



MEMORANDUM

TO: COG Board of Directors
FROM: Chuck Bean, COG Executive Director
SUBJECT: Executive Director's Report – April 2018
DATE: April 4, 2018

POLICY BOARD & COMMITTEE UPDATES

National Capital Region Transportation Planning Board (TPB)

- At its March meeting, the TPB received a briefing on upcoming public forums for its long-range transportation plan, Visualize 2045, which includes all regionally significant, planned transportation investments as well as projects agencies would carry out if they had more funding. The forums will focus on seven unfunded, priority initiatives recently endorsed by the TPB: the five regionally significant projects, programs, and policies developed through the Long-Range Plan Task Force and two bicycle and pedestrian initiatives.

Chesapeake Bay and Water Resources Policy Committee (CBPC)

- At its March meeting, the CBPC was briefed by the District of Columbia's Department of Energy and the Environment on concentrations of harmful chemicals known as polycyclic aromatic hydrocarbons (PAH) found in asphalt sealants. As a result, the CBPC will write a letter to the National Sanitation Foundation in support of a certification process for asphalt sealants, based on PAH concentration.

Climate, Energy, and Environment Policy Committee (CEEPC)

- In March, CEEPC discussed its 2018 priorities, including providing guidance on current projects and the work plan for FY 2019. Additionally, the group discussed local institutions' experiences in implementing environmental and social investment strategies.

Human Services Policy Committee (HSPC) – At its March meeting, the HSPC focused on policy and programs that should support early childhood development in the region, as well as programs and approaches that are effective for early interventions.



STAFF FEATURE
COG Transportation Engineer Daniel Son helps analyze and forecast vehicle emissions to make sure the region is meeting its air quality goals.

[View the Heart of COG](#)

OUTREACH & PROGRAM HIGHLIGHTS

Metrorail Safety Commission (MSC) – The MSC, the new, independent body that will be responsible for safety oversight of the Metrorail system, held its inaugural board meeting on March 13. At its second meeting on March 27, former National Transportation Safety Board Chair Christopher Hart was elected MSC Chairman. COG continues to help the District of Columbia, Maryland, and Virginia establish the commission.

[View the MSC new officers press release](#)

Year of the Anacostia – 2018 is the Year of the Anacostia, a celebration of the river’s history and progress. COG collaborated with its Anacostia Watershed Restoration Partnership members to launch a new initiative, **#ComeToTheRiver**, a public engagement campaign encouraging residents to enjoy the many opportunities the river and its watershed offers them.

Visualize 2045 Public Forums – The first of nine public forums focused on the seven TPB endorsed initiatives will be held in Frederick on April 11 at Thomas Johnson High School. Forums have also been planned for Montgomery County on April 19 and Charles County on April 25. The nine forums will be held in each county in the TPB’s planning area.

[View forum details on the Visualize 2045 site](#)

Recognizing Service – COG staff served on the screening committee for the 17th Annual Cafritz Awards Program, which recognizes and rewards outstanding performance and exemplary service by D.C. Government employees.



MEDIA HIGHLIGHTS

Is the D.C. Area’s Infrastructure in Good Working Order? – COG’s Steve Walz interviewed.

[Listen to the Kojo Nnamdi Show](#)

Life Without Metro—Here’s What Would Happen – COG’s Kanti Srikanth interviewed.

[View the Washington Business Journal story](#)

Evolving Needs: Interoperable Communications – COG’s Interoperable Communications Regional Programmatic Working Group (IC RPWG) article on improving efficiency and reliability of interoperable communications during emergency response.

[View the DomPrep Journal article](#)