



Metropolitan Washington Council of Governments

CAPITAL REGION CONNECTIONS



Chesapeake Bay Policy Committee Tours Blue Plains Plant

News about the Council of Governments and our Members

September 25, 2014

Connect With Us



Heart of COG



Tim Schaible of the NCR Homeland Security Program Management Office at COG was recognized for helping leaders identify and prioritize emergency preparedness gaps and execute our Homeland Security Strategic Plan. [Read more.](#)

Calendar

- [Special Joint Meeting of MWAQC and CEPC](#)
October 2, 2014
- [Toast To Tap: Celebrating 40 Years of Safe Drinking Water](#)
October 2, 2014
- [2014 COG Annual Meeting](#)
December 10, 2014
- [More Events/Meetings](#)

ICYMI on Twitter

The Council of Governments and our members and partners are active participants on social media. Here's a sampling of some tweets--in case you missed it--to show the wide array of topics covered on Twitter.

Captain S. Fard [@sfardAPD](#)

Attending regional Police Chief meeting at [@RegionForward](#) Great regional collaboration to protect & serve. [@AlexandriaVAPD](#) [@DepChiefHuchler](#)

Jim Dinegar [@BoardofTradeJim](#)

[@Rramsey](#) and [@TedLeonsis](#) made strong, passionate case to electeds [@RegionForward](#) <http://bit.ly/1yrgvsD>

About COG

The Council of Governments is an independent, nonprofit association where area leaders address regional issues affecting 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

Area Officials Review Long-Range Plan's Future Impact, Funding, and New Project Proposals

At its September meeting, the National Capital Region Transportation Planning Board (TPB) focused on the new update of the region's long-range transportation plan, which includes two new analyses of the overall plan's funding and its impact on future travel, the environment, and access to jobs. The TPB also reviewed major projects proposed as additions and revisions to the Constrained Long-Range Transportation Plan update next month. The meeting and analyses were covered by NBC4, WTOP, WAMU, and DCist. Public comment on the plan is open until October 11. [Read more.](#)



Chesapeake Bay and Water Resources Policy Committee Visits Blue Plains Advanced Wastewater Treatment Plant

Members of the CBPC toured Blue Plains in Southwest Washington, DC to see the day to day operations of the world's most advanced wastewater treatment plant as well as the soon to open digesters, which will power 1/3rd of the facility. CBPC members and Chair Penny Gross also heard from DCWater General Manager George Hawkins and Alexandria Renew Enterprise's Karen Pallasch on the positive environmental and economic impact that these "resource recovery facilities" provide to the region. [Read more.](#)



Patrick Wojahn, Kanti Srikanth Discuss Transportation Planning on NewsTalk

College Park Councilmember Patrick Wojahn, who also serves as Transportation Planning Board Chair, and COG Transportation Planning Director Kanti Srikanth were guests on News Channel 8's NewsTalk with Bruce DePuyt. They discussed the new update of the region's long-range plan and transportation forecasts that show people driving less and taking transit, carpooling, and walking and biking more in the future. [Watch the video.](#)





Officials Focus on Communications Infrastructure

At its September meeting, the COG Board of Directors endorsed a study to dramatically expand the functionality of the region's 9-1-1 emergency call centers to allow them to receive emergency text messages and eventually to handle video and location information. The Board also was briefed on the overall system of interoperable emergency communications in the region by officials, including Wanda Gibson, Chairman of COG's Chief Information Officers Committee and Chief Technology Officer for Fairfax County. [Read more.](#)






Drug Take Back Day Keeps Region's Homes and Water Safe and Healthy



Regional police chiefs, like US Capitol Police Chief Kim Dine, and water utility officials in partnership with COG and the Interstate Commission on the Potomac River Basin are encouraging area residents to dispose of unused or expired medication on National Prescription Drug Take Back Day this Saturday, September 27 to prevent the drugs from being abused, stolen, or accidentally ingested and protect the region's waterways. [Read more.](#)   



Toast To Tap

On Thursday, October 2, the region's water utilities will celebrate 40 years of the Safe Drinking Water Act with music, activities and the ever-popular "water bar" tended by regional leaders. Come join them in the new City Center DC Park on I Street NW between 10th and 11th Streets for hydrated fun! [Read more.](#)   



Election Officials Promote Voter Registration

In recognition of National Voter Registration Week, area election officials working with COG kicked off a week-long effort today to inform voters about how to register to vote and confirm the accuracy of their voter registration. Officials and volunteers have been conducting voter registration drives at public libraries, community centers, government agency offices, and public events. [Read more.](#) 