

Region Forward Coalition

Social Equity Work Session: Potential Social Equity Targets

Name: _____

Directions: We are seeking your input. Please share thoughts, comments, and/or concerns about the below concepts for social equity targets

Prosperity

- Potential Target 1: Reduce income inequality
- Potential Target 2: Narrow the white/non-white income gap
- Potential Target 3: Increase the share of those born in DC, MD, or VA and living in the region who attain a Bachelor's Degree or higher

Accessibility

- Potential Target 1: Average access to jobs from Equity Emphasis Areas is equal to or better than the rest of the region.
- Potential Target 2: Average commute times from Equity Emphasis Areas are not significantly higher or worse than the rest of the Region.

Livability

- Potential Revised Target 1: Narrow the gap in life expectancy across Metro D.C
- Potential Target 2: Reduce the number of racially and ethnically concentrated areas of poverty (R/ECAPs)
- Potential Target 3: Reduce homelessness in metropolitan Washington

Sustainability

- Potential Target 1: Incorporate social equity, cultural sensitivity, and community health considerations into local climate change planning, program, and policy decisions.

Comments

PROSPERITY

Current Goals

Economic

- We seek a diversified, stable, and competitive economy, with a wide range of employment opportunities and a focus on sustainable economic development.
- We seek to minimize economic disparities and enhance the prosperity of each jurisdiction and the Region as a whole through balanced growth and access to high-quality jobs for everyone.
- We seek to fully recognize and enhance the benefits that accrue to the region as the seat of the National government and as a world capital.

Education

- We seek to provide greater access to the best education at all levels, from pre-kindergarten to graduate school.
- We seek to make our Region a pre-eminent knowledge hub, through educational venues, workforce development, and institutional collaboration.

Current Targets

- Annual rate of growth in median wages will exceed the rate of inflation
- Sustain an annual 1 to 3 percent increase in the number of new jobs
- Sustain an annual 2 to 4 percent growth rate in Gross Regional Product for the National Capitol Region
- Increase the rate of students graduating from high school to 90 percent
- By 2020, the percent of population over 25 with a Bachelor's degree is 45 percent or higher, and the percent with a professional or advanced degree is 20 percent or higher

Responses to January Questionnaire on Prosperity

- "Add a measure of equity and inclusion, such as median wage growth, GDP per person, etc."
- "The educational attainment targets capture those who move here from other areas but may not be most informative way to tell how well we are preparing youth growing up here for future educational attainment. Consider other new targets."
- "The percentage of savings people put aside from total income."

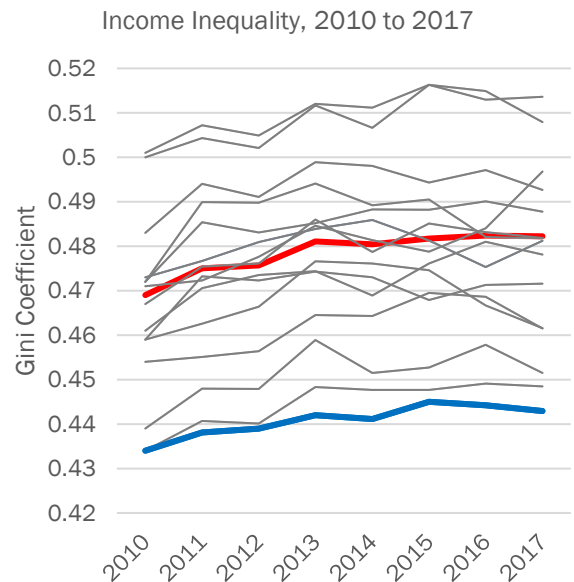
Potential Social Equity Targets for Prosperity:

Potential Target 1. Reduce income inequality

Approach: The Gini Coefficient. It summarizes the dispersion of income across the entire income distribution and ranges from 0, indicating perfect equality (where everyone receives an equal share), to 1, perfect inequality (where only one recipient or group of recipients receives all the income). The Gini is based on the difference between the Lorenz curve (the observed cumulative income distribution) and the notion of a perfectly equal income distribution.

Source: American Community Survey (ACS) Table B19083.

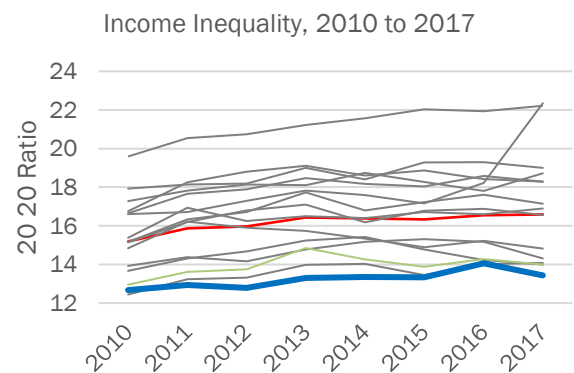
Performance: Income inequality increased in the Washington MSA (**blue line**) between 2010 and 2017. The Washington MSA has a lower level of inequality compared to other large MSAsⁱ (**grey lines**) and the United States (**red line**).



Alternative Approach: The 2020 Ratio. The ratio of mean household income for the 20 percent richest to the 20 percent poorest

Source: ACS Table B19081

Performance: Income inequality increased in the Washington MSA (**blue line**) between 2010 and 2017. The Washington MSA has a lower level of inequality compared to other large MSAsⁱ (**grey lines**) and the United States (**red line**).

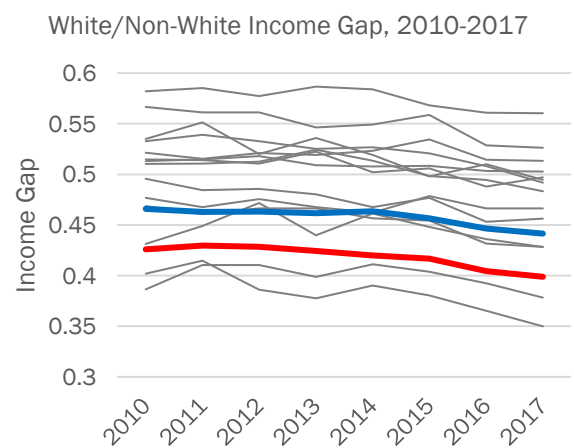


Potential Target 2. Narrow the white/non-white income gap.

Approach: The difference between the mean per capital income for the non-White or Hispanic population and mean per capital income of White, non-Hispanic population.

Source: ACS Table S1902

Performance: For the Washington MSA (**blue line**), the per capita income of the non-White population was 44% less than white population in 2017. The gap narrowed slightly since 2010 but remains significant. The United States (**red line**) and a few large MSAs (**grey lines**) have smaller white/non-white income gaps.

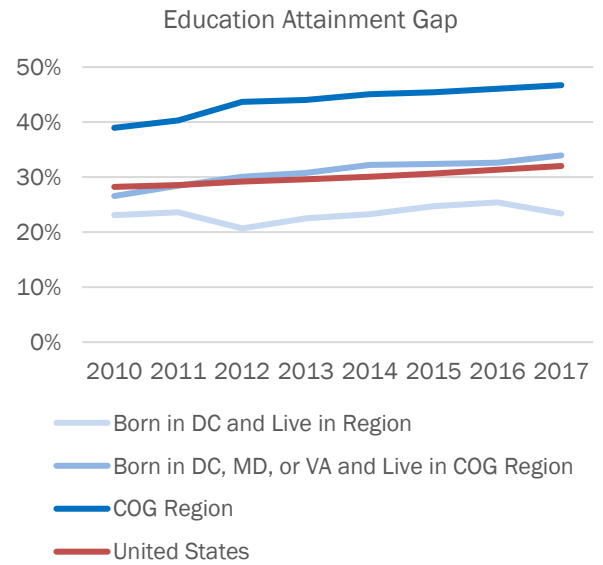


Potential Target 3. Increase the share of those born in DC, MD, or VA and living in the Region who attain a bachelor’s degree or higher.

Approach: The share of the population over the age of 25 with a bachelor’s degree or higher for COG Region by place of birth.

Source: American Community Survey (ACS) Public Use Microdata Sample (PUMS)

Performance: In 2017, 46 percent of the region’s population over the age of 25 attained a Bachelor’s Degree or higher. Among those born in DC, MD, or VA, 32 percent attained a Bachelor’s degree or higher. (And, 25 percent for those born in DC.)



¹ For the purposes of this analysis, data from the fifteen most populous MSAs was compared. In addition to the Washington-Arlington-Alexandria, DC-VA-MD-WV Metro Area, these MSAs include New York-Newark-Jersey City, NY-NJ-PA Metro Area, Los Angeles-Long Beach-Anaheim, CA Metro Area, Chicago-Naperville-Elgin, IL-IN-WI Metro Area, Dallas-Fort Worth-Arlington, TX Metro Area, Houston-The Woodlands-Sugar Land, TX Metro Area, Washington-Arlington-Alexandria, DC-VA-MD-WV Metro Area, Miami-Fort Lauderdale-West Palm Beach, FL Metro Area, Philadelphia-Camden-Wilmington, PA-NJ-DE-MD Metro Area, Atlanta-Sandy Springs-Roswell, GA Metro Area, Boston-Cambridge-Newton, MA-NH Metro Area, Phoenix-Mesa-Scottsdale, AZ Metro Area, San Francisco-Oakland-Hayward, CA Metro Area, Riverside-San Bernardino-Ontario, CA Metro Area, Detroit-Warren-Dearborn, MI Metro Area, and Seattle-Tacoma-Bellevue, WA Metro Area

ACCESSIBILITY

Current Goals



Land Use

- We seek transit-oriented and mixed-use communities emerging in Regional Activity Centers that will capture new employment and household growth.



Transportation

- We seek a broad range of public and private transportation choices for our Region which maximizes accessibility and affordability to everyone and minimizes reliance upon single occupancy use of the automobile.
- We seek a transportation system that maximizes community connectivity and walkability and minimizes ecological harm to the Region and world beyond.



Housing

- We seek a variety of housing types and choices in diverse, vibrant, safe, healthy, and sustainable neighborhoods, affordable to persons at all income levels.

Current Targets

- Capture 75% of the square footage of new commercial construction in Regional Activity Centers
- Capture 50% of new households in Regional Activity Centers
- By 2020, the housing and transportation costs in Regional Activity Centers will not exceed 45% of area median income (AMI)
- Reduce daily vehicle miles (VMT) per capita
- All Regional Activity Centers will have transit access
- Increase the rate of construction of bike and pedestrian facilities from the Transportation Planning Board's Plan
- Increase share of walk, bike, and transit trips (for all trips and commute trips)
- Give priority to management, performance, maintenance, and safety of all transportation modes and facilities.
- Transportation investments will link Regional Activity Centers

Responses to July Questionnaire on Accessibility

- “The share of sustainable, accessible jobs within a 45-minute transit commute from target COG Equity Areas.”
- “Increase access to jobs within transit commute from Equity Emphasis Areas”
- “The issue of lower wage, often service workers being scattered, and, presumably, less able to use transit, something we should focus on in targets for inclusion and equity?”
- “Households at 70 percent of AMI with access to transportation within ½ mile (10 min)/headways.”
- “Recommend a more aggressive target for population/household growth in RACs, by either increasing the target from 50% to 75% of new households in RACs, OR 50% of new households in particular RAC typologies from Place + Opportunity”
- “We should consider a lower threshold for affordability. Housing costs should be no more than 1/3 of AMI.”

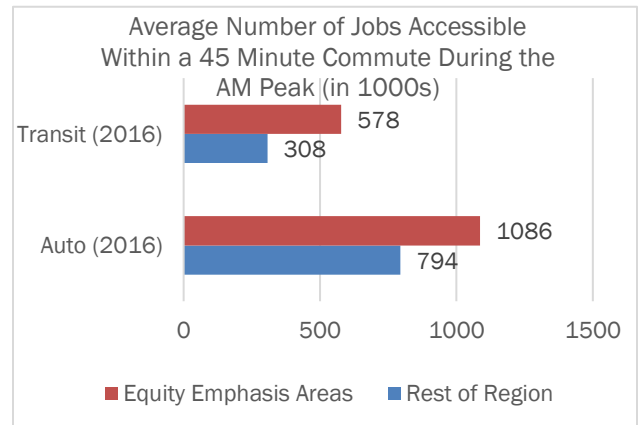
Potential Social Equity Targets for Accessibility:

Potential Target 1: Access to jobs within a 45-minute commute in the AM peak from target equity areas is equal to or better than the rest of the region

Approach: Utilize data from the base year analysis of the Environmental Justice Analysis

Source: Utilize data from the base year analysis of the Environmental Justice Analysis

Performance: In 2016, there were 578 thousand jobs available within a 45-minute transit commute and 1.09 million jobs available within a 45-minute auto commute from Equity Emphasis Areas

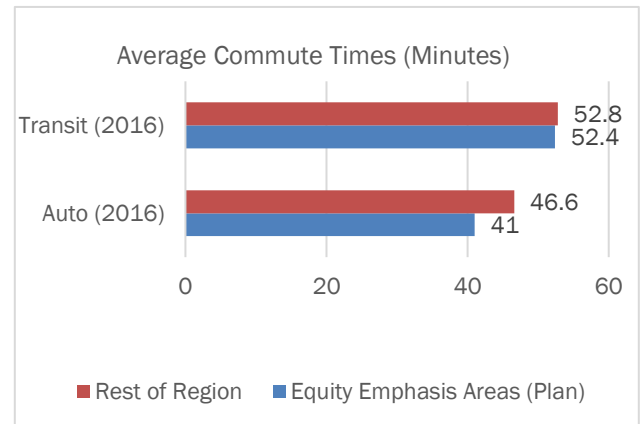


Potential Target 2: Commute times from Equity Emphasis Areas are equal to or better than the rest of the Region

Approach: Utilize data from the base year analysis of the Environmental Justice Analysis

Source: Utilize data from the base year analysis of the Environmental Justice Analysis

Performance: In 2016, the average commute by auto in Equity Emphasis Areas was 41.0 minutes while it was 46.6 minutes in the rest of the Region. The average commute time by transit was 52.4 from the Equity Emphasis Areas and 52.8 minutes from the rest of the Region.



Potential Revision to Housing Targets -- In September, the COG Board adopted Resolution R33-2018, directing the Planning Directors and Housing Directors to address the region's growing shortage of housing for workers to fill current and future jobs. As part of the work, the Planning Directors and Housing Directors will examine the existing housing targets under the Accessibility target. ***The Region Forward Coalition will learn more about this work during the January meeting.***

Equity Emphasis Areas – Are small geographic areas that have above average concentrations of low-income, minority populations, or both. The TPB-approved methodology for identifying EEAs relies on the U.S. Census Bureau American Community Survey (ACS) data on income, race, and ethnicity. Tract are identified as Equity Emphasis Areas if one of two criterions are met: 1) Tracts must have a concentration of individuals identified as low-income more than one-and-a-half times the regional average, or 2) Tracts must have high concentrations of two or more minority population groups or high concentrations of one or more minority population groups together with low-income concentrations at or above the regional average.

Additional information can be found at mwcog.org/transportation/planning-areas/fairness-and-accessibility/environmental-justice/equity-emphasis-areas/

Note: The above charts were prepared to help convey this concept. They use data from a staff analysis of the Transportation Planning Board's 2016 Constrained Long Range Plan. The Environmental Justice Analysis for Visualize 2045 is underway.

LIVABILITY

Current Goals



Housing

- Make the production, preservation, and distribution of affordable housing a priority throughout the region



Public Safety

- Safe communities for residents and visitors
- Partnerships that manage emergencies, protect the public health, safety, welfare, and preserve the lives, property and economic well-being of the region and its residents.



Public Health

- Communities in which every person enjoys health and well-being.

Current Targets

- Reduce percent of residents living in High-Poverty Census Tracts
- Reduce percent of renters and homeowners who are housing cost-burdened (paying more than 30 percent of annual income for housing)
- Reduce the number of pedestrian and bicycle fatalities
- Reduce violent and property crimes
- Increase access to real time crime data and timely emergency alerts through the internet or mobile applications
- Number of Jurisdictions adopting a model, example of, or framework to consider Health in All Policies (HiAP)
- All residents, including subgroups, enjoy continuous improvement in the quality & duration of their lives.

Responses to July Questionnaire and October “Ask and Offers”

Exercise

- Need more direct comparison of affordable housing, transportation access, economic factors, (employment, income), etc
- Consider disparities in wealth and how evenly it's distributed
- Equitable distribution of resilient housing stock proximate to worksite and better funded primary and secondary schools and open spaces with detrimental land uses also distributed equally
- Planning work in low opportunity areas and specific populations
- Connect this data to other issues, especially Housing affordability and then "take show on the road"

Potential Social Equity Target for Livability:

Potential Revised Target 1: Narrow the gap in life expectancy across metro D.C.

Approach: COG staff summary of data from *The Health of our Community Report*

Source: *The Health of our Community Report*

Performance: Across the region there is a 27-year gap in life expectancy. Health Officials would be consulted on how data could be summarized at a more regional level.

Potential Target 2: Reduce the number of racially and ethnically concentrated areas of poverty (R/ECAPs).

Approach: COG staff review of existing HUD and census data

Source: *HUD AFFH-Tool (online mapping resource)*

Performance: Count the current number of R/ECAPs region-wide and set goal to decrease the total

Potential Target 3: Reduce homelessness in metropolitan Washington

Approach: Coordination through COG's Homeless Services Committee

Source: *COG's Annual Report on Homelessness in Metropolitan Washington*

Performance: Review of annual PIT (Point-in-Time) data

SUSTAINABILITY

Current Goals



Land Use

- We seek the enhancement of established neighborhoods of differing densities with compact, walkable infill development, rehabilitation and retention of historic sites and districts, and preservation of open space, farmland and environmental resource land in rural areas.



Climate and Energy

- We seek a significant decrease in greenhouse gas emissions, with substantial reductions from the built environment and transportation sector.
- We seek efficient public and private use of energy Region-wide, with reliance upon renewable energy and alternative fuels for buildings, vehicles, and public transportation.



Environmental

- We seek to maximize protection and enhancement of the Region's environmental resources by meeting and exceeding standards for our air, water, and land.
- We seek preservation and enhancement of our Region's open space, green space, and wildlife preserves.

Current Targets

- By 2020, construct 5,000 certified green buildings
- By 2020, reduce regional greenhouse gas emissions by 20% below 2005 levels
- Beginning in 2014, the region's air quality will be improving, and ambient concentrations will be reduced below federal standards
- The region will identify, conserve, and enhance a network of protected open spaces, parks and green infrastructure to provide ecological benefits, wildlife habitat, recreational opportunities, and scenic beauty
- By 2025, achieve 100% of Chesapeake Bay Program's Water Quality Implementation Goals
- Beginning in 2012, the region will maintain more than 497,500 acres of its area for agricultural uses

Responses to April Questionnaire on Sustainability

- "Shift CIP emphasis from "new" project to revitalizing existing neighborhood. Say 85% of a CIP is geared to new and 15% to existing; change 75% / 25%"
- "Transportation and lack of multi-modal opportunities are barriers within traditionally low-income neighborhoods."
- "Shift emphasis into network of open spaces, etc., with a regional intraconnectability target."
- "In respect to food resiliency: composting systems need to be fully integrated into the cycle."

Potential Social Equity Target for Sustainability:

The primary limitation of measuring environmental equity is availability of data on water quality, air quality, climate impacts, utility (energy, water, sewer) expenditures, and other at a scale addressing equity emphasis areas. Our current focus is to address how equity considerations are incorporated into programmatic decision making. We are starting with looking at inclusion of equity and health considerations in climate and energy programs.

Potential Target: Incorporate social equity, cultural sensitivity, and community health considerations into local climate change planning, program, and policy decisions

Approach: COG staff will survey member jurisdictions on a periodic basis as part of assessing the Climate and Energy Action Plan.

Source: Data will be obtained from the Climate and Energy Progress Dashboard

Performance: COG Environmental Programs, through outreach to energy and climate program managers, found that three of the Region’s jurisdictions had incorporated social equity, cultural sensitivity, and community health considerations into local climate change planning, programs, and policy decisions. However, no systematic assessment has been completed.

The **2017-2020 Climate and Energy Action Plan** included a protect equity and health section.

CHALLENGE

Vulnerable populations may have less ability to respond to or recover from climate impacts.

VULNERABLE POPULATIONS

Climate change will impact people and communities differently. Potentially vulnerable populations may include low-income, minority, people with limited English proficiency, the elderly, children, people with chronic health problems, or disabled persons. As vulnerable populations may face greater risk, their consideration and inclusion in climate change planning can help ensure equitable distribution of benefits.

LOCAL ACTIONS

COG and its members will continue to support actions to protect equity and health. Throughout this Plan there are actions that support equity and public health protection. The following table includes a variety of additional voluntary action options and flexible implementation levels. The percent column refers to the percentage of COG member local jurisdictions undertaking this action by 2020.

PROTECT EQUITY AND HEALTH		%
7-a.	Identify the community’s priorities for equitable environmental improvements. Provide data and resources to support decision-making of priorities.	25%
7-b.	Conduct cumulative environmental and health impact assessments in underserved communities.	25%
7-c.	Integrate equity and health considerations and strategies into climate and energy policies, plans, and programs. Identify impacts of policies and programs to underserved populations and communities and how to maximize positive impacts and minimize negative impacts.	25%
7-d.	Develop a healthy food access or food security plan.	25%
7-e.	Direct environmental incentives towards vulnerable populations.	25%
7-f.	Provide training to local government staff on successful public engagement techniques, equity and diversity.	25%
7-g.	Support community environmental monitoring programs to increase community participation in gathering and accessing community data (e.g., citizen science).	25%
7-h.	Provide meaningful engagement forums and community leadership development opportunities to enhance citizen’s knowledge on the local environmental planning process, how to influence environmental decision-making, and how to access data, technical assistance, and resources.	50%