

# **EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S REPORT**

March 2017

COMMITTEE WORK FEATURE OUTREACH CALENDAR MEDIA

#### TRANSPORTATION PLANNING BOARD (TPB)

At its February meeting, the TPB crafted a scope for the future of its Long-Range Plan Task Force. The task force is working to develop a regional long-range transportation plan that identifies transportation priorities above and beyond what is included in the region's financially constrained long-range plan. The board also discussed the regional impacts of Metro's proposed FY 2018 operating budget.

# HUMAN SERVICES AND PUBLIC SAFETY POLICY COMMITTEE (HSPSPC)

The committee reviewed its mission and the role of its supporting committees. COG members and staff also briefed the committee on variety of 2017 human services and public safety priorities from affordable housing to opioid and substance abuse.

# EMERGENCY PREPAREDNESS COUNCIL (EPC)

The council received After Action Reports on the 2017 Presidential Inauguration from Chris Geldart, the Director of the District of Columbia Homeland Security and Emergency Management Agency (DC HSEMA), Major General Bradley Becker, the Commander of the Military District of Washington and Joint Forces Headquarters National Capital Region (JFHQ-NCR), and Taran Hutchinson, the facilitator of the Metropolitan Area Transportation Operations Coordination (MATOC) program.



# Staff Feature: LAMONT COBB

COG Transportation Planner Lamont Cobb helps local governments plan walkable, transit accessible, and sustainable communities through the TPB's popular Transportation Land-Use Connections program.

READ THE 'HEART OF COG' FEATURE

# COG RETURN ON INVESTMENT PRESENTATIONS

In February, COG Executive Director Chuck Bean and Cooperative Purchasing Program Manager Rick Konrad gave presentations to the City of Rockville and Fairfax County on COG's programs and discussed the benefits of being a member.

# NARC CONFERENCE

COG staff participated in the National Association of Regional Councils Conference of Regions in the District of Columbia. Chuck Bean provided an introduction for keynote speaker George Hawkins of DC Water. COG Senior Environmental Planner Leah Boggs gave a presentation on the Fleets for the Future project, which COG is leading to create a cooperative solicitation for green vehicles and infrastructure for public fleets across the mid-Atlantic region.

# URBAN-RURAL ECONOMIC PARTNERSHIP

Chuck Bean and COG Regional Food Systems Value Chain Coordinator Lindsay Smith participated in the New Partners for Smart Growth Conference in St. Louis to discuss efforts to support agriculture in metropolitan Washington and learn how other regions are working to connect local farmers with consumers.

# TRANSPORTATION DEMAND MANAGEMENT

COG Transportation Operations Programs Director Nick Ramfos spoke on a panel for the North Carolina DOT on best practices for transportation demand management and used experiences and results from the D.C. region.

# SAFE ROUTES TO SCHOOL ANNUAL MEETING

On The Greater Washington DC Safe Routes to School (SRTS) Regional Network held its annual meeting at COG on February 28. School coordinators from around the region shared information about their SRTS programs and learned about funding opportunities through the TPB that support planning, design, and construction of Safe Routes to School projects. SRTS shares common goals with the TPB including encouraging biking and walking and improving safety.

# **ADOPTION & FOSTER CARE EXPO**

COG and partner nonprofits are sponsoring the regional Adoption & Foster Care Expo at the Carnegie Library in the District on March 11. The free Expo will provide a one-stop-shop experience for prospective parents to meet adoption professionals as well as current adoptive and foster parents who will share their knowledge and personal stories. <u>MORE ABOUT THE EXPO</u>.



# Cooperative Purchasing Highlight: WATER TREATMENT

COG is developing a regional bid for water treatment chemicals for local water authorities. The expected \$50-100 million per year buy would result in potential savings in the millions of dollars.

#### MORE ABOUT PURCHASING

**Media Highlights** 

METROPOLITAN WASHINGTON AIR QUALITY COMMITTEE - March 8

**TRANSPORTATION PLANNING BOARD - March 15** 

CHESAPEAKE BAY AND WATER RESOURCES POLICY COMMITTEE - March 17

CLIMATE, ENERGY, AND ENVIRONMENT POLICY COMMITTEE - March 22

2017 SAFETY SYMPOSIUM (PRESENTED BY THE HEALTH AND SAFETY SUBCOMMITTEE OF THE COG FIRE CHIEFS COMMITTEE) - April 4-5

**REGIONAL OPIOID AND SUBSTANCE ABUSE SUMMIT - May 9** 

MORE COG MEETINGS & EVENTS

# **COMMUTING TRENDS**

WTOP reported on commuting data from the American Community Survey. The story featured COG's Kanti Srikanth and referenced Commuter Connections' State of the Commuter survey. <u>MORE FROM</u> <u>WTOP</u>.

# SAFETRACK TRAVEL ANALYSIS

WAMU reported on the impact of Metro's SafeTrack maintenance project on travel in the region and interviewed COG's Eric Randall. <u>MORE FROM WAMU</u>.

# ALTERNATIVE FUEL VEHICLES

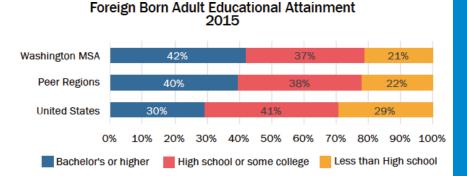
Route Fifty, a digital news site from Atlantic Media on state, county, and municipal government, covered a discussion at the NARC Conference of Regions on initiatives to expand the use alternative fuel vehicles in public fleets and interviewed COG's Leah Boggs. <u>MORE FROM ROUTE FIFTY</u>.

#### DRUNK DRIVING REPORT

WTOP covered the *How Safe are our Roads* report, which is prepared by COG for the Washington Regional Alcohol Program (WRAP). <u>MORE FROM WTOP</u>.

#### HUMAN CAPITAL REPORT

COG coordinated with several partner organizations to spread the word about the *State of the Region: Human Capital Report.* For example, the Washington Grantmakers featured the report in its newsletter, the Daily WRAG. <u>MORE FROM THE DAILY WRAG</u>.



#### Media Highlight: REGION'S IMMIGRANT POPULATION

Statistics on the region's immigrant population from the *Human Capital Report* were featured in reports by WTOP, WAMU, and Telemundo Washington. COG's Chuck Bean was interviewed by WTOP and Telemundo.

MORE FROM WTOP