

COG BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING

DATE: Wednesday, February 11, 2004
TIME: 12:00 Noon
PLACE: COG Board Room

PLEASE NOTE: Chair Mendelson will begin the meeting promptly at Noon.
Lunch for members and alternates will be available at 11:30 a.m.

A G E N D A

1. **CALL TO ORDER AND PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE**
(12:00 Noon)

Chair Phil Mendelson
Council Member, District of
Columbia
2. **APPROVAL OF MINUTES OF JANUARY 14, 2004**
(12:00 – 12:05 p.m.)
3. **AMENDMENTS TO AGENDA**
(12:05 – 12:10 p.m.)
4. **ANNOUNCEMENTS**
(12:10 – 12:20 p.m.)

Chair Mendelson

 - a) **NARC Washington Policy Conference**
 - b) **Telework Press Briefing**
 - c) **Regional Power Summit**
 - d) **Executive Director's Report**
5. **ADOPTION OF CONSENT AGENDA ITEMS**

RECOMMENDED ACTION: Adopt Consent Agenda Items 13 A-D
6. **CHAIR'S REMARKS ON POLICY FOCUS FOR 2004**
(12:20 – 12:25 p.m.)

Chair Mendelson

In recent years, the incoming COG Board Chair has outlined a policy focus for his or her leadership year. Chair Mendelson consulted with Vice Chairs Davis and Fisette and will propose that COG commit to a three-year policy focus on regional growth and development issues, consistent with COG strategic plan goal to "promote balanced, sustainable growth and livable communities." Chair Mendelson will outline the proposed policy focus and anticipated measurable outcomes.

RECOMMENDED ACTION: Receive briefing and provide comments on policy focus.

**7. METROPOLITAN DEVELOPMENT POLICY COMMITTEE PRESENTATION AND REQUEST FOR COG BOARD ACTION
(12:25 – 12:50 p.m.)**

**Joyce Woodson
Council Member, City of
Alexandria,
Chair, Metropolitan
Development Policy Committee**

**Len Forkas
Urban Land Institute**

Chair Mendelson has asked that the COG Board's policy advisory committees periodically update the Board on major issues and activities underway and to assist the Board in recommending specific projects or tasks that support the 2004 policy focus on regional growth and development issues. The COG Board will be briefed on policy and technical efforts underway that support the Board's focus. In addition, the Board will be asked to partner with the Urban Land Institute, the Greater Washington Board of Trade, and other organizations in sponsoring a proposed growth visioning exercise in early 2005, similar to the "Reality Check on Growth" project co-sponsored by the Southern California Association of Governments in the Los Angeles region in 2002. The Metropolitan Development Policy Committee recommended taking this action at its January 2004 meeting.

RECOMMENDED ACTION: Receive briefing and adopt Resolution R9-04

**8. BRIEFING ON GREEN INFRASTRUCTURE PROJECT
(12:50 – 1:05 p.m.)**

**Brian LeCouteur
COG, Senior Environmental
Planner and Project Manager**

**Honorable James P. Moran, Jr.,
United States House of
Representatives – Virginia (8th
District)**

COG's "Green Infrastructure Demonstration Project" is a partnership between COG and the National Park Service that began in 2002 with grant assistance provided through the efforts of Congressman James P. Moran, Jr. (D-VA.). The primary focus of the work to date has been on the hosting of best practices and technical mapping forums, as well as development of technical tools that help accurately visualize the location of "green infrastructure" (parkland, forest cover, urban forests, grass-covered land uses, stream buffers, etc.) in the Washington region. Brian LeCouteur, Environmental Planner and COG's Project Manager, will brief the Board on the project and suggest potential next steps including further development of the products within the COG policy and technical committee structure. Congressman Moran will provide his vision for potential future applications.

RECOMMENDED ACTION: Receive briefing; Request that Chesapeake Bay Policy Committee and Metropolitan Development Policy Committee review the Green Infrastructure Mapping project and make recommendations to the Board on potential applications.

**9. BRIEFING ON APA NATIONAL PLANNING CONFERENCE
(1:05 – 1:15 p.m.)**

**Judy Daniel
President, American Planning
Association, National Capital
Area Chapter**

The American Planning Association (APA) National Planning Conference will be held in Washington, D.C. April 24-28, 2004. APA's National Capital Area Chapter has been working closely with COG and area local government planning officials to identify conference sessions, mobile workshops and other information that will highlight planning issues in the National Capital Region. The National Capital Area Chapter, as the conference host chapter, has developed a theme track on several regional planning issues. APA officials will brief the COG Board on the upcoming conference and encourage participation by area officials and planning staffs. The Board will be asked to adopt R10-04 to support the APA conference and encourage participation.

RECOMMENDED ACTION: Receive briefing and adopt Resolution R10-04.

**10. LETTER SUPPORTING THE ESTABLISHMENT OF A RELIABLE AND
PERMANENT FUND FOR WASTEWATER UPGRADES IN MARYLAND, AND
SIMILAR LEGISLATION IN VIRGINIA
(1:15 – 1:30 p.m.)**

**Peter Shapiro
Council Member, Prince
George's County
Chair, Chesapeake Bay Policy
Committee**

The Chesapeake Bay Policy Committee (CBPC) received a briefing from the Maryland Department of the Environment and the Office of the Governor at its January 16 meeting about a proposed fund to pay for wastewater treatment plant upgrades. An Administration bill (SB320 / HB555) to implement such a fund was introduced on February 3, 2004. The CBPC is not recommending that the COG Board adopt a position on those bills at this time since member jurisdictions are still reviewing the proposal. Instead, the CBPC recommends sending a letter supporting the concept of establishing a permanent and reliable funding source for wastewater treatment plant upgrades. A draft letter of support will be distributed for consideration by the COG Board. In addition, the CBPC recommends sending a letter to Governor Mark Warner supporting the use of a similar funding mechanism in Virginia.

RECOMMENDED ACTION: Send a letter supporting the establishment of a reliable and permanent fund for wastewater upgrades in Maryland and similar letter to Virginia.

**11. REGIONAL 211 HOTLINE PRESENTATION
(1:30 – 1:50 p.m.)**

**Chuck Bean
Executive Director, The Non-
Profit Roundtable of Greater
Washington**

The Federal Communications Commission (FCC) has designated "2-1-1" as the national abbreviated dialing code for free access to information on and referral to health and human services. There are currently three 2-1-1 plans now in development - one each for the District of Columbia, the State of Maryland, and the Commonwealth of Virginia. The Non Profit Roundtable of Greater Washington is working to maximize the collaboration among the three 2-1-1 plans and working to develop a seamless comprehensive 2-1-1 system in the region to match the public with appropriate services. In the last meeting of COG's Substance Abuse and Mental Health Committee and the Human Services Policy Committee, members voted to request that the COG Board endorse the development of a regional 2-1-1 plan and support legislation currently in Congress to fund 2-1-1. The Board will be asked to adopt Resolution R11-04 to support regional coordination on the 2-1-1 plan.

RECOMMENDED ACTION: Adopt Resolution R11-04.

**12. APPOINTMENT OF 2004 POLICY COMMITTEE VICE CHAIRS
(1:50 – 2:00 p.m.)**

Chair Mendelson

Chair Mendelson will appoint or reappoint the vice chairs of the following COG Board policy committees in 2004: Chesapeake Bay Policy Committee, Committee on Noise Abatement and Aviation at National and Dulles Airports, Human Services Policy Committee, Metropolitan Development Policy Committee, and Public Safety Policy Committee.

13. CONSENT AGENDA ITEMS

A) Resolution Authorizing Limited Waiver of Fiduciary Responsibility of Michael Bunner

The Board will be asked to adopt Resolution R12-04, authorizing a limited waiver of fiduciary responsibility for Manassas Park Council Member Michael Bunner. The designation of Michael Bunner, of the District of Columbia Metropolitan Police Department, as a COG Board Member triggers potential personal liability under 18 USC 208(a), which has been interpreted to preclude any employee of the District of Columbia from serving in a fiduciary capacity to COG. Therefore, the Board should consider adopting a resolution that waives the fiduciary responsibility of Mr. Bunner should a potential financial conflict between COG and the District of Columbia occur. Such resolution would permit entry into the office for which he has been selected. The Board approved a similar action in reference to the service of John Koskinen, Kelvin Robinson and Robert Bobb, on the COG Board.

B) NewWorldApps Contract

The Board will be requested to adopt Resolution R13-04, authorizing the Executive Director or his designee to contract the services of NewWorldApps, an information technology consulting and management firm, to assist COG in managing its information technology services and systems. This process will provide COG with such services through the end of

the FY 2004. Prior to the end of FY 2004, COG will select a firm to assist in managing these services and systems for the following fiscal year through a competitive solicitation process. The process for FY 2004 is budgeted at total expenses not to exceed \$150,000. Funding for this contract is contained in COG's FY 2004 operating budget.

C) Resolution Supporting the Loudoun County Baseline Biological Monitoring Survey (Phase II): Proposal Submission to the National Fish and Wildlife Foundation

The Board will be requested to adopt Resolution R14-04, authorizing the Executive Director or his designee to transmit a proposal and to enter into a contract agreement, not to exceed \$37,500, with the National Fish and Wildlife Foundation for Loudoun County stream monitoring-related services. Project duration is one year, and will run from September 2004 through September 2005. A \$38,750 COG match for already identified funds with COG's Nonpoint Source Program is proposed.

D) COG Pension Plan System Amendment

The COG Board of Directors shall be asked to adopt Resolution R15-04, which would amend the COG Pension Plan System in compliance with Economic Growth and Tax Relief Reconciliation Act (EGTRAA). These changes have been suggested by pension counsel. Sections 2.11 and 9.09a are being amended to: (1) raise the limit on compensation that may be taken into account under the Plan from \$150,000 to \$200,000 for purposes of calculating benefits; and (2) expand the types of plans to which a participant may rollover a distribution. The first is permitted and the second is required under the new legislation. However, since COG has implemented these provisions in good faith compliance with EGTRRA effective date of January 1, 2002, the Internal Revenue Service has now required pension systems to include these provisions in their plan.

THE NEXT BOARD MEETING WILL BE ON WEDNESDAY, MARCH 10, 2004.
