



## REGION FORWARD COALITION

### 2018 WORK PLAN

Revised 04/26/2018

#### INTRODUCTION

#### METROPOLITAN WASHINGTON COUNCIL OF GOVERNMENTS (COG):

Metropolitan Washington Council of Governments (COG) is an independent, nonprofit association that brings area leaders together to address major regional issues in the District of Columbia, suburban Maryland and Northern Virginia. COG’s membership is comprised of 300 elected officials from 22 local governments, the Maryland and Virginia state legislatures, and U.S. Congress.

#### REGION FORWARD:

Region Forward is a commitment by COG and its member governments, who together seek to create a more **prosperous, accessible, livable, and sustainable** metropolitan Washington. Region Forward includes goals, targets, and the Greater Washington 2050 Compact, a voluntary agreement to motivate area governments and stakeholders to advance the vision.

#### REGION FORWARD COALITION:

The Regional Forward Coalition provides cross-cutting regional policy capacity and long-range regional planning recommendations to the COG Board. With members from public, private and non-profit sectors, primary responsibilities include:

- Overseeing progress toward Region Forward goals;
- Using Region Forward as a guide to update the Regional Activity Centers;
- Creating clear strategies and initiatives to support the transformation of regional centers into Complete Communities.

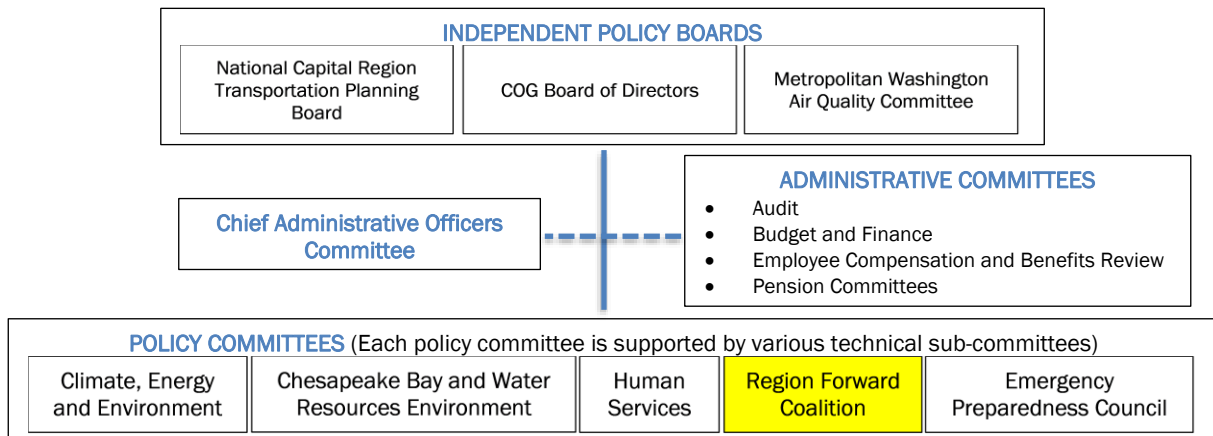


Figure 1 COG Policy Committees

Reasonable accommodations are provided upon request, including alternative formats of meeting materials. Visit [www.mwco.org/accommodations](http://www.mwco.org/accommodations) or call (202) 962-3300 or (202) 962-3213 (TDD).

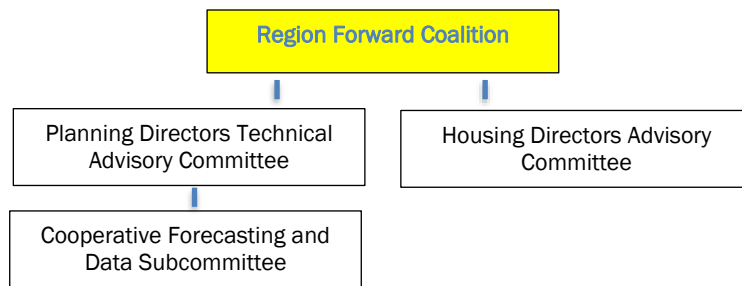


Figure 2 Region Forward and its technical sub-committees

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## 2018 THEME

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Taking a pulse of the Region Forward targets while considering how equity and inclusion can be weaved into the Region Forward vision.

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## 2018 GOALS

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This workplan covers projects to occur between January 1, 2018 and December 31, 2018. Four main goals include:

- Dedicate each meeting to one of the four Region Forward pillars: Prosperity, Sustainability, Accessibility, and Livability.
- Measure progress toward Region Forward goals by updating indicators and developing dashboard.
- Identify targets to help illuminate and support equity and inclusion.
- Highlight and generate discussion about creative and inventive policies, practices, projects that help metropolitan Washington achieve the goals laid out in Region Forward.

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## EQUITY DEFINITIONS AND CURRENT REGIONAL APPROACH

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The expansion of opportunities for betterment that are available to those communities most in need of them, creating more choices for those who have few. -American Planning Association, 1994

The concept of equity is synonymous with fairness and justice. It is helpful to think of equity as not simply a desired state of affairs or a lofty value. To be achieved and sustained, equity needs to be thought of as a structural and systemic concept. -The Annie E. Casey Foundation, 2014

Just and fair inclusion into a society in which all can participate, prosper, and reach their full potential. -Policylink, 2016

### FORTHCOMING REGIONAL PRODUCTS -

*Social Determinants of Health*, Health Officials Committee to the Council of Governments, Fall 2018

### EXISTING/PAST REGIONAL PLANS, TOOLS, COMMITTEES, EVENTS -

*Environmental Justice Toolkit*, Air and Climate Public Advisory Committee to the Metropolitan Washington Air Quality Committee, 2017

*Equity Emphasis Areas*, Transportation Planning Board, 2017

*Regional Climate and Energy Action Plan 2017-2020*, Climate, Energy, and Environment Policy

Committee to the Metropolitan Washington Air Quality Committee, 2017

- Section 7 – Protect Equity and Health

[Latino Health Disparities Conference](#), Human Services Public Safety Policy Committee, Council of Governments, 2016 and 2015

[Regional Transportation Priorities Plan](#), Transportation Planning Board, 2014

- Ongoing Strategy 5 – Ensure Accessibility for Persons with Disabilities, Low Incomes, and Limited English Proficiency

[Equity Caucus](#), Region Forward Coalition, Council of Governments, 2011

[Access for All Advisory Committee](#), Transportation Planning Board, 2001 to Present

[Title VI Compliance / Policy Statement](#), Council of Governments, 1964-Present

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**FRAMING QUESTIONS FOR SPEAKERS**

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- Thinking about equity, what disparities can you illuminate or play a role in your work?
- How can the Region Forward Coalition and its members influence these disparities?
- What tools, local government practices or policies can help or hinder progress toward a more inclusive and equitable region?

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**MEETING OUTLINE**

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Prosperity – January 26	Coalition Member Involvement	
<b>Topics:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• VoicesDMV</li> <li>• Economic inclusion and growth</li> <li>• 2018 Kogod Millennial Index</li> <li>• Workplan</li> </ul>	<b>Planning</b>	N/A
	<b>Local Perspective</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Candace Hollingsworth</li> <li>• Marybeth Connelly</li> <li>• Gretchen Greiner-Lott</li> </ul>

Sustainability – April 27th	Coalition Member Involvement	
<b>Topics:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Sustainability Measures</li> <li>• Planning for Resilience / District of Columbia</li> <li>• Regional Food Systems: Opportunities and Challenges</li> </ul>	<b>Planning</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Marc Elrich</li> </ul>
	<b>Local Perspective</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Marc Elrich</li> <li>• Tanya Stern</li> </ul>

Accessibility – July 27th	Coalition Member Involvement	
<b>Potential Topics:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Adaptive reuse / Office/ Retail Conversation</li> <li>• Transportation               <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Visualize 2045</li> <li>○ Long Range Plan Task Force</li> </ul> </li> <li>• Commercial construction report</li> </ul>	<b>Planning</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• John Vihstadt</li> </ul>
	<b>Local Perspective</b>	

Livability – October 26th	Coalition Member Involvement	
<b>Potential Topics:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Update on Social Determinants of Health project</li> <li>• Housing affordability / attainment</li> </ul>	<b>Planning</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Tanya Stern</li> <li>• Erran Carmel</li> <li>• Alan Imhoff</li> <li>• Lee Schoenecker</li> </ul>
	<b>Local Perspective</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Penny Gross</li> <li>• Marc Elrich</li> <li>• Erran Carmel</li> <li>• Alan Imhoff</li> </ul>

<b>RF Targets Work Session – To be determined</b>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Work session to review targets.</li> </ul>

<b>COG Board – November 14th</b>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• COG Policy Committees 2018 Accomplishments and 2019 Priorities</li> </ul>