

MEMORANDUM

TO: COG Board of Directors
FROM: Chuck Bean, COG Executive Director
SUBJECT: Executive Director's Report – February 2022
DATE: February 2, 2022

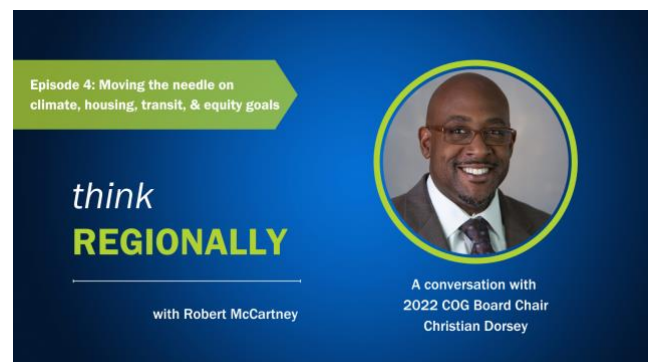
POLICY BOARD & COMMITTEE UPDATES

National Capital Region Transportation Planning Board (TPB) – At its January meeting, the TPB adopted two resolutions related to highway safety and connected and automated vehicles (CAVs). The board also received an overview of the Unified Planning Work Program (UPWP) and an update on the development of its *Visualize 2045* plan. Members held an initial discussion on the inclusion of climate elements in *Visualize 2045* with the expectation that discussion on the topic will continue in future TPB meetings.

Climate, Energy, and Environment Policy Committee (CEEPC) – In January, CEEPC discussed climate and energy legislative priorities and received a briefing on the National Capital Hydrogen Center. Members were also briefed on the final results of the Transportation Planning Board's *Climate Change Mitigation Study of 2021*.

Chesapeake Bay and Water Resources Policy Committee (CBPC) – During its January meeting, CBPC members were briefed by D.C. Water and WSSC Water about opportunities to leverage funding from the Infrastructure Investment Act to address water issues in the region. Members also prepared for the 2022 General Assembly session by tracking water related bills and reviewed COG's 2022 Legislative Priorities.

Region Forward Coalition (RFC) – In January, RFC focused on prosperity with a panel discussion on changes to our region's workforce since 2019. Guest speakers from Northern Virginia Community College, Montgomery County Executive Office, and UNITE-Here Local 25 discussed the regional labor market and challenges for childcare and hospitality workers.



PODCAST: Q&A WITH CHRISTIAN DORSEY
Together at COG, area leaders have set ambitious goals to address the region's most pressing challenges related to climate, housing, transit, and equity. On this special episode of *Think Regionally*, COG Board Chair Christian Dorsey talks about how the region will move the needle on this interconnected work.

[Listen to the episode or read the transcript](#)

OUTREACH & PROGRAM HIGHLIGHTS

COG presentations – On January 6, COG Executive Director Chuck Bean presented COG’s *Metropolitan Washington Planning Framework for 2030* to the National Capital Planning Commission, briefing them on four regional priorities shaping COG’s work.

Regional Cybersecurity Tabletop Exercise – On January 20, COG’s Department of Homeland Security and Public Safety, in collaboration with the Department of Homeland Security’s Cybersecurity and Infrastructure Security Agency, hosted a Regional Cybersecurity Tabletop Exercise. Chief Administrative, Information, and Information Security Officers from across the region participated in the exercise to better understand and improve the region’s ability to prevent, detect, and respond to cyber incidents.



SEEKING APPLICATIONS: COG PROGRAMS HELP ADVANCE REGIONAL PLANNING PRIORITIES
Through flexible grant and technical assistance programs like the new **Housing Affordability Planning Program** and longstanding **Transportation-Land Use Connections Program**, local governments can explore innovative ideas or advance critical projects.

[Learn more and apply for assistance](#)

2022 Regional Point-in-Time (PIT) count – Volunteers from around the region participated in the PIT count of persons experiencing homelessness on January 27. Paul DesJardin and Hilary Chapman of COG’s Community Planning and Services Department took part in the count.

CBPC Academic Paper Competition – The CBPC is now accepting applications for its annual paper competition, which invites area high school, college, and graduate students to provide their perspective on real world sustainability and water resources issues. Students should [submit an interest email](#) no later than February 28.

MEDIA HIGHLIGHTS

Regional Housing Challenges – Features COG Executive Director Chuck Bean discussing housing challenges in metropolitan Washington and how this, and other regional issues such as transit, are interconnected.

[PGCTV News \(minute 8:45\)](#)

D.C. is requiring vaccines to enter restaurants and gyms. In most of its suburbs, it’s a very different story. – COG Deputy Executive Director Tom Gates discusses COG’s ongoing coordination with local governments on COVID-19.

[The Washington Post](#)