



MEMORANDUM

TO: COG Board of Directors
FROM: Chuck Bean, COG Executive Director
SUBJECT: Executive Director's Report – March 2018
DATE: March 7, 2018

POLICY BOARD & COMMITTEE UPDATES

National Capital Region Transportation Planning Board (TPB)

– At its February meeting, the TPB reviewed the process for setting performance targets for the region's transportation system. It also received briefings on the update to the cooperative forecasts and the TPB's budget and workplan for next year.

National Capital Region Emergency Preparedness Council (EPC)

– At its February meeting, the EPC discussed community preparedness training, such as Stop the Bleed and FirstCare, which educates people on life-saving actions they can take while waiting for first responders to arrive at emergencies. The EPC supports RESF 5 Training and Exercise Subcommittee efforts to provide a "train-the-trainer" initiative.

OUTREACH & PROGRAM HIGHLIGHTS

District of Columbia – On February 28, Chuck Bean gave a presentation on COG's priorities at a D.C. Council Performance Oversight Hearing.

Transportation/Land-Use Connections (TLC) Program – Twenty-one abstracts (short descriptions of proposed projects) were submitted to the TPB's TLC Program this year—a 50 percent increase from last year, highlighting the continued popularity of this program. TLC provides short-term, consultant assistance for planning studies and preliminary design for projects that help local jurisdictions build sustainable and accessible communities. Applications are due Monday, April 2.

[View the TLC site and submit an application](#)

Climate resilience – On February 22, COG's Steve Walz spoke at a forum organized by the Environmental and Energy Study Institute (EESI) and the National Association of Regional Councils (NARC) at the Rayburn House Office Building to discuss climate and weather risks to coastal communities as well as resilience plans local governments and regional partnerships are developing.



MEDIA HIGHLIGHT
COG Board Chairman Matt Letourneau was a guest on WAMU's The Politics Hour and discussed regional priorities, including Metro.

[Listen to the show](#)

Substance/opioid dependency – On February 5, a broad mix of about 40 stakeholders from public health, nonprofit, law enforcement, and community-based organizations met at COG as a follow-up to the 2017 Opioid and Substance Abuse Summit. Following the meeting, a smaller planning committee will convene in March to develop regional initiatives to support members jurisdictions.

TPB Citizen Advisory Committee (CAC) – The TPB’s CAC, which is celebrating its 25th anniversary in 2018, held its first meeting of the year on February 15 and discussed its plans for the upcoming year. TPB Chair Charles Allen attended and spoke with the committee about his goals for the TPB and listened to the committee’s comments and discussion.

Stream cleanups/data – On February 3, COG helped the Rock Creek Conservancy and Alice Ferguson Foundation with the launch of the first residential Adopt a Stream program in the District. COG’s Lorena Kowalewski presented the Anacostia Watershed protocol for measuring the amount of trash removal in stream cleanups. The citizen-science collected data will be shared with the D.C. Department of Energy and Environment to help meet the Anacostia Trash TMDL, or pollution diet, and help improve water quality.

MEDIA HIGHLIGHTS

TPB Chair Charles Allen: 5 ideas for a better regional transportation system

[View the Washington Business Journal op-ed](#)

Region set to follow rules on tracking transportation dollars – COG’s Eric Randall interviewed

[View the WTOP story](#)

No Easy Access: Can D.C. Break Down Barriers to Food, Health Care and Transportation? – COG’s Wendy Klancher interviewed.

[Listen to the Kojo Nnamdi show](#)

Local officials respond to threats of Russian election meddling – February COG Board meeting featured.

[View the WTOP story](#)

