



Local governments working together for a better metropolitan region

COG BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING

DATE: Wednesday, May 12, 2004
TIME: 12:00 Noon
PLACE: COG Board Room

District of Columbia
Bowie
College Park
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

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

A G E N D A

1. **CALL TO ORDER AND PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE**
 (12:00 Noon)
 Chair Phil Mendelson
 Council Member, District of Columbia
2. **APPROVAL OF MINUTES OF APRIL 14, 2004**
 (12:00 – 12:05 p.m.)
3. **AMENDMENTS TO AGENDA**
 (12:05 – 12:10 p.m.)
4. **ANNOUNCEMENTS**
 (12:10 – 12:15 p.m.)
 Chair Mendelson
 - a) Highlights of Foster Parent Gala
 - b) Selection of FY 04 Auditor
 - c) Executive Director's Report
5. **ADOPTION OF CONSENT AGENDA ITEM 11**

RECOMMENDED ACTION: Adopt Consent Agenda Item

6. **PRESENTATION ON THE WASHINGTON AREA HOUSING TRUST FUND**
 (12:15 – 12:30 p.m.)
 Carol Schwartz
 Council Member, District of Columbia
 Co-Chair, WAHTF
 Robert A. Peck
 President, Greater Washington Board of Trade
 Board Member, WAHTF

D.C. Council Member Carol Schwartz, Washington Area Housing Trust Fund (WAHTF) Co-Chair and Robert Peck, president of the Greater Washington Board of Trade, will brief the Board on WAHTF and

report on its significant accomplishments since the COG Board endorsed its creation, as well as the Trust Fund's lending activities, capitalization campaign and support from area jurisdictions and Capitol Hill.

RECOMMENDED ACTION: Receive briefing and provide feedback and comment.

- 7. PRESENTATION ON THE WASHINGTON AREA HOUSING PARTNERSHIP'S REPORT, "CAN YOU AFFORD TO LIVE HERE?" (12:30 – 12:40 p.m.)**

**Stacy Silber
Partner, Holland & Knight LLP
Vice-Chair, WAHP**

The Washington Area Housing Partnership (WAHP) published a new report titled, "Can You Afford to Live Here?" This report examines the relationship between hourly wages and the cost of rental housing in the metropolitan Washington region. WAHP Vice-Chair Stacy Silber will brief the COG Board on the findings of the report as well as other WAHP activities for 2004.

RECOMMENDED ACTION: Receive report and provide feedback and comment.

- 8. UPDATE REGARDING CHESAPEAKE BAY TRIBUTARY STRATEGIES AND THE CHESAPEAKE BAY PROGRAM BLUE RIBBON FINANCE PANEL (12:40 – 12:50 p.m.)**

**Peter Shapiro
Council Member, Prince George's
County
Chair, Chesapeake Bay Policy
Committee**

**Penelope Gross
Supervisor, Fairfax County
Vice-Chair, Chesapeake Bay Policy
Committee**

On April 30, 2004, the Chesapeake Bay Agreement Signatories, Maryland, Virginia, Pennsylvania, and the District of Columbia, are scheduled to submit new Tributary Strategies to the Environmental Protection Agency. The new strategies are intended to be river-specific implementation plans for reducing nutrient and sediment pollution, as called for in the Chesapeake 2000 Agreement. A background briefing paper is attached for your information. Bay Policy Committee Chair Peter Shapiro will provide a brief update on significant local government policy implications of the new strategies.

The Chesapeake Bay Program Blue Ribbon Finance Panel is meeting at COG on May 5, 2004. Bay Policy Committee Vice-Chair Penny Gross will provide a brief update on the panel's discussions and findings, including implications for local governments.

RECOMMENDED ACTION: Receive update.

9. UPDATE ON THE METROPOLITAN WASHINGTON AIR QUALITY COMMITTEE'S RECENT ACCOMPLISHMENTS AND NEW CHALLENGES, AND REPORT ON CHANGES TO AIR QUALITY FORECAST AND REPORTING SYSTEM (12:50 – 1:35 p.m.)

**Tom Dernoga
Council Member, Prince George's
County
Chair, Metropolitan Washington Air
Quality Committee**

**Joan A. Rohlf
Chief, Air Quality Planning, COG**

Metropolitan Washington Air Quality Committee (MWAQC) Chair Tom Dernoga will report on the recently adopted regional air quality plan for the metropolitan Washington region designed to meet the federal health standard for ground-level ozone (the "one hour standard"), which included a number of innovative local air quality initiatives (see enclosed summary). He will also discuss the upcoming planning requirements and challenges associated with meeting the new eight hour federal health standards for ground level ozone and tiny particles. In addition, Mr. Dernoga will brief MWAQC on recent discussions between the MWAQC Leadership and State Environmental and Transportation Secretaries concerning possible modifications to the regional air quality planning procedures.

COG's Chief of Air Quality Planning, Joan Rohlf, will discuss changes to the air quality forecasting system for the 2004 season (May-September). These changes come as a result of the new 8-hour ozone standard and particle pollution monitoring (see summary of new air quality forecast system attached).

RECOMMENDED ACTION: Receive briefing and provide feedback and comment.

10. STATUS REPORT ON THE TRANSPORTATION PLANNING BOARD'S REGIONAL MOBILITY AND ACCESSIBILITY STUDY (1:35 – 2:00 p.m.)

**Robert Griffiths
COG, Department of Transportation
Planning**

In an amendment to the 2000 Constrained Long-Range Transportation Plan for the National Capital Region, the TPB called for a special regional study titled "Improving Regional Mobility and Accessibility Study." The purpose of this study is to "evaluate alternative options to improve mobility and accessibility between and among regional activity centers and the regional core." This study will analyze both land use and transportation options for improving regional mobility and accessibility. Staff will brief the COG Board on the background, current status, and schedule for this study.

RECOMMENDED ACTION: Receive Status Report.

11. CONSENT AGENDA ITEM

Resolution Authorizing the Execution of a Contract with the Occoquan Watershed Monitoring Laboratory for the Fiscal Year 2005 Operation of the Chain Bridge Monitoring Station

The Board will be asked to adopt Resolution R27-04, authorizing the Executive Director to execute a three-year contract with the Occoquan Watershed Monitoring Laboratory for continuation of the Potomac River water quality monitoring program at Chain Bridge. COG has sponsored this regional monitoring program since 1983. The total cost of the three year contract is \$320,000. Funding for the first year of the contract is included in the FY2005 Regional Water Fund work program and budget. The remaining two years of the contract will also be funded by the Regional Water Fund, contingent upon availability of funds. This three-year effort will also be used as matching funds for a Feasibility Cost Share Agreement with the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, which was approved by the Board on April 14, 2004, to upgrade Chesapeake Bay modeling tools. No additional COG matching funds are required.

RECOMMENDED ACTION: Adopt Resolution R27-04.

THE NEXT BOARD MEETING WILL BE ON WEDNESDAY, JUNE 9, 2004.