



Local governments working together for a better metropolitan region

Chesapeake Bay and Water Resources Policy Committee

Date: Nov. 20, 2009

Time: 10:00 a.m. – 12 noon*

Place: Third Floor Board Room

777 North Capitol Street, NE

Washington, DC 20002

- District of Columbia
Bladensburg*
Bowie
College Park
Frederick
Frederick County
Gaithersburg
Greenbelt
Montgomery County
Prince George's County
Rockville
Takoma Park
Alexandria
Arlington County
Fairfax
Fairfax County
Falls Church
Loudoun County
Manassas
Manassas Park
Prince William County

*Lunch will be available for committee members and alternates after the meeting.

Meeting Agenda

10:00 1. Introductions and AnnouncementsHon. Cathy Drzyzgula, Chair
City of Gaithersburg

10:05 2. Approval of Meeting Summary for Sept. 18, 2009.....Chair Drzyzgula

Recommended action: Approve DRAFT Meeting Summary (Att. 2).

10:10 3. Local Governments' Role in the Bay ProgramJ. Charles Fox
EPA Senior Adviser

Mr. Fox, Senior Adviser to the EPA Administrator on the Chesapeake Bay and Anacostia River restoration efforts, will address the role of local governments in the Bay Program's TMDL regulatory process and under the Obama administration's Executive Order on Bay restoration. He will discuss EPA's expectations for the content of watershed implementation plans and the consequences for state and local government of failing to meet the plan's objectives.

Recommended Action: Provide Mr. Fox with local government input (see Att. 3) on these issues.

10:55 4. Review of COG's Legislative PrioritiesNicole Hange, COG staff

State Legislative Update.....Steve Bieber, COG staff

Ms. Hange, COG's policy coordinator, will review the new format of COG's 2010 legislative priorities (Att. 4), which were approved by the COG Board on Nov. 12. She also will discuss plans for COG legislative outreach efforts. Mr. Bieber will review the specific water-related priorities in COG's policy platform and provide a brief update on the prospects for state legislation addressing Bay issues in the 2010 state legislative sessions.

Recommended Action: Receive report.

11:10 5. **Recommendation on Federal Bay Legislation**..... Steve Bieber, COG staff

Maryland Sen. Ben Cardin has introduced legislation (*Att. 5a*) that seeks to accelerate Bay restoration efforts in reauthorizing Section 117 of the Clean Water Act. The "Chesapeake Clean Water and Ecosystem Restoration Act of 2009" would codify the current TMDL development process in federal statute and give EPA additional enforcement authority. After hearing from Sen. Cardin at its Oct. 14 meeting, the COG Board directed that the Cardin bill be addressed as past of COG's 2010 legislative policy. Mr. Bieber will review a staff summary of the bill's key provisions (*Att. 5b*) and comments from COG's Water Resources Technical Committee (WRTC).

Recommended Action: Direct staff to work for specified changes in the bill; determine whether a recommendation to the COG Board on policy toward the bill is appropriate at this point.

11:35 6. **Review of EPA's Draft Strategy for Bay Restoration** Tanya Spano, COG staff

EPA and other federal agencies have issued a draft strategy (*Att. 6*) for accelerating efforts to clean up the Bay. The report was produced in response to President Obama's Executive Order on Chesapeake Bay restoration and follows up on a series of earlier reports by the agencies. The report is open to formal public comment through Jan. 8, 2010. Ms. Spano will note highlights from the report and discuss the WRTC's plans for providing the committee with technical comments on this report.

Recommended action: Authorize CBPC Executive Committee members to work with staff and coordinate, as appropriate, with other COG committees to produce comments on the draft report.

11:45 7. **Review of Greater Washington 2050 Report**..... Paul DesJardin, Director of Community Planning and Services

Mr. DesJardin will review the public comment draft (*Att. 7*) of the Greater Washington 2050 Coalition's report, describing its vision for the future of the Washington metropolitan region. The 64-page report outlines a series of goals, targets and indicators designed to mark progress toward the overall vision for the region. The comment deadline is November 30, ahead of anticipated action by the COG Board in January 2010.

Recommended action: Receive report and provide comments as appropriate.

11:55 8. **New Business** Members

12:00 9. **Adjourn**

(The next meeting is scheduled for Friday, Jan. 15, 2010, 10 a.m. - 12 noon.)

Enclosures/Handouts:

- Item 2 DRAFT meeting summary of Sept. 18, 2009
- Item 3 Fox questions - member background
- Item 4 "Policies for a New Era," COG's 2010 state legislative priorities
- Item 5a "Chesapeake Clean Water and Ecosystem Restoration Act of 2009"
- Item 5b COG staff summary of S. 1816
- Item 6 Executive summary of "Draft Strategy for Protecting and Restoring the Chesapeake Bay," a report in response to Executive Order 13508; full report available at:
<http://executiveorder.chesapeakebay.net/>
- Item 7 "Region Forward," draft for public comment