



EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S REPORT

November 2016

COMMITTEE WORK FEATURE OUTREACH CALENDAR MEDIA

Policy Boards & Committees

TRANSPORTATION PLANNING BOARD (TPB)

At its October meeting, the TPB was briefed on the nine major new projects and changes to existing projects proposed in the 2016 amendment to the region's Constrained Long-Range Transportation Plan (CLRP). New projects include Express Lanes on I-395 and a VRE commuter rail extension in Northern Virginia, and bus-only lanes on 16th Street in D.C. The October briefing also included the findings of the federally required Air Quality Conformity Analysis as well as an analysis of the plan's anticipated performance through 2040. The TPB is scheduled to vote on the 2016 CLRP Amendment at its November 16 meeting.

REGION FORWARD COALITION (RFC)

The coalition discussed the impact of the changing federal footprint in the region as well as findings from a new COG report on workforce demand.

HOMELAND SECURITY EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE (HSEC)

The committee held a workshop for public safety and homeland security subject matter experts to discuss what's next for homeland security and regional preparedness in the region and provide an opportunity for experts to share their perspective on threats, gaps, priorities, and the regional homeland security system.

PUBLIC INFORMATION OFFICERS - SAFETRACK COORDINATION

In advance of SafeTrack Surge 10, which is shutting down a segment of the Red Line for track work for much of November, COG organized a conference call for the region's public information officers. Representatives from Metro and the affected jurisdictions participated on the call and shared information on messaging to the public. COG has been holding coordination calls since SafeTrack began.



Staff Feature:
ERIC RANDALL

COG's Eric Randall decided to become a transportation engineer after "growing up getting stuck in traffic on the Beltway." One way he's helping the region move more people, more efficiently has been by managing the region's \$58.8 million in federal TIGER grants to improve bus transit.

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

COG RETURN ON INVESTMENT PRESENTATIONS

COG Executive Director Chuck Bean gave presentations to the city councils of Bowie and Takoma Park on COG's programs and discussed the benefits the cities receive as COG member governments.

LEADERSHIP GREATER WASHINGTON - REGIONAL PRESENTATIONS

Chuck Bean was a speaker at LGW's Future of Greater Washington event where he discussed recent work related to economic competitiveness and the Global Cities Initiative. Also for an LGW class session, COG's John Swanson and Bryan Hayes led participants in a regional growth and transportation exercise. Staff have facilitated this exercise for community and leadership groups over the last decade.

LATINO HEALTH CONFERENCE

COG, George Washington University's Avance Center, and the Regional Primary Care Coalition hosted a conference to discuss efforts underway to address health disparities affecting Latinos in the region.

FEDERAL LABS' WATER INNOVATION FORUM

COG's Lisa Ragain was a speaker for the virtual forum, which focused on water-related challenges as part of the Federal Laboratory Consortium for Technology Transfer (FLC) 2016 focus on water technologies.

CENTRAL BUSINESS AREAS

COG hosted the Planning Directors and GSA staff for discussions of identifying locally-defined Central Business Areas (CBAs) as places for locating future federal facilities. COG's Paul DesJardin also met with Prince William County Planning staff and Economic Development Director to discuss Activity Centers and CBAs in Woodbridge.

PUBLIC COMMENT PERIOD ON TRANSPORTATION PLAN AND PROGRAM

A 30-day public comment period on the 2016 amendment to the region's Constrained Long-Range Transportation Plan (CLRP) and draft FY 2017-2022 Transportation Improvement Program (TIP) kicked off October 13 and will run through November 12. Visit www.mwco.org/tpbcomment

STREET SMART FALL PRESS EVENT

COG is organizing the bicycle and pedestrian safety campaign kickoff on November 4 at the United Medical Center in Southeast D.C., near a spot where two people were killed crossing the street in 2015.

COOPERATIVE PURCHASING

The COG Rider Clause has been updated for the first time since 2012 to make it easier for members to use and for COG to track annual contract value to better demonstrate the program benefits.



(ep_jhu/Flickr)

Purchasing Highlight: EMS MEDICAL SUPPLIES

COG is working on creating the first regional cooperative purchase for EMS Medical Supplies. The bid will be released in November with contract awards projected in January. The bid is expected to result in savings of 5 to 10 percent over current individual agency prices.

[LEARN MORE ABOUT COOPERATIVE PURCHASING](#)

STREET SMART CAMPAIGN KICKOFF - November 4

COG WINTER WEATHER BRIEFING - November 7

CLIMATE, ENERGY, AND ENVIRONMENT POLICY COMMITTEE - November 16

TRANSPORTATION PLANNING BOARD - November 16

CHESAPEAKE BAY AND WATER RESOURCES POLICY COMMITTEE - November 18

HUMAN SERVICES AND PUBLIC SAFETY POLICY COMMITTEE - November 18

[MORE COG MEETINGS & EVENTS](#)

COG RELEASES INTERIM ANALYSIS OF METRO

The COG Board of Directors received a presentation on a new analysis of Metro's economic value to the region, performance metrics, and revenue needs. The analysis was prepared by city and county managers and chief financial officers to support COG's focus on restoring the transit system and steering it toward a sustainable financial path. [MORE FROM THE WASHINGTON POST.](#)

OP-ED: METRO'S FAILURE IS NOT AN OPTION

While Metro General Manager Paul Wiedefeld is doing his part by making hard decisions that are in the long-term interest of the system, local officials are focused on doing their part as well, said COG Board Chairman Roger Berliner. In this op-ed piece, Berliner outlines the importance of Metro to the region's economy and COG's work on Metro funding and safety. [MORE FROM THE WASHINGTON POST.](#)

STEM JOBS KEY TO REGIONAL ECONOMIC GROWTH, COG REPORTS

According to the new COG report, *Trends in Workforce Demand: Seven Economic Clusters*, jobs that require training in science, technology, engineering, and mathematics, across seven industry clusters will help drive innovation and economic growth in the region. [MORE FROM WTOP.](#)

COG AND PARTNERS WORK ON CREATING A REGIONAL BRAND

COG, the 2030 Group, Akridge, and the Urban Land Institute-Washington are developing a regional brand to promote economic growth. The campaign and slogan are beginning to take shape and could launch as early as 2017. [MORE FROM THE WASHINGTON BUSINESS JOURNAL.](#)



Event Highlight:

IRE GRADUATION/LEADERSHIP AWARDS

A total of 30 managers graduated from Institute for Regional Excellence (IRE), a partnership between COG and the George Washington University. Fairfax County's Ed Long and Montgomery County's Isiah Leggett (pictured) were also honored at the event.

[READ MORE ABOUT THE GRADUATION](#)