

METROPOLITAN WASHINGTON AREA
CONSORTIUM

DECEMBER 18, 2009

COG's Housing Program

What's the role of a COG housing planner?



❑ Housing Planner

- ❑ Promote regional partnerships
- ❑ Develop best management practices
- ❑ Provide data and expert information
- ❑ Convene forums
- ❑ Implement plans

Housing Program Issues & Committees

COMMITTEES

Washington
Area Housing
Partnership

Housing
Directors
Advisory
Committee

Homeless
Services
Committee

Metropolitan
Development
Policy
Committee

- Foreclosure
 - ▣ Prevention, Neighborhood Stabilization and Non Profit Capacity Building
- Affordability
 - ▣ Neighborhood Stabilization, Advocacy/Awareness, and Sustainable Communities
- Long Term Planning
 - ▣ Washington 2050
- Homelessness
 - ▣ Annual Enumeration Study

Foreclosure – Regional Summit



- ❑ COG hosted the region's first summit on foreclosure, with approximately 200 attendees
- ❑ Served as the first snapshot of the extent of the foreclosure problem in the Washington region
- ❑ Addressed acquisition of foreclosed properties, best practices in housing counseling, and ways to engage the foundation community in pro-active foreclosure prevention and mitigation solutions
- ❑ COG provided \$175,000 worth of grant support to six nonprofits providing direct foreclosure prevention and mitigation services

Foreclosure – Neighborhood Stabilization Program



- HUD program designed to support communities negatively impacted by foreclosure
- Second round of funding (first competitive round) providing up to \$1.93B
- Eligible activities:
 - ▣ Homebuyer assistance for the purchase or redevelopment of foreclosed properties
 - ▣ Acquisition, rehab and rental/sell of foreclosed properties
 - ▣ Demolition of blighted, foreclosed properties
 - ▣ Creation of land banks

Foreclosure – NSP2 Consortium

MEMBER JURISDICTIONS

Alexandria

Bowie

Fairfax County

Gaithersburg

Prince George's
County

Prince William
County

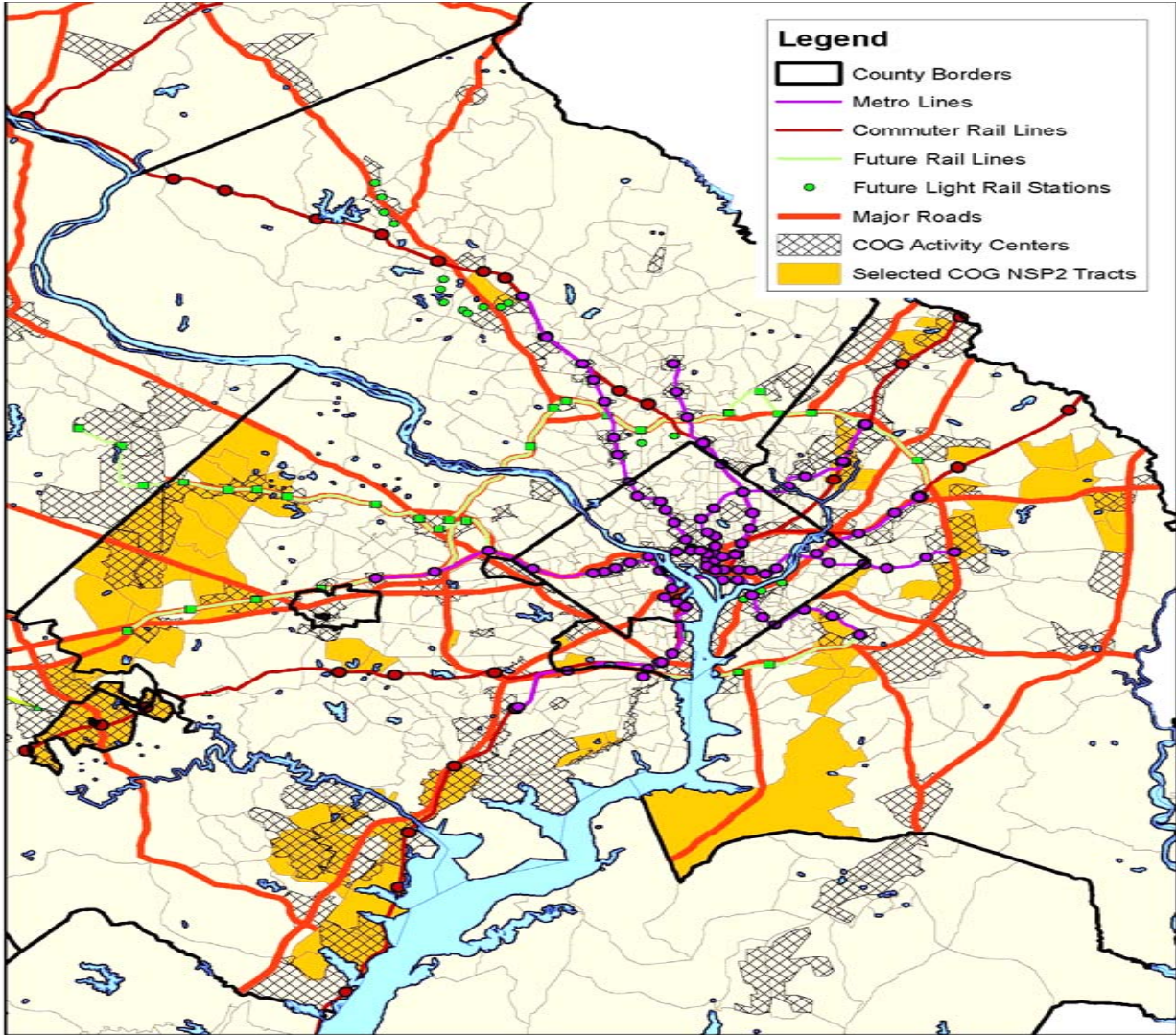
- Requested \$33.9M
 - ▣ Homebuyer assistance for 369 units
 - ▣ Creation of a regional acquisition fund
 - ▣ Acquire, rehab and sell 135 units
 - ▣ Acquire, rehab and rent 46 units
- Consortium partners
 - ▣ Enterprise Community Partners
 - ▣ National Community Stabilization Trust
 - ▣ The Urban Institute

Target Communities



- Each jurisdiction recommended “at risk” and “tipping point” communities/census tracts...
 - 24 tracts for both Fairfax and Prince George’s counties
 - 22 tracts within Prince William County
 - 5 tracts within the City of Bowie
 - 2 tracts within the City of Alexandria
 - 1 tract in Gaithersburg
- ...for a total of 78 census tracts

NSP2 Selected Tracts



Source: NeighborhoodInfoDC and The Metropolitan Washington Council of Governments

1 inch equals 6 miles

Foreclosure – Non Profit Capacity Building



- *“Housing in the Nation’s Capital”* Advisory Board Member
 - ▣ Seventh annual report about housing in the Washington metropolitan region focused on the foreclosure crisis and its effects on the local housing market and residents
- Conducting a scan of foreclosure prevention agencies across the region
 - ▣ Seek to develop a comprehensive report and set of recommendations to increase region’s capacity and create a regional network for housing counseling services

Affordability & Long Term Planning



- Implement our NSP activities
- GWU Capstone Project
- Pursue federal Transit Oriented Development grant opportunity
- Update Affordable Housing Tool Kit
- Create a regional affordable rental housing database
- Greater Washington 2050
 - ▣ Affordable housing targets (new and existing stock)
 - ▣ Transit oriented development targets (activity centers)
- Sustainable Communities Initiative

Homelessness – Annual Enumeration Study



- Preparing for our 10th regional enumeration of the homeless population
- One day point-in-time snap shot of persons served by nine local jurisdictions
- Counts the number of people found on the streets, in emergency shelters, in transitional and permanent supportive housing, or otherwise homeless and in need of a safe shelter

Homelessness – Potential IRE Project Topic



- Can we predict whether homelessness will increase throughout the region as a direct result of foreclosure?
- Would need to identify and research indicators suggesting potential vulnerability to homelessness
- Example indicators include increased requests for rental or utility assistance, foreclosure notices, or increased provision of free and reduced school lunches
- Results would determine whether to continue collecting the data/following trend to alert and assist local governments

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