

# COG

committee updates  
& outreach report

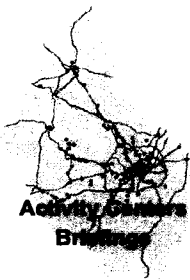
October 10, 2012

## Activities by Policy Boards and Committees

- In September, the **Transportation Planning Board** established a new Bus on Shoulder Task Force to explore the feasibility of allowing transit buses that operate on our region's highways to bypass regular traffic lanes when they are congested by traveling on the road's shoulder. The TPB also received a briefing from the Chair of the COG Board of Directors on the COG Report, *Economy Forward*.
- The **Chesapeake Bay and Water Resources Policy Committee** will be focusing on Water Resource Infrastructure issues over the next few months; evaluating challenges and opportunities for the region, and key linkages with COG's *Region Forward* and *Economy Forward* initiatives.
- The **Climate Energy and Environment Policy Committee** has overseen the production of the report, *Electric Vehicles in Metropolitan Washington: Understanding the Region's Current EV Readiness and Options for Expanding Their Use*. The report, by COG's Electric Vehicle Work Group, recommends creation of a Regional Electric Vehicle Partnership with private partners to carry out its recommendations.
- The **Region Forward Coalition** has been focusing on reviewing and completing the new Activity Centers map. It will be briefed in October on *Economy Forward* and will develop a work plan for implementing its assigned tasks and products.

## Special Meetings, Presentations, and Outreach by COG Staff

- **Activity Centers Briefings.** David Robertson and Paul DesJardin briefed the following jurisdictions on the proposed Region Forward Activity Centers in September — City of Takoma Park, City of Greenbelt, Montgomery County, City of Alexandria, Frederick County, Charles County, City of Bowie, and the City of Frederick.
- **9-1-1 Outage.** David Robertson testified before the Council of the District of Columbia, Committee on the Judiciary on COG's review of the Verizon 9-1-1 outage following the June 29 Derecho storm. Steve Souder, Fairfax County's 9-1-1 director also testified at the hearing.
- **EPA Meeting.** David Robertson and Stuart Freudberg met with EPA Region III Administrator Shawn Garvin and his staff liaison to the District of Columbia Aimee Howell to discuss environmental programs of common interest and future areas of collaboration.
- **Child Welfare.** David Robertson and Montgomery County Council President Roger Berliner attended the Taste of Potomac event recognizing Adoptions Together: COG's Wednesday's Child partners NBC4 and Freddie Mac Foundation received awards at the event.



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- **COG's Health Care Coalition.** David Robertson made a presentation on COG's regional health care coalition to the Tampa Bay Regional Planning Council. TBRPC is considering sponsoring a program similar to COG's health care coalition for its member governments.
- **ULI Regionalism Forum.** David Robertson participated as part of a panel discussion at the Urban Land Institute regionalism program day. Other panelists included Arlington Board member Chris Zimmerman and NCPC deputy director Julia Koster.
- **NARC.** David Robertson attended the National Association of Regional Councils (NARC) Executive Directors Conference in Boise, Idaho.
- **Critical Infrastructure Protection.** Stuart Freudberg met with Kelley Coyner, SPG Chief of Staff, Chris Geldart, DC HSEMA Director, and Steve Kral, WMATA Government Relations to discuss the work program and leadership for the Critical Infrastructure Protection Regional Programmatic Working Group as part of the preparation for the UASI Management Review.
- **Drought Planning.** Stuart Freudberg, Steven Bieber, Christine Howard, and Julie Karceski participated in a major, week-long, Drought Planning Exercise that tested the COG water supply and drought plan.
- **Activity Center Training.** DCPS staff hosted IMI (Irvine-Minnesota Inventory) Training for COG member planning staff at George Washington University in preparation for the Activity Centers Strategic Investment Plan research.
- **Air Quality and Transportation.** Ron Kirby attended the AMPO national conference in Saratoga Springs, NY, where he presented on air quality conformity challenges.