

#### **BOARD OF DIRECTORS**

Wednesday, January 8, 2020 12:00 - 2:00 P.M. Walter A. Scheiber Board Room

#### **AGENDA**

#### 

Robert C. White, Jr., 2019 COG Board Chair

#### 2. ELECTION OF 2020 COG BOARD OFFICERS

Bridget Newton, Nominating Committee Chair

Bridget Newton chaired the Nominating Committee for the 2020 COG Corporate and Board Officers. (The Corporate Officers were elected at the COG Annual Meeting on December 11, 2019.) The board will consider approval of the proposed COG Board officers for 2020: Chair Derrick L. Davis, Vice Chair Christian Dorsey, and Vice Chair Robert White.

Recommended Action: Adopt Resolution R1-2020.

## 12:05 P.M. 3. ELECTION OF 2020 POLICY COMMITTEE LEADERSHIP & GENERAL ASSEMBLY BOARD MEMBERS

Derrick L. Davis, COG Board Chair

The board will vote on the proposed policy committee leadership for the: Chesapeake Bay and Water Resources Policy Committee; Climate, Energy, and Environment Policy Committee; Human Services Policy Committee; and Region Forward Coalition. The board will vote on appointments for the Maryland and Virginia General Assembly members to serve on the COG Board of Directors.

Recommended Action: Adopt Resolutions R2-2020 and R3-2020.

#### 12:10 P.M. 4. CHAIRMAN'S REPORT

Derrick L. Davis, COG Board Chair

#### 12:15 P.M. 5. EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S REPORT

Chuck Bean, COG Executive Director

#### 6. AMENDMENTS TO THE AGENDA

Derrick L. Davis, COG Board Chair

#### 12:25 P.M. 7. APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES FROM NOVEMBER 13, 2019

Derrick L. Davis, COG Board Chair

Recommended Action: Approve minutes.

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

#### 8. ADOPTION OF CONSENT AGENDA ITEMS

Derrick L. Davis, COG Board Chair

There are no consent agenda resolutions this month.

#### 12:30 P.M. 9. FY-2019 AUDITED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

David Meyer, COG Audit Committee Member

PBMares, LLP presented the FY-2019 audit report to the Audit Committee, issuing an unmodified or "clean" opinion of COG's financial statements. The Audit Committee reviewed the audit report and recommends approval. The Audit Committee completed an annual assessment of the audit firm's performance, and recommends extension of the contract with PBMares, LLP to perform the FY-2020 audit and recommends authorizing the solicitation of proposals to conduct the FY-2021 audit.

Recommended Action: Receive briefing and adopt Resolution R4-2020.

#### 12:35 P.M. 10. FORMS OF LOCAL GOVERNMENT IN METROPOLITAN WASHINGTON

Sharon Pandak, COG General Counsel

The board will be briefed on the different forms of government across COG member jurisdictions in D.C., Maryland, and Virginia.

Recommended Action: Receive briefing.

#### 12:45 P.M. 11. 2020 LEGISLATIVE PRIORITIES

Monica Beyrouti Nuñez, COG Gov. Relations and Member Services Supervisor

Staff worked with COG's policy committees and the Legislative Committee to draft the COG 2020 regional legislative platform. The board will be briefed on the 2020 legislative priorities for transportation, environment, housing, health and human services, and emergency preparedness.

Recommended Action: Receive briefing and adopt Resolution R5-2020.

#### 1:00 P.M. 12. 2020 COG BOARD FOCUS: TRANSIT-ORIENTED COMMUNITIES

COG Board Executive Committee

Chuck Bean, COG Executive Director

Kanti Srikanth, COG Deputy Executive Director for Metropolitan Planning

The board will be briefed on the proposed board initiative for the year to advance the regional housing target for accessibility by exploring transit-oriented communities and optimizing land-use around the region's high-capacity transit areas.

Recommended Action: Receive briefing.

#### 1:30 P.M. 13. 2020 COG BOARD FOCUS: ADVANCING RACIAL EQUITY

Monica Beyrouti Nuñez, COG Gov. Relations and Member Services Supervisor Karla Bruce, Fairfax County Chief Equity Officer

The board will be briefed on the proposed board initiative for the year to continue advancing racial equity regionally and within local government programs and policies, including COG's racial equity learning cohort.

Recommended Action: Receive briefing.

1:45 P.M. 14. EXECUTIVE SESSION

1:55 P.M. 15. OTHER BUSINESS

2:00 P.M. 16. ADJOURN

The next meeting is scheduled for Wednesday, February 12, 2020.

# **AGENDA ITEM #2**

# ELECTION OF 2020 COG BOARD OFFICERS



#### **Report of the Nominating Committee**

#### 2020 BOARD OFFICERS (PROPOSED)

Proposed slate of 2020 COG Board Officers for approval by the COG Board of Directors at its meeting on January 8, 2020.



Chair
Derrick L. Davis
Prince George's
County



Vice Chair Christian Dorsey Arlington County



Vice Chair Robert C. White, Jr. District of Columbia

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

#### RESOLUTION ELECTING THE 2020 COG BOARD EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

WHEREAS, the Metropolitan Washington Council of Governments (COG) is comprised of the 24 jurisdictions of the metropolitan Washington region's local governments and their governing officials, plus area members of the Maryland and Virginia legislatures and the U.S. Senate and House of Representatives, and COG provides a focus for action on issues of regional concern; and

**WHEREAS**, the COG by-laws state that the board shall annually elect a chair and one or two vice-chairs at the first meeting following the annual meeting of the general membership; and

WHEREAS, the 2020 Nominating Committee recommends approval of the proposed slate of COG Board officers for 2020: Chair Derrick L. Davis, Vice Chair Christian Dorsey, and Vice Chair Robert C. White, Jr.

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

The board elects the proposed slate of COG Board Officers to serve as the Executive Committee to the COG Board of Directors in 2020.

# **AGENDA ITEM #3**

# ELECTION OF 2020 POLICY COMMITTEE LEADERSHIP

# METROPOLITAN WASHINGTON COUNCIL OF GOVERNMENTS PROPOSED 2020 POLICY AND ADMINISTRATIVE COMMITTEE APPOINTMENTS

NAME	JURISDICTION	LEADERSHIP RESPONSIBILITY						
COG Board of Directors								
Derrick Davis	Prince George's County	COG Board Chair						
Christian Dorsey	Arlington County	COG Board Vice Chair						
Robert White	District of Columbia	COG Board Vice Chair						
COG Board Policy Committees								
John Stehle	City of Fairfax	Chair, Chesapeake Bay and Water Resources						
Dan Sze	City of Falls Church	Chair, Climate, Energy, and Environment						
Brianne Nadeau	District of Columbia	Chair, Human Services						
Roger Wilson	City of Frederick	Chair, Region Forward Coalition						
Budget and Finance Committee								
Derrick Davis	Prince George's County	COG Board Chair						
Christian Dorsey	Arlington County	COG Board Vice Chair						
Robert White	District of Columbia	COG Board Vice Chair						
Kelly Russell	City of Frederick	TPB Chair						
Brandon Todd	District of Columbia	MWAQC Chair						
Phyllis Randall	Loudoun County	COG President						
Kate Stewart	City of Takoma Park	COG Secretary-Treasurer						
	Audit Com	nmittee						
Brian Feldman	State of Maryland	COG Board Member						
Emmett Jordan	City of Greenbelt	COG Board Member						
David Meyer	City of Fairfax	COG Board Member						
Hector Cendejas	City of Manassas Park	COG Board Member						
Patrick Wojahn	City of College Park	COG Board Member						
En	nployee Compensation and	Benefits Review Committee						
Derrick Davis	Prince George's County	COG Board Chair						
Christian Dorsey	Arlington County	COG Board Vice Chair						
Robert White	District of Columbia	COG Board Vice Chair						
Phyllis Randall	Loudoun County	COG President						
Kate Stewart	City of Takoma Park	COG Secretary-Treasurer						
Phil Mendelson	District of Columbia	Past COG Board Chair						
	Pension Plan Adminis	strative Committee						
Chuck Bean, Chair	COG	COG Executive Director						
Kate Stewart	City of Takoma Park	COG Secretary-Treasurer						
Penny Gross	Fairfax County	Past COG Secretary-Treasurer						
Judith Davis	City of Greenbelt	Past COG Secretary-Treasurer						
Imelda Roberts	COG	COG OHRM						
Jon Schermann	COG	Employee Representative						
John Snarr	COG	Employee Representative						
Julie Mussog	COG	COG CFO, ex officio						

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

## RESOLUTION APPROVING THE 2020 COG BOARD POLICY AND ADMINISTRATIVE COMMITTEE LEADERSHIP

WHEREAS, the Metropolitan Washington Council of Governments (COG) is comprised of the 24 jurisdictions of the metropolitan Washington region's local governments and their governing officials, plus area members of the Maryland and Virginia legislatures and the U.S. Senate and House of Representatives, and COG provides a focus for action on issues of regional concern; and

**WHEREAS**, the COG Board of Directors approves the leadership for the individual policy committees, and the administrative committees, and various other positions that report to the Board of Directors; and

**WHEREAS**, the COG Board is being asked to approve the attached proposed slate to serve in 2020.

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

The board approves the attached proposed slate of individuals to serve as the 2020 leadership on the following committees:

Chesapeake Bay and Water Resources Policy Committee
Climate, Energy, and Environment Policy Committee
Human Services Policy Committee
Region Forward Coalition
Audit Committee
Budget and Finance Committee
Employee Compensation and Benefits Review Committee
Pension Plan Administrative Committee

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

## RESOLUTION APPROVING THE NOMINATION OF MARYLAND AND VIRGINIA GENERAL ASSEMBLY MEMBERS TO THE COG BOARD OF DIRECTORS

WHEREAS, the Metropolitan Washington Council of Governments (COG) is comprised of the 24 jurisdictions of the metropolitan Washington region's local governments and their governing officials, plus area members of the Maryland and Virginia legislatures and the U.S. Senate and House of Representatives, and COG provides a focus for action on issues of regional concern; and

**WHEREAS**, the COG Board of Directors approves the leadership for the individual policy committees, and the administrative committees, and various other positions that report to the Board of Directors: and

WHEREAS, COG Bylaw 5.02 (e) states: one member of the Maryland General Assembly and one member of the Virginia General Assembly, representing portions of the Washington Metropolitan Statistical Area, both of whom shall be selected biennially by separate consultation of the same-state Board members of COG followed by election by the entire Board of Directors; and

WHEREAS, positions are available on the COG Board of Directors for a member of the Virginia General Assembly and a member of the Maryland General Assembly to be appointed for a two-year term from January 2020 to December 2021; and

**WHEREAS**, separate meetings of the Virginia COG board members and the Maryland COG board members were held in November 2019 to nominate a state general assembly member to serve on the COG Board.

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

The board approves the nomination of the following individuals to serve on the COG Board of Directors for a two-year term effective immediately:

The Honorable Brian Feldman, Senator, Maryland State Senate

The Honorable George Barker, Senator, Virginia State Senate

# AGENDA ITEM #4 CHAIRMAN'S REPORT



#### 2020 COG Board of Directors Meeting Dates

Note: The COG Board of Directors typically meet from 12–2 P.M. on the second Wednesday of every month except July and August.

- January 8
- February 12
- March 11
- April 8
- May 13
- June 10
- July 10 12 Annual Retreat
- August No Meeting
- September 9
- October 14
- November 12\*
- December 9 Annual Meeting

\*Note: Due to Veteran's Day on Wednesday, November 11, the meeting will be held on Thursday, November 12.

# METROPOLITAN WASHINGTON COUNCIL OF GOVERNMENTS SCHEDULE OF POLICY COMMITTEE MEETINGS FOR 2020\*

COMMITTEES	Start Time	JAN	FEB	MAR	APR	MAY	JUN	JUL	AUG	SEP	ОСТ	NOV	DEC
COG BOARD	Noon	8	12	11	8	13	10	10-12 Annual Retreat	No meeting	9	14	12	9 Annual Meeting
ТРВ	Noon	22	19	18	15	20	17	22	No Meeting	16	21	18	16
MWAQC	Noon		26			27				23			16
CEEPC	10:00 AM	23	5	25		27		22		23		18	
CBPC	10:00 AM	17		20		15		17		18		20	
RFC	11:00 AM	24			25			24			23		
HSPC	Noon	10		13		8		10		11		13	

<sup>\*</sup>Meeting dates are subject to change.

# **AGENDA ITEM #5**

# EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S REPORT



#### **MEMORANDUM**

**TO:** COG Board of Directors

FROM: Chuck Bean, COG Executive Director

SUBJECT: Executive Director's Report – January 2020

DATE: January 2, 2020

#### POLICY BOARD & COMMITTEE UPDATES

**National Capital Region Transportation** Planning Board (TPB) - At its November meeting, the TPB learned about the Regional Travel Survey preliminary results, received a briefing on the Street Smart campaign, and reviewed draft Highway Safety Targets for the region, a federal requirement for measuring the number of serious injuries and fatalities. At its December meeting, the board approved the new slate of officers for 2020: Frederick Alderman Kelly Russell will serve as Chair and D.C. Councilmember Charles Allen and Manassas Vice Mayor Pamela Sebesky as Vice Chairs. The board also approved the regional Highway Safety Targets reviewed in November.



#### **ANNUAL VIDEO**

Officials from the District of Columbia, Maryland, and Virginia took regional collaboration to the next level in 2019. Reflect on the many ways we worked together over the last year as we prepare for the year ahead.

#### Watch the video

#### **Metropolitan Washington Air Quality**

**Committee (MWAQC)** – At its December meeting, MWAQC elected new officers for 2020: Chairman Brandon Todd, District of Columbia Councilmember; Vice Chair Robert Day, City of College Park Councilmember; and Vice Chair Erik Gutshall, Arlington County Board Member. The group also shared local updates and was briefed on the 2019 ozone season.

Chesapeake Bay and Water Resources Policy Committee (CBPC) – At its November meeting, the CBPC focused on how local governments are updating their stormwater programs to consider climate and flooding resiliency. Members were also briefed on the Chesapeake Bay Program's climate initiatives. Incoming Chair Jon Stehle, City of Fairfax Councilmember, proposed a new partnership between the committee and regional universities on applied research, beginning with a focus on agriculture.

**Human Services Policy Committee (HSPC)** – The November HSPC meeting featured a discussion on "Connecting Residents to Services," with briefings from speakers with Kaiser Permanente and Unite Us. In addition, the group was updated on the regional housing targets adopted by the COG Board.

#### **OUTREACH & PROGRAM HIGHLIGHTS**

Regional Housing Targets – COG leadership completed speaking engagements in November and December on the region's new housing targets and related topics. COG Executive Director Chuck Bean spoke at a Regional Chambers Dinner hosted by the Greater Washington Board of Trade and at event on equitable development hosted by Capital Impact Partners. Department of Community Planning and Services staff spoke to the Apartment and Office Building Association, American Public Transportation Association, and moderated a panel for ULI Washington's Regional Land Use Leadership Institute, among other groups.

Protect Your Pipes – A fall public outreach campaign coordinated by COG's Community Engagement Campaign made up of local water and wastewater utilities used radio and social media advertising to spread the word about the



INITIAL SURVEY RESULTS AVAILABLE
Department staff completed data collection
and reported initial results for the once-in-adecade Regional Travel Survey, which gathered
detailed demographic and travel information
over the course of a year from nearly 16,000
area households.

**Read the TPB News Article** 

damage caused by Fats, Oils, and Grease (FOG) to household plumbing and wastewater infrastructure.

**Dockless Micromobility Workshop** - On December 9, the TPB's Bicycle and Pedestrian Subcommittee hosted a workshop highlighting dockless micromobility in the region, which includes bikeshare, scooters, and other types of devices people can rent to ride for short distances. The workshop was held with the TPB's Access for All Advisory Committee.

**Adoption Exchange -** DCPS staff hosted the 2019 regional "Adoption Exchange" with members of the Foster Care Committee and Adoption Committee on November 7.

Climate and Energy – COG Principal Environmental Planner Jeff King attended a Global Covenant of Mayors for Climate and Energy International Urban Cooperation meeting in Brussels, part of a global delegation dedicated to working together across city and regional sister pairings on sustainable development and climate change. Planner Maia Davis participated as an executive committee member for the Sustainable States Network, which focuses on ramping up environmental action in small to medium-sized communities, including Maryland and Virginia.

**Winter Weather Conference** – COG hosted local, state, and federal partners on November 7 for the annual Winter Weather Conference to help the region coordinate and prepare for the winter weather season.

**Community Leadership Institute** – Over 20 leaders graduated from the TPB's fall Community Leadership Institute, which engaged community leaders in discussions and education about how transportation projects are planned, funded, and implemented in the region.

#### **MEDIA HIGHLIGHTS**

How DC-area leaders are planning for expected 1.5 million new residents over next 25 years - COG Executive Director Chuck Bean is quoted about how the region's leaders are working to optimize the location of jobs, transportation options, and housing to accommodate future growth. WTOP article

COG: 320,000 new housing units needed by 2030; mostly for low-to-middle income residents - COG Vice Chair and Arlington County Board Chair Christian Dorsey, talks about the region's housing targets, and why local jurisdictions are working collaboratively to meet them.

#### WJLA story

A sneak peek behind what happens when decisions are made about snow-related

cancellations and closings - COG Executive Director Chuck Bean is quoted about the protocols, procedures, and communication strategies that go into making decisions about handling winter weather in the region.

WTOP article



TRACKING THE REGION'S AIR QUALITY
Metropolitan Washington Air Quality Committee
Chair and City of Falls Church Council Member David
Snyder discusses the region's air quality in an
interview with Comcast Newsmakers.

Watch the video

# **AGENDA ITEM #6**

# AMENDMENTS TO THE AGENDA

# AGENDA ITEM #7 APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES

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

#### MINUTES COG Board of Directors Meeting November 13, 2019

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

#### SPEAKERS:

Julie Mussog, COG Chief Financial Officer
Tara Miller, Process Improvement Achievers President
Rick Mellendick, Process Improvement Achievers Chief Security Officer
Marybeth Connelly, COG Region Forward Coalition Co-Chair
John Rigg, COG Human Services Policy Committee Chair

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

COG Board Chair Robert C. White, Jr. called the meeting to order at 12:10 P.M. and led the Pledge of Allegiance.

#### 2. CHAIRMAN'S REPORT

- A. The Annual Meeting and Awards Luncheon will be held on December 11.
- B. The 2020 dates for the COG Board meetings were announced.
- C. Prince William County Supervisor Frank Principi shared a few words about leaving office and serving on the COG Board.

#### 3. EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S REPORT

COG Executive Director Chuck Bean noted that the Annual Winter Weather Conference was held on November 7 to help the region prepare for the winter season. Bean shared that the Chief Administrative Officers and other local government staff participated in a tabletop exercise on preparing for biological attacks. Next, he noted that member governments met on October 30 to kick off the Fair Housing Plan initiative to examine ways to align local housing goals/actions/strategies across the region. Then, Bean shared that he presented to the regional Chambers of Commerce about the regional housing targets and the need for private sector involvement. Finally, Bean discussed the new Transportation Planning Board walkshed mapping tool, which shows the areas around transit stations that are accessible to pedestrians.

#### 4. AMENDMENTS TO AGENDA

There were no amendments to the agenda.

#### **5. APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

The minutes from the October 10, 2019 board meeting were approved.

#### 6. ADOPTION OF CONSENT AGENDA ITEMS

- A. Resolution R32-2019 Resolution authorizing COG to receive a grant to upgrade water supply contaminant warning systems
- B. Resolution R33-2019 Resolution authorizing COG to receive a grant to provide support for the situational awareness dashboard in the National Capital Region
- C. Resolution R34-2019 Resolution authorizing COG to receive a grant to support the WMATA Metrorail station emergency response exercise series
- D. Resolution R35-2019 Resolution authorizing COG to receive a grant to develop computer-based Metrorail station emergency response training
- E. Resolution R36-2019 Resolution authorizing COG to receive a grant, procure and enter into a contract to conduct independent evaluation of the bi-annual regional air passenger survey

F. Resolution R37-2019 - Resolution authorizing COG to receive a grant to assist the Prince George's County Department of the Environment with stream trash survey and maintenance of stream trash traps

ACTION: Approved Resolutions R32-2019 - R37-2019.

#### 7. FY2019 YEAR END FINANCIAL REPORT

Chief Financial Officer Julie Mussog briefed the board on the FY2019 Year End Financial Report for the fiscal year ended June 30, 2019, including: Statement of Revenue, Expenditures and Changes in Net Position, and Comparative Statement of Net Position. COG Secretary Treasurer Kate Stewart noted that the Budget and Finance Committee reviewed the report.

**ACTION: Received briefing.** 

#### 8. FY2021 MEMBER DUES RECOMMENDATION

Executive Director Chuck Bean briefed the board on the proposed member dues and regional fees for fiscal year 2021. The changes included the proposed increase in dues by 1 cent from 76.5 cents to 77.5 per capita. Member dues function to leverage federally sourced funds and additional resources as well as provide primary program support and additional member services and benefits.

ACTION: Received briefing and adopted Resolution R38-2019.

#### 9. ADVANCING REGIONAL HOUSING TARGETS AT THE LOCAL LEVEL

COG Vice Chair and Housing Strategy Group Chair Derrick L. Davis introduced the discussion about how local governments are advancing the regional targets for housing production and affordability adopted by the COG board. Members from the District of Columbia, Maryland, and Virginia shared some of the efforts underway in their jurisdictions to address the region's shared housing needs.

**ACTION: Received briefing.** 

#### 10. CYBERSECURITY IN LOCAL GOVERNMENT

Tara Miller and Rick Mellendick of Process Improvement Achievers, a Baltimore-based cybersecurity firm, briefed the board on how local governments can prevent and respond to cyberattacks. They shared lessons learned from recent cyberattacks, including in Florida, Baltimore, and Atlanta. Additionally, they shared several cybersecurity recommendations to consider, including cyber insurance, network monitoring, password management, and data recovery.

**ACTION: Received briefing.** 

#### 11. REGION FORWARD COALITION ACCOMPLISHMENTS AND PRIORITIES

COG Region Forward Coalition Co-Chair Marybeth Connelly briefed the board on the committee's accomplishments in 2019, including the focus on integrating equity across their work and their priorities for 2020, including developing the Region Forward 2020 Report.

**ACTION: Received briefing.** 

#### 12. HUMAN SERVICES POLICY COMMITTEE ACCOMPLISHMENTS AND PRIORITIES

COG Human Services Policy Committee Chair John Rigg briefed the board on the committee's accomplishments in 2019, including exploring regionally coordinated 2-1-1 systems and healthcare and human services, as well as their priorities for 2020, including Medicaid harmonization and collaboration to end homelessness.

**ACTION: Received briefing.** 

#### 13. OTHER BUSINESS

There was no other business.

#### 14. ADJOURN

Upon motion duly made and seconded, the meeting was adjourned at 1:50 P.M.

#### November 2019 Attendance

<u>Jurisdiction</u>	<u>Member</u>	<u>Y/N</u>	<u>Alternate</u>	<u>Y/N</u>
District of Columbia				
Executive	Hon. Muriel Bowser		Ms. Beverly Perry	
			Mr. Wayne Turnage	
	Mr. Rashad Young	Y		
Council	Hon. Phil Mendelson	Y		
	Hon. Robert White	Y		
Maryland				
Bowie	Hon. G. Frederick Robinson			
Charles County	Hon. Reuben Collins	Y	Thomasina Coates Gilbert Bowling	
City of Frederick	Hon. Michael O'Connor	Y		
Frederick County	Hon. Jan Gardner		Mr. Roger Wilson	
College Park	Hon. Patrick Wojahn		Hon. Monroe Dennis	
Gaithersburg	Hon. Robert Wu	Y	Hon. Neil Harris	
5		(phone)		
Greenbelt	Hon. Emmett Jordan	Y	Hon. Judith "J" Davis	
Laurel	Hon. Craig Moe		Hon. Michael Leszcz	
Montgomery County				
Executive	Hon. Marc Elrich		Mr. Andrew Kleine	
Council	Hon. Tom Hucker	Y		
	Hon. Nancy Navarro	Y		
Prince George's County				
Executive	Hon. Angela Alsobrooks		Mr. Major F. Riddick	Y
Council	Hon. Todd Turner	Y	_	
	Hon. Derrick Leon Davis	Y		
Rockville	Hon. Bridget Newton	Y		
Takoma Park	Hon. Kate Stewart	Y	Cindy Dyballa	
Maryland General Assembly	Hon. Brian Feldman		, ,	
Virginia				
Alexandria	Hon. Justin Wilson		Hon. Redella Pepper	Y
Arlington County	Hon. Christian Dorsey	Y		
City of Fairfax	Hon. David Meyer	Y	Michael DeMarco	
Fairfax County	Hon. Sharon Bulova	Y	Hon. Patrick Herrity	
Ţ	Hon. Penelope A. Gross	Y	Hon. Catherine	
	'		Hudgins	
	Hon. John Foust	Y	Hon. Kathy Smith	
Falls Church	Hon. David Snyder	Y	Hon. David Tarter	
Loudoun County	Hon. Matt Letourneau			
Loudoun County	Hon. Phyllis Randall			
Manassas	Hon. Mark Wolfe	Y		
Manassas Park	Hon. Hector Cendejas	Y	Hon. Miriam Machado	
Prince William County	Hon. Frank Principi	Y		
<u> </u>	Hon. Ruth Anderson			
Virginia General Assembly	Hon. George Barker			
Total: 24	=	•		•

Total: 24

# **AGENDA ITEM #8**

# ADOPTION OF THE CONSENT AGENDA

There are no consent agenda resolutions this month.

# **AGENDA ITEM #9**

# FY2019 AUDITED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

To view the full COG FY-2019 Audited Financial and Compliance Reports, please visit the website:

www.mwcog.org/documents/cog-auditedfinancial-statements-budget-and-finance/

#### METROPOLITAN WASHINGTON COUNCIL OF GOVERNMENTS 777 NORTH Capitol Street, N.E. Washington, D.C. 20002

RESOLUTION ACCEPTING THE FY-2019 AUDIT, AUTHORIZING THE EXTENSION OF THE INDEPENDENT AUDIT FIRM'S CONTRACT TO PERFORM THE FY-2020 AUDIT AND AUTHORIZING SOLICITATION OF PROPOSALS FROM INDEPENDENT AUDIT FIRMS TO PERFORM THE FY-2021 AUDIT

WHEREAS, in accordance with COG's procedures and in compliance with requirements established by the federal government for recipients of grants and other financial assistance programs, COG engages an independent certified public accounting firm to conduct an annual fiscal year-end audit; and

**WHEREAS**, the Audit Committee recommends acceptance of the FY-2019 audit report and unqualified (clean) opinion prepared by the independent audit firm PBMares, LLP; and

**WHEREAS**, based on the annual performance assessment, the Audit Committee recommends extension of the audit firm's contract for the FY-2020 audit; and

WHEREAS, on April 8, 2015, the Board of Directors approved Resolution R20-2015, requiring the Audit Committee to solicit informal quotes or formal proposals from at least three (3) qualified audit firms at least every five (5) years to assess competitive pricing of audit services.

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

- 1. The board hereby accepts the FY-2019 Audit prepared by PBMares, LLP, as presented by the Audit Committee.
- 2. The Executive Director, or his designee, at the direction of the Audit Committee, is hereby authorized to engage PBMares, LLP to conduct the annual fiscal year-end audit for FY-2020 and prepare the annual Form 990 not-for-profit tax return, at a cost not to exceed \$82,800.
- 3. The Executive Director, or his designee, at the direction of the Audit Committee, is hereby authorized to solicit formal proposals from at least three (3) independent certified public accounting firms to conduct the annual fiscal year-end audit for FY-2021.

# **AGENDA ITEM #10**

# FORMS OF LOCAL GOVERMENT

### FORMS OF LOCAL GOVERNMENT IN METROPOLITAN WASHINGTON

Sharon Pandak COG General Counsel

COG Board of Directors January 8, 2020



#### **COG Members**

· Comprised of 24 jurisdictions

#### **District of Columbia**

Virginia

City of Alexandria
Arlington County
City of Fairfax
Fairfax County
City of Falls Church
Loudoun County
City of Manassas
City of Manassas Park
Prince William County

#### Maryland

Town of Bladensburg City of Bowie City of College Park Charles County City of Frederick Frederick County City of Gaithersburg City of Greenbelt City of Hyattsville City of Laurel

Montgomery County
Prince George's County

City of Rockville City of Takoma Park



# **Similarities and Differences in Governance**





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#### **District of Columbia**

- City created by the Residence Act of 1790 as the seat of National Government.
- A federal district that is not a part of any state.



Metropolitan Washington
Council of Governments

#### **District of Columbia**

#### 1973 Home Rule Act

- Congress gave certain powers to the District. The Home Rule Charter provides for an elected Mayor and Council.
- Council = Chairman elected at large and 12 members (4 elected at large + 1 from each of 8 wards).
- Congress reviews all legislation passed by Council before it can become law and retains authority over District budget.





5

#### Maryland

- Maryland is perceived to be a "home rule" state – i.e. localities have all powers except those withheld by the state.
- However, authority varies at the county level from Dillon Rule, to Code Home Rule, and to Charter Home Rule.





## Virginia

Virginia is perceived to be a
 "Dillon Rule" state – i.e. localities
have only powers that have been
expressly granted to them by the
state, those that are necessarily
or fairly implied therefrom, and
those that are essential
and indispensable.



 Depending on the specific power, actual local authority may be similar in both states.



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#### **How Were Member Localities Created?**

- Montgomery and Prince George's Counties have a charter from the General Assembly.
- · Cities in Virginia also have charters.
- State legislature gave Fairfax County authority to adopt an urban county executive form of government and Prince William a county executive form of government with somewhat different powers from other counties.



#### **Number of Governing Body Members**

• 13 - District of Columbia (Mayor not included)

(The following include at-large chair/mayor, but not independently elected CXO):

- 11 Hyattsville, Prince George's County
- 10 Fairfax County
- 9 Montgomery and Loudoun Counties, College Park
- 8 Prince William County
- 7 Bowie, Takoma Park, Alexandria, Frederick County, Greenbelt, City of Fairfax, Falls Church, Manassas, Manassas Park
- 6 Gaithersburg and City of Frederick
- 5 Bladensburg, Charles County, Laurel, Rockville, Arlington County



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#### **Terms of Governing Body Members**

- · 4 year terms
- · Some Maryland council members have term limits.
- Some members are elected by districts or wards, others are elected at large.
- Some governing bodies have both members elected by districts and at-large members.



## **Titles of Governing Body Members**

#### Depending on the jurisdiction, members may be called:

- · Supervisors
- Aldermen
- Commissioners
- Council Members
- · Members of the Board



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#### **Heads of Local Governments - Cities**

- Maryland and Virginia cities have at-large, elected Mayors.
- In Greenbelt, the Council appoints the Mayor (generally the council member that received the most votes in the last election).



#### **Heads of Local Governments - Counties**

- Prince George's and Montgomery Counties in Maryland have at-large, elected County Executives.
- Virginia counties of Fairfax, Prince William, and Loudoun have atlarge, elected chairs of the Board of Supervisors.
- Arlington County Board appoints Chair for a 1 year rotating term.



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#### **Administrative Heads of Localities**

- District Mayor appoints the City Administrator.
- In Montgomery and Prince George's Counties, the County Administrator is appointed by the County Executive and confirmed by the Council.
- In Virginia, the governing bodies appoint County/City Managers/Administrators.
- All serve at the pleasure of the appointing authority, except City of Frederick, where Mayor is the Chief Administrative Officer.
- Some Mayors serve as the Chief Administrative Officer as well, such as the Cities of Rockville and Takoma Park.



## **Variety of Legislative Backgrounds**

 Understanding the forms of local government enables a greater appreciation of the collective ability of COG members to work together to improve the region.



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# AGENDA ITEM #11 LEGISLATIVE PRIORITIES

# **LEGISLATIVE PRIORITIES**

Supporting the region's transportation funding, housing, water quality, climate and energy innovation, air quality, human services, emergency preparedness, infrastructure investment and local government input across all sectors January 2020











#### **LEGISLATIVE PRIORITIES**

Prepared by the COG Legislative Committee for the COG Board of Directors January 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.

#### **CREDITS**

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# TRANSPORTATION FUNDING, PLANNING, AND CONNECTIVITY

# Support Reauthorization of the Federal Transportation Funding Bill While Fixing the Deficit in the Federal Transportation Trust Fund (TTF)

The current authorization for federal transportation spending—the FAST Act— is set to expire in 2020. The region strongly supports Congress reauthorizing this Bill with funding levels for all programs for the next six years. For several years, there has been a gap between the TTF's revenue funding the Bill and expenditure needs – these shortfalls have been closed in the FAST Act with short-term measures. The FAST Act only provides funding through 2020 and covers those shortfalls through short-term measures. This structural deficit to enhance the TTF revenues and provide certainty of federal funding for transportation infrastructure has to be treated as a top priority.

# Support Additional, Reliable, and Recurring Federal Transportation Infrastructure Funding

The National Capital Region's transportation infrastructure serves not just the region, but also the nation's federal government and its international partners. The funding needed to maintain the National Capital Region's transit, railroad, and highway infrastructure in a state of good repair is chronically underfunded and must be enhanced. Recurring and reliable funding to maintain and enhance operations on all federal facilities is a priority.

#### Support Federal Funding for the Region's Metrorail System

The Metrorail system is the centerpiece of the metropolitan Washington region's transportation system and supports the backbone of its economy. Almost half of all federal employees use the Metrorail and bus system to commute to work. The federal government should act to provide its share of operating and capital funding for the Metrorail system that its employees and the region depend on. Specifically, support the reauthorization of the Passenger Rail Investment and Improvement Act (PRIIA) beyond FY2019 to fund the federal government's annual appropriations for Metro's capital improvement budget at or greater than \$150 million a year.

## **Support Funding for Next Generation Transportation Systems**

The need for a more efficient and safer means of transportation is imperative to help achieve the nation's energy, efficiency, and environmental quality goals. The private sector has made significant investments to advance the use of vehicles using alternative modes of energy, and technology assisted vehicle operations. Public sector investments are needed to prepare transportation infrastructure to be able to utilize and support the new technology to build the next generation of transportation systems where travel is more efficient and safe.

## **Support Traffic Incident Management Improvements**

Support state and federal policy changes to improve regional traffic incident management by updating regional agreements to increase the consistency of traffic incident management laws. Specifically, support legal and policy changes to designate transportation incident responders as emergency responders, allowing the use of flashing lights and sirens to get to incident scenes across state lines more quickly. Encourage federal, state, and local governments to negotiate an agreement for funding and deployment of roadway service patrols on federal parkways and other critical major roads not currently benefiting from such patrols.

## **Support the Visualize 2045 Long-Range Transportation Plan**

Advance efforts to implement projects, programs, and policies that promote the aspirational initiatives endorsed by the region's Transportation Planning Board as part of Visualize 2045: Bring jobs and housing closer together; Expand bus rapid transit and transit ways; Move more people on Metrorail; Provide more telecommuting and other options for telecommuting; Expand express highway network; Improve walk and bike access to transit; and Complete the National Capital Trail. Support actions at the state and federal level to fund projects and programs and support enactment of policies that help advance the potential improvements of these initiatives.

## WATER QUALITY PROTECTION

#### Support 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, drought management, and development and coordinated implementation of local best practices.

## **Ensure Stormwater Regulatory Feasibility**

Support actions that provide for a feasible pace for future 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 legislation and management decisions affecting 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, affordability of water, 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.

## **CLIMATE AND ENERGY INNOVATION & AIR QUALITY PROTECTION**

## Support Deployment of Clean Energy Innovation and Technology

Encourage and support investment in energy-sector innovation across sectors to increase energy efficiency and transition to clean energy sources. Support and protect regulatory and policy frameworks that foster new partnerships to effectively implement clean energy solutions. Enable business model innovation and encourage and expand the adoption of energy efficiency and clean, distributed energy generation technologies and infrastructure, and support for low and zero-emission vehicles and infrastructure.

## **Enhance Energy Security and Resilience**

Prioritize and protect funding for energy-sector infrastructure to improve resilience and reliability. Support policies and funding for energy improvements such as energy efficiency, cyber security, microgrids, district energy systems, and storage technology, especially when coupled with clean energy generation. Support community-based efforts and public-private partnerships to improve climate and energy resilience at the local level.

## Support Policies to Meet the Region's Climate Goals

Expand funding and legislation at federal, state, and local levels to help meet the region's mediumand long-term climate change goals. Ensure that local governments are recognized and given opportunities to provide timely and meaningful input on climate and clean energy programs.

## **Expand Clean Energy Finance**

Expand options for and improve access to clean energy finance at the state and local levels. Foster cost effective and efficient market frameworks and reasonable regulatory frameworks that support clean energy investment across all sectors and enhance investment certainty. Establish and enable key partnerships, institutions, agencies, plans, and programs to support sustainable clean energy incentives and lower the cost of doing business in the clean energy sector.

### Support Policies that Preserve and Protect Regional Air Quality and Public Health

Support strong policies, regulations, and funding necessary to preserve improvements in air quality and strengthen the region's ability to meet current and future air quality standards that are protective of public health and welfare. Expand efforts to increase and speed adoption of lowemitting technology solutions.

#### HOUSING AND ECONOMIC RESOURCES

#### Support Efforts to Conduct a Fair and Accurate Census in 2020

Allocate funds at the federal and state level to adequately support local governments in developing census communication and mobilization plans to conduct a complete and accurate count of our region with increased outreach to hard-to-count populations. Encourage the U.S. Census Bureau to pursue policies that will produce a fair and accurate population count in a timely manner.

## Support Efforts to Increase the Supply of Housing and Promote **Housing Affordability**

Support legislation and programs to preserve and increase the supply of housing and housing choices to address the full spectrum of needs in our region. Ensure that a sufficient supply of housing is preserved and created that provides a diverse range of housing units, including size and price point that is affordable for our region's residents.

#### **Support Efforts to End the Experience of Homelessness**

Work with federal, state, and local Continuums of Care throughout the region to ensure that the experience of homelessness is rare, brief, and nonrecurring through implementation of a "Housing First" approach. Increasing the supply of supportive housing provides opportunities for wrap-around services that promote housing stability and independent living. Voice the need for additional HUD funding for Housing Choice Vouchers to prevent and end the experience of homelessness.

#### Support Alignment of Workforce Development and Job Creation

Support federal legislation to focus on workforce development and job creation at the local level, and efforts to develop industry standard credentialing and skills programs for sectors experiencing job growth in the region. Support legislation and programs that fund local job development, career and technical education, and overall more closely align education and job creation.

#### **Support Local Governments and Activity Centers**

Work with local governments to support sound land use planning which focuses on employer retention and new job growth in the region's mixed-use Activity Centers.

#### **HEALTH & HUMAN SERVICES**

# **Support Efforts to Combat Substance Use Disorders**

Work with local, state, and federal partners to increase resources to combat substance use disorders, including opioids, throughout the region which may include: improving access to treatment and recovery services, promoting prevention education, reducing the stigma of drug disorders. supporting research on pain management, and ensuring awareness of overdose-reversing drugs.

## **Increase Availability of and Access to Mental Health Services**

Work with local, state, and federal partners to increase access to and availability of mental health services throughout the region to include psychiatric hospital beds, counseling and other outpatient services; continued expansion of crisis intervention, mental health courts, and diversion programs, where treatment is indicated rather than incarceration; and re-entry programs to reduce recidivism rates of mental health consumers.

## Protect Healthy Food Access and the Region's Farm and Food Economy

With the 2018 reauthorization of the Farm Bill and uncertainty about when the Childhood Nutrition Reauthorization Act may be taken up again, support protecting, fully funding, and improving access to programs within these bills including the Supplemental Nutritional Assistance Program (SNAP), the Women Infants and Children (WIC) Program, and the National School Lunch Program that serve vulnerable low-income individuals and families in the region. Support strengthening programs that advance regional food systems development, on-farm conservation and connections between farmers and consumers of all income levels.

## EMERGENCY PREPAREDNESS

## Support Regional Emergency Preparedness

Continue to support emergency response preparedness programs that advance and improve response preparedness to existing and emerging threats. Work with local and state partners to maximize the region's share of federal grant funds and use these funds to promote value added outcomes that continue to increase capacity, capability, and developed standards for regional response in the National Capital Region.

## **Urban Area Security Initiative (UASI) Funding**

The National Capital Region (NCR) receives UASI funding for efforts to address the multi-discipline planning, organization, equipment, training, and exercise needs of high-threat, high-density urban areas, and to assist in building and sustaining capabilities to prevent, protect against, mitigate, respond to, and recover from threats or acts of terrorism using the whole community approach. As funding allocations are assessed, policy makers should recognize the complexity of challenges in the NCR that directly impact Federal government operations and security and support an increase in UASI funding to our region to effectively address the unique nexus of U.S. Federal, state, local, and international operations.

## **STAFF CONTACT INFORMATION**

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

#### RESOLUTION ADOPTING THE COG 2020 LEGISLATIVE PRIORITIES

WHEREAS, the Metropolitan Washington Council of Governments (COG) is comprised of the 24 jurisdictions of the National Capital Region's local governments and their governing officials, plus area members of the Maryland and Virginia legislatures and the U.S. Senate and House of Representatives, and COG provides a focus for action on issues of regional concern; and

**WHEREAS**, the draft 2020 Legislative Priorities have been reviewed by the individual policy committees and the 2020 Legislative Committee; and

**WHEREAS**, the COG Board has received and reviewed the draft 2020 Legislative Priorities; and

**WHEREAS**, the draft 2020 Legislative Priorities address the main issues the COG Board of Directors wants to communicate to state and federal officials as important concerns during the upcoming legislative session; and

**WHEREAS**, in order to communicate the annual priorities in a consistent manner staff developed Guidelines for Legislative and Regulatory Advocacy to ensure that all advocacy efforts are under the direction of the COG Board of Directors.

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

The board adopts the 2020 Legislative Priorities and directs its Executive Director, or his designee, to distribute the priorities to the appropriate state and federal officials representing areas of the COG member jurisdictions.

# **AGENDA ITEM #12**

# COG BOARD FOCUS: TRANSIT-ORIENTED COMMUNITIES



#### **MEMORANDUM**

**TO:** COG Board of Directors and Transportation Planning Board

FROM: Chuck Bean, Executive Director

Kanti Srikanth, COG Deputy Executive Director for Metropolitan Planning

SUBJECT: Connecting Land Use and Transportation in High Capacity Transit Station Areas

DATE: January 2, 2020

For nearly 18 months, the COG Board of Directors (Board), in conjunction with its Housing Strategy Group, the Planning Directors Technical Advisory Committee (PDTAC), and the Housing Directors Advisory Committee (HDAC), worked to assess the region's housing needs, including the amount of additional housing, location of additional housing, and cost bands of additional housing. This work culminated in September 2019 when the Board adopted Resolution R27-2019, adopting regional housing targets, which called for:

- *Amount*: At least 320,000 housing units should be added to the region between 2020 and 2030. This is an additional 75,000 units beyond the units forecast for this period.
- Accessibility (Location): At least 75 percent of all new housing units should be in Activity Centers or near high-capacity transit (HCT).
- Affordability: At least 75 percent of all new housing should be affordable to low- and middle-income households.

This assessment of the region's housing needs, and the subsequent adoption of regional housing targets aligned with and advances the Transportation Planning Board's (TPB) aspirational initiative, "Bring Jobs and Housing Closer Together," contained in the region's long-range transportation plan, *Visualize 2045*. This initiative seeks to optimize the region's complex land use and transportation system in a manner that will favorably address traffic congestion and support increased accessibility throughout the region.

To build on the success of this milestone, efforts to realize the above targets will be necessary at local, regional, and state levels and will have to focus on many aspects of community development. The elected and technical officials active in COG and its associated transportation planning organization, the TPB, are uniquely positioned to work together on regional planning. As such staff believes that members will be well served to leverage the work activities of the COG Committees and its associated planning organizations in a manner that would help inform local, regional, and state-level discussions and decisions to realize the regional housing targets.

To this end, staff sees the planned activities of the PDTAC and HDAC to address impediments to housing production in the Washington region as one such product. This work is being aided by a federal technical assistance grant from the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development.

Similarly, some of the recently completed and ongoing activities of COG's associate transportation planning organization, the TPB, can be leveraged to help inform local and regional efforts to advance the locational aspect of the region's housing targets – 75 percent of future housing to be located

around HCT stations and in Regional Activity Centers. COG's work in land use (including housing) and TPB's work in transportation connectivity can be leveraged to conduct a series of investigations and analyses that can support the development of transit-oriented communities (TOCs) in the region.

COG and TPB staff could coordinate their ongoing and planned work activities to further support member jurisdictions' efforts to enhance housing and transportation connectivity in HCT Station Areas. Specifically, the TPB could work with the PDTAC and HDAC to examine the interaction of land use (housing in particular) and transportation around HCT Station Areas. Local planning and housing directors often note that deficiencies in access to HCT stations, especially insufficient alternative travel options, pose considerable obstacles to build more housing in HCT Station Areas and/or having more residents and workers in these areas use transit.

The purpose of this coordinated work and subsequent products would be to identify opportunities for potential projects, programs, and policies that support healthy and vibrant TOCs, help achieve the new regional housing targets, and advance TPB's Aspirational Initiatives.

It is important to underscore and recognize that land use decisions and authority are reserved for COG's member local governments and any information or work products from this effort would be intended to provide any support that may be useful as they undertake that important responsibility.

The following are some of the products, briefly described, based on recently completed and ongoing work activities, that can be reimagined from the TOC perspective:

- 1. Identify and Classify High Capacity Transit (HCT) Station Areas
- 2. Summarize population, households, and employment in HCT Station Areas
- 3. Examine Transportation Connectivity in HCT Station Areas Alternative Modes

#### 1. Identify and classify current and planned HCT Station Areas

There is a wide variety of transit systems and each has its own ability to support land use activities around its stations and provide connectivity to the community around it. As part of its Aspirational Initiatives, the TPB classified the following transit options as high capacity transit, or HCT: Metrorail, commuter rail (MARC and VRE), light rail (e.g., Purple line), and Bus Rapid Transit (BRT)/Street Cars. An interactive tool that identifies the locations of these existing and planned HCT Station Areas in the region and further noting the type of transit station at these locations would be useful. The purpose of this tool will be to build understanding of HCT Station Areas and their geographic distribution and presence throughout the region. Such a tool can help focus the discussion and efforts to examine potential projects, programs, and policies that promote the development of successful TOCs within each jurisdiction. The tool can also overlay two other types of geographically-focused areas the region uses to inform its planning and programming actions: Regional Activity Centers and Equity Emphasis Areas—census tracts with higher concentrations of low-income and minority residents. Specifically, the HCT Station Area tool can identify which HCT Station Areas are contained within a Regional Activity Center and/or in an Equity Emphasis Area. This knowledge can help inform both housing and transportation investment discussions and decisions. The attached map and corresponding table identify the HCT Station Areas anticipated by 2030. As part of this activity, staff would verify and confirm the HCT Station Areas identified on the map and accompanying table.

#### 2. Summarize population, households, and employment in HCT Station Areas

Building off the previous work activity and using the tool and COG's Cooperative Forecasting data, staff can produce data tables and visualizations to describe and summarize current and forecasted estimates of population, households, and employment within these HCT Station Areas. This information could help inform and support local governments as they consider important housing and economic development policies and decisions. This information also would be helpful in informing the types of transportation connectivity that would best serve the TOCs, the potential transit ridership market, and opportunities to locate more employment at these locations. When feasible, such data can be summarized at small geographic areas (transportation analysis zone-TAZ) and at varying distances from individual HCT Stations.

#### 3. Examine Transportation Connectivity in HCT Station Areas – Alternative Modes

Having identified the geography (TAZs) and land activity (population, households, and jobs) at the HCT Station Areas, transportation access to these stations can be examined and analyzed. Specifically, the existence of alternative modes of transportation to access and opportunities to enhance such access can be analyzed. This information can inform discussions and decisions on transportation investments that could enhance connectivity to transit stations - typically an obstacle for increasing housing around transit stations.

The viability of various non-solo driving modes used to access a transit station varies by the distance from the station, generally referred to as a travel shed. Transit riders access their transit stations using different modes of transportation, and these are often the result of the length of a trip to that station. Persons who walk to transit generally would not travel as far as those who might access the station with a bicycle or scooter; and those using a bicycle or scooter similarly may not want to travel as far to a transit station as somebody taking a more heavily-motorized vehicle. As such, the transportation connectivity analysis could be examined within the following concentric areas:

3.a. Walk access analysis: A typical planning assumption is that people are generally willing to walk up to 10 minutes to/from a transit station; which equates to a walking distance of approximately 1/2 mile. So, an area contained within a 1/2 mile in radius of the transit station may be considered the walk shed for that station. Ground realities around the transit station, however, do not necessarily provide for safe or efficient walk access within the walk shed. Using GIS, TPB recently developed a tool that identifies the walk shed, based on these on-the-ground realities, for HCT Station Areas the region anticipates having by 2025. This analysis could be expanded to 2030 to align with the same timeframe established for the regional housing targets. COG member jurisdictions could support TPB staff's planned work to examine how well walk access is provided for in the walk sheds of these HCT station areas and accept TPB's work prioritizing the stations areas for improving walk access. Walksheds around HCT stations typically have the potential to support higher density land uses.

3.b. Non-motorized Micromobility access analysis: In recent years, use of bicycle and scooters, also referred to as micromobility, has taken hold as a popular and growing means of travelling short distances (more than walking, but less than travelling by bus or vehicle). These modes hold particular promise in expanding the traditional non-motorized access to transit stations, and the travel sheds for these modes understandably would be larger than the walk sheds described previously. Staff can research data and travel trends of these emerging modes to better understand and perhaps identify a similar travel shed distance for micromobility.

Research may indicate that these micromobility sheds may even vary among the specific types of modes (bicycle, scooter, etc.) or even by the types of land uses surrounding the transit station. Once these travel sheds are better understood and defined, staff can take a similar approach as the walk sheds analysis and examine the area around HCT stations areas as micromobility sheds, which potentially can be viewed as opportunities to make infrastructure improvements and investments to better connect housing and job locations to transit stations. Travel sheds for micromobility use typically extends beyond the walk shed yet not so far to necessitate more intense modal travel; and they typically have the potential to support higher density land uses but at densities less than those within the walk sheds.

Potential task 3.c. Micro-transit/feeder bus access analysis: Looking beyond currently planned and resourced work activities, there appears to be one other analysis that could support efforts to maximize the potential of TOCs. This would be a logical extension of the previously-described work activities and entail an examination of bus service at a micro level – shuttles/small feeder buses to and from HCT stations. Extending beyond the walk and micromobility travel sheds, this would be a travel shed/area that is best suited for short distance, more frequent shuttle of feeder bus-type shared ride services connecting housing and job centers to HCT stations. With its limited and pre-defined service area, such services could be via shorter/smaller buses or shuttle vehicles and with time could transition to connected/autonomous rideshare vehicles. The area that is best suited for such a service would typically be beyond the travel sheds for walk and micromobility sheds described previously.

Figure 1: High Capacity Transit Station Areas in the National Capital Region, 2030 High-Capacity Transit by 2030 **Bus Rapid Transit** Commuter Rail Light Rail Metrorail Frederick County Street Car Multimodal Station Area Activity Centers with HCT Stations Miles 0 21/2 5 20 10 15 Montgomery Loudoun Fairfax County Prince George's Prince William Charles

January 2, 2020

Table 1: High Capacity Transit Station Areas in the National Capital Region, 2030 January 2, 2020

	I -	T	T- ·	T
#	State	Jurisdiction	Station Area	Mode Type
1	District of Columbia	District of Columbia	Anacostia	Metro
2	District of Columbia	District of Columbia	Archives	Metro
3	District of Columbia	District of Columbia	Benning & 42nd NE	Street Car / Bus Rapid Transit
4	District of Columbia	District of Columbia	Benning & Oklahoma Ave	Street Car / Bus Rapid Transit
5	District of Columbia	District of Columbia	Benning and 19th NE	Street Car / Bus Rapid Transit
6	District of Columbia	District of Columbia	Benning and 34th NE	Street Car / Bus Rapid Transit
7	District of Columbia	District of Columbia	Benning and Minnesota Ave	Street Car / Bus Rapid Transit
8	District of Columbia	District of Columbia	Benning Road	Multi-modal
9	District of Columbia	District of Columbia	Brookland-CUA	Metro
10	District of Columbia	District of Columbia	Capitol South	Metro
11	District of Columbia	District of Columbia	Cleveland Park	Metro
12	District of Columbia	District of Columbia	Columbia Heights	Metro
13	District of Columbia	District of Columbia	Congress Heights	Metro
14	District of Columbia	District of Columbia	Deanwood	Metro
15	District of Columbia	District of Columbia	Dupont Circle	Metro
16	District of Columbia	District of Columbia	Eastern Market	Metro
17	District of Columbia	District of Columbia	Farragut North	Multi-modal
18	District of Columbia	District of Columbia	Farragut West	Multi-modal
19	District of Columbia	District of Columbia	Federal Center SW	Metro
20	District of Columbia	District of Columbia	Federal Triangle	Metro
21	District of Columbia	District of Columbia	Foggy Bottom-GWU	Metro
22	District of Columbia	District of Columbia	Fort Totten	Metro
23	District of Columbia	District of Columbia	Friendship Heights	Metro
24	District of Columbia	District of Columbia	Gallery Place	Metro
25	District of Columbia	District of Columbia	Georgia Ave	Metro
26	District of Columbia	District of Columbia	H & 13 th NE	Street Car / Bus Rapid Transit
27	District of Columbia	District of Columbia	H & 5th NE	Street Car / Bus Rapid Transit
28	District of Columbia	District of Columbia	H & 8th NE	Street Car / Bus Rapid Transit
29	District of Columbia	District of Columbia	H & MD Ave	Street Car / Bus Rapid Transit
30	District of Columbia	District of Columbia	Judiciary Square	Metro
31	District of Columbia	District of Columbia	K & 25th NW streetcar	Street Car / Bus Rapid Transit
32	District of Columbia	District of Columbia	K & 3rd NW streetcar	Street Car / Bus Rapid Transit
33	District of Columbia	District of Columbia	K & Wisconsin streetcar	Street Car / Bus Rapid Transit
34	District of Columbia	District of Columbia	Kingman Island	Street Car / Bus Rapid Transit
35	District of Columbia	District of Columbia	L'Enfant Plaza	Multi-modal
36	District of Columbia	District of Columbia	McPherson Square	Multi-modal
37	District of Columbia	District of Columbia	Metro Center	Metro
38	District of Columbia	District of Columbia	Minnesota Avenue	Metro
39	District of Columbia	District of Columbia	Mt Vernon Square	Metro
40	District of Columbia	District of Columbia	Mt. Vernon Sq. streetcar	Street Car / Bus Rapid Transit
41	District of Columbia	District of Columbia	Navy Yard	Metro
42	District of Columbia	District of Columbia	New York Ave NE.	Metro
43	District of Columbia	District of Columbia	Potomac Avenue	Metro
44	District of Columbia	District of Columbia	Rhode Island Ave	Metro
45	District of Columbia	District of Columbia	Shaw-Howard Univ	Metro
46	District of Columbia	District of Columbia	Smithsonian	Metro
47	District of Columbia	District of Columbia	Stadium Armory	Metro
48	District of Columbia	District of Columbia	Takoma	Metro
49	District of Columbia		Tenleytown	
		District of Columbia	· ·	Metro
50	District of Columbia	District of Columbia	Union Station	Multi-modal
51	District of Columbia	District of Columbia	U-Street-Cardozo	Metro

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#	State	Jurisdiction	Station Area	Mode Type
52	District of Columbia	District of Columbia	Van Ness-UDC	Metro
53	District of Columbia	District of Columbia	Waterfront	Metro
54	District of Columbia	District of Columbia	Woodley Park-Zoo	Metro
55	Maryland	Frederick County	Brunswick	Commuter Rail
56	Maryland	Frederick County	Frederick	Commuter Rail
57	Maryland	Frederick County	Monocacy/I-270	Commuter Rail
58	Maryland	Frederick County	Point of Rocks	Commuter Rail
59	Maryland	Montgomery County	Aspen Hill Rd BRT	Street Car / Bus Rapid Transit
60	Maryland	Montgomery County	Barnesville	Commuter Rail
61	Maryland	Montgomery County	Bethesda	Multi-modal
62	Maryland	Montgomery County	Boyds	Commuter Rail
63	Maryland	Montgomery County	Briggs Chaney PNR BRT	Street Car / Bus Rapid Transit
64	Maryland	Montgomery County	Broadwood Dr BRT	Street Car / Bus Rapid Transit
65	Maryland	Montgomery County	Burnt Mills BRT	Street Car / Bus Rapid Transit
66	Maryland	Montgomery County	Burtonsville PNR BRT	Street Car / Bus Rapid Transit
67	Maryland	Montgomery County	Castle Ridge BRT	Street Car / Bus Rapid Transit
68	Maryland	Montgomery County	Connecticut Avenue	Light Rail
69	Maryland	Montgomery County	Crown Farm	Street Car / Bus Rapid Transit
70	Maryland	Montgomery County	Dale Drive	Light Rail
71	Maryland	Montgomery County	DANAC	Street Car / Bus Rapid Transit
72	Maryland	Montgomery County	Dickerson	Commuter Rail
73	Maryland	Montgomery County	East Gaither	Street Car / Bus Rapid Transit
74	Maryland	Montgomery County	Fenton Street BRT	Street Car / Bus Rapid Transit
75	Maryland	Montgomery County	Firstfield	Street Car / Bus Rapid Transit
76	Maryland	Montgomery County	Forest Glen	Metro
77	Maryland	Montgomery County	Gaithersburg	Commuter Rail
78	Maryland	Montgomery County	Garrett Park	Commuter Rail
79	Maryland	Montgomery County	Germantown	Commuter Rail
80	Maryland	Montgomery County	Glenmont	Metro
81	Maryland	Montgomery County	Grosvenor	Metro
82	Maryland	Montgomery County	Kensington	Commuter Rail
83	Maryland	Montgomery County	Kentlands	Street Car / Bus Rapid Transit
84	Maryland	Montgomery County	Long Branch	Light Rail
85	Maryland	Montgomery County	LSC Central	Street Car / Bus Rapid Transit
86	Maryland	Montgomery County	LSC West	Street Car / Bus Rapid Transit
87	Maryland	Montgomery County	Lyttonsville	Light Rail
88	Maryland	Montgomery County	Manchester Place	Light Rail
89	Maryland	Montgomery County	MD 185 Connecticut Ave BRT	Street Car / Bus Rapid Transit
90	Maryland	Montgomery County	MD 193 University Blvd BRT	Street Car / Bus Rapid Transit
91	Maryland	Montgomery County	MD 28 First St BRT	Street Car / Bus Rapid Transit
92	Maryland	Montgomery County	Medical Center	Metro
93	Maryland	Montgomery County	Metropolitan Grove	Multi-modal
94	Maryland	Montgomery County	Montgomery College BRT	Street Car / Bus Rapid Transit
95	Maryland	Montgomery County	Newport Mill Rd BRT	Street Car / Bus Rapid Transit
96	Maryland	Montgomery County	NIST	Street Car / Bus Rapid Transit
97	Maryland	Montgomery County	Oak Leaf Drive BRT	Street Car / Bus Rapid Transit
98	Maryland	Montgomery County	Parkland Dr BRT	Street Car / Bus Rapid Transit
99	Maryland	Montgomery County	Piney Branch Road	Light Rail
100	Maryland	Montgomery County	Randolph Rd BRT	Street Car / Bus Rapid Transit
101	Maryland	Montgomery County	Rockville	Multi-modal
102	Maryland	Montgomery County	Shady Grove	Multi-modal
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#	State	Jurisdiction	Station Area	Mode Type
103	Maryland	Montgomery County	Silver Spring	Multi-modal
103	Maryland	Montgomery County	Silver Spring Library	Light Rail
	Maryland	Montgomery County	Stewart Lane BRT	Street Car / Bus Rapid Transit
	Maryland	Montgomery County	Tech Road BRT	Street Car / Bus Rapid Transit
107	Maryland	Montgomery County	Traville Gateway Dr.	Street Car / Bus Rapid Transit
			Twinbrook	Metro
	Maryland	Montgomery County		
	Maryland	Montgomery County	Twinbrook Pkwy BRT	Street Car / Bus Rapid Transit
	Maryland	Montgomery County	Universities at Shady Grove University Blvd BRT	Street Car / Bus Rapid Transit
_	Maryland	Montgomery County	•	Street Car / Bus Rapid Transit
112	Maryland	Montgomery County	Washington Grove	Commuter Rail
113	Maryland	Montgomery County	West Gaither	Street Car / Bus Rapid Transit
	Maryland	Montgomery County	Wheaton	Multi-modal
	Maryland	Montgomery County	White Flint	Metro
	Maryland	Montgomery County	White Oak Transit Center BRT	Street Car / Bus Rapid Transit
117	Maryland	Montgomery County	Woodside	Light Rail
	Maryland	Prince George's County	Addison Road	Metro
	Maryland	Prince George's County	Annapolis Road	Light Rail
	Maryland	Prince George's County	Bowie State	Commuter Rail
	Maryland	Prince George's County	Branch Avenue	Metro
	Maryland	Prince George's County	Capitol Heights	Metro
	Maryland	Prince George's County	Cheverly	Metro
	Maryland	Prince George's County	College Park	Multi-modal
	Maryland	Prince George's County	East Campus	Light Rail
	Maryland	Prince George's County	Greenbelt	Multi-modal
127	Maryland	Prince George's County	Landover	Metro
	Maryland	Prince George's County	Largo Town Center	Metro
	Maryland	Prince George's County	Laurel	Commuter Rail
130	Maryland	Prince George's County	Morgan Blvd.	Metro
	Maryland	Prince George's County	M-Square	Light Rail
	Maryland	Prince George's County	Muirkirk	Commuter Rail
133	Maryland	Prince George's County	Naylor Road	Metro
	Maryland	Prince George's County	New Carrollton	Multi-modal
135	Maryland	Prince George's County	PG Plaza	Metro
	Maryland	Prince George's County	Riggs Road	Light Rail
137	Maryland	Prince George's County	Riverdale	Commuter Rail
138	Maryland	Prince George's County	Riverdale Park	Light Rail
139	Maryland	Prince George's County	Riverdale Road	Light Rail
140	Maryland	Prince George's County	Seabrook	Commuter Rail
141	Maryland	Prince George's County	Southern Avenue	Metro
	Maryland	Prince George's County	Suitland	Metro
143	Maryland	Prince George's County	Takoma/Langley Transit Center	Light Rail
144	Maryland	Prince George's County	UM Campus Center	Light Rail
145	Maryland	Prince George's County	West Campus	Light Rail
146	Maryland	Prince George's County	West Hyattsville	Metro
147	Virginia	Arlington County	23rd and Clark	Street Car / Bus Rapid Transit
148	Virginia	Arlington County	23rd and Crystal	Street Car / Bus Rapid Transit
149	Virginia	Arlington County	26th and Clark	Street Car / Bus Rapid Transit
150	Virginia	Arlington County	27th and Crystal	Street Car / Bus Rapid Transit
151	Virginia	Arlington County	33rd and Crystal	Street Car / Bus Rapid Transit
152	Virginia	Arlington County	Arlington Cemetery	Metro
153	Virginia	Arlington County	Army Navy Dr. station	Street Car / Bus Rapid Transit

#	State	Jurisdiction	Station Area	Mode Type
154	Virginia	Arlington County	Ballston	Metro
155	Virginia	Arlington County	Clarendon	Metro
156	Virginia	Arlington County	Court House	Metro
157	Virginia	Arlington County	Crystal City	Multi-modal
158	Virginia	Arlington County	East Falls Church	Metro
159	Virginia	Arlington County	National Airport	Metro
	Virginia	Arlington County	Pentagon	Metro
	Virginia	Arlington County	Pentagon City	Multi-modal
	Virginia	Arlington County	Rosslyn	Metro
163	Virginia	Arlington County	South Glebe Rd	Street Car / Bus Rapid Transit
164	Virginia	Arlington County	Virginia Square	Metro
165	Virginia	City of Alexandria	Alexandria	Commuter Rail
166	Virginia	City of Alexandria	Braddock Road	Multi-modal
167	Virginia	City of Alexandria	Custis Ave	Street Car / Bus Rapid Transit
168	Virginia	City of Alexandria	East Glebe Rd	Street Car / Bus Rapid Transit
169	Virginia	City of Alexandria	Eisenhower Avenue	Metro
170	Virginia	City of Alexandria	Fayette St	Street Car / Bus Rapid Transit
171	Virginia	City of Alexandria	King Street	Metro
	Virginia	City of Alexandria	Potomac Ave	Street Car / Bus Rapid Transit
	Virginia	City of Alexandria	Potomac Yards	Multi-modal
	Virginia	City of Alexandria	Reed Ave	Street Car / Bus Rapid Transit
	Virginia	City of Manassas	Manassas City	Commuter Rail
	Virginia	City of Manassas Park	Manassas Park	Commuter Rail
177	Virginia	Fairfax County	Backlick Road	Commuter Rail
178	Virginia	Fairfax County	Beacon Hill	Street Car / Bus Rapid Transit
	Virginia	Fairfax County	Burke Center	Commuter Rail
180	Virginia	Fairfax County	Dunn Loring	Metro
181	Virginia	Fairfax County	Fort Belvoir	Street Car / Bus Rapid Transit
	Virginia	Fairfax County	Franconia-Springfield	Multi-modal
183	Virginia	Fairfax County	Greensboro Tyson Central Rt 7	Metro
184	Virginia	Fairfax County	Gum Springs	Street Car / Bus Rapid Transit
185	Virginia	Fairfax County	Gunston Rd	Street Car / Bus Rapid Transit
	Virginia	Fairfax County	Herndon	Metro
187	Virginia	Fairfax County	Huntington	Multi-modal
188	Virginia	Fairfax County	Hybla Valley	Street Car / Bus Rapid Transit
	Virginia	Fairfax County	Innovation Center Route 28	Metro
190	Virginia	Fairfax County	Lockheed Blvd	Street Car / Bus Rapid Transit
191	Virginia	Fairfax County	Lorton	Commuter Rail
1	Virginia	Fairfax County	Lorton Station Blvd	Street Car / Bus Rapid Transit
	Virginia	Fairfax County	McLean Tysons East	Metro
194	Virginia	Fairfax County	Penn Daw	Street Car / Bus Rapid Transit
	Virginia	Fairfax County	Pohick Rd	Street Car / Bus Rapid Transit
	Virginia	Fairfax County	Reston Town Center	Metro
197	Virginia	Fairfax County	Rolling Road	Commuter Rail
198	Virginia	Fairfax County	South County	Street Car / Bus Rapid Transit
199	Virginia	Fairfax County	Spring HIII Tysons West	Metro
200	Virginia	Fairfax County	Tysons Corner	Metro
201	Virginia	Fairfax County	Van Dorn Street	Metro
202	Virginia	Fairfax County	Vienna	Metro
203	Virginia	Fairfax County	West Falls Church	Metro
204	Virginia	Fairfax County	Wiehle/Reston East	Metro
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#	State	Jurisdiction	Station Area	Mode Type
205	Virginia	Fairfax County	Woodlawn	Street Car / Bus Rapid Transit
206	Virginia	Loudoun County	Dulles Airport	Metro
207	Virginia	Loudoun County	Route 772/DGWay	Metro
208	Virginia	Loudoun County	VA 606/Western Regional	Metro
209	Virginia	Prince William County	Broad Run/Airport	Commuter Rail
210	Virginia	Prince William County	Potomac Shores	Commuter Rail
211	Virginia	Prince William County	Quantico	Commuter Rail
212	Virginia	Prince William County	Rippon	Commuter Rail
213	Virginia	Prince William County	Woodbridge	Multi-modal

# **AGENDA ITEM #13**

# COG BOARD FOCUS: RACIAL EQUITY



#### Initiative to Advance Racial Equity Throughout the Region

Advancing racial equity in the metropolitan Washington region is essential to creating equitable communities and advancing opportunities for all citizens. COG is working directly with local governments to empower city and county staff and policy makers to promote equitable policies and practices that positively impact individuals and neighborhoods.

#### **Background**

In May 2018, the Chief Administrative Officer's Committee (CAOs) participated in a retreat with the Government Alliance on Race and Equity (GARE) focused on the role of local governments in advancing racial equity. Following the retreat, the CAOs created the Racial Equity Work Group in July 2018 to serve as the hub for cross jurisdictional collaboration and coordination on advancing racial equity initiatives throughout COG committees and within our local governments. COG's Racial Equity Work Group continues to meet on a monthly basis. Through this work group, COG partnered with GARE to create the region's first Local Government Racial Equity Learning Cohort. The inaugural 10-month learning program began in September 2019 and will conclude in June 2020. The cohort includes 11 COG jurisdictions and over 100 local government staff committed to learning policies and programs that will advance racial equity within their individual governments.

In addition to the cohort, COG is currently working to advance racial equity through many other committees and programs including the Transportation Planning Board's Equity Emphasis Areas, the Region Forward Coalition Regional Targets and Goals, the Homeless Services Committee, and the Health Officers Committee.

#### 2020 Focus and Goals:

- 1. Regional Local Government Racial Equity Learning Cohort: continue to work with our partners and local governments to successfully implement the second half of the 2019 learning cohort. Launch year two of the learning cohort (September 2020 June 2021) to further engage local governments and staff throughout the region and continue to build each jurisdictions knowledge base and capacity to implement equitable policies and programs.
- 2. Racial Equity Work Group: continue to facilitate the COG Racial Equity Work Group and serve as a forum for local government staff and executive leadership to share information and best practices.
- 3. Region Forward Coalition Target and Goals: support the Region Forward Coalition to update the Region Forward Targets and Goals focused on creating a more prosperous, accessible, livable, and sustainable metropolitan Washington by re-aligning the goals and targets to illuminate and support equity and inclusion.
- 4. COG Committee Work: support the work of COG committees including the Homeless Services Committee and the Health Officials Committee to address issues of racial equity in their service area programs and policies.
- 5. Race, Equity, and the Future of Greater Washington Summit (June 11, 2020): partner with external community organizations to organize a regional summit focused on bringing together government, non-profits, and the private sector to address racial equity in the region.



NEWS RELEASE

# COG and GARE launch initiative for local governments to advance racial equity

Sep 26, 2019



Today, the Metropolitan Washington Council of Governments (COG) in partnership with the Government Alliance on Race and Equity (GARE) launched the first-ever regional learning cohort of local government staff to advance racial equity and opportunities for all.

More than 100 managers and staff from 11 jurisdictions, comprising the District of Columbia, Fairfax County, Arlington County, City of Alexandria, Loudoun County, Montgomery County, Prince George's County, Charles County, City of Takoma Park, City of Gaithersburg, and City of College Park will participate in the year-long program.

In cities across the United States, people of color and immigrants are more likely to live in neighborhoods with fewer resources and disproportionately lack opportunities from education to employment. For example in metropolitan Washington, health varies starkly by race and ethnicity and is shaped by factors, such as income, education, transportation, and housing, according to the report – <u>Uneven Opportunities: How Conditions for Wellness Vary Across the Metropolitan Washington Region</u>.

To address these issues, the new program will help local governments advance racial equity in four main areas:

- 1. Public safety and court services
- 2. Community development, planning, zoning, and housing
- 3. Transportation and mobility
- 4. Governing and business, procurement, human resources, and leadership and workforce development

"Through this program, local governments have the opportunity to make changes toward improving racial equity in our region," said COG Executive Director Chuck Bean. "COG is helping to bring local governments together to address racial equity on a regional level, so that more equitable policies and practices can reach every resident in our region."

By the end of the program, participants will develop a racial equity action plan that will help normalize conversations about race and implement new policies and practices that advance racial equity in their jurisdictions.

"We are excited that the metropolitan Washington region is joining a national network of local governments committed to advancing racial equity," said GARE Co-Director Julie Nelson. "Racial equity is important for everyone in the community and this program will give local government leaders the tools to make real changes."

CareFirst BlueCross BlueShield, Consumer Health Foundation, and Eugene and Agnes E. Meyer Foundation provided support for the program.

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# **AGENDA ITEM #14**

# **EXECUTIVE SESSION**

# AGENDA ITEM #15 OTHER BUSINESS

# AGENDA ITEM #16 ADJOURN