



EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S REPORT

September 2017

COMMITTEE WORK FEATURE OUTREACH CALENDAR MEDIA

Policy Boards & Committees

NATIONAL CAPITAL REGION TRANSPORTATION PLANNING BOARD (TPB)

At its June meeting, the TPB endorsed COG's Statement of Principles on Metro expressing support for the system and for Metro General Manager Paul Wiedefeld's "Keeping Metro Safe, Reliable, and Affordable" plan. In July, the board accepted the list of ten large-scale transportation and land-use initiatives identified by its Long-Range Plan Task Force for further study.

METROPOLITAN WASHINGTON AIR QUALITY COMMITTEE (MWAQC) CLIMATE, ENERGY, AND ENVIRONMENT POLICY COMMITTEE (CEEPC)

At their joint meeting in July, the committees updated local commitments to reduce greenhouse gas emissions consistent with the Paris Accord, including adoption of a resolution reaffirming local, state, regional, and federal actions. Members also discussed local programs such as tree canopy conservation, cooperative purchasing of Alternative Fuel Vehicles, and the development of community solar programs.

CHESAPEAKE BAY POLICY AND WATER RESOURCES POLICY COMMITTEE (CBPC)

At its July meeting, the committee received presentations on preliminary modeling of climate impacts to the Bay's water quality as well as an initiative by the District of Columbia to assess trends in changing temperature and precipitation and use the data to plan for risk mitigation and preparedness.

HUMAN SERVICES AND PUBLIC SAFETY POLICY COMMITTEE (HSPSPC)

The committee received briefings at its July meeting on plans for a regional fair housing assessment related to a new federal rule, a permanent supportive housing effort in Montgomery and Prince George's Counties, and the potential impact of changes to federal housing policy on programs in the region.

REGION FORWARD COALITION (RFC)

At its July meeting, the coalition discussed trends impacting the region's real estate as well as findings from COG's most recent commercial construction report. RFC members also received a briefing on a D.C. effort to explore the conversion of vacant commercial office space into affordable housing.



Staff Feature: **ALIEU TURAY**

As a Contracts and Purchasing Specialist, Alieu Turay helps COG get quality results at the best value. He is currently helping support several initiatives, including contracts related to the Metro Safety Commission, the COG- Army Corps of Engineers coastal flooding study, and airport surveys.

[READ THE 'HEART OF COG' FEATURE](#)

FREDERICK COUNTY - ROI PRESENTATION

COG Executive Director Chuck Bean gave a Return on Investment (ROI) presentation on COG's programs and discussed the benefits of being a member.

NATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF REGIONAL COUNCILS ANNUAL CONFERENCE

Chuck Bean participated at the NARC conference in California and gave a presentation on regional preparedness and coordination related to complex coordinated attacks.

SAFETRACK FINALE PRESS EVENT

Chuck Bean spoke at a press event marking the end of SafeTrack, Metro's emergency track work effort.

VISUALIZE 2045

As part of the development of the region's new long-range transportation plan, Visualize 2045, the TPB conducted a survey to inform the conversation about the future of the transportation system. To reach as many people across the region as possible, survey interviewers and COG transportation staff fanned out to community events, handed out postcards, and spread the word through email and social media.

VISION ZERO

The TPB's Bicycle and Pedestrian Subcommittee hosted a workshop highlighting Vision Zero safety policies throughout the region, which aim to build a transportation system with no fatalities or serious injuries involving road traffic. D.C., Alexandria, and Montgomery County have all adopted this policy.

TOD AROUND METRORAIL STATIONS

COG's Planning Directors Committee held a special meeting focused on transit-oriented development (TOD) opportunities at Metrorail stations per the request of Falls Church Mayor David Tarter and Prince George's County Council Chairman Derrick Davis.

ELECTRIFY AMERICA'S REGIONAL KICKOFF MEETING

COG hosted Electrify America's (EA) Washington Metro Area Kickoff meeting, convening stakeholders from Maryland, Virginia, and the District of Columbia to discuss EA's plans for widespread deployment of electric vehicle charging infrastructure. The program will focus on supporting EV charging for interstate highways, communities, multifamily residences, and workplaces.

CLIMATE RESILIENCE, SUSTAINABLE COMMUNITIES

A regional team joined teams from 11 other regions in Denver for a Resilient Communities Leadership Academy run by the Institute of Sustainable Communities. The team was made up of Greenbelt, Falls Church, Takoma Park, and D.C. officials and COG's Steve Walz. Also, COG's Amanda Campbell spoke about resilience efforts around the region at the Resilient Virginia annual conference in Richmond.



Event Highlight:

COASTAL FLOODING STUDY KICKOFF MEETING

COG and U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, Baltimore District staff met to launch a new \$3 million, three-year study that will explore ways to address coastal flooding and storm damage across D.C., Maryland, and Virginia.

[MORE ON THE STUDY](#)

CHESAPEAKE BAY POLICY AND WATER RESOURCES POLICY COMMITTEE - Sep 15

HUMAN SERVICES AND PUBLIC SAFETY POLICY COMMITTEE - Sep 15

NATIONAL CAPITAL REGION TRANSPORTATION PLANNING BOARD - Sep 20

CAR FREE DAY - Sep 22

CLIMATE, ENERGY, AND ENVIRONMENT POLICY COMMITTEE - Sep 27

METROPOLITAN WASHINGTON AIR QUALITY COMMITTEE - Sep 27

[MORE COG MEETINGS & EVENTS](#)

FOSTER CARE REPORT

COG's latest annual report on foster care was referenced in a WAMU story on housing challenges for youth aging out of foster care. COG's Surina Amin was interviewed. [MORE FROM WAMU.](#)

AIR QUALITY

A WAMU story examined why despite hot summer weather, the region has not been experiencing Code Red unhealthy air days. COG's Steve Walz and Jen Desimone were interviewed. [MORE FROM WAMU.](#)

GLOBAL CITIES INITIATIVE

A *Washington Post* opinion piece that recommended increasing exports referenced the region's Global Cities Initiative. COG's Chuck Bean was interviewed. [MORE FROM THE WASHINGTON POST.](#)

COMMERCIAL CONSTRUCTION REPORT

COG's report on commercial construction was highlighted in a *Frederick News-Post* story about the region's economy. COG's John Kent was interviewed. [MORE FROM FREDERICK NEWS-POST.](#)

OPIOID SUMMIT

COG's Opioid Summit was highlighted in a story by *Governing* on the national epidemic. [MORE FROM GOVERNING.](#)



Media Highlight: VISUALIZE 2045

As part of the outreach related to Visualize 2045, COG promoted its survey to various local news outlets. COG's Ben Hampton was interviewed for several of the stories.

[MORE FROM THE GREATER GREATER WASHINGTON](#)