

## MEMORANDUM

**TO:** COG Board of Directors  
**FROM:** Chuck Bean, COG Executive Director  
**SUBJECT:** Executive Director's Report – January 2019  
**DATE:** January 2, 2019

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## POLICY BOARD & COMMITTEE UPDATES

### National Capital Region Transportation Planning Board (TPB) -

At its November meeting, the TPB received recommendations from subject matter experts on its committees regarding how the region can advance the unfunded aspirational initiatives that it adopted in the Visualize 2045 long-range plan. In December, the TPB voted on a set of actions to support implementation of these initiatives. The board also approved the Coordinated Human Service Transportation Plan, which guides funding decisions for the federal Enhanced Mobility program in the region. COG is the designated recipient of this funding, and the TPB prioritizes, selects, and implements these projects.

### Metropolitan Washington Air Quality Committee (MWAQC) -

Earlier this year, MWAQC and its subcommittees took part in a preliminary strategic assessment survey as part of an effort to enhance their operations and identify priorities for 2019 and beyond. At its December meeting, MWAQC received a presentation from its consultant on the survey results.

### Chesapeake Bay and Water Resources Policy Committee

(CBPC) – At its November meeting, the CBPC was briefed on how Virginia, Maryland, and District of Columbia Water Quality Trading Programs provide flexibility in meeting Bay cleanup goals and stormwater retention requirements. Trading is a market-based approach to improving water quality that allows sources with higher pollution control costs, like stormwater, to purchase pollution reductions from sources with lower costs, like agriculture or wastewater.

**Climate, Energy, and Environment Policy Committee (CEEPC)** - At its November meeting, CEEPC met to celebrate a decade of local, regional, and state successes toward attaining climate and energy goals. Members reviewed the committee's history and accomplishments and discussed new goals, strategies, and actions to reduce emissions of greenhouse gases for the next 10 years.

[Blog on CEEPC 10<sup>th</sup> anniversary meeting](#)

**Human Services Policy Committee (HSPC)** – At its November meeting, committee members discussed the COG Board Regional Housing Strategy and provided feedback on the needs of the sub-



**2018 ANNUAL VIDEO**  
COG leaders highlight a year full of regional achievements—Metro dedicated funding, Amazon, Year of the Anacostia, and more.

[View 'Milestone Moments in Regional Partnership'](#)

populations and at-risk groups discussed during the HSPC's 2018 sessions. Members also received a presentation on affordable housing best practices from the Housing Leaders Group of Greater Washington's guidebook.

**Region Forward Coalition (RFC)** - In November, the Region Forward Coalition held a special work session on Social Equity and Targets to begin to develop a shared understanding of social equity and consider potential social equity targets for the Region Forward Vision.

[Blog on social equity](#)

## OUTREACH & PROGRAM HIGHLIGHTS

**Cooperative purchasing** – A new Regional Health and Wellness cooperative training contract is in place for use by COG members. Water and Wastewater Treatment Chemicals cooperative awards have been made and include four regional agencies participating. Also, COG is creating a readable contract solicitation for temporary staffing.

[Health and Wellness contract](#)

**Housing needs** – On November 15, COG's Chuck Bean, Paul DesJardin, and Hilary Chapman participated at the 2018 Virginia Governor's Housing Conference in National Landing. Bean moderated a panel on linking public transit planning and housing opportunity and shared COG's recent work on the region's housing needs and Visualize 2045.

**Street Smart Fall Kickoff** – On November 8, D.C., Maryland, and Virginia officials joined together to launch the fall Street Smart campaign, which helps raise awareness about pedestrian and bicycle safety, and remind people that November is associated with an increase in the number of pedestrians injured or killed during the evening commute.

**Climate and energy outreach** – COG's Steve Walz provided technical support for the climate and energy discussions at the George Mason University training for newly elected officials in Northern Virginia. COG's Leah Boggs coordinated a regional Schools Roundtable on Energy to share information about energy efficiency-related activities at area schools, existing partnerships between local governments and school districts, and opportunities for COG to support school energy efficiency goals. COG's Maia Davis gave a presentation on regional climate work and greenhouse gas emissions to the Purcellville Town Council.



**StreetSmart**  
@COGStreetSmart



Montgomery Co Council President [@hansriemer](#) reminds drivers to never pass a car stopped at a crosswalk. Someone could be crossing.

♥ 13 10:57 AM - Nov 8, 2018

[See StreetSmart's other Tweets](#)



## **MEDIA HIGHLIGHTS**

**Why over 100K items make up the DC region's 2019 to do list** – COG Board Chairman Matt Letourneau quoted at COG Annual Meeting.

[WTOP story](#)

**Easier Metro access, more regional bike trails approved as Md. pushes back on free toll plan** – 2018 TPB Chairman Charles Allen quoted on December vote on to support Visualize 2045's unfunded aspirational initiatives.

[WTOP story](#)

**Plan offers ideas for improving Washington region's transportation** - COG Executive Director Chuck Bean quoted on alignment between Visualize 2045 and the Greater Washington Partnership's Blueprint for Regional Mobility.

[Frederick News-Post story](#)

**How can the DC area ease traffic? Task force releases suggestions** - TIME Taskforce Chair Joseph Sagal and COG Board Chairman Matthew Letourneau quoted.

[WTOP story](#)