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## COG BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING

**DATE:** Wednesday, October 11, 2006

**TIME:** 12:00 Noon

**PLACE:** COG Board Room

**PLEASE NOTE:** Chair Fisetto will begin the meeting promptly at Noon.  
Lunch for members and alternates will be available at 11:30 a.m.

### AGENDA

1. **CALL TO ORDER AND PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE**  
(12:00 Noon)  
  
Chair Jay Fisetto  
Board Member, Arlington County
2. **APPROVAL OF MINUTES OF SEPTEMBER 13, 2006**  
(12:00 – 12:05 p.m.)
3. **ANNOUNCEMENTS**  
(12:05 – 12:15 p.m.)  
  
Chair Fisetto
  - A) Appointment of 2007 Nominating Committee
  - B) Annual Meeting
  - C) Green Building Conference Report
  - D) Executive Director's Report
    - a. Outreach
    - b. Letters Sent/Received
    - c. Legislative Report Update
4. **AMENDMENTS TO AGENDA**  
(12:15 – 12:20 p.m.)
5. **ADOPTION OF CONSENT AGENDA ITEMS**  
(12:20 – 12:25 p.m.)

**RECOMMENDED ACTION:** Adopt Consent Agenda Items 13.A., 13.B., 13.C., 13.D., 13.E. & 13.F.

**6. APPROVAL OF ROUND 7.0a COOPERATIVE FORECASTS  
(12:25 – 12:40 p.m.)**

**Paul DesJardin  
Chief of Housing and Planning, COG**

Since 1975, the COG Board of Directors has maintained the Cooperative Forecasting Program for preparing official forecasts of employment population, and household growth for the COG member jurisdictions. In May, the Metropolitan Development Policy Committee (MDPC) approved a request from the District of Columbia Office of Planning to modify the Round 7.0 Cooperative Forecasts to reflect land use changes associated with the recently-approved Washington Nationals stadium and related transportation improvements. Consistent with COG policy, the Board will be asked to approve the new Round 7.0a Cooperative Forecasts.

**RECOMMENDED ACTION: Adopt Resolution R45-06.**

**7. REPORT AND RECOMMENDED NEXT STEPS ON ENVISION GREATER WASHINGTON  
(12:40 – 1:00 p.m.)**

David Robertson  
Executive Director

The COG Board of Directors approved participation, along with the Greater Washington Board of Trade and the Community Foundation of the National Capital Area, in a three-month exploratory phase to consider launching a regional visioning campaign (Resolution R25-06). The Envision Greater Washington organizing committee completed its report in July, which was the focus of discussion at the COG retreat in late July. Following the retreat, COG and other co-conveners established working groups to further examine and refine next steps on this proposed initiative. Staff will brief the Board on outcomes to date and recommended next steps.

**RECOMMENDED ACTION: Receive briefing and approve next steps.**

**8. BRIEFING ON “INTERSEX FISH” IN THE POTOMAC RIVER  
(1:00 – 1:15 p.m.)**

**John R. Lovell  
Chairman  
Chesapeake Bay and Water Resources Policy Committee**

**Suzanne Rudzinski  
Deputy Director, Office of Science and Technology  
US Environmental Protection Agency**

**Alan Roberson  
Director, Security and Regulatory Affairs  
American Water Works Association**

The Chesapeake Bay and Water Resources Policy Committee recently reviewed information regarding “intersex fish” in the Potomac River, i.e., fish with reproductive system problems. The exact cause of the problem in the Potomac and elsewhere is under study by the US Geological Survey. Water and wastewater utility associations have been conducting research to assess the compounds that may be causing these problems, the effectiveness of treatment technologies and also looking into the feasibility of “drug take back” programs. Representatives of the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency and the American Water Works Association will brief the COG Board on recent findings and actions being taken to

address any concerns related to public health, environmental health and water and wastewater treatment.

**RECOMMENDED ACTION: Receive briefing and adopt Resolution R46-06.**

**9. HOARDING SURVEY**

**(1:15 – 1:30 p.m.)**

**Penelope A. Gross  
Supervisor  
Fairfax County Board of Supervisors**

**Benjamin Barksdale  
Assistant Fire Chief  
Arlington County**

Hoarding of objects and animals is a significant problem facing the Washington, DC metropolitan region. This behavior not only impacts the hoarder and the surrounding community, but it is a problem for local governments. Government agencies are currently struggling with how to investigate and intervene in these situations and how to effectively coordinate a response from multiple agencies. A survey of local governments in the National Capital Region was completed that examined hoarding and reviewed the local policies and procedures regarding hoarders. Ms. Gross and Mr. Barksdale will provide the Committee with an overview of this survey.

**RECOMMENDED ACTION: Adopt Resolution R47-06 recommending transmittal of the report to local government agencies.**

**10. ADOPTION OF FIFTIETH ANNIVERSARY WORK PROGRAM AND BUDGET**

**(1:30 – 1:40 p.m.)**

**Carol Schwartz  
Councilmember At-Large, District of Columbia  
Chair, Fiftieth Anniversary Committee**

COG was established in 1957 and will mark its fiftieth anniversary in 2007. Earlier this year, the COG Board created a Fiftieth Anniversary Committee, chaired by COG President and District of Columbia Councilmember At-Large Carol Schwartz. The Committee is comprised of past and current COG members, as well as past executive directors and was charged with developing a work program and budget in support of COG's Fiftieth Anniversary. Chair Schwartz will brief the Board on the proposed work program and budget, as well as highlight key proposed events and activities, including the launch of the Fiftieth Anniversary at COG's annual meeting and awards luncheon on December 13, 2006.

**RECOMMENDED ACTION: Receive briefing and adopt Resolution R48-06.**

**11. BOARD DISCUSSION TIME**

**(1:40 – 2:00 p.m.)**

**Chairman Fisette and Board members**

At its July retreat, the COG Board of Directors requested that a block of time be set aside for general Board discussion at each of its monthly meetings; to be piloted in September and until modified. COG retreat participants recommended this step in order to allow for a more timely review of emerging issues and provide an opportunity for members to raise new business or briefly discuss issues of potential interest and action by COG. Chairman Fisette will invite Board members to share successful best practices and program issues of concern or opportunities for greater regional and COG engagement.

### **13. CONSENT AGENDA**

#### **A. RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR TO HOST CRITICAL HOMELAND SECURITY-RELATED EQUIPMENT ON BEHALF OF THE REGION**

The Board will be asked to adopt Resolution R49-06, authorizing the Executive Director or his designee to execute the approved proposal to provide hosting and procurement services for the National Capital Region Interoperability Program (NCRIP). The State Administrative Agent for the National Capital Region will provide COG with approximately \$120,000 in Urban Area Security Initiative (UASI) funding to execute the proposal to provide the needed hosting services. No COG matching funds will be required.

**RECOMMENDED ACTION: Approve Resolution R49-06.**

#### **B. RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR TO RECEIVE AND EXPEND FUNDING FROM THE NATIONAL OCEANIC AND ATMOSPHERIC ADMINISTRATION (NOAA) FOR THE CHESAPEAKE BAY WATERSHED EDUCATION & TRAINING (B-WET) ENVIRONMENTAL EDUCATION PROGRAM FOR STUDENTS IN THE NATIONAL CAPITAL REGION.**

The Board will be asked to approve Resolution R50-06, authorizing the Executive Director to receive and expend up to \$200,000 in grant funding from NOAA for the purpose of an environmental education project for students in the National Capital Region. The total estimated cost of the project shall not exceed \$200,000. No COG matching funds will be required.

**RECOMMENDED ACTION: Approve Resolution R50-06.**

#### **C. WEDNESDAY'S CHILD GRANT**

The Board will be asked to adopt Resolution R51-06, authorizing the Executive Director to accept a \$47,500 grant from the Freddie Mac Foundation for the Wednesday's Child program. Wednesday's Child represents a long partnership between the Metropolitan Washington Council of Governments (COG), the Freddie Mac Foundation, NBC4 and local child welfare agencies. Begun in 1992, this televised adoption program finds loving adoptive homes for children in the Washington, DC metropolitan region. It also continues as the flagship for a nationwide network of Wednesday's Child programs sponsored by the Freddie Mac Foundation. This \$47,500 grant will be used to support the Wednesday's Child program in FY07.

**RECOMMENDED ACTION: Adopt Resolution R51-06.**

#### **D. REGIONAL FOSTER PARENT APPRECIATION GALA**

The Board will be asked to adopt Resolution R52-06, authorizing the Executive Director to accept a \$100,000 donation from the Freddie Mac Foundation for the 2007 Regional Foster Parent Appreciation Gala. This event honors foster parents from around the region for their dedication and service to children in foster care. As in previous years, more than 700 foster parents are expected to attend. The 2007 Regional Foster Parent Gala will be held on May 12, 2007.

**RECOMMENDED ACTION: Adopt Resolution R52-06.**

#### **E. WORK OF HEART RESPITE PROGRAM GRANT**

The Board will be asked to adopt Resolution R53-06, authorizing the Executive Director to accept a \$200,000 grant from the District of Columbia government for the Work of Heart Respite Program. Begun in 2004, in partnership with DC's Child and Family Service Agency (CFSA) and the Foster and Adoptive

Parent Advocacy Center (FAPAC), the Work of Heart Respite Program provides DC foster children short-term respite care that allows DC foster parents to have a break from the rigorous demands of care giving. COG's Work of Heart Respite Program offers free respite care to foster families licensed by CFSA. Respite Care is a supportive and preventative service which provides temporary parental care for foster children, while giving foster parents an opportunity to rest and rejuvenate. Since its inception, COG has recruited and trained Volunteer Respite Care Families to provide this service. This \$200,000 grant will be used to support the Work of Heart Respite Program in FY07.

**RECOMMENDED ACTION: Adopt Resolution R53-06.**

#### **F. ADOPTION OF RESOLUTION RECOGNIZING NATIONAL SAVE FOR RETIREMENT WEEK**

The United States Senate approved legislation in September recognizing National Save for Retirement Week, October 22-28, 2006. The purpose of the legislation is to encourage greater participation among Americans in building retirement security and to encourage employees to take full advantage of employer-sponsored plans. The International City/County Management Association-Retirement Corporate (ICMA-RC) is one of several national campaign sponsors and seeks to partner with COG to raise awareness among area local governments and their employees. The COG Board will be asked to adopt Resolution R54-06, recognizing National Save for Retirement Week and encouraging area local government participation.

**RECOMMENDED ACTION: Adopt Resolution R54-06.**

**THE NEXT BOARD MEETING WILL BE ON WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 8, 2006.**