

**METROPOLITAN WASHINGTON COUNCIL OF GOVERNMENTS
777 North Capitol Street, N.E.
Washington, D.C. 20002-4290**

**MINUTES
Board of Directors' Meeting
COG Board Room**

October 13, 2010

BOARD MEMBERS, ALTERNATES AND PARTICIPANTS PRESENT AND NOT PRESENT

***SEE ATTACHED CHART FOR ATTENDANCE**

STAFF

**David J. Robertson, Executive Director
Sharon Pandak, General Counsel
Nicole Hange, Clerk to the Board**

1. CALL TO ORDER AND PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Chairman Brown called the meeting to order at 12:10 p.m.

2. CHAIRMAN'S ANNOUNCEMENTS

Chairman Brown asked members to mark their calendar for COG's Annual Meeting on December 8 at the Grand Hyatt Washington.

3. EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S REPORT

Mr. Robertson stated that he and City of Fairfax Council Member Jeffrey Greenfield met with the U.S. Department of Agriculture on the department's food and nutrition program and how COG might assist with a regional effort.

Mr. Robertson continues to monitor and attend meetings of the 2030 Group concerning its findings and recommendations on regional governance.

City of Fairfax Council Member Dan Drummond met with Mr. Robertson to discuss COG activities on economic development and related issues.

Mr. Robertson attended and spoke at the recent Potomac Watershed Trash summit. Several members noted their intent to introduce plastic bag legislation during the 2011 legislative sessions. Staff will monitor and coordinate efforts as appropriate.

Mr. Robertson stated that the launch of COG's *Region Forward* will occur later this fall. More information will follow.

The joint review of WMATA governance by COG and the Board of Trade is expected to conclude with a report in late November. The Board will receive a formal briefing on the report and its recommendations in January 2011.

Several Board members stated that they have received a questionnaire from the 2030 Group regarding its report. Vice Chairman Frank Principi suggested that COG send one letter of comment on behalf of the Board, rather than members submitting individual letters. Staff will draft a letter for review by the Board and transmittal to the 2030 Group.

4. AMENDMENTS TO THE AGENDA

There were no amendments to the agenda.

5. APPROVAL OF SEPTEMBER 8 MINUTES

The minutes of the September 8 meeting were unanimously approved and adopted.

6. CONSENT AGENDA

Supplemental Documents: R53-10 through R59-10.

A. RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING COG TO ISSUE A CONTRACT TO COMPLETE A DC HSEMA COMMUNITY EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT PLAN

The Board adopted Resolution R53-10, authorizing the Executive Director, or his designee to receive and expend up to \$310,000 to develop a Community Emergency Management Plan that includes neighborhood preparedness plans. Funding for this effort will be provided through a Subgrant from the State Administrative Agent (SAA). No COG matching funds are required.

B. APPOINTMENT OF 2011 NOMINATING COMMITTEE

The Board Chairman appointed several COG members to serve on the 2011 Nominating Committee. The Committee will recommend: 1) a slate of corporate officers for action by the General Membership, at its Annual Meeting December 8, 2010; and 2) a slate of Board of Directors officers for action by the Board at its January 12, 2011 meeting.

C. APPOINTMENT OF 2011 LEGISLATIVE TASK FORCE

The Board Chairman appointed several COG members to serve on the 2011 Legislative Task Force. The Task Force will review staff and committee recommendations for COG's 2011 legislative priorities; an important tool to showcase the region's priorities as officials prepare for their 2011 legislative sessions. The COG Board will take action on the recommendations at its November 10 meeting. Upon adoption, the recommendations will then become part of COG's outreach activities and communication products in early 2011.

D. RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING COG TO SUBMIT A GRANT APPLICATION TO THE U.S. EPA TO IMPLEMENT WATER SECURITY PROJECTS IN THE NATIONAL CAPITAL REGION

The Board adopted Resolution R56-10, authorizing the Executive Director or his designee, to submit a grant application and receive and expend grant funds in an amount not to exceed \$515,266 from the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency for the purpose of implementing water security projects in the National Capital Region. The required 45 percent matching funds will be provided through cash contributions from affiliated COG utilities and from in-kind services of contractors providing water security monitoring and risk communication services to COG, as approved by the U.S. EPA. No COG matching funds are required.

E. RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING COG TO ENTER INTO A CONTRACT WITH A CONSULTING FIRM TO PROVIDE HEALTH AND MEDICAL PLANNING SUPPORT IN THE NATIONAL CAPITAL REGION

The Board adopted Resolution R57-10, authorizing the Executive Director, or his designee, to enter into a contract with a consulting firm to provide the health and medical planning support as requested by the Health and Medical Regional Planning Group and approved by the Chief Administrative Officers and the Senior Policy Group. The State Administrative Agent for the National Capital Region has provided COG with \$3,000,000 in Urban Area Security Initiative funding to support this initiative. No COG matching funds are required.

F. RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING COG TO RECEIVE AND EXPEND FUNDING FROM THE SAA TO PROVIDE ENHANCED EMERGENCY PREPAREDNESS IN THE REGION

The Board adopted Resolution R58-10, authorizing the Executive Director, or his designee, to receive and expend funding in an amount not to exceed \$960,117. Funding will be used to provide Executive, Professional, and Technical Secretariat Support to the Emergency Preparedness Council, the Chief Administrative Officers, the Senior Policy Group, Regional Emergency Support Functions, Regional Program Working Groups, State Administrative Agent, Office of National Capital Region Coordination, and others and to enhance emergency preparedness in the National Capital Region. COG is being provided a Subgrant from the State Administrative Agent (SAA) to fund this work. No COG matching funds are required.

G. RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING COG TO APPLY FOR AND ADMINISTER FUNDING FOR A REGIONAL BIKE-SHARING PROJECT FROM THE HEALTHY EATING ACTIVE LIVING (HEAL) GRANT PROGRAM ADMINISTERED BY KAISER PERMANENTE

On August 23, TPB staff submitted a proposal for \$12.1 million in competitive grant funds for a regional bike-sharing and bicycle access improvements package under the USDOT's "TIGER II" program. In support of expanding bike-share regionally, Kaiser Permanente invited TPB staff on September 27 to submit a grant for its noncompetitive Healthy Eating, Active Living (HEAL) grant program by the deadline of October 8, 2010. The Board adopted Resolution R59-10 authorizing the Executive Director, or his designee, to apply for and administer up to \$2 million from Kaiser Permanente for regional expansion of a bike-sharing program, by passing the grant money to local jurisdictions for bike-sharing capital projects based on a yearly project solicitation process. This will advance the goal of the "TIGER II" proposal approved by COG and TPB by building on the regional coordination achieved through that process to expand bike-sharing in the region.

ACTION: Upon motion made, and seconded, Resolutions R53-10 through R59-10 were unanimously approved and adopted.

7. BRIEFING ON PROPOSED CUTS TO DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE CONTRACT SPENDING

The Department of Defense Secretary Robert Gates recently announced a proposal to reduce federal military contract spending by 10 percent per year for three years. The proposal will likely have considerable economic impact as federal contractors are among National Capital Region's largest private employers, providing an estimated \$35 billion worth of defense contracting services per year. The Board was briefed on the potential economic effects of the proposed cuts and strategies being employed by the private sector to minimize disruption to the workforce.

Congressman Gerry Connolly spoke to the tremendous impact such cuts would have on the region's economy, specifically small, minority and veteran owned businesses. To-date, a comprehensive analysis detailing the cost effectiveness of the proposed insourcing, taking into consideration the negative impacts on regional economies, has not been made available. Nor has a written analysis, requested by Mr. Connolly, detailing the protections that will be instituted for small and minority owned businesses. The impact on small contractors may be acute: 41 National Capital Region contractors with less than \$10 million in annual revenue receive 90-100% of their income from the Professional, Administrative, and Management Support services contracts that are targeted for cuts.

John McClain, Deputy Director of George Mason's Center for Regional Analysis stated that federal procurement has been the strength of the region's economy with the Department of Defense representing approximately 9 percent of that base. While a relatively small percentage, the economic impacts could be significant. Absent comprehensive analysis by DoD, the worst case scenario is that the region will lose \$9.5 billion or 66,000 jobs; some can be absorbed but many will not. Mr. McClain added that there are trade-offs to insourcing and that across the board cuts are not wise; a diversified portfolio of workers is key to economic stability.

Doug Koelemay, Vice President for Community Relations at SAIC stated that while the proposed cuts will certainly have an impact on the private sector, the cuts were not a surprise and many organizations like SAIC have been diversifying their skill sets for some time. He stated that there are significant growth opportunities in the other sectors like cyber security, health systems, climate change and local and state government. Mr. Koelemay added that it will be important for companies like his to know exactly which types of jobs will be insourced, how much Congressional oversight there will be, and how private companies can improve efficiencies to maintain contract awards.

Fairfax County Supervisor Penny Gross asked if the entire NCR Congressional Delegation was urging written analysis from Secretary Gates. Mr. Connolly responded that currently it is just members from Virginia. Vice Chairman Andrea Harrison implored her colleagues from Maryland to reach out to their Congressional leaders to support such analysis because the economic impact to the region, not just Virginia, will be significant.

Montgomery County Council Member Roger Berliner made a motion for the COG Board to send a letter to the Secretary of Defense stating its concern over the haste and lack of analysis with which the proposed cuts were made.

Fairfax County Board Chairman Sharon Bulova suggested that the letter also make reference to the claim that the cuts will significantly reduce costs; a statement that has not been qualified.

Chairman Brown asked what protections are in place for small and minority owned businesses. Mr. Connolly responded that currently there are none, which conflicts with the Administration's expressed goal to increasing minority owned businesses.

ACTION: Upon motion made, and seconded, the Board approved the transmittal of a letter to Secretary Gates regarding the proposed DoD efficiency cuts.

8. RECOMMENDATIONS FOR THE CHESAPEAKE BAY DRAFT TMDL AND WATERSHED IMPLEMENTATION PLANS

Supplemental Documents: Resolution R60-10

Policy Statement on the Draft Chesapeake Bay TMDL and WIPs

On September 24, 2010, EPA issued draft pollution caps (the "Chesapeake Bay Draft TMDL") for the entire 64,000 square mile Chesapeake Bay watershed. This TMDL sets targets for nutrient and sediment loads that EPA has determined are necessary to achieve water quality standards. These loads come mainly from agriculture, wastewater treatment and urban stormwater. In early September, the six states in the Bay watershed and the District of Columbia submitted their draft Watershed Implementation Plans (WIPs) describing how they intend to reduce their respective loads to meet the EPA-prescribed target loads. EPA has concluded that "none of the draft WIPs provided full assurance" that the target loads will be achieved "in all respects." The TMDL and the companion WIPs have significant implications for all parties responsible for controlling loads, including local governments.

Cathy Drzyzgula, City of Gaithersburg Council Member and Chair of COG's Chesapeake Bay and Water Resources Policy Committee, provided highlights of the TMDL and the WIPs, including the potential repercussions for the COG region.

The TMDLs/WIPs will set up limits for pollution discharge by wastewater plants and stormwater conveyance systems that will be enshrined in federal-state regulatory permits. There will likely also be more stringent permit requirements which are very expensive and whose costs will likely be born by local government. The process will also have major implications for future growth and development efforts in the region and how equal the constraints are between this region and others in the Bay watershed.

After a special session on Oct. 4, the Bay Policy Committee recommended the adoption of a policy framework to guide the development of more detailed comments. The CBPC will use this framework, which is grounded in the committee's adopted policy that restoration policy be holistic, equitable, be based on sound science and include input from local and state government, in developing detailed comments by the Nov. 8 deadline.

COG's goal in commenting on this process is to improve on what has been proposed and to hopefully avoid being locked into having to pursue a particularly costly or inefficient type of reduction effort.

ACTION: Upon motion made, and seconded, Resolution R60-10 was unanimously approved and adopted.

9. BRIEFING ON THE CAPITAL AREA FORECLOSURE NETWORK (CAFN) REPORT

Supplemental Documents: Resolution R61-10

Rising Foreclosures Overwhelm Washington Area Counseling Organizations

Addressing the region's housing needs, including slowing the pace of foreclosure rates, was identified as a priority task in COG's FY 2011 Work Program and Budget and in COG's 2010 Policy Focus and Priorities. In April, COG helped launch the Capital Area Foreclosure Network (CAFN), an innovative new partnership between COG and the Nonprofit Roundtable of Greater Washington. CAFN commissioned new research by the Urban Institute to document the scope and impact of the region's foreclosure crisis, with a particular emphasis on housing counseling.

Peter Tatian, Senior Research Associate at the Urban Institute briefed the Board on the findings of the research. Chuck Bean, Executive Director of the Nonprofit Roundtable highlighted the steps CAFN has taken to help front-line organizations.

Mr. Tatian stated that the report *“Rising Foreclosures Overwhelm Washington Area Counseling Organizations”* shows that housing counselors were able to offer foreclosure prevention counseling to only 20,000 clients in 2009 while more than 148,000 mortgages in the region were delinquent or in foreclosure. The report also indicates that the caseloads of foreclosure prevention organizations doubled between 2007 and 2009, overwhelming the region’s approximately 130 full-time nonprofit foreclosure prevention staffers. Mr. Tatian stated that what is clear is the need for increased and diversified funding to support housing counseling.

Mr. Bean discussed efforts to date to assist housing counseling agencies including the launch of bus ads in Maryland, establishment of a regional funding pool to increase the capacity of housing counseling agencies, and the designation of the week of October 18th as “Regional Counselor Appreciation Week”. Mr. Bean stated that local governments are instrumental in getting the word out to struggling residents about the resources available to them as well as providing additional funding sources to the counseling agencies. He urged each jurisdiction to recognize the important work of local counselors by recognizing them the week of October 18.

ACTION: Upon motion made, and seconded, Resolution R61-10 was unanimously approved and adopted.

10. HOMELAND SECURITY: 2010 PROGRESS REPORT

Supplemental Documents: NCR 2010 Strategic Plan

Last month, the National Capital Region Emergency Preparedness Council (EPC) adopted updated versions of the COG Regional Emergency Coordination Plan as well as the NCR Homeland Security Strategic Plan. Vice Chairman Frank Principi, Chair of the Emergency Preparedness Council, provided a summary of the updated National Capital Region Strategic Plan. Beth Brown of the Virginia Department of Emergency Management provided highlights of the updated Regional Emergency Coordination Plan.

The Strategic Plan identifies the greatest needs to enhance readiness and guides investments in equipment, training and overall management that have resulted in our region receiving high grades from the U.S. Department of Homeland Security in preparedness planning. The original Strategic Plan was adopted in 2006. Several hundred private, public and nonprofit representatives ranging from front-line responders to elected leaders participated in updating the 2010 Strategic Plan.

The Strategic Plan sets regional priorities for a three to five year period and will be used to guide the Region’s investments over the life of the plan. Its mission is to: Ensure interoperable communications capabilities; Enhance information sharing and situational awareness; Enhance critical infrastructure protection, and Ensure development and maintenance of regional core capabilities.

The region has accomplished several notable activities as a result of strategic planning, including: A secure data sharing platform for 70 law enforcement agencies in the region; Regional text alert systems that allows emergency information to be sent to anyone with a mobile phone who signs up for the alerts; and Equipment that allows responders to rescue large numbers of people within a Metro tunnel and an increased capacity of regional hospital to handle a surge of patients requiring urgent care.

One of our important tasks going forward is to communicate the value of this Strategic Plan to the public and encourage the public to become better prepared for emergencies. Over the next few weeks, COG’s Office of Public Affairs will reach out to members and residents with information about the Strategic Plan.

Ms. Brown stated that the Regional Emergency Coordination Plan serves as a guide for coordination among local, state, federal, private sector and other partners in the region in preparing for, responding to and recovering from emergencies in the region. It is a living document which allows it to be updated regularly to include the most current information; and is easily accessible on line. The most important feature is the first hour checklist. This list will assist Senior Policy Group members, Chief Administrative Officers, and Emergency Managers in the National Capital Region to assess what has happened during a regional disaster (or the threat of a disaster). It can be used to guide multi-jurisdictional discussions and conference calls by helping to quickly review the status of initial actions that may already be in place and then determining additional protective actions and coordinated decisions that may be necessary.

ACTION: Upon motion made, and seconded, Resolution R62-10 was unanimously approved and adopted. Mr. Baroukh abstained.

11. APPROVAL OF FY 2011 GENERAL RESERVE EXPENDITURE FOR CAPITAL REPAIR/REPLACEMENT

Supplemental Documents: Capital Repair/Replacement Memo
Resolution R63-10

COG has occupied its current building for 20 years, during which time, little or no significant repair was required. We are now experiencing a need to fund several costly capital repair and replacement actions to maintain office space, support COG members, and provide a safe work environment for staff, members and guests.

Staff has prepared a multi-year, FY 2011 through FY 2016 Capital Repair/Replacement Plan that identifies several items and estimated costs. Because of the urgency of audiovisual replacement in the Board Room and fire safety systems in COG offices and sublease space, Mr. Robertson asked the Board to approve a FY 2011 General Reserve reprogramming and expenditure not to exceed \$200,000 to support audiovisual system replacement and the installation of additional fire safety equipment. Staff will also recommend, at its January 2011 meeting, a long-term policy to support additional infrastructure repair and replacement expense as part of a Capital Repair/Replacement Plan that will be incorporated annually into the Fiscal Year Work Program and Budget.

ACTION: Upon motion made, and seconded, Resolution R63-10 was unanimously approved and adopted.

THE NEXT BOARD MEETING WILL BE ON WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 10, 2010.

**ATTENDANCE: OCTOBER 13, 2010
BOARD OF DIRECTORS/ALTERNATES 2010**

<u>Jurisdiction</u>	<u>Member</u>	<u>Y/N</u>	<u>Alternate</u>	<u>Y/N</u>
District of Columbia				
Executive	Hon. Adrian Fenty	N		
	Mr. Neil Albert	N		
Council	Hon. Vincent Gray	N	Hon. Michael Brown	Y
	Hon. Kwame Brown	Y	Hon. Phil Mendelson	Y
Maryland				
Bowie	Hon. G. Frederick Robinson	N	Geraldine Valentino-Smith	N
College Park	Hon. Andrew Fellows	N	Hon. Robert Catlin	Y
City of Frederick	Hon. Randall McClement	N	Karen Young	N
Frederick County	Hon. David Gray	Y	Hon. Jan Gardner	N
Gaithersburg	Hon. Sidney Katz	N	Hon. Cathy Drzyzgula	Y
Greenbelt	Hon. Judith "J" F. Davis	Y	Hon. Emmett Jordan	N
Montgomery County				
Executive	Hon. Isiah Leggett	N	Mr. Tim Firestine	N
Council	Hon. Roger Berliner	Y		
	Hon. Michael Knapp	Y		
Prince George's County				
Executive	Hon. Jack B. Johnson	N	Ralph Moultrie	N
Council	Hon. Camille Exum	N	Hon. Tom Dernoga	N
	Hon. Andrea Harrison	Y		
Rockville	Hon. John Britton	Y		
Takoma Park	Hon. Bruce Williams	Y	Hon. Terry Seamens	N
Maryland General Assembly	Hon. Benjamin Barnes	N		
Virginia				
Alexandria	Hon. William Eulle	N	Hon. Redella Pepper	Y
Arlington County	Hon. Walter Tejada	Y	Hon. Jay Fisette	N
City of Fairfax	Hon. Dan Drummond	Y	Hon. Jeffrey Greenfield	N
Fairfax County	Hon. Sharon Bulova	Y	Hon. Catherine Hudgins	N
	Hon. Penelope A. Gross	Y	Hon. Michael Frey	N
	Hon. John Foust	Y	Hon. Patrick Herrity	N
Falls Church	Hon. Nader Baroukh	Y	Hon. David Snyder	N
Loudoun County	Hon. Andrea McGimsey	N		
Manassas	Hon. Sheryl Bass	Y		
Manassas Park	Hon. Frank Jones	N	Hon. Suhas Naddoni	N
Prince William County	Hon. Wally Covington III	Y		
	Hon. Frank Principi	Y		
Virginia General Assembly	Hon. James M. Scott	Y		