



MEMORANDUM

TO: COG Board of Directors
FROM: Chuck Bean, COG Executive Director
SUBJECT: Executive Director's Report – May 2019
DATE: May 1, 2019

POLICY BOARD & COMMITTEE UPDATES

National Capital Region Transportation Planning Board (TPB) – At its April meeting, staff briefed the TPB on the results of the most recent Regional Air Passenger Survey, which looks at data from the region's three commercial airports and highlights trends like the mode of transportation passengers use to get to the airport. The District of Columbia Department of Transportation (DDOT) also briefed the board on its efforts to address traffic safety challenges, including its Vision Zero plan to reduce traffic fatalities and serious injuries. It was the second of three presentations this year to the TPB on traffic safety by area DOTs.

Region Forward Coalition (RFC) – The coalition was briefed on the COG Board's housing initiative as well as the Prince George's County's Comprehensive Housing Strategy, which aims to provide housing for all ages, abilities, and incomes. The coalition also received a presentation from COG transportation staff on potential equity-based accessibility targets that its members may wish to consider and refine.



CCA SYMPOSIUM

Chuck Bean, Daniel Linskey (former Boston Police Chief), Sgt. Travis Nelson (COG CCA working group chair), Scott Boggs (COG Homeland Security and Public Safety Managing Director) at the Complex Coordinated Attack Symposium.

OUTREACH & PROGRAM HIGHLIGHTS

Complex Coordinated Attack Symposium– The COG-organized event brought 300 public safety professionals together in Washington, DC on April 23 to share information on enhancing preparedness and response to security threats and incidents. The symposium leveraged lessons learned from the Boston Marathon bombing and other recent incidents.

Smart Region Movement – COG and Board of Trade staff held meetings to explore areas of interest and discuss leveraging COG’s existing committee structure and network as the partnership begins identifying regional needs and potential projects. The SRM Strategy Group of COG Board members will be meeting for the first time in May.

COG Board Housing Initiative – COG’s Paul DesJardin briefed Prince William County Planning Department staff on Region Forward and the COG Board housing initiative on April 4.

Anti-Idling Campaign – As part of COG’s Turn Your Engine Off campaign, street teams engaged more than 260 motorcoach and truck drivers at locations throughout the region. The campaign promotes the financial and environmental benefits of diesel idle reduction and encourages compliance with idling regulations.

Auto Show – COG co-hosted an Industry-Government Electric Vehicle (EV) Roundtable on April 4 at the Washington Auto Show, which featured its first-ever electric drive experience where attendees could participate in indoor and outdoor ride and drives.

Odyssey Repower – COG staff participated in an unveiling event for the Odyssey cruise ship on April 16. In partnership with Entertainment Cruises, COG led a project to install state-of-the-art, clean diesel engines on the ship. For several years, COG has been working with companies to replace older diesel engines with cleaner ones. The project was funded, in part, through federal Diesel Emissions Reduction Act (DERA) grants.

Salt + Water Quality Workshop – COG environment and transportation staff held a workshop on April 1 on ongoing water monitoring efforts and best practices of departments of transportation for salt management and salt use tracking.

Street Smart – COG’s Street Smart bicycle and pedestrian safety campaign kicked off on April 23 in Fairfax County. The twice-yearly campaign uses mass media messages and stepped-up enforcement to remind motorists, bicyclists, and pedestrians of traffic safety laws.

TPB’s Community Leadership Institute – On April 18, the TPB commenced its 16th Community Leadership Institute (CLI), which teaches community leaders about how transportation decisions are made and how they can make a difference. The educational program started in 2006 and has trained about 300 participants.

Infrastructure – Chuck Bean discussed regional infrastructure priorities during a panel discussion at the American Association of Geographers conference on April 6.



AUTO SHOW
Dan Sze (COG Climate Energy and Environment Policy Committee Chair) and Mike Kurzeja (EZ-EV Founder & CEO) at the Auto Show’s first electric vehicle test drive track.

2020 Census – Chuck Bean spoke at an April 1 event in Arlington launching the county’s Complete Count Committee, a group of community members who serve as Census ambassadors to ensure a complete count. On April 22, Complete Count Committees from local jurisdictions convened at COG to discuss their strategies for the upcoming 2020 Census.

COG Priorities - Chuck Bean gave a presentation to the Arlington County Board on April 25.



MEDIA HIGHLIGHTS

STREET SMART
COG’s Street Smart public safety campaign kicked off in Fairfax County.

Building the smart infrastructure the region deserves – Chuck Bean and the Board of Trade’s Jack McDougle discuss the new Smart Region partnership on Federal News Network’s *What’s Working in Washington* with Jonathan Aberman.

[Federal News Network show](#)

A MARC train to HQ2? A VRE train to Baltimore? This study will answer whether the market's there. – COG’s Tim Canan quoted on TPB’s planned VRE-MARC commuter rail run through service assessment.

[Washington Business Journal story](#)

The Number Of Kids In Foster Care In The Region Is Down. Here Are Some Reasons Why. – COG Child Welfare Committee Member Tabitha Kelly quoted and COG Foster Care Report cited.

[WAMU story](#)

As Md. roadway deaths drop, educational campaign for pedestrians, bikes begins – COG’s Mike Farrell quoted about the Street Smart campaign kickoff.

[Frederick News-Post story](#)

Does DC area have room for 100K more housing units than currently planned? – COG’s Paul DesJardin quoted on the board housing initiative.

[WTOP story](#)