Metropolitan Washington Council of Governments 2013 Legislative Priorities

22 JURISDICTIONS 5+ MILLION PEOPLE 300 ELECTED OFFICIALS

Adoption of 2013 Legislative Priorities

Nicole Hange January 9, 2013

Agenda Item 9

Overview

- Began legislative tracking in 2007, priority development 2009
- 2013 more focused, <u>action oriented</u>
- Multi-pronged outreach strategy



Process

COG Board Appoints Legislative
Committee



Legislative Priority Areas Identified



Staff/Policy Committee Reps Prepare Draft



Legislative Briefs Approved for Board Action



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Legislative Priorities

- Increased Transportation Funding
- Energy Security and Productivity
- Water Quality Protection
- Sequestration/Federal Budget





Legislative Priorities

- Sequestration/Federal Budget
 - Congressional action on Sequestration delayed to Feb
 - Recommend follow-up letter
 - Opportunity to be more specific in our request
- Workforce Development
 - Region Forward Coalition will build upon 2010 Closing the Gaps report to propose policy statements and legislative priorities.



Outreach and Communications Plan

- One-on-one's
 - Issue focused, follow-up to advocacy letters
- Media strategy
 - OPED'S, press releases, interviews
- Partnerships
 - Leverage
 - State/national associations, stakeholders
- Staff cross departmental policy team



Next Steps

- Legislative Committee- ongoing, expanded role
- Sequestration follow-up letter, Feb. Board action
- RFC action on workforce development
- Transmit adopted priorities to stakeholders
- Ramp up advocacy and outreach
 - VA General Assembly Session: January 9 February 25
 - MD General Assembly Session: January 9 April 8

