

# COG

September 12, 2012

# media report

Click on any of the underlined words to read/watch the news item.

## Summer Derecho Storm Prompts Regional Response

The June 29 derecho storm that hit metropolitan Washington and resulted in prolonged power outages for hundreds of thousands of the region's residents prompted immediate calls from elected officials for a regional response, especially regarding 9-1-1 services outages. COG took up the issue at its July Board of Directors meeting, creating a task force to study the failures. The meeting and subsequent action was covered in several media outlets including the [Washington Examiner](#), [The Washington Post](#), ABC 7, NBC 4, CBS 9, WTOP, WAMU, several Patch sites, and others.

## Montgomery and Fairfax Counties Talk Transportation

In late July, leaders from the Montgomery County Council and Fairfax County Board of Supervisors held their first ever joint session. The topic was transportation and the meeting was prompted by impending challenges posed by the soon-to-open 495 Express Lanes in Virginia that do not extend across the border into Maryland. COG's Ron Kirby provided data and analysis to help kick-off the discussion. The meeting was covered by [The Washington Post](#), the [Washington Examiner](#), the [Montgomery Gazette](#) and was the topic of a [Region Forward](#) blog post.



## Region's Transit Future in the News

The future of the region's transit garnered attention over the summer, particularly the future of the region's bus networks. The [Washington Examiner](#) highlighted a possible [500-mile bus rapid transit network](#) operating across the region within 30 years based on a COG study. The [Examiner](#) also covered upcoming tools, such as separated lanes and traffic-signal changing technology, that will [help move buses more quickly](#) through priority corridors in the region. The [BeyondDC](#) blog and the [Frederick Gazette](#) also reported on the possibility for buses to use shoulder lanes to increase bus reliability and convenience.

**SOCIAL  
MEDIA  
UPDATE**



Several interesting topics have been covered lately over [RegionForward.org](#), including:

- COG/TPB data explains "[back-to-school](#)" increase in traffic
- The region needs better land use policies to [concentrate](#) development and [preserve agricultural land](#)
- Region Forward Coalition [debuts new proposed Activity Centers](#) and wants comments on their usage

