

COG's Regional Water Quality Management (RWQM) Annual Work Program
Elements, Priorities and Levels of Effort – FY 2022

DRAFT – SUBJECT TO REVISION

August 27, 2020

Key features of proposed FY 2022 RWQM Work Program

Overall Focus and Priorities

Similar drivers, challenges, principles, areas of focus, and level of effort as FY 2021



The COG Board approves COG's legislative priorities on a calendar year basis. The 2020 COG Board Water Quality Protection Legislative Priorities are provided below for reference. The final FY2022 Work Program and Budget will reflect priorities for CY2021 which will be approved in January 2021.

- o **Investments in water infrastructure** - Support sustained and expanded funding for state and federal water quality programs, including the Water Infrastructure Finance and Innovation Act (WIFIA) funding, state revolving funds (SRFs), stormwater local assistance funds, and the Chesapeake Bay Program. Ensure that local water infrastructure investments to meet water quality permit load allocations and handle future population and economic growth are

- protected. Invest in workforce training and development to ensure the availability of skilled workers to fill water sector jobs.
- **Support climate and flood resiliency initiatives** - Support funding to address robust climate change analysis, adaptation and resiliency planning, flood control and management, and development and coordinated implementation of local best practices.
 - **Ensure stormwater regulatory feasibility** - Support actions that provide for a feasible pace for MS4 stormwater permits and reasonable reporting requirements.
 - **Ensure local government input** - Ensure that local governments and wastewater and drinking water utilities are given opportunities to provide timely and meaningful input on management decisions about the Chesapeake Bay and local water quality.
 - **Support affordability and regulatory flexibility** - Support cost-effective scheduling and financing of water quality programs, including streamlining permits, flexibility to achieve nutrient and sediment reduction across wastewater, stormwater, and other sectors, and full funding for agricultural conservation programs.
 - **Support water supply security** - Support water quality security and resiliency through research, planning, and programs and drinking water source protection policies and programs to ensure a resilient, reliable and clean drinking water supply for the region.

Specific water sector activities anticipated in FY2022 are:

- **Provide technical assistance to support Bay Program policy development**
 - Track Bay Program's revisions to its modeling framework to address climate change
 - Assess load reduction strategies to compensate for Conowingo dam systems; dynamic equilibrium
 - Work with Bay Program staff to adapt stormwater management guidelines to address climate change
- **Provide Bay TMDL Watershed Implementation Plan (WIP) implementation assistance for COG members**
 - Work with members to ensure the accuracy of the modelling data used by the Bay Program to track nutrient and sediment reduction progress
 - Provide analysis of the level of effort required under the WIPs across state lines and among the different source sectors
- **Assess regional wastewater and drinking water capacity for growth.**
 - Analyze alternative water supply and resiliency options
 - Work with the members to check the assumptions that the Bay Program state partners are using to model changes in wastewater and stormwater loads to 2025 and beyond
 - Assess the region's ability to meet wastewater cap loads on a long-term basis
- **Technical assistance and support of regional water sector resiliency efforts.**
 - Evaluate possible capital improvements to mitigate risk and strengthen resilience
 - Engage and collaborate across sectors to continue to build understanding of water services as a regional preparedness priority
 - Continue working with federal, state, and local emergency and preparedness partners to determine capabilities and plans to protect and provide water supplies during emergency incidents
- **Provide analysis of regional water quality through monitoring efforts.**
 - Continue to review regional monitoring data and determine future priorities for COG's regional monitoring program
 - Augment COG's Potomac Water Quality Report with new section on bacteria levels and trends
- **Address new water quality/environmental challenges and permit/regulatory issues as they emerge.**

If any substantive changes occur that would modify these planning assumptions, COG staff will confer with committee members regarding the implications for this work program.

RWQM Program Areas – FY 2022	
I. Policy and Program Development <i>[Work is fully funded by Regional Water Fund]</i>	
<i>Supports policy development, advocacy, CBPC support, program management, and outreach.</i>	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> A. CBPC and Board/Member Support B. Regional Policy/Legislative Development and Advocacy Efforts C. Work Program Management 	
II. Water Quality/Water Resources Management and Technical Analysis <i>[Work is fully funded by Regional Water Fund]</i>	
<i>Supports technical work for the WRTC on a wide range of water quality/water resource issues.</i>	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> A. Regional Water Quality Data Analysis B. Potomac Water Quality Monitoring Contracts C. Regional Wastewater Flow Forecast Model and WWTP Database and Analysis D. Regional Water Resource Infrastructure/Funding Analysis E. Technical and Program Support to WRTC F. Chesapeake Bay Watershed Model and Water Quality Model Work G. Water Resources Climate Change and Related Assessments H. Bay and Local – TMDL/WIP/ Local Planning Goals and Permit Support 	
III. Urban Watershed Management Services <i>[As before, work is fully funded by Regional Environmental Fund and COG Membership fees, and grants]</i>	
<i>Supports work to address environmental initiatives with water quality implications/impacts and integrate efforts with other regional initiatives.</i>	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> A. Urban Stormwater Regulatory and Program Support B. Regional Agriculture and Forestry Management 	
IV. Water Resources Outreach, and Water Supply and Security <i>[As before, security work is funded separately]</i>	
<i>Supports work to address water supply and security issues with water quality/water resource implications and impacts</i>	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> A. Community Engagement Campaign B. Water Supply Emergency and Drought Management 	

Regional Water Fund (RWF) Support for RWQM Work Program

FY21 Total RWF <i>(approved)</i>	\$1,540,459
FY22 Total RWF <i>(estimated)</i>	\$1,578,970

This represents a preliminary estimate, assuming a conservative 2.5% increase over FY21 funding levels, and will be updated once the COG Board approves the FY22 Work Program and Budget.

Allocations the same as FY21 (i.e., 80% paid by Blue Plains Parties per Service Agreement #2; with remaining 20% paid by other jurisdictions/agencies based on percent of adjusted population).

<p>Reference Service Agreement #2 – C.4.a. The Parties agree to pay 80% of the Program based on the following allocation:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - DC Water – 20%, on behalf of the District; - Fairfax – 20%; and - WSSC – 40%, on behalf of Montgomery and Prince George’s (20% each)
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DRAFT - Local Government Contributions to COG's Regional Water Fund FY 2021 and FY 2022		
Jurisdiction	Regional Water Fund Allocations FY'21	Regional Water Fund Allocations FY'22
Alexandria, City of	\$ 30,508	\$ 31,271
Arlington County	\$ 45,478	\$ 46,615
Bowie, City of (WSSC)	\$ 11,269	\$ 11,551
College Park, City of (WSSC)	\$ 6,332	\$ 6,490
District of Columbia (DCWATER)	\$ 308,400	\$ 316,110
Fairfax County	\$ 308,400	\$ 316,110
Fairfax, City of	\$ 4,860	\$ 4,982
Falls Church, City of	\$ 2,725	\$ 2,793
Gaithersburg, City of (WSSC)	\$ 13,566	\$ 13,905
Greenbelt, City of (WSSC)	\$ 4,265	\$ 4,372
Loudoun County	\$ 80,714	\$ 82,732
Montgomery County (WSSC)	\$ 308,400	\$ 316,110
Prince George's County (WSSC)	\$ 308,400	\$ 316,110
Prince William County	\$ 89,778	\$ 92,022
Rockville, City of	\$ 13,853	\$ 14,199
Takoma Park, City of (WSSC)	\$ 3,511	\$ 3,599
TOTALS	\$ 1,540,459	\$ 1,578,970

* FY22 allocation is a preliminary estimate subject to COG Board approval of FY22 COG budget.