

WATER RESOURCES TECHNICAL COMMITTEE (WRTC) MEETING
January 16th, 2008
(10:00 am to 1:30 pm)
COG Meeting Room #1, 1st Floor

Business Meeting (10 a.m. –11:30) / Working Lunch (11:30 to 12 noon)
Parallel Work Sessions (12:00 - 1:30 p.m.)

AGENDA

WRTC Business Meeting (10:00 to 11:30 a.m.)

I. Call to Order & Introductions – *Tanya Spano (on behalf of Uwe Kirste, Chair)*
(10:00 – 10:05 a.m.)

II. Chesapeake Bay Program (CBP) Updates

A. CBP Major Initiatives – *Ted Graham, COG*
(10:05 – 10:20 a.m.)

Mr. Graham will provide brief highlights regarding a few of the CBP's initiatives, including: Executive Council meeting, CBP Reorganization, Bay TMDLs, Local Government involvement, and updates to Bay Models.

B. Proposed Revisions to BMP Efficiencies - *Tom Simpson, University of Maryland*
(10:20 – 11:00 a.m.)

Mr. Simpson will discuss the revisions to the Bay program BMP efficiencies and recent newspaper article on the project that was commissioned by the Bay Program. He will also discuss these efficiency changes with regard to their impact on jurisdiction specific allocations and the prospect of Bay TMDLs.

Feedback: WRTC members will be asked to: a) Comment on the potential impacts of the proposed changes at a local level; b) Provide their perspectives on how best to engage local governments in developing or supporting local allocations as they are developed; and c) How best to continue to refine BMP information.

III. FY09 Planning and Budget Focus – *Ted Graham & Tanya Spano*
(11:00 – 11:15 a.m.)

Mr. Graham will briefly note the proposed key areas of focus for the FY 2009 Work Program and Budget (incorporating many of the CBP-related issues previously discussed). Ms. Spano will review the schedule for WRTC review and CBPC approval.

Feedback: WRTC members will be asked to provide input on the priority areas for the FY09 Work Program, and the proposed review/approval schedule.

IV. Around the Room & General Updates - WRTC Members & COG Staff
(11:00 – 11:30 a.m.)

WRTC members will be asked to note any events or activities they feel may be of interest to the other members; while COG staff will provide brief updates on the various topics noted below.

- **COAST & Prince Wm. Co. Piloting** – *Tanya Spano (for Karl Berger)*
- **Climate Change: Water Resource/Water Quality Implications** – *Ted Graham*
- **EPA's Proposed Rulemaking re: Airplane Deicing** – *Ted Graham*
- **2050 Envision Greater Washington & Water Quality Metrics** – *Tanya Spano (for Karl Berger)*
- **CBPC January 18th Meeting** (see agenda) – *Tanya Spano (for Karl Berger)*
 - Legislative items – WRTC concerns
 - 2008 Priorities List – WRTC input
- **Emerging Contaminants Report** – *Tanya Spano*

VII. Adjourn Business Meeting / Lunch
(11:30 a.m. – 12:00 p.m.)

FUTURE MEETINGS / KEY EVENTS - 2008

COG Water Quality - Monitoring Forum – March 10th and 11th, 2008

WRTC Meeting – March 13th

CBPC Meeting – March 21st

COG Water Quality – Future Challenges Forum – April 15th & 16th, or 21st & 22nd, or 28th & 29th, 2008 [TBD]

WRTC Meeting – May 8th

CBPC Meeting – May 16th

Wastewater Work Session (DEP Conference Room or Room #1) (12:00 to 1:30 p.m.)

I. COG's Regional Wastewater Plants – Projections, Data & Fact Sheets

A. Regional Wastewater Flow Forecast Model (RWFFM) Upgrades & COG's Cooperative Forecasts – Round 7.1 Formal Approval - *Tanya Spano & Tomlyne Malcolm*

Ms. Spano will summarize efforts to update various elements of the RWFFM and some flow data needs from the wastewater agencies. Ms. Malcolm will provide an update on status of the COG regional forecast approval.

B. WWTP Data Needs & Fact Sheets - Tanya Spano

Ms. Spano will review an existing WWTP and related water quality fact sheet, describe efforts to update and expand the information in the fact sheets, and ask for input on what additional information the WRTC members would like to see in such regional summaries.

Feedback: The WRTC participants will be asked for their input on how best to obtain the required flow data, as well as their recommendations for revising the current fact sheets.

**II. Adjourn
(1:30 pm)**

Stormwater Work Session (DEP Conference Room or Room #1) (12:00 – 1:30 p.m.)

I. Roundtable Discussion of COG Regional Stormwater Workshop– *Ted Graham* (12:00 p.m.)

COG staff is making preparations for a Regional Stormwater Workshop with the working title, “*Regional Trends, Issues and Prospects in Managing Urban Stormwater.*” Several actions have combined to provide the substance of this workshop. Each is listed below:

- Virginia’s concerns regarding “quantity” control credits for LID;
- Maryland’s implementation of the Stormwater Management Act of 2007;
- EPA’s issuance of the new MS4 permit for the District of Columbia;
- Tom Schuler’s preparation and distribution of the “Bay-Wide Stormwater Action Strategy: Recommendations for Moving Forward in the Chesapeake Bay; and
- The multi-step position paper of the Montgomery County Stormwater Partnership Coalition.

The workshop is intended to be both educational and to provide a forum to help shape emerging state and EPA policies related to urban stormwater.

Feedback: The WRTC participants will be asked for their recommendations to refine the objectives and content of the proposed workshop.

III. Adjourn (1:30 pm)



UNITED STATES ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY

REGION III
Chesapeake Bay Program Office
410 SEVERN AVENUE
ANNAPOLIS, MARYLAND 21403

Mr. Martin Nohe, Chair
Chesapeake Bay and
Water Resources Policy Committee,
Metropolitan Washington Council of Governments
777 North Capitol Street, N.E., Suite 300
Washington, D.C. 20002-4239

DEC 17 2007

Dear Mr. Nohe:

Thank you for your letter of October 31, 2007 regarding your concerns about the proposed reorganization of the Chesapeake Bay Program (CBP). I would like to clarify that local governments will be integral to any new organizational structure that I recommend to the CBP's Principal's Staff Committee (PSC). The intention of the Chesapeake Bay Program Office (CBPO) has never been to marginalize or limit local governments in a reorganized CBP. In fact, given the importance of local involvement in implementation activities we are looking to strengthen local government involvement.

I understand the confusion about the role of local government and citizen involvement in the CBP under the proposed reorganization structure that was sent out. This confusion came about because the discussion regarding local governments and citizen involvement was not documented in the meeting notes. In addition, the selected option showed no clear path for local government or citizen participation. This oversight was not intentional and the portrayal of a reduced role for local governments is not accurate.

At the October 5, 2007 adhoc PSC Reorganization meeting, there was a lot of discussion about the importance of local level involvement in the CBP. Participants recognized that local government and community level actions are extremely important. The majority of participants asserted that the CBP needs to directly hear local perspectives as it develops policies and actions. The question is where and how can the CBP best solicit the community level participation (knowledge, expertise, and information) in its policy debate and decision-making.

At the meeting, there were three basic positions presented regarding local and community level involvement. Some participants argued that the local governments, citizens, and watershed groups would be most effective if they were represented on the Policy Board and other standing committees or task forces as appropriate. This argument focused on the idea that they could shape the actions and policies as decision-makers by participating on decision-making bodies much more effectively than as members of advisory committees.

Other participants argued that local governments, citizens and watershed groups operate

best in an advisory capacity. They believe that the time commitment required by sitting on regular meetings of the Policy Board or any of the other committees was too great for the average citizen or local government official. They also believed that the role of advisory committees provides more strength (in numbers) than having a few representatives on the Policy Board or other committees spread throughout the organization.

The third position was offered by the Commonwealths of Virginia and Pennsylvania; they assert that contact with local governments and community groups could best come through the states. The rationale was that the states are much more closely connected to the local level than the overall CBP.

At the end of the October 5 meeting, we agreed to solicit the opinions of the Advisory Committees on the first two positions. My staff is coordinating with Jessica Blackburn, ACB's liaison to CAC and LGAC, to solicit their opinions.

Recognizing that there is great value in local government participation, the CBPO welcomes COG's input, especially Dr. Ted Graham's thoughts on designing local government participation into sectors such as urban and rural, and his additional thoughts on the different types of local government participation needed in policy and technical issues. I encourage Dr. Graham to continue working with Theresa Martella of my staff to develop options.

The CBPO hopes this letter addresses your concerns. We look forward to working with you to identify the best way to operationalize local government participation in the CBP. Please feel free to contact Deputy Director, Diana Esher, at 215-814-2706 or esher.diana@epa.gov if you have any more comments or suggestions.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Jeffrey Lape". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large initial "J".

Jeffrey Lape, Director
Chesapeake Bay Program Office

cc: Edward U. (Ted) Graham, Ph.D., P.E, Washington Council of Governments
Diana Esher, Deputy Director, EPA Chesapeake Bay Program
Members, Chesapeake Bay and Water Resources Policy Committee



Local governments working together for a better metropolitan region

Chesapeake Bay and Water Resources Policy Committee

Date: Friday, Jan. 18, 2008

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

**Adjunct member*

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

Meeting Agenda

- 10:00 **1. Introductions and Announcements**..... Hon. Martin Nohe
Chair, Prince William County
 - Potomac Monitoring Forum
 - 2008 schedule (*Att. 1*)
- 10:05 **2. Approval of Meeting Summary for Nov. 30, 2007**..... Chair Nohe
Recommended action: Approve DRAFT Meeting Summary (*Att. 2*).
- 10:10 **3. Selection of Committee Vice Chairs for 2008** Members
The CBPC bylaws call for the committee to select vice chairs from the state-level jurisdictions not represented by the Chair, which, in 2008, are Maryland and the District of Columbia.
Recommended Action: Approve CBPC Vice Chairs from Maryland and the District of Columbia.
- 10:15 **4. Climate Change, Green Building and Water Quality** Ted Graham, COG
Water Resources Director

Mr. Graham will update members on key concerns from a national workshop on climate change sponsored by the research arms of the Water Environment Federation and the American Water Works Association. He also will note the water quality aspects of COG's "Green Building" initiative (Summary Report attached; for technical report, see: <http://www.mwcog.org/uploads/pub-documents/ylhXWQ20071213085203.pdf>) and discuss how these elements will be integrated into COG's FY 2009 Regional Water Fund work program. The green building initiative was recently cited by the *Washington Post* for its potential to aid water quality clean-up efforts in the region (*Att. 4*).

Recommended action: Provide guidance into development of linkages between COG's water quality programs and its green building and climate change initiatives.

10:40 5. **Committee Focus for 2008**..... Chair Nohe, members

COG staff has prepared a set of potential items (*Att. 5*) on which the committee could focus particular attention during the coming year, including both longstanding issues before the committee, such as nutrient use in urban regions, and potential new items, such as Bay reforestation policy. Chair Nohe will solicit input from members on these and other items of interest to individual members. COG staff also will identify any additional topics or priorities that the WRTC recommended.

Recommended action: Establish a set of priorities for committee action in 2007.

11:10 6. **Introduction to Water Quality Metrics**..... COG staff

COG is convening a Greater Washington 2050 Coalition to try to balance future growth and economic development with environmental, health, and other goals. As part of its work program (*Att. 6*), this coalition will develop a number of goals, measures of effectiveness and metrics that can be used to assess progress. COG staff will update members on some of the measuring sticks currently being used to assess water quality within the region and elsewhere.

11:25 7. **Response to Concerns about Local Government Role**..... Hon. Penelope Gross, Fairfax County

Mr. Graham, COG staff

COG has received a reply (*Att. 7*) from EPA Chesapeake Bay Program Office Director Jeffrey Lape regarding its concerns about the role of local governments in a re-organized Bay Program, as expressed in an October 31, 2007, letter. Ms. Gross, who chairs the Bay Program's Local Government Advisory Committee, and Mr. Graham will review the response and the proposals for local government involvement

Recommended action: Provide guidance to Ms. Gross and Mr. Graham in their continuing work on the issue of local government voice in the Bay program.

11:40 8. **Legislative Update**..... COG staff

COG staff will update members on any proposed Bay-related legislation for the upcoming general assembly sessions in Virginia and Maryland.

Recommended action: Determine whether COG should take any action in regard to these proposals and, if so, approve such recommended action for consideration by the COG Board.

11:55 9. **New Business** Members

12:00 10. **Adjourn**

The next meeting is scheduled for Friday, March 21, 2008, 10 a.m. - 12 noon.

Enclosures/Handouts:

- Item 1 Proposed CBPC 2008 meeting schedule
- Item 2 DRAFT meeting summary of Nov. 30, 2007
- Item 4 "Dirty Water," Washington Post editorial of Jan. 2, 2008
"Greening the Metropolitan Washington Region's Built Environment," a summary report from the COG Intergovernmental Green Building Group
- Item 5 COG staff recommendations for committee priorities in 2008
- Item 6 Final Greater Washington 2050 Work Program
- Item 7 Letter from Jeffrey Lape to Chair Martin Nohe dated Dec. 17, 2007

CBPC Focus for 2008

COG staff draft
January 8, 2008

Longstanding Issues

- **Advocate for funding -- continue to encourage the development of new or greater sources of state and federal funding for the Bay restoration effort**
 - Federal – Work with Chesapeake Bay Commission, congressional Bay Task Force and other potential partners on FY 09 budget requests
 - State – Support appropriate state legislative initiatives in Maryland and Virginia
 - Develop recommendation for allocation of Maryland’s new “Green Fund
- **Identify links between growth policies and water quality**
 - Provide water quality focus to Greater Washington 2050 initiative
 - Work with COG’s Green Building and Global Climate Change initiatives to quantify water quality aspects of these related environmental efforts
 - Work with Chesapeake Bay Program on quantifying nutrient loads that may be created by future growth in the region (2030 analysis)
- **Advocate for local government voice in Bay Program decision making**
 - Work with CBP Local Government Advisory Committee in retaining local government representation in revised Bay Program structure
 - Advocate for local government roles in Bay Program’s evolving strategy on growth, on TMDL development efforts and on urban stormwater enhancement efforts
- **Support regional public outreach efforts**
 - Continue to work with Scotts Miracle-Gro Company and other parties on the sponsorship of public outreach messages on environmentally friendly lawn care practices.
 - Finalize COG Board report on compounds of emerging concern
 - Explore potential for joint outreach efforts on public health-environmental issues such as compounds of emerging concern with COG’s Health Officers Committee
- **Help to coordinate the Trash-Free Potomac Watershed Initiative**
 - Continue to track member participation in this initiative, which is coordinated by the Alice Ferguson Foundation, and assess potential for trash-based TMDL development..

Potential New Issues

- **Global climate change and airborne pollutants**
 - Efforts to reduce air emissions of various pollutants, such as those overseen by the Metropolitan Washington Air Quality, also help to reduce nitrogen pollution to Bay waters. With various local jurisdictions now increasing their focus to include efforts to

reduce carbon dioxide emissions, there will be further opportunities to simultaneously benefit the Bay restoration effort.

- Climate change also is expected to greatly impact the local environment and potentially local government's ability to provide services such as drinking water and waste water treatment.. COG staff already is working with local utilities and their national trade groups on potential implications and responses.
- **Decline in forest coverage**
 - This was listed in 2007, but the committee did not pursue anything. There are a number of related aspects of this in the region, such as preservation of green infrastructure and urban reforestation efforts under Green Building and other initiatives.
- **Farmland preservation**
 - As detailed in a presentation at the November 2007 meeting, COG staff is currently involved in several activities in this area. It is coordinating a "working lands" initiatives with several components aimed at maintaining productive farm and forest land in the region.
- **Others - ?**

Actions to Support Focus on Issues

- **Committee meetings** (6 per year)
- **Committee tour** (details to be determined)
- **Federal legislation** (provide opportunity to meet with local congressional delegation)
- **Individual presentations/appearances by members**