



## MEMORANDUM

**TO:** COG Board of Directors  
**FROM:** Chuck Bean, COG Executive Director  
**SUBJECT:** Executive Director's Report – April 2020  
**DATE:** April 3, 2020

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### COVID-19 COORDINATION

COG staff has been working diligently to support area officials in their efforts to prepare for and respond to COVID-19—sharing best practices, research, messaging, and information regarding medical surge, continuity of government operations, and contracting. This network includes city and county managers, health directors, emergency managers, law enforcement, fire and rescue, 9-1-1 directors, public information officers, attorneys, school superintendents, human services, food and agriculture, water and energy officials, as well as private and nonprofit sector partners.

### POLICY BOARD & COMMITTEE UPDATES

**National Capital Region Transportation Planning Board (TPB)** – For its March meeting, Chair Kelly Russell chaired an unprecedented virtual meeting due to COVID-19 precautions. Board members approved important action items like the Unified Planning Work Program (UPWP) that sets the budget and work program for the TPB. The board also approved the FY2021 Transportation Improvement Program and 2020 amendments to Visualize 2045 and the air quality conformity analysis related to those updates.

**Chesapeake Bay and Water Resources Policy Committee (CBPC)** – During its March webinar meeting, members approved the Regional Water Quality Management FY2021 Work Program and Budget. Members were also briefed by COG's Department of Homeland Security and Policy on regional COVID-19 coordination, with an emphasis on water and food and agriculture related coordination.



### JOINT STATEMENT ON COVID-19

Chief elected officials from 21 local governments joined together on March 31 to release a statement encouraging the region's residents to stay home to slow the spread of COVID-19. The messaging helped amplify the Stay at Home orders issued by Maryland Governor Larry Hogan, Virginia Governor Ralph Northam, and District of Columbia Mayor Muriel Bowser for their respective jurisdictions.

[View the statement](#)

**Human Services Policy Committee (HSPC)** – During its March webinar meeting, the committee was briefed on a service model to prevent and end homelessness. Chair Brianne Nadeau led members in an open discussion on how jurisdictions are addressing the needs of vulnerable populations during the COVID-19 response.

## OUTREACH & PROGRAM HIGHLIGHTS

**COG Housing Targets** – Chuck Bean participated in a *Mental Health and Housing* panel discussion for the LA Chamber on March 10. Bean also presented at Fairfax County and George Mason University’s *2020 Housing Challenge* conference on March 11, serving as the opening act for Fairfax County Chairman Jeff McKay.

**Census Coordination** – In partnership with local governments and non-profits, COG has helped coordinate efforts to ensure an accurate and complete 2020 Census count in the region. COG has worked with regional employers to spread awareness through PSA ads, workplace initiatives, and most recently a March 6 virtual town hall on Facebook Live.



**2020 CENSUS VIRTUAL TOWN HALL**  
To answer question on the Census, COG hosted experts and officials, including COG Board Chair Derrick L. Davis and Vice Chair and Christian Dorsey. Chuck Bean moderated the panel.

[Watch the town hall](#)

## MEDIA HIGHLIGHTS

**Hogan calls Trump testing claims ‘just not true’ as region’s virus cases continue surge**– Joint statement by 21 officials highlighted.

[The Washington Post story](#)

**What you can do to reduce greenhouse gasses in the DC region**– Steve Walz, COG Director of Environmental Programs, explains the work of the Climate, Energy, and Environment Policy Committee (CEEPC) as it updates the Regional Climate and Energy Action Plan.

[WTOP story](#)