

MEMORANDUM

TO: COG Board of Directors
FROM: Chuck Bean, COG Executive Director
SUBJECT: Executive Director's Report – October 2018
DATE: October 3, 2018

POLICY BOARD & COMMITTEE UPDATES

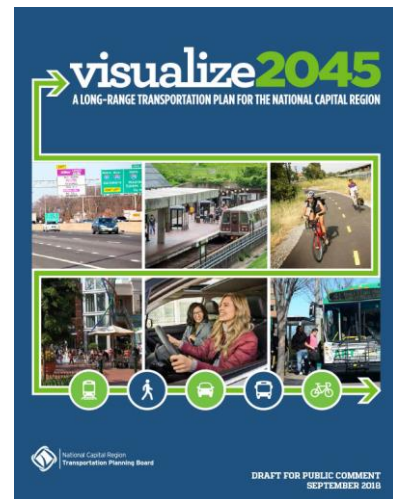
National Capital Region Transportation Planning Board (TPB) - At its September meeting, the TPB received a presentation on the draft of Visualize 2045, the new, federally mandated, long-range transportation plan for the region. The presentation included an overview of regionally-significant projects proposed to be added to the plan, an analysis of the plan's projected performance, and a review of seven aspirational initiatives that the board has identified to address the region's biggest transportation challenges.

Metropolitan Washington Air Quality Committee (MWAQC) and Climate, Energy, and Environment Policy Committee (CEEPC) - In September, MWAQC and CEEPC held a joint meeting to learn about the federal Affordable Clean Energy and Safer Affordable Fuel Efficient proposed rules. The committees plan to submit comment letters to the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA).

Chesapeake Bay and Water Resources Policy Committee (CBPC) - At the 8th Annual CBPC Bay & Water Quality Forum in September, there was great member engagement with EPA and the states as they discussed the third round of Watershed Implementation Plans in 2019. The CBPC advocated for specific local engagement in the plan development. Members also discussed pollution entering the Bay through the Conowingo Dam in the lower Susquehanna River and its impact on water quality progress.

Human Services Policy Committee (HSPC) - At its September meeting, HSPC focused on how public safety addresses behavioral health challenges and programs that have been effective in providing successful interventions in the region.

National Capital Region Emergency Preparedness Council (EPC) - In September, the EPC focused on increasing collaboration and coordination with other COG committees, like the emergency managers and public information officers, as part of an effort to help prepare the public for any widespread event where citizens may need to be self-sufficient while waiting for first responders to arrive.



VISUALIZE 2045

The TPB's new plan was the focus of its September board meeting. The plan is open for public comment through October 7. The TPB will vote on the plan on October 17.

[Visit the plan website](#)

OUTREACH & PROGRAM HIGHLIGHTS

Housing needs – At the September 17 meeting of the Housing Leaders Group of Greater Washington, Chuck Bean discussed the COG Board request for staff to work with area housing and planning directors to conduct additional research on the region’s housing needs. COG’s Paul DesJardin briefed the Council of Economic Development Directors of the Board of Trade on the same topic on September 25.

Visualize 2045 – As part of its continued public outreach on the plan, the TPB hosted three open houses in September in Germantown, MD, Fairfax, VA, and Washington, DC.

AMPO conference – In September, COG transportation planning staff attended the annual conference of the Association of Metropolitan Planning Organizations and gave presentations on communications and the TPB’s Long-Range Plan Task Force. In addition, COG’s Ron Milone received AMPO’s Ronald F. Kirby National Award for Outstanding Individual Leadership, which is named after COG’s former transportation planning director.

Washington Metrorail Safety Commission – The WMSC authorized, and staff submitted, its formal application to assume oversight of the Metrorail system from the federal government. COG has been supporting area jurisdictions and the Federal Transit Administration in establishing the WMSC.

Car Free Day – COG’s Commuter Connections promoted Car Free Day, an annual event that encourages drivers to find more environmentally and health-friendly ways to travel. This year’s event was celebrated on Friday, September 21 and Saturday, September 22.

Bus Transformation Project – On September 12, Metro held a summit to launch a new regional effort to develop a forward-thinking strategy and roadmap for Metrobus. COG staff, including Chuck Bean, are participating in key committees as stakeholders.

Food Summit – On September 24 and 25, COG staff participated in the Chesapeake Food Summit, a gathering of the region’s food system leaders, including policymakers, philanthropists, investors, farmers, watermen, chefs, food business leaders, and health professionals. Staff released a preview of COG’s *What Our Region Grows* report at the event.

COG Priorities/Executive Director Outreach - Chuck Bean gave a presentation to the Manassas Park City Council on September 18. Bean also spoke about COG priorities at a Leadership Greater Washington meeting on September 6 and attended the NARC Executive Directors Conference in Cleveland, OH at the end of the month.



COG’s Ron Milone (center) receives AMPO’s Ronald F. Kirby National Award for Outstanding Individual Leadership.

MEDIA HIGHLIGHTS

Jobs coming to DC, but more housing needed

– COG Board’s Matt Letourneau, John Foust, Sharon Bulova, and Roger Berliner quoted in story on COG analysis of region’s housing needs.

[WTOP story](#)

Crime down across DC metro region for the 5th year in a row – COG’s Police Chiefs Committee Chairman Ron Pavlik quoted.

[WTOP story](#)

Virginia, Maryland, D.C. leaders talk collaboration on transportation, housing issues – COG’s Chuck Bean quoted.

[Inside NoVa story](#)

In planning for region’s transportation future, a look at the practical and beyond – COG’s Kanti Srikanth quoted.

[Washington Post story](#)

COG
@MWCOG

COG Transportation Director Kanti Srikanth talks about how the @NatCapRegTPB and its Visualize 2045 plan (#Viz2045) are helping officials look ahead and shape a better transportation future for the #DMV.
wapo.st/2O198HN?tid=ss...

12:30 PM - Sep 25, 2018

In planning for region’s transportation future, a look at th...
Washington area officials try to swing big with “aspirational initiatives.” But where will the conversation go?
washingtonpost.com

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