



FOOD AND AGRICULTURE REGIONAL MEMBER (FARM) POLICY COMMITTEE

October 13, 2023
10:00 A.M. - 12:00 P.M.
Webinar only via MS Teams

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PROPOSED AGENDA

- 10:00 A.M. 1. WELCOME, FARM MEMBER UPDATES, AND APPROVAL OF MEETING SUMMARIES**
Councilmember Jon Stehle, FARM Chair

Chair Stehle will call the meeting to order and call for approval of previous meeting summaries. He will also provide a few FARM membership updates.

Recommended Action: Approve draft meeting summary.

- 10:10 A.M. 2. CAPITAL AREA FOOD BANK HUNGER REPORT**
Radha Muthiah, President and CEO
Sabrina Tadele, Senior Director of Strategic Initiatives

On September 12, the Capital Area Food Bank released their [Hunger Report 2023](#), which contains surprising new data about food insecurity and inequity across our region. The report uses research collected from nearly 5,300 Greater Washington area residents to highlight multiple factors that continue to make putting food on the table difficult for many across the region. Ms. Muthiah will provide some highlights of the report and offer some recommended actions to elevate to the COG Board.

Action: Receive briefing

- 10:35 A.M. 3. MONTGOMERY COUNTY STRATEGIC PLAN TO END CHILDHOOD HUNGER**
Councilmember Gabe Albornoz, Chair of the Health and Human Services Committee (invited)
Heather Bruskin, Director, Office of Food Systems Resilience

The recently released [Montgomery County Strategic Plan to End Childhood Hunger](#), was spearheaded by Councilmember Albornoz along with a partnership between the County

government, schools, local organizations, members of the General Assembly, and the Montgomery County Food Council. The Montgomery County Food Council managed this extensive project to produce 14 strategies to address this crisis in the County. Councilmember Alborno and Ms. Bruskin will discuss these strategies, the process behind the plan's creation, and highlight some potential action items for the FARM committee and the COG Board.

Action: Receive briefing

11:15 A.M. 4. DC, MD, AND VA LEGISLATIVE PREVIEW

LaMonika Jones, Director, DC Hunger Solutions

Cassie Edner, Public Benefits Attorney and Director of Virginia Hunger Solutions, Virginia Poverty Law Center

Michael J. Wilson, Director, Maryland Hunger Solutions

Members of area Hunger Solutions will provide a high-level overview of what advocates and elected leaders are planning related to childhood nutrition, improving access to school meals, and food security for other residents such as seniors.

Action: Receive briefing

11:35 A.M. 5. FARM POLICY ACTIONS

Councilmember Stele will lead a discussion regarding next steps/action items to determine if there is any policy action that FARM should take at this time and/or recommend to the COG Board.

Action: Member discussion.

12:00 P.M. 8. ADJOURN

The next FARM meeting is scheduled for Friday, December 8 from 10:00 a.m. – 12:00 p.m.

