must have their voting rights restored by the governor's office.
Post Election Audit	Board will randomly select precincts to audit after the General election.	Comprehensive audit requirements established by state regulation include 100% audit of ballot images from all scanners.	Department of Elections will randomly select precincts throughout the state to audit after the election. Entire state participated in an audit in March of 2021.

Metropolitan DC Area – 2020 November Election Percentage of Voters Casting Ballot Before Election Day (Early Voting/Absentee):

<b>District of Columbia</b>	91.62%
<b>Virginia</b>	
City of Alexandria	79.71%
Arlington County	83.02%
City of Fairfax	75.07%
Fairfax County	68.34%
City of Falls Church	85.34%
Loudoun County	69.32%
City of Manassas	70.39%
City of Manassas Park	71.76%
Prince William County	74.30%
<b>Maryland</b>	
Charles County	90.30%
Frederick County	85.35%
Montgomery County	93.78%
Prince George's County	93.51%

Total turnout percentage including before and on Election Day:



<b>District of Columbia</b>	66.90%
<b>Virginia</b>	
City of Alexandria	73.61%
Arlington County	73.71%
City of Fairfax	78.24%
Fairfax County	76.93%
City of Falls Church	79.88%
Loudoun County	79.93%
City of Manassas	72.65%
City of Manassas Park	69.99%
Prince William County	74.56%
<b>Maryland</b>	
Charles County	76.68%
Frederick County	78.68%
Montgomery County	79.91%
Prince George's County	70.60%



# MWCOG Election Officials Technical Committee By-Laws

## BY-LAWS

### OF THE ELECTION OFFICIALS TECHNICAL COMMITTEE OF THE METROPOLITAN WASHINGTON COUNCIL OF GOVERNMENTS

#### Article I

##### Name

The name of this Committee shall be the Election Officials Technical Committee (“Committee”) which shall be constituted as regular standing Committee of the Metropolitan Washington Council of Governments (“MWCOG”).

#### Article II

##### Purpose

The Committee shall have the following purposes:

- It shall serve as a forum for the exchange of ideas and information between the Members and their respective jurisdictions;
- It shall facilitate coordination of efforts among Member jurisdictions on issues of common concern and determine when to seek action by the MWCOG; and
- It shall strive to promote accessibility, efficiency, and integrity of voter registration and elections in each Member jurisdiction.

#### Article III

##### Members

Section 1. Membership shall be open to any election official appointed or regularly employed by any member jurisdiction. Member jurisdictions are those represented on the MCCOG which are in good standing with the MWCOG.

Section 2. The number of individual Members of this Committee shall not be limited.

Section 3. Any individual having become a Member shall be eligible to serve as an Officer of the Technical Committee or on any standing committee of the Committee.

## **Article IV**

### **Officers**

Section 1. The Officers of the Technical Committee shall be designated “Co-Chairs.” If possible, neither the District of Columbia, Maryland, nor Virginia will provide more than one of the two Co-Chairs.

Section 2. The Members will choose a Recording Secretary who shall record the proceedings and prepare Minutes. The Secretary shall also prepare Agendas for upcoming meetings.

Section 3. At the first regularly held meeting of each calendar year, known as the Annual Meeting, the Technical Committee will nominate and elect its Officers and Recording Secretary for the coming calendar year. They will be elected by those Members present at the January meeting. The Officers’ one-year term of office shall begin at the close of that meeting.

## **Article V**

### **Meetings**

Section 1. The regular meetings of the Technical Committee shall be held on the second Friday of January, April, June, and September, unless otherwise agreed to by the members.

Section 2. The first regular meeting of each calendar year shall be known as the Annual Meeting and shall be for the purpose of electing Officers, forming working committees, planning, and conducting any other business that may arise.

Section 3. The Co-Chairs may call special meetings as may be required to support the Purposes of the Committee as outlined in Article II.

Section 4. Passage of a motion or election of officers requires a simple majority of members present.

## **Article VI**

### **Committees**

Section 1. The Co-Chairs may appoint a committee on Voter Registration composed of three Members, which may include one each from the District of Columbia, Maryland, and Virginia, at the Annual Meeting. It shall be the duty of this committee to monitor legislation and proposed administrative changes affecting Voter Registration.

Section 2. The Co-Chairs may appoint a committee on Voter Education and Outreach composed of three Members, which may include one each from the District of Columbia, Maryland, and Virginia, at the Annual Meeting. It shall be the duty of this committee to explore ways of reaching voters in the MWCOG area with the goal of increasing their level of knowledge on voting procedures.

Section 3. The Co-Chairs may appoint a committee on Program Planning composed of three Members, which may include one each from the District of Columbia, Maryland, and Virginia, at the Annual Meeting. It shall be the duty of this committee to assist the Co-Chairs in identifying, recommending and, if so authorized, contacting speakers and other persons of interest for regular meetings of the Technical Committee.

Section 4. The Co-Chairs may appoint such other working committees as may be deemed necessary.

Section 5. The Co-Chairs shall serve as *ex officio* members of all working committees.

#### **Article VII Amendment of By-Laws**

These By-Laws can be amended at any regular meeting of the Technical Committee by a two-thirds vote of members present, provided that the proposed amendment has been distributed in writing to each Member in attendance at the previous meeting. The Recording Secretary will send copies of all proposed amendments to all Members as an attachment to the Agenda for the meeting at which they will be voted upon.

*By-Laws Revised May 2012*

# **AGENDA ITEM #11**

## **2021 REGIONAL HOMELESS ENUMERATION**

[\(Click to view the 2021 Regional Homeless  
Enumeration Report\)](#)

# HOMELESSNESS IN METROPOLITAN WASHINGTON

Results and Analysis from the Annual Point-in-Time (PIT)  
Count of Persons Experiencing Homelessness

May 2021



## **HOMELESSNESS IN METROPOLITAN WASHINGTON**

Prepared by the Homeless Services Planning and Coordinating Committee

Adopted May 12, 2021

### **ABOUT COG**

The Metropolitan Washington Council of Governments (COG) is an independent, nonprofit association that brings area leaders together to address major regional issues in the District of Columbia, suburban Maryland, and Northern Virginia. COG's membership is comprised of 300 elected officials from 24 local governments, the Maryland and Virginia state legislatures, and U.S. Congress.

### **CREDITS**

Report Author: Hilary Chapman, COG Housing Program Manager

Assistance from: Megan Goodman, COG Communications Specialist, Greg Goodwin, COG Senior Regional Planner and Arianna Koudounas, COG Regional Planner

Cover Photos: Point-in-Time Count in Prince William County; Point-in-Time Count in the District of Columbia.

### **ACCOMMODATIONS POLICY**

Alternative formats of this document are available upon request. Visit [www.mwcog.org/accommodations](http://www.mwcog.org/accommodations) or call (202) 962-3300 or (202) 962-3213 (TDD).

### **TITLE VI NONDISCRIMINATION POLICY**

The Metropolitan Washington Council of Governments (COG) fully complies with Title VI of the Civil Rights Act of 1964 and related statutes and regulations prohibiting discrimination in all programs and activities. For more information, to file a Title VI related complaint, or to obtain information in another language, visit [www.mwcog.org/nondiscrimination](http://www.mwcog.org/nondiscrimination) or call (202) 962-3300.

El Consejo de Gobiernos del Área Metropolitana de Washington (COG) cumple con el Título VI de la Ley sobre los Derechos Civiles de 1964 y otras leyes y reglamentos en todos sus programas y actividades. Para obtener más información, someter un pleito relacionado al Título VI, u obtener información en otro idioma, visite [www.mwcog.org/nondiscrimination](http://www.mwcog.org/nondiscrimination) o llame al (202) 962-3300.

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## EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

For the 21<sup>st</sup> consecutive year, the Metropolitan Washington Council of Governments (COG) Homeless Services Planning and Coordinating Committee has conducted a regional Point-in-Time (PIT) enumeration of the area's residents experiencing homelessness and those who were formerly homeless.

This year's enumeration and survey occurred on January 27, 2021. The report provides a one-night "snapshot" of the region's residents experiencing homelessness within nine metropolitan Washington area jurisdictions. It is important to note that this "snapshot," by definition, provides only one perspective on the state of homelessness in the region on only one night, and the count may be influenced by numerous variables, such as weather and bed availability by jurisdiction.

### Impact of COVID-19

The count this year was like none other since the region began collaborating in 2001. The U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) allowed the nation's Continuum of Care (CoCs)<sup>1</sup> to defer doing an unsheltered count this year due to the pandemic. However, the metropolitan Washington CoCs chose to move forward with the count, following precautions and guidance from the Centers for Disease Control and local health departments as part of ongoing efforts to holistically assess how the pandemic was impacting residents experiencing homelessness. This placed the metropolitan Washington CoCs at the forefront nationwide in implementing solutions to safely conduct the annual enumeration.

As in past years, the majority of the PIT count took place electronically using the Homeless Management Information System (HIMIS), as 88 percent of people experiencing homelessness were sheltered on January 27, 2021.

For the unsheltered portion of the count, modifications included precautions such as the use of personal protective equipment, both for survey interviewers as well as for persons experiencing homelessness, health screenings for surveyors, and maintaining proper distancing. In some jurisdictions, the use of volunteers was reduced only to those with prior experience or eliminated completely, instead relying on trained outreach workers and other service providers to engage persons who were outside on the night of the PIT. Two jurisdictions conducted abbreviated surveys to reduce the amount of time people would be exposed to each other for each interaction. Where relevant, this is noted in the findings.

However, this report will not describe the myriad ways in which the region's homeless services system has had to respond to ensure that people experiencing a housing crisis were able to remain safe during the past year. While the world was ordered to shelter in place to prevent exposure to COVID-19, those without a permanent place to call home faced some of the most challenging circumstances in the pandemic. The experience of the past year has again dramatically highlighted that **housing is health care**.

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<sup>1</sup> According to HUD, a Continuum of Care is "a community plan to organize and deliver housing and services to meet the specific needs of people who are homeless as they move to stable housing and maximize self-sufficiency. It includes action steps to end homelessness and prevent a return to homelessness." Definition accessed at <https://endhomelessness.org/resource/what-is-a-continuum-of-care/>

# Findings, Highlights, and Trends from the 2021 Enumeration

## LITERALLY HOMELESS COUNT

- The 2021 PIT enumeration resulted in a total count of **8,309 literally homeless individuals. This is the lowest number of persons counted experiencing homelessness since the region began coordinating in 2001, and the third consecutive year in a row that the literally homeless total has been below 10,000 persons.**
- The region's number of persons experiencing homelessness **decreased by 1,454 persons from 2020, a 15 percent decrease from the 2020 enumeration.**

This is a much larger decrease than the 31 fewer persons counted regionally from 2019 to 2020 in last year's enumeration. Seven of nine jurisdictions recorded decreases in the number of persons experiencing homelessness in 2021 from the 2020 count.

## SHORT-TERM CHANGES IN THE HOMELESS ENUMERATION, 2020 TO 2021

- The District of Columbia, for the second year in a row, had the greatest reduction in the number of persons experiencing homelessness from 2020 to 2021 (1,269 fewer persons), followed by the City of Alexandria (101 fewer persons).

## LONGER TERM CHANGES IN THE HOMELESS ENUMERATION, 2017 TO 2021

- **Seven of nine participating CoCs experienced a decline in the number of people experiencing homelessness between the 2017 and 2021 enumerations.**
- During the period from 2017 to 2021, the District of Columbia experienced the greatest reduction in persons experiencing homelessness, counting 2,362 fewer individuals. The District of Columbia also had the largest proportion of the region's residents experiencing homelessness (62 percent). Montgomery County had the second largest reduction between 2017 to 2021, with 317 fewer homeless persons counted, followed by Prince William County (118 fewer persons) and the City of Alexandria (105 fewer persons).
- The City of Alexandria reported the highest percentage reduction in its literally homeless count from 2017 to 2021 (50 percent).

## VETERANS EXPERIENCING HOMELESSNESS

The region's count of veterans experiencing homelessness is essentially unchanged from 2020; there were 12 fewer veterans on the night of the count from the previous year's enumeration.<sup>2</sup>

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<sup>2</sup> Veteran status in 2021 excludes Frederick City and County and persons who were unsheltered in Montgomery County.



- In 2021, the total number of veterans counted on the night of the PIT was 406.
- **The total number of veterans experiencing homelessness counted in 2021 is the lowest ever recorded in the region** and represents 79 fewer veterans counted since 2017, or a 16 percent decrease; five of eight jurisdictions counted fewer veterans in 2021 than in 2020.
- Prince William County recorded the greatest reduction in the number of veterans between 2017 and 2021 (10 fewer veterans counted), followed by Arlington County (six veterans), and the City of Alexandria (four fewer veterans).
- Five of eight CoCs reduced the incidence of veteran homelessness since 2017, for a regional reduction of 16 percent.

## CHRONICALLY HOMELESS

The trend noted for the number of persons counted as chronically homeless does not follow the same result as the subpopulations mentioned previously, increasing slightly from 2020 and during the five-year period since the 2017 count as well.<sup>3</sup>

- Four of the eight participating jurisdictions experienced decreases in their chronically homeless single adult counts since 2017, but only one CoC recorded a decrease between the PIT counts of 2020 and 2021 (four fewer persons recorded in Prince William County). Overall, the region counted four percent more single persons who were considered chronically homeless on the night of the enumeration between 2017 and 2021.
- Montgomery County had the greatest reduction in the region in the number of chronically homeless single adults from 2017 to 2021 (107 fewer persons counted in 2021), followed by Arlington County and Prince William County, (29 and 27 fewer chronically homeless persons respectively).
- The jurisdiction with the greatest percentage reduction in chronically homeless single adults since 2017 is Montgomery County (68 percent), followed by the city of Alexandria (51 percent) and Arlington County (46 percent).

A combination of unique challenges created by the pandemic in 2020 may have contributed in part to the rise in chronically homeless persons counted in 2021. For example, changes to prioritization processes to ensure that persons with the highest vulnerabilities to COVID-19 were matched with housing resources first, and a change to virtual operations plus expanded shelter capacity may have slowed placements into housing even if matched with a resource on the night of the PIT. Persons seeking a permanent home may wait long enough to find housing they can afford that they eventually meet the HUD definition for chronically homeless. It is a conundrum faced nationwide in

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<sup>3</sup> Data on chronic homelessness in 2021 excludes Frederick City and County and persons who were unsheltered in Montgomery County.

communities with high housing costs and limited housing affordable to those with the lowest incomes. These combined factors may have caused more people to become chronically homeless as they waited for a permanent housing option in a market that was already highly constrained.

## FORMERLY HOMELESS

The number of individuals who are in permanent housing and no longer experiencing homelessness was more than double the number of people counted as literally homeless on the night of the annual enumeration. The region measured an increase from 2020 to 2021 of 155 persons of the single individuals and persons in families who were counted in permanent housing on the night of the PIT and are no longer considered homeless, and have increased the regional total of persons who are formerly homeless by 17 percent since 2017.

In addition, in 2021:

- 9,469 formerly homeless individuals were rapidly re-housed;
- 14,060 formerly homeless persons were counted in permanent supportive housing; and
- 1,499 formerly homeless persons were counted in other permanent housing.

**This brings the regional total of formerly homeless persons in 2021 to 25,028 additional people housed than at this time last year.** The significant number of people placed in permanent housing has constrained the incidence of homelessness in the region and helped prevent it from growing unchecked.

## CONCLUSION

The conditions in which the 2021 homeless enumeration took place were unique, but the results provide further evidence that strategies the region's CoCs are implementing, when scaled up, are effective in preventing and ending someone from experiencing homelessness. Strong coordinated federal, state, and local action on tenant protections such as eviction moratoriums and the provision of emergency housing assistance both reduces the number of people who enter the homeless services system as well as quickly returns people whose incidences of homelessness could not be prevented to stable housing. While these actions prevented a major increase in homelessness during the past year as observed during one day in January, data collected this year confirms that one of the most persistent barriers to ending homelessness in our communities is the insufficient number of affordable and available permanent housing opportunities for the lowest income households.

The 2021 report continues to highlight the fundamental nature of housing to protect human lives with several key, recurring themes:

1. The significant increase in the number of formerly homeless persons in permanent housing;
2. The positive impact of shelter diversion and homeless prevention programs;
3. The critical need to increase the supply of housing affordable to the lowest-income households and appropriate supportive resources.

Dedication to addressing the region’s homelessness challenges, particularly during the past extraordinary year, has resulted in steady, measurable progress in providing shelter and wrap-around services to homeless individuals and families. The region should celebrate the achievements made to reduce the number of people counted experiencing homelessness in 2021. These reductions reflect the dedication and coordinated efforts of many to prevent people from entering the homeless system, to improve service delivery, and to increase permanent housing solutions. Reductions in families and veterans experiencing homelessness reflect focused efforts to ensure that the experience of homelessness is *brief, rare, and non-recurring*.

However, there remain significant challenges highlighted in this year’s numbers. The challenges laid bare by the global pandemic caused by COVID-19 have highlighted the lifesaving protections that housing provides.

The successes reflected in the numbers in the report demonstrate that effective strategies are in place, but a sustained commitment to creating and adequately funding viable housing solutions for the lowest-income individuals and families, continuously improving data tracking and interpretation, and providing service paths to ensure successful housing placements are among the most critical components to making further significant reductions in the annual PIT count.<sup>4</sup>

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The following report includes a count of the region’s residents who are:

- Unsheltered and living on the streets, including parks, alleys, and camp sites;
- Staying in an emergency or hypothermia shelter or safe haven;
- Living in transitional housing where they receive supportive services designed to help them move into some form of permanent housing;
- No longer experiencing homelessness and are now living in permanent supportive housing or other permanent housing and who may be receiving supportive social services.



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<sup>4</sup> The map above represents those jurisdictions which are members of COG. However, Charles County is not included in this Point-in-Time report. Unlike the other jurisdictions, Charles County provides its homelessness data to the Baltimore HUD Field Office.

# **AGENDA ITEM #12**

## **COG 2030 CLIMATE AND ENERGY ACTION PLAN**

## MEMORANDUM

To: COG Board of Directors

From: Jeffrey King, Director, Climate, Energy and Air Programs

Subject: 2030 Climate and Energy Action Plan Update

Date: May 5, 2021

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This memorandum provides an update on the region's new 2030 Metropolitan Washington Climate and Energy Action Plan.

On October 14, 2020, the Board adopted Resolution R45-2020 - Endorsing Regional Climate Mitigation and Resiliency Goals, including:

- Interim climate mitigation goal of 50 percent greenhouse gas emission reductions below 2005 levels by 2030; and
- Climate resilience goals of becoming a Climate Ready Region and making significant progress to be a Climate Resilient Region by 2030; and
- Reinforcing the need to incorporate equity principles and expand education on climate change into CEEPC and COG members' actions to reach the climate mitigation and resiliency goals.

The Board advised the Climate Energy and Environment Policy Committee (CEEPC) to develop a 2030 Climate and Energy Action Plan to facilitate efforts to meet the 2030 climate goals.

On November 18, 2020, CEEPC reviewed and approved the Metropolitan Washington 2030 Climate and Energy Action Plan (CEAP). The CEAP establishes priority collaborative actions for area governments and partners to work on together, over ten years, to help move the region towards meeting its 2030 climate mitigation and resiliency goals. COG followed the Global Covenant of Mayor's (GCoM) framework of global best practices for climate planning in developing the plan. In addition to working closely with local, regional, and state leaders and stakeholders, the region received guidance and support from national and international organizations including the European Union (EU), International Urban Cooperation (IUC), ICLEI – Local Governments for Sustainability, and the Carbon Disclosure Project (CDP).

Recommendations in the CEAP include strategies and actions such as: Accelerate Development of On-Site Renewables; Expand Building Benchmarking Requirements; Enhance Green Building Codes and Policies to Facilitate Net Zero Energy Building Development; Expand Light-Duty Electric Vehicle Deployment; Enhance Regulatory Capacity to Manage Tree Canopy and Forest Protection; Develop Integrated Approach to Climate Resilience Planning; Improve the Resilience of Critical Infrastructure; and Enhance Green Infrastructure Networks.

The Executive Summary of the CEAP is attached.

In March 2021, GCoM found COG's regional greenhouse gas emission reduction goals and Metropolitan Washington 2030 Climate and Energy Action Plan fully compliant with the global standards of best practices for climate planning. GCoM awarded COG "Mitigation" and "Adaptation" achievement badges in recognition. GCoM certified that COG's plan met all required elements including the GHG inventory, GHG reduction target, climate risk and vulnerability assessment, adaptation goal, and plans for both mitigation and adaptation. Metropolitan Washington is the first region in the United States to achieve this status.

As member jurisdictions continue their own work activities to address climate change, COG offers support to member agencies in multiple ways including technical assistance and consultant support. COG has established a contracting vehicle to provide technical services of subject matter experts to local governments for development of local climate, resilience, energy, and EV plans, with customized level of COG staff assistance. Additionally, member agencies will be able to share and learn from peers through the technical committee process

At present twelve COG members have developed a local climate action plan, eight are in the process of developing new or updated ones. Additionally, some jurisdictions are developing an electric vehicle (EV) plan to help examine the opportunities and actions needed to electrify the vehicular fleet. At present two have finalized their EV Plan for community vehicles; one for public sector vehicles and three are currently developing one for government and community vehicles. COG staff has assisted or is assisting in these efforts in varying degrees.

## Document Links

COG Board Resolution Adopting the 2030 Climate and Resilience Goals

<https://www.mwcog.org/documents/2020/10/14/certified-resolution-r45-2020--endorsing-regional-climate-mitigation-and-resiliency-goals/>

COG 2030 Climate and Energy Action Plan

<https://www.mwcog.org/documents/2020/11/18/metropolitan-washington-2030-climate-and-energy-action-plan/>

COG GCoM Recognition

<https://www.mwcog.org/newsroom/2019/09/25/region-receives-global-recognition-for-leading-the-way-on-climate/>

COG GCoM Certification

<https://www.mwcog.org/newsroom/2021/03/24/metropolitan-washington-meets-global-standards-for-climate-planning/>

COG GCoM Page

<https://www.globalcovenantofmayors.org/cities/usa/united-states/metropolitan-washington-council-of-governments/>

# METROPOLITAN WASHINGTON 2030 CLIMATE AND ENERGY ACTION PLAN

Executive Summary

November 2020

## **METROPOLITAN WASHINGTON CLIMATE ACTION PLAN**

Prepared by the Climate, Energy and Environment Policy Committee (CEEPC)

Adopted on November 18, 2020

### **ABOUT COG**

The Metropolitan Washington Council of Governments (COG) is an independent, nonprofit association that brings area leaders together to address major regional issues in the District of Columbia, suburban Maryland, and Northern Virginia. COG's membership is comprised of 300 elected officials from 24 local governments, the Maryland and Virginia state legislatures, and U.S. Congress.

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# EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

The Metropolitan Washington Council of Governments (COG) is a hub for partnerships to facilitate sustainable growth, a well-maintained transportation system, clean air, water, and land, safe and healthy communities, and a vibrant economy. This work is guided by COG's comprehensive *Region Forward vision*, to ensure a more prosperous, accessible, livable, sustainable, and equitable future for all area residents. In this role, COG has established goals to mitigate greenhouse gas emissions and improve regional climate resiliency. The COG Board established new 2030 goals to supplement earlier 2020 and 2050 goals. The new goals call for further reducing greenhouse gas emissions by 2030, and being a Climate Ready Region, including increased investments in resiliency, by 2030.<sup>i</sup>

This 2030 Climate and Energy Action Plan builds on previous action plans and establish priority collaborative actions for COG's Climate, Energy and Environment Policy Committee (CEEPC) members to work on together over the next ten years to help move the region towards meeting its' 2030 goals. All the actions in the plan are voluntary; the success of the plan will depend on active regional collaboration and implementation.

## Plan Purpose and Scope

According to the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC), a body of the United Nations that assesses the science related to climate change, the world is already experiencing the impacts of 1 degree Celsius of global warming above pre-industrial levels. Additionally, the IPCC notes that more severe climate impacts could be avoided if global warming is limited to 1.5 degrees Celsius. Globally, emissions need to fall by 45 percent from 2010 levels by 2030 and carbon neutral by 2050 to limit global warming to 1.5 degrees Celsius. The IPCC acknowledges rapid and far reaching transitions are needed world-wide in order to limit global warming.<sup>ii</sup>

The 2030 greenhouse gas (GHG) emission reduction goals adopted by the COG Board of Directors on October 14, 2020 align with the level of effort called for by the IPCC. COG Board Resolution R45-2020 established interim climate change goals including:<sup>iii</sup>

- The climate mitigation goal of 50 percent greenhouse gas emission reductions below 2005 levels by 2030;
- The climate resilience goal of becoming a Climate Ready Region and making significant progress to be a Climate Resilient Region by 2030; and
- The need to incorporate equity principles and expand education on climate change into COG's CEEPC and its members' actions to reach the climate mitigation and resiliency goals.

To be a Climate Ready Region by 2030, all local governments must assess current and future climate risks, and be actively integrating climate planning across government plans, operations, and communications. To fully be a Climate Resilient Region, the region must have the ability to adapt and absorb against disturbances caused by current and future, acute and chronic climate impacts and successfully maintain essential functions.

The purpose of this plan is to establish priority collaborative actions for COG and its members to work on together over the next ten years to help move the region towards meeting the 2030 goals. Achieving the regional goals would require unprecedented, aggressive cross-sectoral action from all COG members and its state and federal partners.

## GUIDING PRINCIPLES

Ten principles guide this plan's voluntary collaborative climate action implementation process. These principles reflect CEEPC's commitment to environmental quality, economic prosperity, and equity. As climate leaders, CEEPC is committed to the following principles:

- 1. Collective Action:** We will continue to work together to leverage our impact and facilitate application at scale.
- 2. Effective Partnerships:** We will continue to share best practices, learn together, and coordinate on implementation to advance regional transformation.
- 3. Lead by Example:** We have a continued commitment to internal implementation of long-term solutions to reduce the climate impacts of our operations.
- 4. Integration:** We understand climate action is inherently multidisciplinary and will promote cross-department coordination, including in areas such as equity, health, and economic development.
- 5. Flexibility:** We understand the need for flexibility in how our public agencies and stakeholders across the District of Columbia, Maryland, and Virginia work to achieve regional GHG goals.
- 6. Transparency:** We will continue to measure and report progress in a manner easily understandable by all.
- 7. Innovation:** We support a just transition to a clean energy economy through the application of innovative technology, policies, and processes by public and private sectors.
- 8. Community Leadership:** We will continue to educate, motivate, and empower action from our community's institutions, businesses, non-profits, and residents.
- 9. Inclusive Engagement:** We commit to inclusive community engagement and equitable provision of climate and energy programs and services.
- 10. Advocacy:** We will continue to support state and federal policies and programs that protect the human and environmental health of our communities.

## Plan Elements

There are four core elements to this plan, including:

- **Greenhouse Gases:** This section of the plan provides a summary of regional GHG inventory trends from 2005 to 2018, business-as-usual (BAU) GHG emission projections through 2030, and technical scenario showing what it will take for the region to reach GHG reductions of 50 percent below 2005 levels by 2030.
- **Climate Mitigation Strategy:** This section of the plan identifies CEEPC's priority collaborative mitigation actions to move the region toward achieving the GHG emission reduction goal of 50 percent by 2030, below 2005 levels. The action areas include Planning, Equity, Clean Electricity, Zero Energy Buildings, Zero Emission Vehicles, Mode Shift and Travel Behavior, Zero Waste, and Sequestration.
- **Climate Risks and Vulnerabilities:** This section of the plan provides a summary of the Regional Climate, Risk and Vulnerability Assessment (CRVA). The CRVA evaluates climate hazards including extreme heat, drought, lightning and thunderstorms, flash and riverine flooding, coastal flooding and extreme winter conditions. The CRVA also evaluates factors

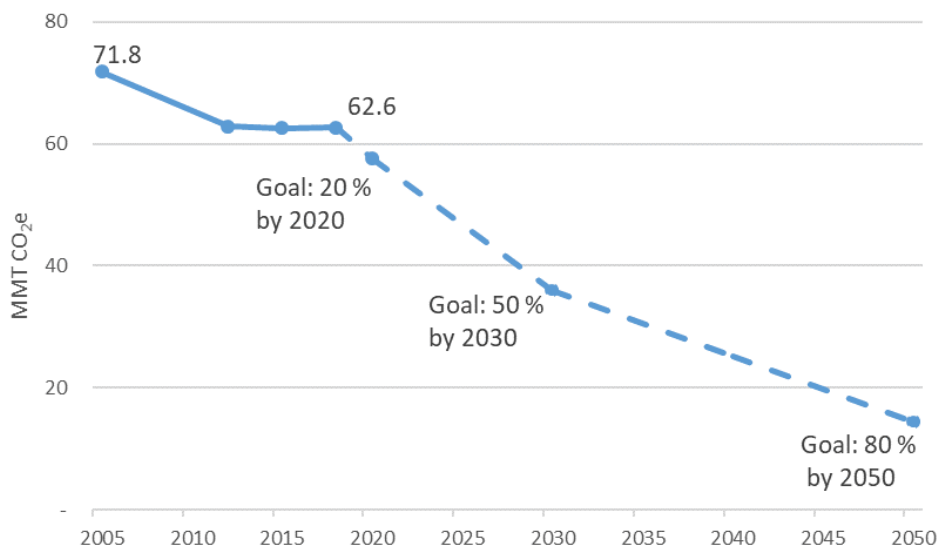
impacting adaptive capacity, such as infrastructure conditions and maintenance, access to basic services, and public health.

- **Climate Resilience Strategy:** This section of the plan identifies CEEPC’s priority collaborative climate resilience actions to move the region toward achieving the goal of becoming a Climate Ready Region and making significant progress to be a Climate Resilient Region by 2030. The action areas include Planning, Equity, and Resilient Infrastructure.

## GHG Inventory

COG’s greenhouse gas inventories show that the region’s progress to date towards the GHG emission reduction goals has been mixed. The region exceeded its 2012 goal but is lagging on progress towards its 2020 goal. The most recent inventory indicates that 2018 GHG emissions in the region decreased by approximately 13 percent below 2005 levels, despite a 19 percent growth in population. Per capita emissions decreased between 2005 and 2018 from 15.6 metric tons of carbon dioxide equivalent (MTCO<sub>2e</sub>) in 2005 to 11.4 MTCO<sub>2e</sub> in 2018. Expedited and concerted actions will be needed throughout the region to achieve future goals of 50 percent GHG emission reduction by 2030 and 80 percent by 2050 (Figure ES-1).

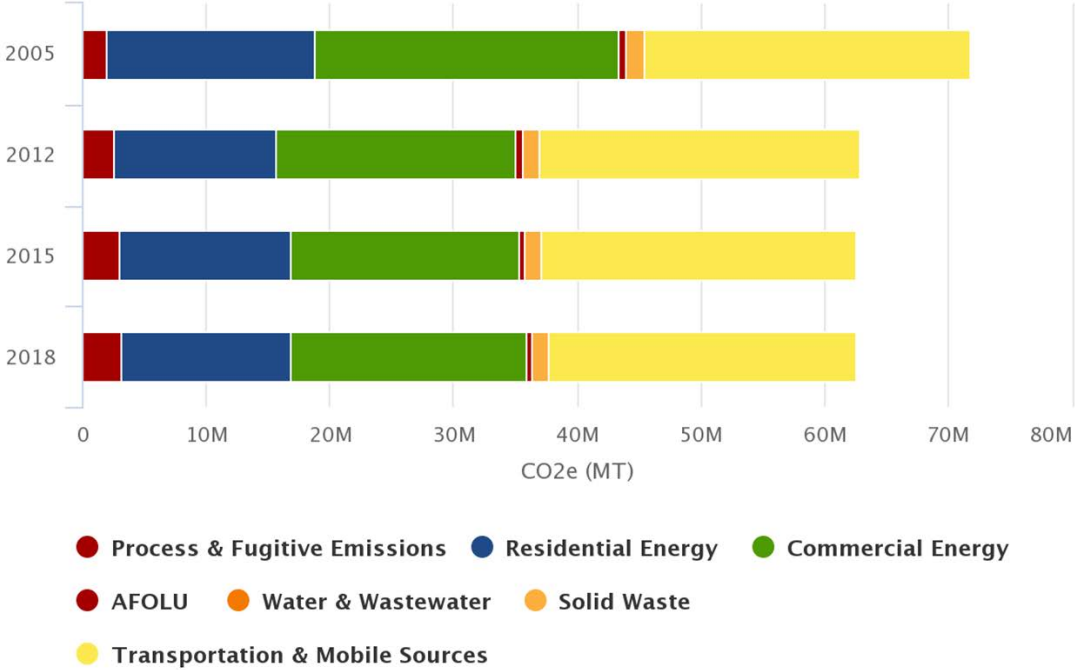
**Figure ES-1: Metropolitan Washington GHG Trends and Goals**



## EMISSIONS ACTIVITIES

The inventories measure GHG-emitting activities undertaken by residents, businesses, industry, and government located in metropolitan Washington, as well as emissions from visitors. Approximately 90 percent of metropolitan Washington’s GHG emissions come from residential and commercial building energy consumption and transportation. Building energy consumption accounts for 50 percent and 40 percent is from transportation. The remainder of emissions comes from other activities and sources including solid waste, wastewater treatment, agriculture and fugitive emissions (Figure ES-2).

**Figure ES-2: Metropolitan Washington GHG Emissions by Activity**

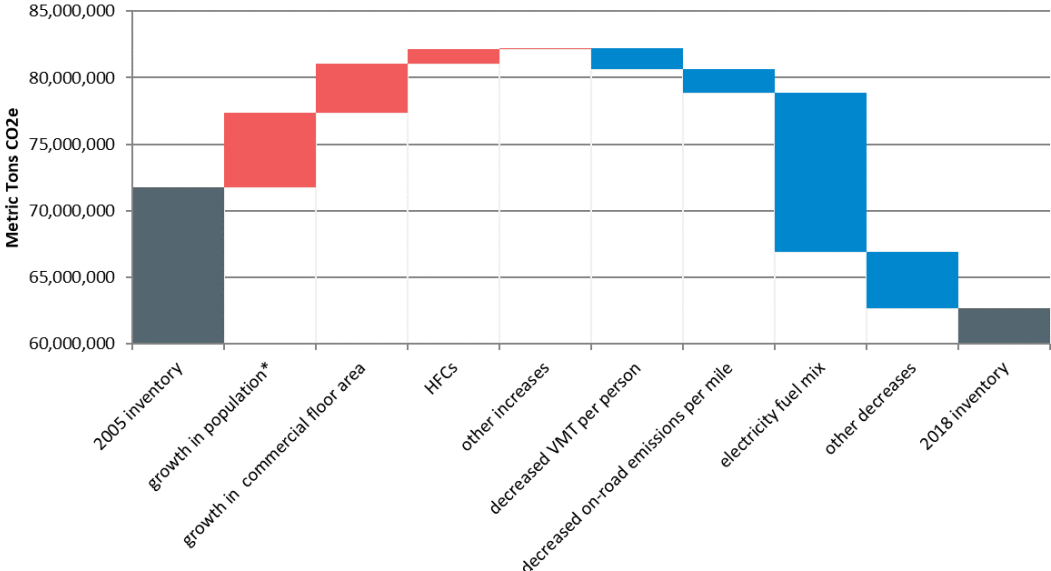


Source: ICLEI's ClearPath, an online greenhouse gas inventory tool.

**DRIVERS OF GHG CHANGE**

The metropolitan Washington GHG Contribution Analysis results in Figure ES-3 shows what has driven increases and decreases in emissions between inventory years 2005 and 2018. The main drivers increasing emissions (red bars) include growth in population, commercial space, and hydrofluorocarbons (HFCs). Driving down emissions (blue bars) is mainly a cleaner grid, cleaner cars and reduced vehicle miles traveled (VMT) per person.

**Figure ES-3: Drivers of Metropolitan Washington GHG Changes**

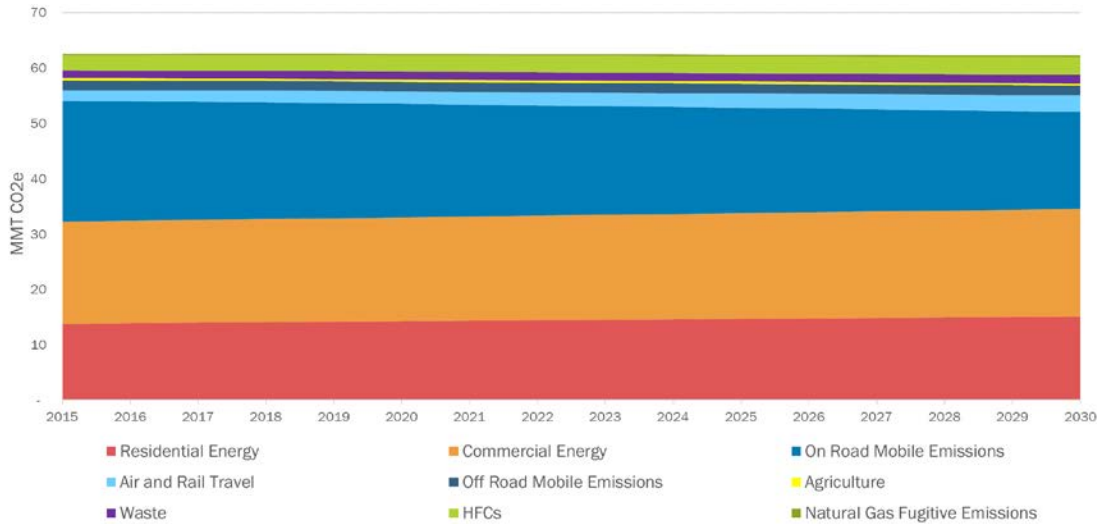


\*Includes effects of population on residential energy, VMT and waste generation.

## Business-As-Usual Projections<sup>iv</sup>

Business-as-usual (BAU) projections provide a baseline scenario for future GHG emissions. BAU projections take into account population, housing, and commercial growth as well as policies and practices that have been in place and implemented to-date to reduce GHG emissions. Figure ES-4 shows that the region’s anticipated BAU emissions projected out to 2030 overall remain flat.

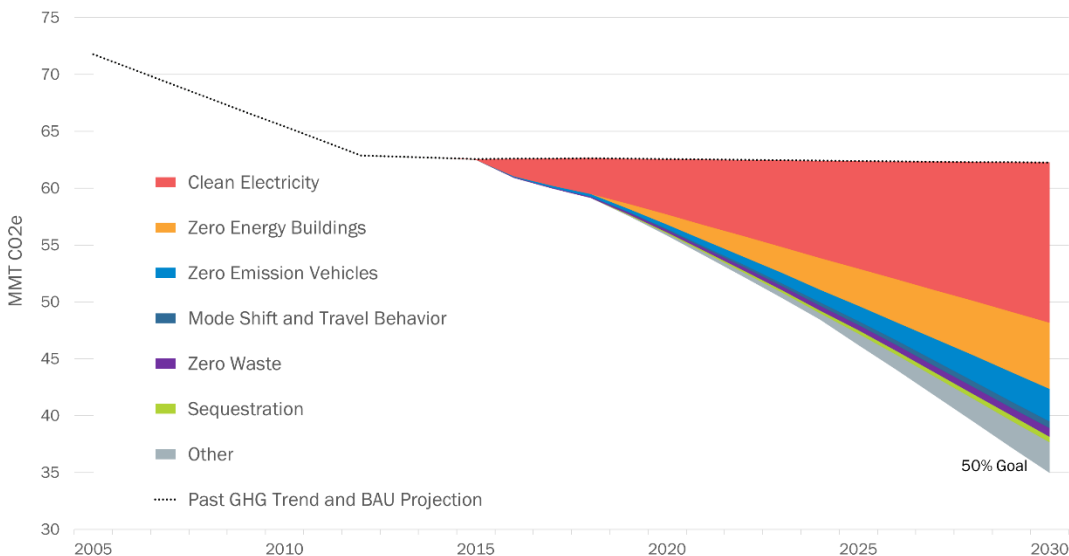
**Figure ES-4: Metropolitan Washington Business-As-Usual Projections**



## 2030 Scenario<sup>v</sup>

The 2030 scenario for this plan analyzes the technical potential of "What Would It Take" for metropolitan Washington to reach a 50 percent reduction in GHG emissions by 2030 from 2005 levels. This scenario leverages results from a previous scenario analysis conducted in 2015 by COG’s Ad-Hoc Multi-Sector Work Group and results have been updated based on new data and progress since that time. Figure ES-5 on the shows a summary of the 2030 scenario results. Considerable action across local, regional, state, and national levels will be needed.

**Figure ES-5: Metropolitan Washington “What Would It Take” Scenario Results**



## Regional Mitigation Strategy

The Regional Mitigation Strategy includes collaborative actions to support the region in achieving the GHG emission reduction goals of 50 percent by 2030 below 2005 levels and 80 percent by 2050.

The climate action areas included in the Regional Climate Mitigation Strategy address: Planning, Equity, Clean Electricity, Zero Energy Buildings, Zero Emission Vehicles, Zero Waste, Mode Shift and Travel Behavior and Sequestration. Within these action areas are high-level priority actions for COG and its members to focus on through 2030. All actions are voluntary. Table ES-1 is a summary of the climate action areas and priority collaborative actions described in this strategy.

**Table ES-1: Metropolitan Washington Priority Collaborative Mitigation Actions**

Climate Action Area	Action ID	Priority Collaborative Action
Planning	PL - 1	Advance Climate Planning and Track Progress
Equity	EQ - 1	Enable Equitable Planning Practices
	EQ - 2	Prioritize Sustainable Energy Access for All
Clean Electricity	CE - 1	Advocate for Aggressive Renewable Portfolio Standards
	CE - 2	Accelerate Development of On-Site Renewables
	CE - 3	Accelerate Deployment of Battery Storage
	CE - 4	Accelerate Development of Microgrids for Critical Infrastructure
	CE - 5	Accelerate Development of Large-Scale Off-Site Renewables
	CE - 6	Advocate for and Implement Community Choice Aggregation
Zero Energy Buildings	ZEB - 1	Expand Building Benchmarking Requirements
	ZEB - 2	Accelerate Deep Building Retrofits
	ZEB - 3	Enhance Green Building Codes and Policies to Facilitate Net Zero Energy Building Development
	ZEB - 4	Expand Proper Disposal and Leak Detection of Refrigerants
Zero Emission Vehicles	ZEV - 1	Expand Light-Duty Electric Vehicle Deployment
	ZEV - 2	Accelerate Electrification of Medium- and Heavy-Duty Vehicles
	ZEV - 3	Build Out Regional Electric Vehicle Charging Network
Mode Shift and Travel Behavior	MSTB - 1	Invest in Infrastructure that Increases Transit, Carpooling, and Non-Motorized Travel
	MSTB - 2	Bring Jobs and Housing Closer Together
	MSTB - 3	Enhance Options for Commuters
Zero Waste	ZW - 1	Implement Curbside Organics Recycling Programs
	ZW - 2	Reduce Solid Waste Generation
	ZW - 3	Build Markets for Circularity
Sequestration	SQ - 1	Strategically Plant New Trees on Publicly Owned Land
	SQ - 2	Enhance Regulatory Capacity to Manage Tree Canopy and Forest Protection
	SQ - 3	Enhance Incentives and Financing Mechanisms for Tree Planting and Preservation on Privately Owned Lands

## Climate Risk and Vulnerabilities

In 2018, The Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC) released the *Global Warming of 1.5 °C*, an IPCC special report, highlighting that the world is already experiencing the impacts of 1 degree Celsius warming above pre-industrial levels but more severe climate impacts could be avoided if global warming is limited to 1.5 degrees Celsius. If the rate of warming continues, 1.5 degrees Celsius warming is likely to occur between 2030 and 2052 with more frequent and severe extreme weather events becoming even more prevalent.<sup>vi</sup>

As the IPCC noted internationally, metropolitan Washington is also experiencing the impacts of a changing climate. Observations in metropolitan Washington show that temperatures and the water surface level in the Potomac River have been rising and will continue to rise. Extreme weather events and increases in the number of extreme heat and cold days will increase risks to health, energy usage patterns, plant and animal habitats, and infrastructure. These changes are also affecting stormwater, drinking water, and wastewater. Implementing regional adaptation strategies are necessary to reduce the impacts of climate change.<sup>vii</sup>

A climate risk and vulnerability assessment (CRVA) was conducted for metropolitan Washington with the goal of understanding the climate hazards that face the region and assessing the likelihood and impact of current and future hazards on the region. Climate change may increase the frequency or severity of climate hazards in metropolitan Washington, including extreme heat (high day and night temperatures), drought, flooding (flash, riverine, and coastal), lightning and thunderstorms, and extreme winter conditions.

## METHODOLOGY

The regional CRVA methodology is based on the Global Covenant of Mayors for Climate and Energy (GCoM) framework. GCOM is a global alliance of cities and local governments that support voluntary action to address climate change and ensure a low emission, climate resilient future.<sup>viii</sup> The CRVA identifies and describes current and anticipated climate hazards metropolitan Washington faces. As shown in Table ES-2, each hazard is assigned a risk level, based on probability and level of consequence (probability x consequence). After the hazard risks are identified, an assessment is conducted to determine the future change in intensity and frequency, and the timeframe over which this will occur: Immediately, Short Term (by 2025), Medium Term (by 2050), and Long Term (after 2050).

**Table ES-2: Climate Risk Sourcing Matrix**

		Probability		
		Low (1)	Moderate (2)	High (3)
Consequence	High (3)	3	6	9
	Moderate (2)	2	4	6
	Low (1)	1	2	3



Next, vulnerabilities were assessed to determine the degree in which the people, systems, sectors, and systems are susceptible to current and future climate impacts. The impacts assessed include, but are not limited to: services lost, environmental impact, property damages, public health threats, economic losses, and other disruptions to day-to-day operations. For each hazard, relevant population groups in the region were identified that are most vulnerable to future climate hazards and impacts. Finally, for each hazard, factors were assessed that may impact the region’s adaptive capability.

As shown in Table ES-3, the most prominent climate hazards facing metropolitan Washington include extreme heat and flash and riverine flooding. More frequent extreme heat days will lead to public health concerns, increase energy demand, travel disruptions, and maintenance and infrastructure damages. With more frequent and intense storms, flash and riverine flooding will increase disruptions and damages to infrastructure and emergency services, and further threaten vulnerable populations.

**Table ES-3: Risk Level of Hazards in Metropolitan Washington**

Hazard	Probability	Consequence	Risk
Extreme Heat	3	3	9
Drought	2	3	6
Flooding (Flash and Riverine)	3	3	9
Coastal Flooding	3	2	6
Lightning/Thunderstorm	3	2	6
Extreme Winter Conditions	2	3	6

The region must adapt to climate change. Adaptive capacity is defined as “the ability of systems, institutions, humans and other organisms to adjust to potential damage, to take advantage of opportunities or to respond to consequences.”<sup>ix</sup> Table ES-4 shows the degree of challenge identified for each sector evaluated in the CRVA. Infrastructure conditions pose the highest degree of challenge due to the impacts on maintenance costs, aging facilities, interoperability, and increased demand. Resilient critical infrastructure is essential to the well-being, health, and safety of the people in metropolitan Washington. Implementing resilient measures for all critical infrastructure by 2050 is necessary to respond to a changing climate.

**Table ES-4: Metropolitan Washington Adaptive Capacity Degree of Challenge**

Factor	Degree of Challenge
Infrastructure Conditions/Maintenance	High
Access to Basic Services	Moderate
Access to Healthcare	Moderate
Public Health	Moderate
Housing	Moderate
Poverty	Moderate
Community Engagement	Moderate
Environmental Conditions	Moderate
Economic Health	Low

## VULNERABLE POPULATIONS

Climate change will impact people and communities differently. Potentially vulnerable populations may include low-income, minority, marginalized groups, women and girls, persons in sub-standard housing, people with limited English proficiency, the elderly, children, people with chronic health problems, or disabled persons. As vulnerable populations face greater risks, their consideration and inclusion in climate change planning is essential to ensure equitable distribution of benefits. Creating resilient communities is only possible when inclusion of vulnerable populations' needs are met.

## Regional Resilience Strategy

The Regional Climate Resilience Strategy includes collaborative actions to support the region in achieving the climate resilience goals of becoming a Climate Ready Region and making significant progress to be a Climate Resilient Region by 2030. To move the region toward becoming more resilient, the region needs to ensure that all populations are included and prioritize resilience of the region's most vulnerable populations.

The climate action areas included in this Regional Climate Resilience Strategy address: Planning, Equity, and Resilient Infrastructure. Within these action areas are high-level priority actions for COG and its members to focus on through 2030. All actions are voluntary. Table ES-5 is a summary of the climate action areas and priority collaborative actions described in this strategy. The actions are based on the needs identified in the regional climate risk and vulnerabilities assessment.

**Table ES-5: Metropolitan Washington Priority Collaborative Resilience Actions**

Climate Action Area	Action ID	Priority Collaborative Action
Planning	PL - 2	Support Capacity Building for Climate Resilience Planning
	PL - 3	Develop Integrated Approach to Climate Resilience Planning
	PL - 4	Update Local and Regional Plans to Address Climate Risks
Equity	EQ - 3	Support Engagement of the Public on Climate Risks, with a Particular Emphasis on Potentially Vulnerable Populations
	EQ - 4	Support Equitable Secure Energy Access
Resilient Infrastructure	RI - 1	Support Establishment of Resilience Hubs
	RI - 2	Improve the Resilience of Critical Infrastructure
	RI - 3	Implement Measures to Equitably Address Urban Heat Island
	RI - 4	Enhance Green Infrastructure Networks
	RI - 5	Implement Measures to Reduce Flood Risk

## Conclusion

COG's Climate and Energy Program is one of the nation's first initiatives to address climate change on a regional level. The regional effort is led by the Climate, Energy and Environment Policy Committee (CEEPC) and guided by this plan. COG will continue to work with its regional partners to meet its goals for 2030 and beyond.

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<sup>i</sup> Metropolitan Washington Council of Governments. (2016). *COG and Our Region webpage*. Washington D.C. Retrieved from <https://www.mwcog.org/about-us/cog-and-our-region/>.

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<sup>ii</sup> Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change. (2018). *Summary for Policymakers of IPCC Special Report on Global Warming of 1.5 Degrees Celsius*. Retrieved from <https://www.ipcc.ch/2018/10/08/summary-for-policymakers-of-ipcc-special-report-on-global-warming-of-1-5c-approved-by-governments/>.

<sup>iii</sup> Metropolitan Washington Council of Governments. (2020). *Certified Resolution R45-2020 – Endorsing Regional Climate Mitigation and Resiliency Goals*. Washington D.C. Retrieved from <https://www.mwcog.org/documents/2020/10/14/certified-resolution-r45-2020---endorsing-regional-climate-mitigation-and-resiliency-goals/>.

<sup>iv</sup> Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change. (2018). AR5 Annex II Glossary. Retrieved from [https://www.ipcc.ch/site/assets/uploads/2018/02/WGIAR5-AnnexII\\_FINAL.pdf](https://www.ipcc.ch/site/assets/uploads/2018/02/WGIAR5-AnnexII_FINAL.pdf).

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<sup>v</sup> Metropolitan Washington Council of Governments. (2016). *Multi-Sector Approach to Reducing Greenhouse Gas Emissions in the Metropolitan Washington Region Final Technical Report*. Washington D.C. Retrieved from <https://www.mwcog.org/documents/2016/08/01/multi-sector-approach-to-reducing-greenhouse-gas-emissions-in-the-metropolitan-washington-region-final-technical-report/>.

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<sup>vi</sup> Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change. (2018). *Summary for Policymakers of IPCC Special Report on Global Warming of 1.5 Degrees Celsius*. Retrieved from <https://www.ipcc.ch/2018/10/08/summary-for-policymakers-of-ipcc-special-report-on-global-warming-of-1-5c-approved-by-governments/>.

<sup>vii</sup> Metropolitan Washington Council of Governments. (2014). *Building A Climate Resilient National Capital Region*. Washington D.C. Retrieved from <https://www.mwcog.org/about-us/newsroom/2014/10/02/building-a-climate-resilient-national-capital-region-climate-change-climate-resiliency/>.

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<sup>viii</sup> Global Covenant of Mayors for Climate and Energy. (2018). *Global Covenant of Mayors Common Reporting Framework*. Retrieved from [https://www.globalcovenantofmayors.org/wp-content/uploads/2019/04/FINAL\\_Data-TWG\\_Reporting-Framework\\_website\\_FINAL-13-Sept-2018\\_for-translation.pdf](https://www.globalcovenantofmayors.org/wp-content/uploads/2019/04/FINAL_Data-TWG_Reporting-Framework_website_FINAL-13-Sept-2018_for-translation.pdf).

<sup>ix</sup> Ibid

**AGENDA ITEM #13**

**OTHER BUSINESS**

**AGENDA ITEM #14**

**ADJOURN**