

COG BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING

DATE: October 10, 2012

TIME: 12:00 Noon

PLACE: COG Board Room

District of Columbia

*Bladensburg**

Bowie

Charles County

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

**Adjunct Member*

**PLEASE NOTE: Chairman Principi will begin the meeting promptly at 12:00 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)**

**Chairman Frank Principi
Supervisor, Prince William County**

**2. ANNOUNCEMENTS
(12:00 – 12:05 p.m.)**

Chairman Principi

- a) Update on Executive Director Search Committee
- b) Annual Membership and Awards Luncheon on December 12

**3. EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S REPORT
(12:05 – 12-15 p.m.)**

- a) Outreach
- b) Legislative and Regulatory Update
- c) Information and Follow-Up
- d) Letters Sent/Received
- e) General Counsel's Report

**4. AMENDMENTS TO AGENDA
(12:15 – 12:20 p.m.)**

**5. APPROVAL OF MINUTES OF SEPTEMBER 12, 2012
(12:20 – 12:25 p.m.)**

CONSENT AGENDA

6. ADOPTION OF CONSENT AGENDA ITEMS (12:25 –12:30 p.m.)

A. RESOLUTION APPROVING RECOMMENDATIONS FOR THE 2013 NOMINATING COMMITTEE

The Board will be asked to adopt Resolution R44-2012, wherein the COG Board Chairman shall recommend members to serve on the 2013 Nominating Committee. The Committee will recommend: 1) a slate of corporate officers for action by the General Membership at its Annual Meeting on December 12, 2012; and 2) a slate of officers for the Board of Directors for action by the Board at its January 9, 2013 meeting.

RECOMMENDED ACTION: Adopt Resolution R44-2012.

B. RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR TO ACCEPT AN URBAN AREA SECURITY INITIATIVE SUBGRANT TO CONTINUE TO PROVIDE COG EXECUTIVE, PROFESSIONAL AND TECHNICAL SECRETARIAT SUPPORT FOR HOMELAND SECURITY ACTIVITIES

The Board will be asked to adopt Resolution R45-2012, authorizing the Executive Director, or his designee, to receive funds of up to \$783,023 through a Subgrant from the State Administrative Agent to provide Executive, Professional, and Technical Secretariat Support. The purpose of such support will be to assist the Emergency Preparedness Council, the Chief Administrative Officers, the Senior Policy Group, Regional Emergency Support Functions, Regional Program Working Groups, the State Administrative Agent, Office of National Capital Region Coordination, and others and to support the investment planning process in enhancing emergency preparedness in the National Capital Region. No COG matching funds are required.

RECOMMENDED ACTION: Adopt Resolution R45-2012.

C. RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR TO ENTER INTO A CONTRACT WITH A CONSULTING FIRM TO PROVIDE HEALTH AND MEDICAL PLANNING SUPPORT IN THE NATIONAL CAPITAL REGION

The Board will be asked to adopt Resolution R46-2012, authorizing the Executive Director, or his designee, to receive and expend up to \$2,062,500 to provide health and medical planning support in the National Capital Region consistent with the approved Project Management Plan. Funding for this effort will be provided through an Urban Area Security Initiative Subgrant from the State Administrative Agent. No COG matching funds are required.

RECOMMENDED ACTION: Adopt Resolution R46-2012.

D. RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING COG TO ISSUE A CONTRACT TO PROVIDE INCIDENT COMMAND SYSTEM SECTION TRAINING AND EMERGENCY OPERATIONS CENTER TEAM TRAINING AND TO CONDUCT A READINESS EXERCISE

The Board will be asked to adopt Resolution R47-2012, authorizing the Executive Director, or his designee, to receive and expend up to \$307,500 to develop standardized training on procedures that are essential for each Incident Command System position and Emergency Operations Center team member. This will include Incident Command System section training, Emergency Operations Center team training, and the conduct of a Readiness Exercise. Funding for this effort will be provided through a Subgrant from the State Administrative Agent. No COG matching funds are required.

RECOMMENDED ACTION: Adopt Resolution R47-2012.

INFORMATION ITEMS

7. ECONOMY FORWARD: SEQUESTRATION AND BEYOND (12:30-1:05 p.m.)

Carolyn Coleman
Director, Center for Federal Relations
National League of Cities

Fred Abouselman
Executive Director
National Association of Regional Councils

The federal government has been the driving force behind metropolitan Washington's economy for decades. However, changes are afoot and the combination of slowing federal spending, automatic spending cuts of \$1.2 trillion (sequestration), and ongoing budget uncertainty is pushing this region dangerously close to a fiscal cliff. With Bush era tax cuts set to expire and new programs like the Affordable Care Act just beginning, lawmakers on Capitol Hill continue to disagree on the federal budget. For a region with such a high level of federal investment, these cuts would have an enormous ripple effect throughout the entire economy. The COG Board will be briefed on the impacts of sequestration and possible long-term cuts in federal employment and procurement in the National Capital Region.

RECOMMENDED ACTION: Receive briefing.

8. PREPARATION FOR THE NOVEMBER 6 GENERAL ELECTION (1:05 – 1:20 p.m.)

Alysoun McLaughlin
Deputy Executive Director, Elections Board, Montgomery County
Co-Chair, COG Elections Officials Technical Committee

David Bjerke
Registrar, City of Falls Church
Co-Chair, COG Elections Officials Technical Committee

Cliff Tatum
Executive Director, District of Columbia Board of Elections

COG has supported an Elections Officials Technical Committee as part of its work program for several years. The Committee fosters collaboration and the sharing of best practices on voter education, election policies and procedures, and vote tabulation and reporting. Committee representatives will discuss preparations underway for the November 6 general election, including MetroDCVote.org—a site created to help citizens in the District of Columbia, Maryland and Virginia make sure they are registered to vote.

RECOMMENDED ACTION: Receive briefing and provide direction to Committee on next steps.

9. OTHER BUSINESS
(1:20 – 1:25 p.m.)

10. ADJOURN – NEXT MEETING NOVEMBER 14
(1:25 p.m.)

If there is no other business to come before the Board, the Chairman may call for adjournment.



Reasonable accommodations are provided for persons with disabilities. Please allow 7 business days to process requests. Phone: 202.962.3300 or 202-962.3213 (TDD). Email: accommodations@mwkog.org.
For details: www.mwkog.org



AGENDA ITEM #2

ANNOUNCEMENTS

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AGENDA ITEM #3

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S REPORT

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COG

October 10, 2012

media report

Click on any of the underlined words to read/watch the news item.

Major Conference on Gangs in the Region

From September 25-28, COG convened hundreds of area law enforcement, gang experts, elected officials, and community leaders in Silver Spring to discuss eliminating gang activity in metropolitan Washington. Prevention, intervention, and regional cooperation were the key themes of the event which included sessions on topics ranging from an overview of gang trends in the region to how gangs use social media to recruit members to how they raise revenue. Several news outlets covered the event, including [WAMU](#), ABC 7, WTOP, the *Frederick-News Post*, the Montgomery Gazette, and the Capital News Service.



Chairman Frank Principi, Congressmen Frank Wolf and Chris Van Hollen, and Montgomery Councilmember George Leventhal at the Metropolitan Washington Gang Conference

Moving the Region's Economy Forward

Given the immediate concerns about sequestration and the long-term outlook of reduced federal spending, the COG Board of Directors made economic competitiveness its top priority for 2012. After months of input from industry leaders, area economic development directors, and experts, the COG Board approved [Economy Forward](#), a five point plan to strengthen the region's economy. Read a [WTOP piece](#) highlighting some of the report's recommendations.

Crime Declines in Metropolitan Washington

Crime in the region continues to decline, with 2011 experiencing a 6.3 percent drop in violent and property crime, according to COG's [2011 Annual Report on Crime & Crime Control](#). Since 2007, the region has experienced a 16.5 percent decline in overall crime, with major reductions in motor vehicle theft, homicide, aggravated assault, and robbery fueling the drop. D.C. Police Chief Cathy Lanier and Prince George's County Police Chief Mark A. Magaw were on hand to discuss the report's findings at the September COG Board meeting. The meeting and the report's findings were covered by several media outlets, including [The Washington Post](#), the [Washington Examiner](#), WTOP, and [The Washington Times](#).

SOCIAL MEDIA UPDATE



Several blog posts highlighting the new Activity Centers have been featured recently at [RegionForward.org](#), including:

- [New Activity Centers: smaller, more numerous, and more effective](#)
- [Metro Washington investing in a vision for dozens of "downtowns"](#)
- [Crystal City: An Activity Center in transformation](#)



STAFFORD *Virginia*

Board of Supervisors

Susan B. Stimpson, Chairman
Cord A. Sterling, Vice Chairman
Jack R. Cavalier
Paul V. Milde, III
Ty A. Schieber
Gary F. Snellings
Robert "Bob" Thomas, Jr.

Anthony J. Romanello, ICMA-CM
County Administrator

September 5, 2012

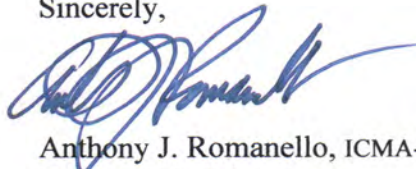
Mr. David Robertson, Executive Director
Metropolitan Washington Council of Governments
777 North Capitol Street, Suite 3000
Washington, DC 20002

Dear Mr. Robertson:

The Board of Supervisors at their September 4, 2012 meeting adopted resolution R12-282, which summarizes a formal request for the inclusion of Stafford County as an adjoining locality for UASI projects, and further desires that this inclusion be endorsed for approval by the UASI Senior Policy Group and the National Capital Region Chief Administrative Officers Homeland Security Executive Council.

Again, we are most grateful to be considered to participate in UASI region projects that are of regional and local importance to public safety.

Sincerely,



Anthony J. Romanello, ICMA-CM
County Administrator

AJR:wam

cc: Mark Lockhart
Mark Gibb

Attachment



BOARD OF SUPERVISORS
COUNTY OF STAFFORD
STAFFORD, VIRGINIA

RESOLUTION

At a regular meeting of the Stafford County Board of Supervisors (the Board) held in the Board Chambers, Stafford County Administration Center, Stafford, Virginia, on the 4th day of September 2012:

<u>MEMBERS:</u>	<u>VOTE:</u>
Susan B. Stimpson, Chairman	Yes
Cord A. Sterling, Vice Chairman	Yes
Jack R. Cavalier	Yes
Paul V. Milde III	Yes
Ty A. Schieber	Yes
Gary F. Snellings	Yes
Robert "Bob" Thomas, Jr.	Yes

On motion of Mr. Milde, seconded by Mr. Sterling, which carried by a vote of 7 to 0, the following was adopted:

A RESOLUTION TO APPROVE A FORMAL REQUEST TO THE METROPOLITAN WASHINGTON COUNCIL OF GOVERNMENTS FOR PARTICIPATION IN THE URBAN AREA SECURITY INITIATIVE (UASI)

WHEREAS, the United States Department of Homeland Security's Federal Emergency Management Agency offers and oversees the Urban Area Security Initiative (UASI) program to assist those localities in defined urban areas in building an enhanced and sustainable capacity to prevent, protect against, mitigate, respond to, and recover from acts of terrorism; and

WHEREAS, the National Capitol Region is one of thirty-one identified UASI regions in the nation, and Stafford County is a contiguous locality to the defined UASI region; and


WHEREAS, Stafford County provides mutual aid response and support to other localities within the UASI region; and

WHEREAS, Stafford County desires to participate in UASI region projects that are of regional and local importance to public safety;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Stafford County Board of Supervisors on this the 4th day of September, 2012, that it be and hereby does desire to make a formal request for the inclusion of Stafford County as a contiguous locality for UASI projects, and further requests that this inclusion be endorsed for approval by the UASI Senior Policy Group and the National Capital Region Chief Administrative Officers Homeland Security Executive Council; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED the County Administrator or his designee forward a copy of this resolution to the Metropolitan Washington Council of Governments for consideration.

A Copy, teste:



Anthony J. Romanello, ICMA-CM
County Administrator

AJR/ML



Metropolitan Washington Council of Governments
777 North Capitol St. NE, Suite 300
Washington, DC 20002
September 12, 2012

Chairman Principi and members of the Board,

This letter conveys the attached Sierra Club position regarding the proposed update of the Council of Governments (COG) Activity Center Map that will come before you for approval by yearend. The Sierra Club entities that have adopted this position (listed below) represent approximately 10,000 members in the region. Growth patterns and their impact on the environment have long been a major concern of ours.

We recognize that the Council of Governments has limited ability to influence local land use decisions and that jurisdictions guard this authority. We also understand that COG staff will continue to provide a more refined analysis that will inform member planners and elected officials of possible benefits to having a less dispersed development pattern.

While we appreciate the effort that has been started, we believe that the Board has an opportunity, by taking a more regional perspective, to improve the process. Acceptance and implementation of these recommendations will require your direct leadership. Please give them your full consideration,

Sincerely,

Alvin Carlos, Chair
Montgomery County Group
4740 Bradley Blvd, Apt 320
Chevy Chase, MD 20815

Linda Burchfiel, Chair
Great Falls Group
1605 Maddux Lane
McLean, VA 22101

Dean Amel, Chair
Mount Vernon Group
3013 4th St North
Arlington, VA 22201

Sierra Club position on the proposed Council of Governments “Activity Centers Strategic Implementation Plan” and Map

The Sierra Club has supported Region Forward since its inception over 3 years ago. We recognize that the broad goals of sustainability, prosperity, accessibility and livability are proper goals to seek and invest in. We applaud the progress so far and the dedication shown by all participants. Yet we believe that this most recent proposal regarding Activity Centers is potentially harmful because there are too many sites named as centers and some are poorly selected. Such a list has the potential to legitimize sprawl rather than contain it.

The set of Activity Centers (ACs) indicated in the draft and the criteria described for their selection have the potential to interfere with progress toward some of the goals of Region Forward, notably to locate growth in Activity Centers, defined here as dense, walkable communities served by accessible transit, including evenings and weekends. Indeed, transit should be one of the Core Attributes. Having too many sites, i.e. overcapacity for likely growth, will dilute efforts to focus investment on areas that have the best potential. This would be especially important when decisions are made on prioritizing new public transit routes, presumably to some of these centers. Throughout the evolution of this project, the issue of the east-west divide has been acknowledged, but not addressed. While the activity centers designated to the east will ameliorate sprawl and congestion, this is counteracted by the number of activity centers to the west and north, and the far-flung nature of some of these. The selection of activity centers by a proper use of criteria is one way to try to make a tangible improvement of this critical problem.

The following lists some concerns that need to be addressed:

- The Baseline Progress Report shows only 46% of commercial space being constructed in ACs in 2010 compared to a goal of 75% (pg 14). The percent of residential construction in ACs is 31% and projected to decline against a goal of 50% (pg 15).
- Outside investors may be misled by a COG “endorsement” of an unjustified site as an AC.
- The concept of reformatting a former large AC into several smaller ones changes nothing. It still sanctions sprawl.
- Attempting a “fair distribution” of ACs to all jurisdictions will result in some weak sites to be included and some deserving ones to be omitted. It should not be a goal. It may be possible to avoid this by strict adherence to well-chosen criteria.
- Evaluating density based on speculated conditions 30 years hence and dependent on a fickle market is too uncertain.

We therefore recommend as revisions to the Activity Center Plan that:

- 1) The Region Forward Coalition should be very judicious in naming sites as ACs so as to focus limited resources and simplify planning.
- 2) Every rail station (Metro, light rail or commuter lines with daily and weekend service) be named as an AC unless the local jurisdiction objects.
- 3) Former large ACs may become singular ACs (by meeting the criteria) and jurisdictions may identify nearby areas as satellite centers.

- 4) A common definition for a “priority growth area” named in the first core attribute be adopted.
- 5) The density description be revised to a more near-term level, such as current density plus the expected result of any rezoning applications. Adopt a fixed numerical level of persons per acre in place of the rule of “in the top half for the jurisdiction.”
- 6) Set an upper limit on the size of an AC, such as 1000 acres.
- 7) Revise the Additional Attributes to be an even more flexible structure. Establish, when possible for a given criterion, two levels of attainment of an attribute. By raising rail stations to a singular core attribute, there can be a criterion for bus service. The choices for additional attributes might look like:

Criterion	High measure	Low measure
Intersection density	60	50
Bus hourly capacity (or frequency)	300 ?	200 ?
Land use mix	Leave as is	
Affordability – H & T costs	<45%	<40%
(New) Community Support	Active, open	Minimal opposition

These criteria could all be encouraged by using for example, high-low choices and combinations. If the higher values can be met, 3 of 5 measures added to the 2 core values will suffice, or 4 of the lower values can be used. To address the aforementioned East-West divide issue, an exception should be included to accept sites east of the Anacostia River that meet only 3 of the lower measures for additional attributes. These example values can be adjusted from the original levels according to what is learned in the typology analysis.

- 8) There be a defined process for adding and dropping ACs at defined intervals. If the growth is greater than projected overall, then additional ACs can be identified to help absorb it. On the other hand, if growth overall is slower than expected, having too many ACs competing for investment dollars will not likely be beneficial for many of them that did not reach a critical threshold.

Attachment: a list of which ACs we consider poor selections and those we might add.

[Montgomery County GroupD-Chapter](#)
[Great Falls GroupDC-Chapter](#)
[Mount Vernon GroupVA-Chapter](#)

Questionable Activity Centers listed in the current plan

Maryland

- 1) Fort Detrick
- 2) Jefferson Tech Park
- 4) East Rising
- 5) Francis Scott Key Mall
- 6) Brunswick
- 7) Urbana
- 8) Clarksburg
- 47) Westphalia

Virginia

- 104) Dulles East
- 105) Dulles South
- 111) Beltway South
- 121) One Loudoun
- 123) Rt 28 North
- 124) Rt 28 Central
- 125) Rt 28 South
- 130) Yorkshire
- 133) Potomac Shores
- 136) Manassas Airport

Worthwhile Virginia sites that are missing:

Annandale
West Falls Church
Lorton VRE station
City of Vienna/Vienna Metro



AGENDA ITEM #4

AMENDMENTS TO AGENDA



AGENDA ITEM #5

**APPROVAL OF MINUTES OF
SEPTEMBER 12, 2012**

METROPOLITAN WASHINGTON COUNCIL OF GOVERNMENTS
777 North Capitol Street, N.E.
Washington, D.C. 20002

MINUTES

Board of Directors Meeting
COG Board Room

September 12, 2012

BOARD MEMBERS, ALTERNATES, AND OTHER PARTICIPANTS

PRESENT AND NOT PRESENT:

See attached chart for attendance.

STAFF:

David J. Robertson, Executive Director
Sharon Pandak, General Counsel
Nicole Hange, Government Relations Coordinator
Barbara J. Chapman, Executive Board Secretary

GUESTS:

1. CALL TO ORDER AND PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Chairman Principi called the meeting to order at 12:00 p.m. and led those present in the Pledge of Allegiance.

2. CHAIRMAN'S ANNOUNCEMENTS

Chairman Principi introduced Supervisor Pete Candland (Prince William County) and Council Member Dennis Brady (City of Bowie) and welcomed them to their first COG Board Meeting.

Executive Director Search Committee. The Chairman reported that the Executive Director Search Committee met earlier today to review 115 resumes from candidates for the open position. The review was conducted by Jim Mercer of The Mercer Group, Inc., and the field was narrowed to six remaining candidates. He reviewed the timeline for completion of the selection process, stating that candidates would be interviewed on September 21, 2012, with a second round of interviews scheduled on October 1 with a representative from the Chief Administrative Officers Committee and Senior Management of COG. The final one or two candidates will be presented to the COG Board Meeting on October 10 for the final selection. We are on schedule to have someone on board in December.

Verizon 911 Service and the June 29, 2012 Derecho. A status report from Verizon dated August 13, 2012, on the problems encountered following the Derecho storms on June 29, 2012, was distributed to Board members. The report describes Verizon's final analysis of what happened and identifies important corrective actions to minimize the risk of future problems. We expect to have a COG-prepared report on the Verizon issue at a future Board meeting as well. A copy of the Verizon report is available on COG's website.

Annual Membership and Awards Luncheon on December 12, 2012. The Chairman requested that Board members save the date for COG's annual membership and awards luncheon. It will take place on December 12 at the Marriott Metro Center where we held the event in 2011. More details to come, such as the keynote speaker.

NARC Conference Outcomes. Vice Chair Penelope A. Gross, Fairfax County, updated the Board on the National Association of Regional Councils Conference held in June. The Chairman again congratulated her on her election as President of NARC for the year 2013.

3. EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S REPORT

Outreach/Media

COG Outreach and Media Reports, both dated September 12, 2012, were provided to Board Members. Dave Robertson touched on the Outreach highlights, which included a meeting with representatives from the U.S. General Accountability Office regarding homeland security. He also met with Pepco officials to discuss a proposed program to link residents with utility jobs. At the invitation of Alderman Karen Young (City of Frederick), he spoke at the Frederick Rotary Club about COG and regional issues. Member outreach also included meetings held during the month with Supervisor Frank Principi (Prince William County), Mayor Hal Parrish (Manassas), Mayor-Elect Scott Silverthorne (City of Fairfax), and Abby Raphael, new Emergency Preparedness Council member.

Media events in July/August also included the summer Derecho storm that hit metropolitan Washington and resulted in prolonged power outages for hundreds of thousands of the region's residents prompted immediate calls from elected officials for a regional response, particularly the 9-1-1 service outages. A task force has been created to study the failures. Media coverage has been extensive, with ABC 7, NBC 4, CBS 9, WTOP, WAMU, the Washington Examiner, The Washington Post, and others spreading the news.

Around the Region. Leaders from the Montgomery County Council and Fairfax County Board of Supervisors held their first-ever joint session. The topic was transportation, and the meeting was prompted by impending challenges posed by the soon-to-be-open Route 495 Beltway Express Lanes in Virginia that do not extend across the border into Maryland. COG's Ron Kirby, Department of Transportation Planning Director, provided data and analysis to help kick off the discussion. The meeting was covered by several newspapers and a *Region Forward* blog posting. The future of the region's bus networks was in the news, too, highlighting a possible 500-mile bus rapid transit network to operate across the region within the next 30 years based on a COG study.

New Improved COG Calendar of Events. Renamed **COG Upcoming Events**, this piece now focuses on COG-related events only. The September 12 issue announced outside events such as "Car Free Day" on September 22, the *Metropolitan Washington Gang Conference* on September 25 – 28, and the *COG Annual Membership and Awards Luncheon on December 12*. For more information on these events, visit mwcog.org/events.

Area Elections Officers Work through COG. Thanks to COG's Election Officials Technical Committee, the region has a website set up to advise area residents about voting. We anticipate having officials attend the COG Board meeting in October to talk about the new website to assist voters by providing

basic information for voting on November 6. The metrodcvote.org site has information on registration, how to register, voting by absentee ballot, and the hours for voting in D.C., Maryland and Virginia.

Councilmember Roger Berliner (Prince George's County) thanked Dave Robertson for his excellent presentation to the Prince George's County Council on September 11, 2012, on the *Region Forward* Activity Centers.

Information and Follow Up

COG Building Security. Calling attention to an information sheet on Building Security Improvements, Mr. Robertson commented that COG VIP Cards have been distributed Board members. As of August 1, these cards must be used to access the lobby elevators to get anywhere above the lobby level of the building. Anyone with a VIP Card entering the building through the garage level will exit the elevator on the Lobby Level. Once there, cardholders will have to show the elevator lobby security guard the VIP card to access the upper floors. If anyone should forget to bring the VIP Card, please go to the Lobby Desk for assistance.

Letters Sent and/or Received

In a letter from the Washington Regional Association of Grantmakers (WRAG), Terrie Lee Freeman, Chair of the Board of Directors and President of the Community Foundation for the National Capital Region, wrote to Chairman Principi about the powerful role COG plays in shaping, supporting and implementing a vision for our region, which prompted him to write regarding the COG Executive Director position. She offered seven considerations for management to review as it seeks to make a decision on a candidate who can truly move the region forward. A copy of the letter was provided to members of the Executive Director Search Committee and representatives of The Mercer Group, Inc.

COG Vice Chair Phil Mendelson wrote to the Executive Director regarding a hearing on the "Reliability of the District's 911 Call System," which is to be held on September 20, 2012. He invited Dave Robertson to testify at this hearing. A copy of the Notice of Public Oversight Hearing was attached to the letter, and both documents were distributed to the COG Board of Directors.

Letters were sent to David P. Agnew, Deputy Director for Intergovernmental Affairs at The White House, and Anthony G. Brown, Lieutenant Governor of Maryland, thanking them for speaking at COG's annual leadership retreat on July 20-22. A letter from David Agnew was received on September 10, in which he expressed his appreciation for the opportunity to meet with COG's members and discuss efforts to further strengthen the federal-local partnership in this region.

4. AMENDMENTS TO AGENDA

There were no amendments to the Agenda.

5. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

The minutes of the July 11, 2012, Board Meeting were approved and adopted as written.

6. ADOPTION OF CONSENT AGENDA ITEMS

Supplemental documents: R37-2012 through R42-2012 and Letter to the Congressional Delegation

A. RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING COG TO ISSUE A CONTRACT TO DEVELOP A NATIONAL CAPITAL REGION URBAN AREA SECURITY INITIATIVE ON THREAT AND HAZARD IDENTIFICATION AND RISK ASSESSMENT

Resolution R37-20132 authorizes the COG Executive Director, or his designee, to receive and expend up to \$100,418 to develop a National Capital Region Urban Area Security Initiative on Threat and Hazard identification and Risk Assessment. Funding for this effort will be provided through a Subgrant from the State Administrative Agent. No COG matching funds are required.

B. RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING COG TO ISSUE A CONTRACT FOR THE NCR SITUATIONAL AWARENESS DASHBOARD IMPLEMENTATION FOR THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA

Resolution R38-2012 authorizes the Executive Director, or his designee, to receive and expend up to \$717,500 for the National Capital Region Situational Awareness Dashboard Implementation that will increase regional and local situational awareness by providing well organized information that is easy to consume, analyze, and act upon. Funding for this effort will be provided through a Subgrant from the State Administrative Agent. No COG matching funds are required.

C. APPROVAL OF LETTER TO CONGRESSIONAL DELEGATION FOR REGIONAL SAFETY-RELATED COSTS ASSOCIATED WITH THE 2013 PRESIDENTIAL INAUGURATION

The COG Board approved a letter to the area's Congressional Delegation and House and Senate Leadership to seek assistance in securing funds for safety-related costs associated with the 2013 Presidential Inauguration. This action was requested by the COG Chief Administrative Officers Committee, the COG Emergency Managers Committee, and the Senior Policy Group responsible for the National Capital Region Urban Areas Security Initiative grant. Approval will aid COG and area officials in advocating for federal support of Inauguration-related expenses.

D. RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR TO RECEIVE AND EXPEND AN URBAN AREA SECURITY INITIATIVE SUBGRANT FOR THE PURPOSE OF DEVELOPING AND IMPLEMENTING A REGIONAL CYBER SECURITY FRAMEWORK

Resolution R39-2012 authorizes the Executive Director, or his designee, to receive and expend an Urban Area Security Initiative (UASI) subgrant in the amount of \$410,256 for the purpose of developing and implementing a regional cyber security framework project in the National Capital Region. No COG matching funds are required.

E. RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR TO RECEIVE AND EXPEND URBAN AREAS SECURITY INITIATIVE GRANT FUNDING FOR NCR HOSPITAL POWER RESILIENCY

Resolution R40-2012 authorizes the Executive Director, or his designee, to accept and expend grant funding in the amount of \$1,190,000 from the Department of Homeland Security Urban Areas Security Initiative for the design and installation of electrical components at four of the region's high priority Regional Trauma Centers and priority surge facilities, making these hospital centers

“generator ready” to support all critical functions during an emergency. The expected duration of grant is through May 2014, and no COG matching funds are required.

F. RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR TO RECEIVE AND EXPEND URBAN AREAS SECURITY INITIATIVE GRANT FUNDING FOR NCR EMERGENCY SHELTER POWER RESILIENCY

Resolution R41-2012 authorizes the Executive Director, or his designee, to accept and expend grant funding in the amount of \$250,000 from the Department of Homeland Security Urban Areas Security Initiative for identification of the region's high priority emergency shelters and the provision of engineering designs to make as many shelters as possible “generator ready” to support all critical functions during an emergency, with a target capability of being able to operate for 96 hours without access to public utilities. The expected duration of the grant is through May 2014, and no COG matching funds are required.

G. RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR TO RECEIVE AND EXPEND AN URBAN AREA SECURITY INITIATIVE SUBGRANT FOR THE PURPOSE OF IMPLEMENTING REGIONAL WATER SYSTEM SECURITY MONITORING PROJECTS IN THE NATIONAL CAPITAL REGION

Resolution R42-2012 authorizes the Executive Director, or his designee, to receive and expend a UASI subgrant in the amount of \$240,000 for the purpose of implementing regional water system security monitoring projects in the National Capital Region. No COG matching funds are required.

ACTION: Upon motion duly made and seconded, Resolutions R37-2012 through R42-2012 and the Letter to the Congressional Delegation were unanimously approved and adopted by the COG Board of Directors.

7. COG RETREAT OUTCOMES

Supplemental documents: Annual Retreat Summary

Chairman Principi referred to COG’s 13th Annual Retreat July 20 through 22, 2012, at the Hyatt Regency Chesapeake Bay in Cambridge, Maryland. He gave an overview of the program. Thirty-eight elected and appointed officials attended COG’s Annual Retreat for excellent discussions on our economic growth work, activity centers, and COG’s governance. There was even time for a competitive albeit friendly game of Regional Jeopardy, a retreat “first.” Board members were provided a summary report of the 2012 Annual Retreat and a retreat evaluation summary.

The main focus of the Retreat was our top Board priority—growing our economy. We discussed how the region and COG must do things differently regarding transportation, economic development, rebranding, and workforce development. Moving forward, it will be important to expand COG’s circle of friends to include the White House, the governors, and the region’s delegations to the House of Representatives and Senate. This point was reinforced in speeches given by Maryland Lieutenant Governor Anthony Brown and White House Director of Intergovernmental Relations David Agnew, both of whom committed to improve collaboration efforts with COG.

COG's Economy Forward Call to Action report will set the framework for needed action that ensures the region's economic growth and competitiveness. There were three work sessions on Saturday, as follows:

(1) **Proposed COG Economic Growth and Competitiveness Call to Action**, for which five priorities for regional action were set, as follows: transportation infrastructure, regional workforce, federal-regional partnerships, regional rebranding strategy, and regional housing mix.

(2) **COG Governance**, focusing on how to best organize the roles of COG, the TPB and MWAQC, with the general consensus favoring a stronger role for the COG Board along with changes to COG's committee structure, funding rules, and public participation practices to strengthen the organization's effectiveness and advance the *Region Forward* vision plan.

(3) **Proposed 2012 Region Forward Activity Center Maps**, presented by Eric Olson, Vice Chair of the Prince George's County Council, and Harriet Tregoning, Director of Planning for the District of Columbia, and participants agreed the updated maps would be useful in implementing *Region Forward* goals.

As to the topic of COG Governance, the Chairman particularly mentioned the need to continuously improve the approach and workflow at COG. Dave Robertson felt it would be a very timely topic for a future Board meeting, since there will be a new Executive Director coming on board by year end.

At the retreat, Chairman Principi commented that COG had considered a funding strategy for the Activity Center projects. Supervisor Matt Letourneau (Loudoun County) suggested using TPB to seek the funding instead of COG. Council Member Dan Drummond (City of Fairfax) thought all was accomplished at the retreat as planned.

ACTION: Receive Presentation.

8. ECONOMY FORWARD REPORT

Supplemental documents: Economy Forward Report

In his opening remarks, the Chairman stated that a fundamental shift is underway in the metropolitan Washington area to improve the region's competitiveness and create a prosperous future for all area residents. After decades of strong, reliable growth thanks primarily to the federal government, the region's economy is dangerously close to a fiscal disaster. Today we are faced with a new trend of decreased federal spending as well as automatic cuts—sequestration—of \$1.2 trillion. In this time of change and uncertainty, we decided to make regional economic growth and competitiveness our 2012 priority. After several good sessions during our Board meetings this year and some constructive discussion at the COG retreat, we have before us today a focused Call to Action to address key regional challenges that impact our economy.

This report will also help us advance our Region Forward vision, since our region's long-term economic success is closely tied with our quality of life. Given the changing role of the federal government in our region, we know we need to work more closely and more strategically with our federal partners. We also need to build our private sector by building on our competitive advantages. We know our competitors around the U.S. and world are examining and implementing strategies to spur

their economic growth as well. We believe COG has the capacity and relationships to effectively lead this effort in our region. This was a major takeaway from our discussion at the retreat.

Some very promising projects are already underway at COG that are moving us in the right direction. For example, the Transportation priorities Plan and Region Forward Activity Centers work will have a major impact in strengthening our region's competitiveness and attractiveness to businesses and workers. We talk a lot here about working together more closely among our different groups like the COG Board, TPB, Region Forward Coalition, and other committees. Today we have invited Todd Turner (City of Bowie) and the Chair of the Transportation Planning Board, and Eric Olson (Prince George's County) and the Chair of COG's Region Forward Coalition, to detail this work bring the Board up to date on progress in their committees.

The Chairman turned to Nicole Hange for a more detailed discussion on the report's recommendations. Ms. Hange stated that the report recommends five specific actions necessary to strengthen the region's economy, noting that two are already underway. She then highlighted the three new initiatives. We know that the federal government will play a smaller role in the regional economy, which reinforces the need to strengthen our partnership with the Administration. Staff has begun to work with the Administration to identify a liaison to the National Capital Region to improve communication and help regional leaders better understand and mitigate the impact of federal cuts and plan future investments. COG will also undertake, through the Region Forward Coalition, industry and labor market analysis, the data from which will be used to address the mismatch between available jobs and a skilled workforce. This mismatch was widely noted among stakeholders as a major challenge for economic growth. This data will also inform the creation of a new branding strategy for the region that more adequately reflects the region's assets, specifically that we are more than just a government town. COG is currently working with the region's economic development directors to identify opportunities for greater collaboration and input.

Ms. Hange then asked Transportation Planning Board Chairman Todd Turner to highlight the efforts underway by the TPB to implement a transportation priorities plan that garner's broad-based public support and produces sustainable funding strategies. Mr. Turner noted that the TPB will develop, with strong input from stakeholders and the public, a list of 10-15 top priority strategies and identify specific funding sources to make the strategies a reality. The work is expected to be completed by late spring, and when Mr. Turner will return to the COG Board with its report.

Finally, Eric Olson, Chair of the Region Forward Coalition, discussed work underway by the Coalition to implement a plan that will guide more efficient investments in the region's Activity Centers so that more of them have the right mix of housing, jobs and access to transit. The Coalition will develop an investment plan for use by local governments, developers, transit agencies, philanthropists, and other groups to guide their planning and investment decisions in the region's Activity Centers.

Chairman Principi extended appreciation to all of the people who have contributed input over the recent months, especially the area's economic directors. He thanked COG's Institute for Regional Excellence, an executive management program, for overseeing a survey from which information was taken for this report, and expressed appreciation to the COG staff for bringing this work together in an informative and attractive final report.

Following the briefing, the Chair asked Eric Olson to return to the COG Board to present a work plan for the Region Forward Coalition's new work to support the actions in the *Economy Forward* report.

Delegate James Scott (Virginia General Assembly) suggested that COG revisit teleworking as a way to help ease transportation challenges.

To be better prepared, Chair Sharon Bulova (Fairfax County) said it is important that we ask ourselves the right questions to keep the important matters in front of the Board. We need to make sure education is part of the mix and being addressed. Mayor William Eulle (City of Alexandria) agreed that the education element is lacking right now at COG, while transportation and housing have been addressed.

The Chairman then called for Board approval of the *Economy Forward* report. Upon motion duly made and seconded, the COG Board of Directors unanimously approved the Economy Forward Report, as presented.

ACTION TAKEN: Approval of *Economy Forward: COG's Call to Action for a More Competitive Metropolitan Washington*

9. 2011 REGIONAL CRIME REPORT

Supplemental document: Crime Report

The Chairman introduced Police Chief Mark Magaw, Prince George's County, who serves as Chair of the COG Police Chiefs Committee, and Police Chief Cathy L. Lanier, District of Columbia Metropolitan Police Department, who serves as Vice Chair of the Police Chiefs Committee, as well as Officer Bill Anzenberger, Master Police Officer–Police Planner, Prince William County Police Department, and Co-Chair of the COG Police Planners Subcommittee.

The Police Chiefs Committee, in conjunction with its Police Planners Subcommittee, annually collects and analyzes selected crime statistics for the Washington Metropolitan Area. Such information has proven useful to law enforcement and policy officials by providing a broad analysis of crime trends and establishing local and regional crime-fighting priorities. The Board was briefed on the most recent report, which reflects crime trends for 2011. In Part I of the report, the offenses as defined by the Federal Bureau of Investigation included crimes against the person (homicide, rape, robbery and aggravated assault) and crimes against property (burglary, larceny, and motor vehicle theft). In 2011, the metropolitan Washington region experienced a 6.3% decline overall in Part I crime. Crimes against the individual were down 9.7% overall and crimes against property decreased overall by 5.8%. This crime rate is commonly accepted as a basic indicator of overall crime trends. Crime statistics must be viewed in context with environmental influences. Factors such as demographics, the economy, legislation, and changes in police policies and resources can all have an influence on the number of crimes reported.

Following a question and answer period, Chief Magaw commented that everything begins and ends with the relationship to the community for the police departments, and collaboration partnership with an organization like COG is the key to a successful regional effort.

Chairman Principi thanked the law enforcement officers for their report. A copy of the 2011 Regional Crime Report is available on the COG website. Chair Andrea Harrison (Prince George's County) added her thanks to the police officers at today's meeting. It is important that we tell the story about crime so that we can improve the image of the region.

Council Member Karen Toles (Prince George's County) expressed appreciation for the partnership between the District of Columbia Police Department and Prince George's County.

ACTION: Received Presentation.

10. EXECUTIVE SESSION

The Board convened in Executive Session to discuss the results of the executive director's performance evaluation process conducted by the Employee Compensation and Benefits Review Committee (ECBR), with other Board members participating.

11. RECONVENE PUBLIC SESSION

The Board reconvened in Public Session. Upon recommendation of the ECBR Committee, and upon motion duly made and seconded, the Board of Directors unanimously approved Resolution R43-2012.

ACTION TAKEN: Resolution R43-2012 was unanimously approved and adopted.

12. OTHER BUSINESS

There was no further business to come before the meeting.

13. ADJOURNMENT

Upon motion duly made and seconded, the meeting was adjourned at approximately 2:40 p.m. The next meeting will be held on October 10, 2012.

BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING ATTENDANCE – September 12, 2012

Jurisdiction	Member	Y/N	Alternate	Y/N
<i>District of Columbia</i>				
Executive	Hon. Vincent Gray	N	Christopher Murphy	Y
	Mr. Allen Lew	N	Warren Graves	Y
Council	Hon. Phil Mendelson (Vice Chair)	Y		
	Hon. Michael Brown	N		
<i>Maryland</i>				
Bowie	Hon. G. Frederick Robinson	N	Hon. Dennis Brady	Y
Charles County	Candice Quinn Kelly	N		
City of Frederick	Hon. Karen Young (Vice Chair)	N	Hon. Randy McClement	N
Frederick County	Hon. David Gray	Y	Hon. Blaine Young	
College Park	Hon. Andrew Fellows	Y	Hon. Robert Catlin	
Gaithersburg	Hon. Sidney Katz	N	Hon. Cathy Drzyzgula	Y
Greenbelt	Hon. Judith “J” Davis	Y	Hon. Emmett Jordan	
Montgomery County				
Executive	Hon. Isiah Leggett	N	Mr. Tim Firestine	N
Council	Hon. Roger Berliner	Y		
	Hon. Valerie Ervin	Y		
Prince George’s County				
Executive	Hon. Rushern Baker	N	Mr. Bradford Seamon	Y
Council	Hon. Karen Toles	Y		
	Hon. Andrea Harrison	Y		
Rockville	Hon. Phyllis Marcuccio	N		
Takoma Park	Hon. Bruce Williams	Y	Hon. Terry Seamens	
Maryland General Assembly	Hon. Galen Clagett	N		
<i>Virginia</i>				
Alexandria	Hon. William Euille	Y	Hon. Redella Pepper	
Arlington County	Hon. Walter Tejada	Y	Hon. Jay Fisette	
City of Fairfax	Hon. Dan Drummond	Y	Hon. Jeffrey Greenfield	
Fairfax County	Hon. Sharon Bulova	Y	Hon. Catherine Hudgins	
	Hon. Penelope A. Gross	Y	Hon. Patrick Herrity	
	Hon. John Foust	Y	Hon. Michael Frey	
Falls Church	Hon. Nader Baroukh	N	Hon. David Snyder	Y
Loudoun County	Hon. Matt Letourneau	Y		
Loudoun County	Hon. Scott York	N		
Manassas	Hon. S. Bass/Jonathan Way (as of 7/11/12)	N		
Manassas Park	Hon. Suhas Naddoni	Y	Hon. Frank Jones	
Prince William County	Hon. Frank Principi (Chair)	Y		
	Hon. Pete Candland	Y		
Virginia General Assembly	Hon. James M. Scott	Y		

9/12/12 - 12:00 PM (Present: 26)



AGENDA ITEM #6

ADOPTION OF CONSENT AGENDA ITEMS

**METROPOLITAN WASHINGTON COUNCIL OF GOVERNMENTS
777 NORTH CAPITOL STREET, N.E.
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20002**

**RESOLUTION APPROVING RECOMMENDATIONS FOR THE
2013 NOMINATING COMMITTEE**

WHEREAS, the bylaws of the Metropolitan Washington Council of Governments (COG) require the annual election of three officers to the Board of Directors and four corporate officers of the organization; and

WHEREAS, the election of these positions requires the convention of a Nominating Committee; and

WHEREAS, the Nominating Committee is comprised of seven (7) members, balanced geographically among the District of Columbia, the State of Maryland, and the Commonwealth of Virginia; and

WHEREAS, it is the responsibility of the COG Board Chairman to recommend members to serve on the Nominating Committee;

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS OF THE
METROPOLITAN WASHINGTON COUNCIL OF GOVERNMENTS THAT**

The Board of Directors hereby approves the following recommended persons to serve on the 2013 Nominating Committee:

Frank Principi, Prince William County
Allen Lew, District of Columbia
Tommy Wells, District of Columbia
Roger Berliner, Montgomery County
J Davis, City of Greenbelt
Sharon Bulova, Fairfax County
Matt Letourneau, Loudoun County

**METROPOLITAN WASHINGTON COUNCIL OF GOVERNMENTS
777 NORTH CAPITOL STREET, N.E.
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20002-4239**

RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR TO ACCEPT AN URBAN AREA SECURITY INITIATIVE SUBGRANT TO CONTINUE TO PROVIDE COG PROFESSIONAL, TECHNICAL AND SECRETARIAT SUPPORT FOR HOMELAND SECURITY PREPAREDNESS, RESPONSE AND RECOVERY ACTIVITIES

WHEREAS, the Metropolitan Washington Council of Governments (COG) has provided tremendous professional, technical, and secretariat support for homeland security activities in the National Capital Region since September 11, 2001; and

WHEREAS, as a result of these activities, COG adopted the Regional Emergency Coordination Plan in September 2002, and established the Regional Incident Communication and Coordination System to foster improved communications before, during, and after regional incidents or emergencies; and

WHEREAS, COG's initial work was funded by a special federal appropriations awarded in October 2001; and

WHEREAS, COG now receives U.S. Department of Homeland Security grant funding through the Urban Area Security Initiative (UASI) as approved by the Senior Policy Group and the Chief Administrative Officers Committee to support regional homeland security preparedness, response, and recovery activities in the region;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS OF THE METROPOLITAN WASHINGTON COUNCIL OF GOVERNMENTS THAT

The Executive Director or his designee is authorized to accept a Urban Area Security Initiative Subgrant amounting to \$783,023 to continue to provide regional support for homeland security activities in the National Capitol Region, including professional, technical, and secretariat support for the National Capital Region Emergency Preparedness Council, the Chief Administrative Officers Committee, 16 Regional Emergency Support Functions, and several Regional Program Work Groups, as well as support for the investment planning process, for the period beginning September 1, 2012, and ending May 31, 2014, and no COG matching funds are required.

**METROPOLITAN WASHINGTON COUNCIL OF GOVERNMENTS
777 NORTH CAPITOL STREET, N.E.
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20002-4290**

**RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR TO ENTER INTO A CONTRACT WITH A
CONSULTING FIRM TO PROVIDE HEALTH AND MEDICAL PLANNING SUPPORT IN THE
NATIONAL CAPITAL REGION**

WHEREAS, the Metropolitan Washington Council of Governments (COG) serves as the Secretariat for the Urban Area Security Initiative for the National Capital Region; and

WHEREAS, COG has been requested by the Health and Medical Regional Program Working Group to issue a Request for Proposal to obtain the services of a contractor to provide health and medical planning support in the National Capital Region; and

WHEREAS, the Chief Administrative Officers and the Senior Policy Group have approved the Project Management Plan submitted by the Health and Medical Regional Program Working Group requesting health and medical planning support in the National Capital Region; and

WHEREAS, the State Administrative Agent has provided Urban Area Security Initiative funding to COG to issue a Request for Proposal to obtain the services of a contractor to provide the Health and Medical planning support being requested;

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS OF
THE METROPOLITAN WASHINGTON COUNCIL OF GOVERNMENTS THAT**

The Executive Director, or his designee, is hereby authorized to contract with a consulting firm to provide the health and medical planning support as requested by the Health and Medical Regional Planning Group and approved by the COG Chief Administrative Officers and the Senior Policy Group, with \$2,062,500 in Urban Area Security Initiative funding provided from the State Administrative Agent for the National Capital Region to support this initiative, and no matching COG funds are required.

**METROPOLITAN WASHINGTON COUNCIL OF GOVERNMENTS
777 NORTH CAPITOL STREET, NE
WASHINGTON, DC 20002-4239**

**RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR TO ISSUE A CONTRACT TO PROVIDE
INCIDENT COMMAND SYSTEM SECTION TRAINING AND EMERGENCY OPERATIONS CENTER
TEAM TRAINING AND TO CONDUCT A READINESS EXERCISE**

WHEREAS, the Metropolitan Washington Council of Governments (COG) serves as the Secretariat for the Urban Area Security Initiative for the National Capital Region; and

WHEREAS, COG has been requested by the DC Homeland Security and Emergency Management Agency to issue a contract to develop standardized training procedures that are essential for each Incident Command System position and Emergency Operations Center team member; and

WHEREAS, the contractor will provide Incident Command System section training, Emergency Operations Center team training, and conduct of a Readiness Exercise; and

WHEREAS, funding for the contract to develop and conduct the training and exercise has been provided to COG by the State Administrative Agent for the National Capital Region;

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS OF
THE METROPOLITAN WASHINGTON COUNCIL OF GOVERNMENTS THAT**

The Executive Director or his designee is hereby authorized to execute a contract to develop standardized training procedures that are essential for each Incident Command System position and Emergency Operations Center team member, which will include Incident Command System section training, Emergency Operations Center team training, and the conduct of a Readiness Exercise; and the State Administrative Agent for the National Capital Region has provided COG with a Subgrant in the amount of \$307,500, with no COG funds required.

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AGENDA ITEM #7

ECONOMY FORWARD: SEQUESTRATION AND BEYOND

PUT ON ORGANIZATION LETTERHEAD

DATE

Dear Senator/Congressman INSERT NAME:

INSERT ORGANIZATION NAME, representing INSERT BASIC/SHORT DESCRIPTION of ORGANIZATION, encourages an immediate, balanced solution to replace the Budget Control Act's required budget sequestration, which is set to start on January 2, 2012. We understand that difficult economic times require a re-examination of federal program success, effectiveness and funding levels, but we encourage you to continue to fund vital local and regional programs that provide economic opportunity, create jobs and make our communities safe. Sequestration's automatic, across-the-board cuts are blind to maintaining and supporting these programs that make our regions and communities economically viable.

We offers the following general recommendations for consideration as you examine sequestration and federal funding in general:

- Reforms to and consolidation of federal funding and programs should be looked to in order to save money and increase government efficiency, while decreasing the national debt.
- Domestic, discretionary programs, which are only 12 percent of the federal annual budget, are critical to the ability of local governments and regions to carry out their responsibilities as service providers for both the federal and state governments.
- State and local governments receive roughly 40 percent of all annual non-defense discretionary dollars (\$188 billion of \$500+ billion), covering dozens of program accounts from education to transportation. Discretionary spending is already set to drop by 10 percent over the next ten years and will plunge by 20 percent or more with sequestration.
- Due to economic challenges, local governments have experienced reduced revenue streams due to decreased taxes (primarily property and sales) and major reductions in state financial assistance, while at the same time facing an increased demand for services. As a result, local governments of all sizes and in all parts of the nation have been forced to institute significant layoffs, furloughs and service reductions, which could continue for several years to come.
- Federal assistance to state and local governments and regions will help mitigate further layoffs. Current unemployment rates are already at 8.3 percent nationally.
- Federal investment in state, local and regional infrastructure produces jobs and promotes local economic opportunities.
- Deficit reduction should not be accomplished by shifting costs to states and local governments, imposing unfunded mandates, or pre-empting local government programs or taxing authority.

Again, we encourage you to address sequestration immediately. Prolonging action leaves an uncertainty making it difficult for local governments and regions to appropriately plan and execute programs. We hope to partner with you to develop strong federal policies and strategic solutions that increase the effectiveness of federal dollars and showcase local and regional accomplishments. Please do not hesitate to contact me for more information at INSERT CONTACT INFO. Thank you.

Sincerely,



Federal Budget Sequestration **FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS**

Q: What is sequestration?

A: Sequestration is automatic, across-the-board federal domestic and defense discretionary and mandatory spending cuts as required by the 2011 Budget Control Act. Click [HERE](#) for a political historical explanation of sequestration.

Q: When will sequestration occur?

A: Sequestration will begin on January 2, 2013 and will continue annually through 2021.

Q: How much in federal spending cuts will occur with sequestration?

A: In total, sequestration will cut \$1.2 trillion to be cut evenly from 2013 through 2021, roughly \$109 billion per year. In 2013, it is estimated that defense discretionary programs will be cut by \$54.599 billion (9.4%) and non-defense discretionary programs by \$38.021 billion (8.2%).

Q: How will sequestration work from years 2014-2021?

A: Cuts will be determined by the House and Senate Appropriations Committees.

Q: How much of sequestration's cuts will affect discretionary spending?

A: Roughly 70%.

Q: Are there programs/areas exempt from sequestration?

A: Yes. Click [HERE](#) to access a full list of exempt programs

Q: What are some of sequestration's anticipated impacts?

A: According to the July 2012 report, "The Economic Impact of the Budget Control Act of 2011 on DOD and non-DOD Agencies," by George Mason University economist Dr. Stephen Fuller, sequestration would have the following impact on the national economy:

- 2.14 million American jobs at risk
- \$109.4 billion total loss of workers' wages and salaries
- 1.5% U.S. unemployment increase
- negative \$215 billion reduction in GDP growth in 2013

The study also included details on the thousands of jobs across the economy that would be lost due to sequestration, including:

- 473,000 manufacturing
- 98,000 construction
- 82,000 retail trades
- 47,000 education and healthcare
- 15,000+ state and local governments
- 510,229 federal jobs



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Q: Could sequestration launch the U.S. into economic recession?

A: Yes. The following was stated on August 22, 2012 by the U.S. Congressional Budget Office (CBO), which provides independent, nonpartisan, objective analyses of budgetary and economic issues for the U.S. Congress:

“In CBO’s judgment, the sharp increases in federal taxes and reductions in federal spending [sequestration] that, under current law, are scheduled to begin in calendar year 2013 are likely to interrupt the recent economic progress, resulting in what will probably be considered a recession.”

Q: Can sequestration be avoided?

A: Technically, yes. However, sequestration can only be avoided if Congress passes (and the President signs) legislation that amends the legal requirements imposed by the 2011 Budget Control Act before January 2, 2013.

Q: Can the Executive Branch (the President) change sequestration cuts?

A: No. The Executive Branch has no authority or ability to change or redistribute the cuts. The cuts are required by federal law, which, based on procedure, requires Congressional action.

Q: Where can I get more information on sequestration?

A: Visit the National Association of Regional Councils’ (NARC) website at www.narc.org or contact Shannon Baxevanis at Shannon@narc.org.



A Brief Summary White House Report on Sequestration Impacts

Please contact Shannon Baxevanis at shannon@narc.org for more information.

General Information:

- Sequestration, required by the August 2011-passed Budget Control Act, is automatic, across-the-board cuts on federal domestic and defense discretionary and mandatory funding starting on January 2, 2013.
- Sequestration requires \$1.2 trillion to be cut evenly over 2013 through 2021 (approximately \$109 billion/year).
- On September 14, the White House released a congressionally-mandated report on the anticipated impacts of sequestration across more than 1,200 federal accounts for 2013.
- According to the report, "...sequestration would be deeply destructive to national security, domestic investments, and core government functions."
- **The report provides a high-level overview of preliminary numbers but does not get into too many program specifics, and is still subject to revision. Please note that the numbers provided in the report and summarized below are not finalized or exactly what will occur come January 2, 2013. There are still several factors that need to be addressed.**
- Click [HERE](#) to access the full report.
- Click [HERE](#) to access a NARC PowerPoint presentation on sequestration.

Report Details:

Overall Reductions

- 9.4 percent reduction in defense discretionary funding (\$54.67 billion)
- 8.2 percent reduction in domestic discretionary spending (\$38 billion)
- 2 percent reduction in Medicare

	Subject to sequester	Sequester amount	Percentage cut
Defense discretionary	\$580.073 billion	\$54.599 billion	9.4%
Defense mandatory	\$0.679 billion	\$0.068 billion	10.0%
Nondefense discretionary	\$463.465 billion	\$38.021 billion	8.2%
Medicare	\$554.265 billion	\$11.085 billion	2.0%
Indian and community health	\$1.344 billion	\$0.027 billion	2.0%
Other mandatory	\$71.958 billion	\$5.443 billion	7.6%

SOURCE: Office of Management and Budget

Reductions by Federal Agency *(NOTE: the programs listed are most relevant to regional planning organizations.)*

U.S. Department of Agriculture – sequester reduction 8.2% for discretionary programs; 7.6% for mandatory programs

Program	Total Budget*	Sequester Reduction	Post-Sequester Budget Total**
Natural Resources Conservation	\$837 million	\$69 million	\$768 million
Watershed Rehabilitation	\$15 million	\$1 million	\$14 million
Watershed & Flood Prevention	\$216 million	\$18 million	\$198 million
Rural Electrification & Telecommunications Loans	\$37 million	\$3 million	\$34 million
Distance Learning, Telemedicine & Broadband	\$37 million	\$3 million	\$34 million
Rural Water & Waste Water Disposal	\$503 million	\$41 million	\$462 million
Rural Housing Assistance Program	\$905 million	\$74 million	\$831 million
Rural Community Facilities	\$29 million	\$2 million	\$27 million
Rural Housing Assistance Grants	\$33 million	\$3 million	\$30 million
Rural Cooperative Development Grants	\$25 million	\$2 million	\$23 million
Rural Business Program	\$75 million	\$6 million	\$69 million
Rural Energy for America Program (discretionary)	\$3 million	\$246,000	\$2.754 million
Rural Energy for America Program (mandatory)	\$22 million	\$2 million	\$20 million
Rural Development Loan Fund	\$11 million	\$1 million	\$10 million
Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP) (mandatory)	\$108 million	\$8 million	\$100 million

*Total that can be sequestered

**Of the amount that can be sequestered; Does not include other available, exempt amounts

U.S. Department of Commerce – sequester reduction 8.2% for discretionary programs; 7.6% for mandatory programs

Program	Total Budget*	Sequester Reduction	Post-Sequester Budget Total**
Economic Development Administration Economic Development Assistance Programs	\$420 million	\$34 million	\$386 million
Periodic Censuses & Programs	\$689 million	\$56 million	\$633 million
National Telecommunications & Information Administration State & Local Implementation Fund (mandatory)	\$69 million	\$5 million	\$64 million

*Total that can be sequestered

**Of the amount that can be sequestered; Does not include other available, exempt amounts

U.S. Department of Energy – sequester reduction 8.2% for discretionary programs; 7.6% for mandatory programs

Program	Total Budget*	Sequester Reduction	Post-Sequester Budget Total**
Energy Efficiency & Renewable Energy	\$1.81 billion	\$148 million	\$1.662 billion

*Total that can be sequestered

**Of the amount that can be sequestered; Does not include other available, exempt amounts

U.S. Department of Health & Human Services – sequester reduction 8.2% for discretionary programs; 7.6% for mandatory programs

Program	Total Budget*	Sequester Reduction	Post-Sequester Budget Total**
Child Care and Development Block Grant	\$2.278 billion	\$187 million	\$2.091 billion
Social Services Block Grants (mandatory)	\$1.785 billion	\$136 million	\$1.649 billion
Children & Family Services Programs	\$9.908 billion	\$812 million	\$9.096 billion

*Total that can be sequestered

**Of the amount that can be sequestered; Does not include other available, exempt amounts

U.S. Administration on Aging – sequester reduction 8.2% for discretionary programs; 7.6% for mandatory programs

Program	Total Budget*	Sequester Reduction	Post-Sequester Budget Total**
Aging Services Programs (discretionary)	\$1.471 billion	\$121 million	\$1.35 billion
Aging Services Programs (mandatory)	\$13 million	\$1 million	\$12 million

*Total that can be sequestered

**Of the amount that can be sequestered; Does not include other available, exempt amounts

U.S. Federal Emergency Management Agency – sequester reduction 8.2% for discretionary programs; 7.6% for mandatory programs

Program	Total Budget*	Sequester Reduction	Post-Sequester Budget Total**
Flood Hazard Mapping & Risk Analysis Program	\$98 million	\$8 million	\$90 million
State & Local Programs – nondefense	\$2.237 billion	\$183 million	\$2.054 billion
Disaster Relief	\$7.076 billion	\$580 million	\$6.496 billion
National Pre-disaster Mitigation Fund	\$36 million	\$3 million	\$33 million

*Total that can be sequestered

**Of the amount that can be sequestered; Does not include other available, exempt amounts

U.S. Department of Housing & Urban Development – sequester reduction 8.2% for discretionary programs; 7.6% for mandatory programs

Program	Total Budget*	Sequester Reduction	Post-Sequester Budget Total**
Community Development Fund	\$3.408 billion	\$279 million	\$3.129 billion
Community Development Loan Guarantees	\$6 million	\$492,000	\$5.508 million
Home Investment Partnership Program	\$1 billion	\$82 million	\$918 million

*Total that can be sequestered

**Of the amount that can be sequestered; Does not include other available, exempt amounts

U.S. Department of Labor – sequester reduction 8.2% for discretionary programs; 7.6% for mandatory programs

Program	Total Budget*	Sequester Reduction	Post-Sequester Budget Total**
Employment & Training Administration Training & Employment Services	\$3.408 billion	\$279 million	\$3.129 billion

*Total that can be sequestered

**Of the amount that can be sequestered; Does not include other available, exempt amounts

U.S. Department of Transportation – sequester reduction 8.2% for discretionary programs; 7.6% for mandatory programs

Program	Total Budget*	Sequester Reduction	Post-Sequester Budget Total**
Transportation Planning, Research & Development	\$9 million	\$1 million	\$8 million
National Infrastructure Investments	\$500 million	\$41 million	\$459 million
Essential Air Service & Rural Airport Improvement Fund (mandatory)	\$50 million	\$4 million	\$46 million
Federal Aviation Administration Grants-in-aid for Airports	\$1 million	\$82,000	\$918,000
Federal Aviation Administration Facilities & Equipment	\$2.793 billion	\$229 million	\$2.564 billion
Federal Highway Administration Federal-Aid Highways (mandatory)	\$739 million	\$56 million	\$683 million
Federal Railroad Administration Operating Subsidy to AMTRAK	\$466 million	\$38 million	\$428 million
Federal Railroad Administration Capital & Debt Service Grants to AMTRAK	\$952 million	\$78 million	\$876 million
Federal Transit Administration Capital Investment Grants	\$1.906 billion	\$156 million	\$1.750 billion

*Total that can be sequestered

**Of the amount that can be sequestered; Does not include other available, exempt amounts

U.S. Environmental Protection Agency – sequester reduction 8.2% for discretionary programs; 7.6% for mandatory programs

Program	Total Budget*	Sequester Reduction	Post-Sequester Budget Total**
State & Tribal Assistance Grants	\$3.568 billion	\$293 million	\$3.275 billion

*Total that can be sequestered

**Of the amount that can be sequestered; Does not include other available, exempt amounts

U.S. Small Business Administration – sequester reduction 8.2% for discretionary programs; 7.6% for mandatory programs

Program	Total Budget*	Sequester Reduction	Post-Sequester Budget Total**
Disaster Loans Program	\$116 million	\$10 million	\$106 million
Business Loans Program	\$359 million	\$29 million	\$330 million

*Total that can be sequestered

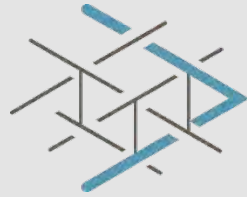
**Of the amount that can be sequestered; Does not include other available, exempt amounts

Regional Commissions – sequester reduction 8.2% for discretionary programs; 7.6% for mandatory programs

Program	Total Budget*	Sequester Reduction	Post-Sequester Budget Total**
Appalachian Regional Commission	\$64 million	\$5 million	\$59 million
Appalachian Regional Commission Trust Fund (mandatory)	\$8 million	\$1 million	\$7 million
Delta Regional Commission	\$12 million	\$1 million	\$11 million
Denali Commission	\$17 million	\$1 million	\$16 million
Denali Commission Trust Fund	\$8 million	\$1 million	\$7 million
Northern Border Regional Commission	\$1 million	\$82,000	\$918,000

*Total that can be sequestered

**Of the amount that can be sequestered; Does not include other available, exempt amounts



NARC

Building Regional Communities

Understanding **Sequestration** and Its Impact on Local Governments & Regions

Presented by:

The National Association of Regional Councils

Updated October 2, 2012

Use of Materials

Since 2011, NARC has been providing information on the national debt, budget cuts and related issues, and we will continue to do so. Please use this information to educate local elected and appointed Board members, staff, stakeholders and citizens involved in the regional planning process.

This information is not the opinion of the NARC Board, its members or staff, but rather readily available data compiled from various public sources.



Overview

- Background on Sequestration
- Basics of Sequestration
- Sequestration Numbers
- Effects of Sequestration
 - Bi-Partisan Policy Center Jobs Estimates
 - Aerospace Industries Association Impact Report
- Administration & Congressional Activity
- Preventing Sequestration
- Association Activity
- Contact NARC



The Background

Why Sequestration?

- ✓ National debt sparked discussion
 - \$15.882T (as of July 18, 2012)
 - increased by over \$500 billion each year since FY03
 - \$15.003T Total GDP at the end of June 2011
 - Congressional Budget Office (CBO) called for “...large and rapid policy changes to put the nation on a sustainable fiscal course.”

- ✓ Established Congressional Debt Super Committee
 - Charged with determining how to make reductions
 - No agreement = automatic sequestration

- ✓ Reign in government spending and reduce national debt



Sequestration 101

WHAT?

Automatic, across-the-board cuts on federal domestic and defense discretionary and mandatory funds starting 1/2/13

HOW?

Created under the Budget Control Act (BCA), the debt limit deal passed by Congress in August 2011

TOTAL?

\$1.2 trillion to be cut evenly over 2013-2021 (\$109B/year)

EXEMPTION EXAMPLES?

Transportation Trust Funds

Social Security

CHIP

Medicaid/Medicare (2% cap)

Veterans Programs

Food Stamps (SNAP)

Federal Retirement Benefits

Child Nutrition

Some tax credits

Military Pay

Pell Grants

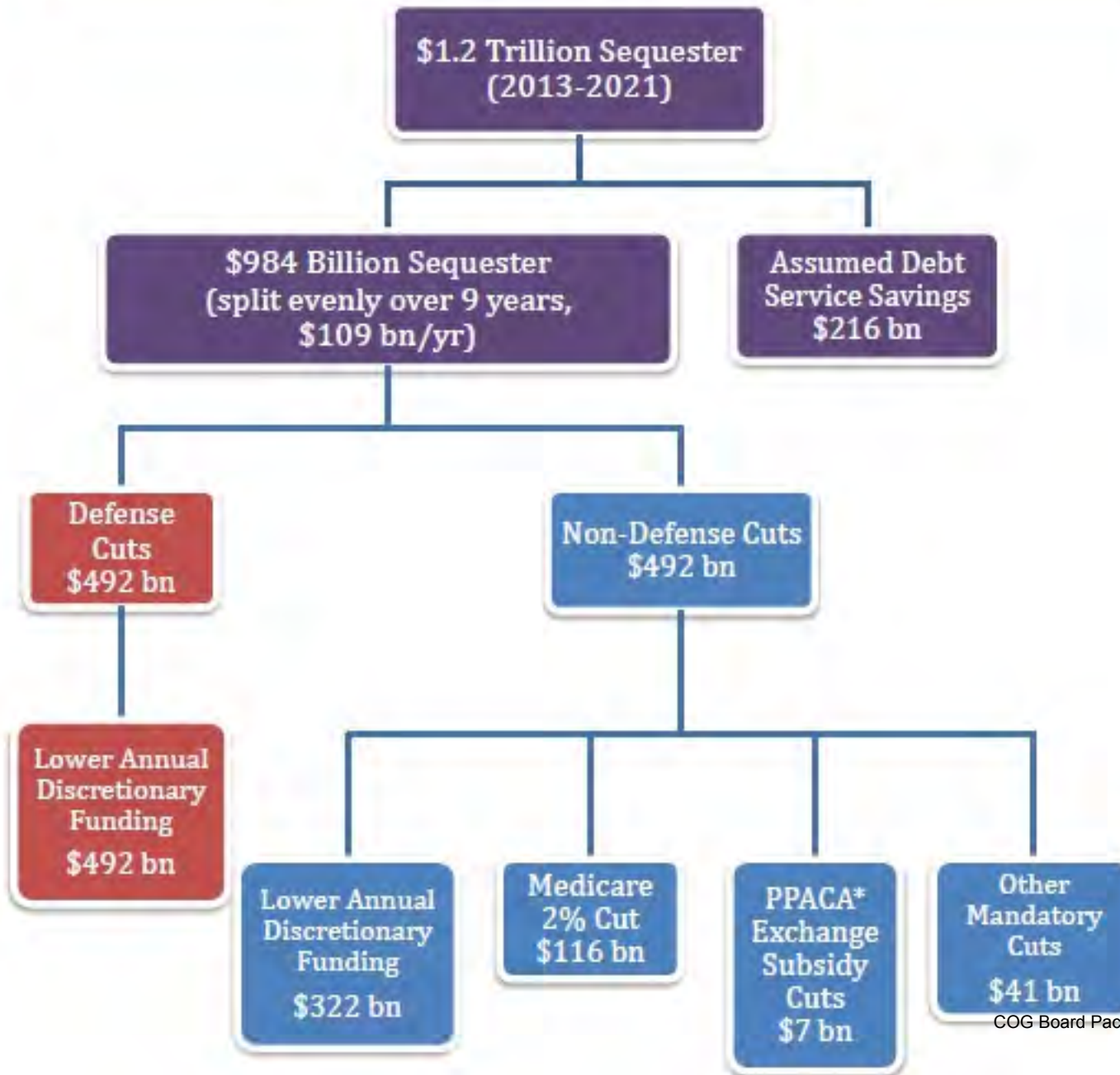


Sequestration Numbers

- \$54.7B/yr in defense AND \$54.7B/yr non-defense cuts from 2013-2021
- 2013: \$38.6B across all discretionary programs
 - Estimated cuts range between 7.8% and 10%
 - Bipartisan Policy Center estimates nearly every domestic program would face a 12% cut
- 2014+: Appropriations Committee determines cuts
- Cuts mostly from discretionary spending (~70%)
- ~13% of cuts from mandatory spending

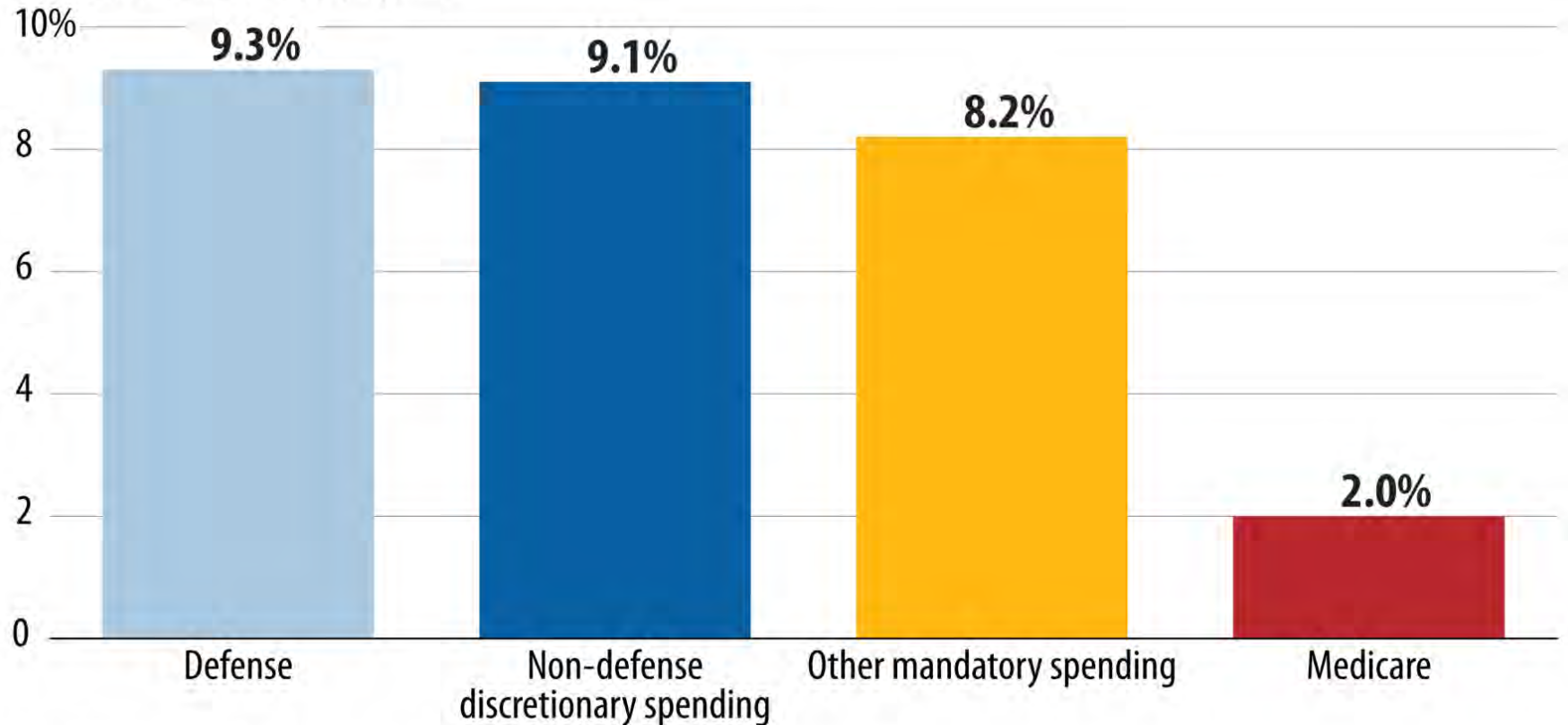


Breaking Down the Sequester



Cuts Required in 2013 by Sequestration

Percent cuts in non-exempt programs



Source: CBPP calculations from Congressional Budget Office data.

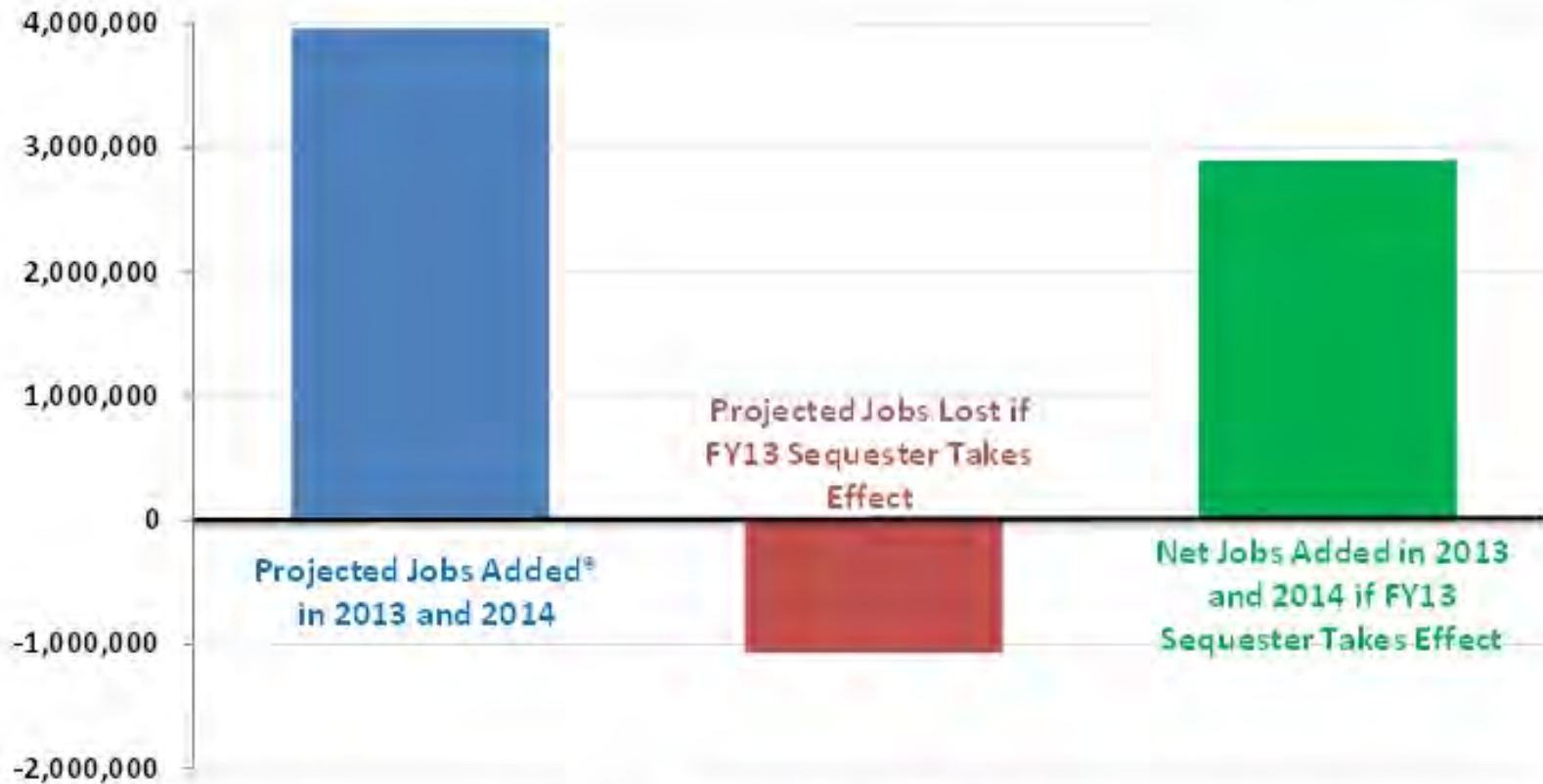
What are the Effects?

- Pressure on states and locals to maintain assets
- How do to more with less - **Regionalism important**
- Potential dramatic blows to economy and jobs
 - ✓ Employers with more than 100 employees will have to send layoff notices at least 60 days before event – warnings will need to be sent November 2
 - ✓ Have \$500B in contracts – reduced/cancelled \$50B
 - ✓ Reduction of federal personnel
- Political stress to address impacts
 - ✓ *Great concern about defense programs and impact on the economy*
- **Office of Management & Budget (OMB) will determine how 2013 sequester will be implemented**
- Two reports – Bi-Partisan Policy Center & AIA
- CBO economy estimates & recession



Bi-Partisan Policy Center Job Estimates

THE SEQUESTER WOULD COST THE ECONOMY OVER 1 MILLION JOBS IN 2013 & 2014



*The projection for jobs added averages the first five months of job growth in 2012 – 165,000 jobs/month – and assumes that level of growth continues through the end of 2014.

Sources: BPC calculations based on Bureau of Labor Statistics data and Congressional Budget Office projections and economic multipliers.

AIA Impact Report

Aerospace Industries Association 7/10
sequestration report:

- ✓ Examines defense and non-defense impacts
- ✓ Most severe impact in 2013
- ✓ Reduce the nation's GDP by \$215 billion in 2013
- ✓ Decrease personal earnings of the workforce by \$109.4 billion
- ✓ Cost the economy 2.14 million jobs
- ✓ Bring unemployment rate to over 9%



AIA Report continued

Most vulnerable states (half of all job losses):

***Pg 9-10 of report details losses for all 50 states*

States	DOD Job Loss	Non-DOD Job Loss	TOTAL Job Loss
CA	135,209	90,255	225,464
VA	136,191	71,380	207,571
TX	98,979	60,494	159,473
DC	15,169	112,238	127,407
MD	39,395	75,400	114,795
FL	41,905	37,554	79,459
PA	39,941	38,513	78,454
NY	28,809	41,201	70,010
MA	41,469	19,028	60,497
GA	27,609	26,903	54,512



CBO Estimates



In May, CBO estimated that if the automatic spending cuts (sequestration) are allowed to remain in place and if the Bush tax cuts are allowed to expire on December 31, as scheduled, the U.S. economy could be pushed into **recession** early next year.



Recent Activity - Administration

- President's FY13 Budget sought to substitute a mix of spending reductions and budgetary savings for sequestration
- President not asking agencies to do 2013 budget contingency plans as he is anticipating Congress to act
- Federal agencies are already beginning to delay contract awards and other procurement actions in preparation of the cuts
- White House Office of Management & Budget (OMB) has been meeting with agencies to determine which budget accounts and programs will be exempt from the cuts



Recent Activity - Administration

- At the end of September, OMB ordered federal agencies to plan for FY13 spending as if sequestration is not a factor, stating, “Agencies should continue normal spending and operations.”
- If Congress doesn’t address sequestration in the lame duck, in January OMB will enact steps to make the \$109 billion in FY13 cuts
- Administration sent Congress a report on how sequestration will affect specific programs



White House Report

- Released September 14 by the White House OMB
- Details anticipated impacts of sequestration across more than 1,200 federal accounts for 2013
- “...sequestration would be deeply destructive to national security, domestic investments, and core government functions.”
- Provides a high-level overview of preliminary numbers but does not get into too many program specifics, and is still subject to revision. Please note that the numbers provided in the report and summarized on the next slide are not finalized or exactly what will occur come January 2, 2013. There are still several factors that need to be addressed.



White House Report continued

Overall Reductions

- 9.4% in defense discretionary funding (\$54.67B)
- 8.2% in domestic discretionary spending (\$38B)
- 2% reduction in Medicare

	Subject to sequester	Sequester amount	Percentage cut
Defense discretionary	\$580.073	\$54.599	9.4%
Defense mandatory	\$0.679	\$0.068	10.0%
Nondefense discretionary	\$463.465	\$38.021	8.2%
Medicare	\$554.265	\$11.085	2.0%
Indian and community health	\$1.344	\$0.027	2.0%
Other mandatory	\$71.958	\$5.443	7.6%

SOURCE: Office of Management and Budget

NOTE: Numbers in billions

- Visit www.NARC.org for a summary of the report and programs/agencies core to regions and local governments.

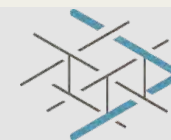


White House Report continued

Post-Sequestration Funding (Figures in Millions of dollars)

	2012 Funding	After Sequestration		2012 Funding	After Sequestration
● Agriculture and Rural Development			● Health		
Rental Assistance Program	905	831	Prevention & Public Health Fund	1,000	934
Rural Community Facilities	29	27	Substance Abuse & Mental Health	3,640	3,073
Rural Housing Assistance Grants	33	30	● Homeland Security		
Distance Learning, Telemedicine & Broadband	37	34	FEMA State & Local Programs	2,247	2,074
Rural Water & Waste Disposal	503	462	Disaster Relief	7,077	6,497
Rural Business Program	75	69	Flood Hazard Mapping	98	90
Extension Activities	525	486	Emergency Food & Shelter	120	10
Community and Economic Development			● Human Services		
Community Development Fund	3,408	3,129	SSBG	1,785	1,649
Section 8 Housing	18,914	17,384	Aging Services	1,471	1,350
HOME Investment Partnership Program	1,000	918	LIHEAP	3,472	3,187
Homeless Assistance Grants	1,901	1,745	Child Care (non-entitlement)	2,278	2,091
Economic Development Assistance	420	386	Children & Family Services	9,908	9,096
● Education and Training			● Justice and Public Safety		
Training and Employment Services	3,203	2,941	State & Local Law Enforcement Assistance	1,119	1,027
Elementary & Secondary Education (Title I)	15,742	14,451	Juvenile Justice Programs	254	233
Special Education	12,640	11,604	Community Policing	162	149
Adult & Vocational Education	1,737	1,595	● Telecommunications		
DOL Veterans' Employment & Training	273	269	NTIA State & Local Implementation Grants	69	64
● Energy, Environment and Public Lands			● Transportation		
PILT	398	368	Essential Air Service & Rural Airports	50	46
EPA State and Tribal Grants	3,568	3,475	Federal Aid Highways – mandatory	40,185	40,129
Hazardous Substance Superfund	1,459	1,340			
Energy Efficiency & Renewable Energy	2,086	1,938			

Chart courtesy of NACo



Recent Activity - Congress

House

- Budget Resolution: substitute spending reductions and budgetary savings for sequestration
- Passed HR 5652 to avoid sequestration and replace \$100B in automatic spending cuts with more than \$310B over 10 years from mandatory spending
- Passed HR 5872 that requires the White House to provide a detailed description of the plans for implementing the 2013 spending cuts at federal agencies
- HR 6365 – a symbolic bill – requiring the President to office an alternative to sequester's cuts

Senate

- Bipartisan effort requesting 15 defense companies detail anticipated impacts of sequestration
- Passed an amendment to the Farm Bill requiring detailed sequestration reports from federal agencies

Joint Efforts

Republican leaders sent a letter to President Obama on July 13 calling on him to seek “common-sense savings” to replace the sequester



Can this be avoided?

Technically, YES

- Congress must pass legislation that undoes the legal requirement in the BCA and President Obama would need to sign before January 2, 2013
- The Executive Branch has no authority or ability to redistribute or reverse the cuts

Moody's Investors Service warned it would lower the federal govt's top, triple-A credit rating if negotiations do not produce a plan to stabilize and reduce the national debt





“I predict that there will not be a sequester one way or the other. I just think it’s not going to happen. The sequester will not happen, but the earlier we avoid it happening or make it clear that it’s not going to happen, the better.”

- *U.S. Senator Carl Levin (D-MI)*



“I’m not confident at all. Listen, the House has done its job on both the sequester and on the looming tax hikes that’ll cost our economy some 700,000 jobs. The Senate at some point has to act. And on both of these, where’s the president? Where’s the leadership? Absent without leave.”

-U.S. Speaker of the House John Boehner (R-OH)

Association Activity

US Conference of Mayors

- Sent a letter to Congressional leadership signed by 160 mayors around the country detailing the negative impacts sequestration will have on local budgets.
- Urges a bipartisan and balanced approach to deficit reduction through spending cuts with additional revenue from sources that still facilitates economic growth.
- Concerned with deep reductions in non-defense discretionary spending – **1/3 directed to state and local programs**
 - ✓ 36% to education
 - ✓ 28% to housing and community development
 - ✓ 18% to health and the environment
 - ✓ 10% to workforce
 - ✓ 5% to public safety and disaster response
- Focus on impact to metro areas – infrastructure, education and public safety



Association Activity continued

National League of Cities

- Opposes draconian cuts and instead is calling on Congress to take action to prevent the cuts from taking effect
- Will continue to urge Congress and the President to avoid the automatic budget cuts and adopt a non-partisan plan to reduce the deficit and balance needed reductions in spending with revenue enhancement



"It's irresponsible, it's bad policy, and we deserve better from our federal government."

NLC President Ted Ellis, Mayor, Bluffton, IN



Association Activity continued

National Association of Counties

- Identified as one of the top issues facing counties
- Advocates the following positions:
 - ✓ Congress cannot solve the budget deficit by only cutting domestic, non-military discretionary programs
 - ✓ Federal assistance to state and local governments will help mitigate further layoffs
 - ✓ Federal investment in state and local infrastructure produces private sector jobs
 - ✓ Deficit reduction should not be accomplished by:
 - shifting costs to counties (e.g. cuts to Medicaid)
 - imposing unfunded mandates
 - pre-empting county programs or taxing authority
- NACo supports maintaining federal financial assistance for county programs at the 2010 fiscal year levels.



Association Activity continued

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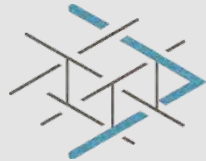
Association Activity continued

National Association of Regional Councils

- Providing members with regular updates and information – www.NARC.org or eRegions weekly e-newsletter
 - ✓ Educational PowerPoint
 - ✓ Summaries of legislation/pertinent reports
 - ✓ Draft letter for personalization
- Regionalism increasingly important in times of fiscal restraint
- Urging members to contact Congressional delegation about potential impacts on key regional and local programs
- Closely in line with NACo's advocacy positions
 - ✓ Supports local governments and their associations



Contact NARC for more information or assistance



NARC

Building Regional Communities

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AGENDA ITEM #8

**PREPARATION FOR THE
NOVEMBER 6 GENERAL ELECTION**

COG Elections Technical Committee

In the Washington, D.C.-area, representatives from the three jurisdictions — District of Columbia, Maryland and Virginia — teamed up to create a one-stop website where voters can go to find all the necessary information to register and vote.

Metrodcvote.org was born from the Metropolitan Washington Council of Government's (COG) Election Officials Technical Committee.

The group, which is made of election officials from the various COG jurisdictions, came up with the idea that a website would probably be the best common message they could present because each jurisdiction has different laws in regard to Election Day.

Alysoun McLaughlin, deputy director of elections for Montgomery County, Md., recalls struggling to get media coverage for the District of Columbia's voter registration deadline when she served as that board's spokesperson.

"I pitched [Tom Sherwood of NBC4] with a request to cover our voter registration deadline for the primary, and he responded that it would be difficult for him to do that in a major media market because if he covers D.C., he also would need to cover Maryland and Virginia's deadlines," explained McLaughlin. "I told him we had experienced exactly that problem so many times that we were talking among the local election officials about creating a single website with that information for all of the jurisdictions in the local media market, and his response was 'Now that would be newsworthy and a great service to the voters.' So a website was born."

The idea evolved over several meetings with elections officials from Montgomery and Prince George's counties in Maryland, the District and Arlington, Alexandria and Fairfax counties in Virginia. Then really all it took was a URL, some web work by Dave Bjerke, registrar of voters for the City of Falls Church, Va. and MetroDCvote.org was live.

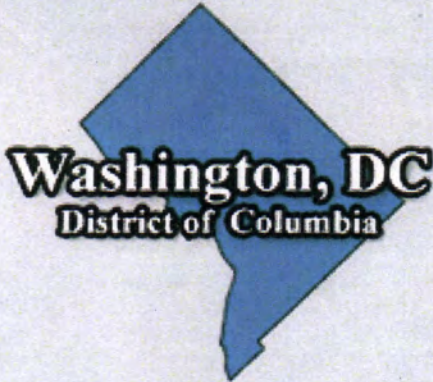
The costs were minimal, just the purchase of the URL and the hosting, and the COG agreed to cover those costs for the project.

Bjerke sees the site as a fast way for residents of the area to find all the information they need without visiting multiple sites.

"[It's] a simple reference to guide voters to the correct information quickly," Bjerke said. "This resource should be as easily accessed via a computer or a smart phone and everything in between. One of the biggest obstacles to voting on Election Day is whether an eligible voter is registered. Since many jurisdictions close registration books up to 30 days before an election by law, many voters are not aware of the registration deadline. This resource is an effort to get that information out to eligible voters."

McLaughlin said although the site has received some publicity from local media the push will really be on to get the word out next week on National Voter Registration Day.

“Most of our everyday focus is reaching our own voters where they are – in our own county/city/state. But that’s not enough,” McLaughlin said. “This is a supplement to those efforts, designed to help us get the word out in the DC media market, a channel that would be harder to use if we were competing – rather than complementing each other’s efforts.”



[Check Registration](#)

Deadline: October 9 (by postmark)
October 19 (in-person)
(Same Day registration available
through Election Day)

[Register Online](#)

[Absentee Voting Info](#)

[Early Voting Info](#)

Election Day Voting Hours:
7am - 8pm

[Check Registration](#)

Deadline: October 16
(by postmark and in-person)

[Register Online](#)

[Absentee Voting Info](#)

[Early Voting Info](#)

Election Day Voting Hours:
7am - 8pm

[Maryland's Rumor Control](#)

[Check Registration](#)

Deadline: October 15
(by postmark and in-person)

[Register by Mail](#)

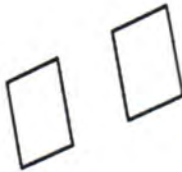
[Absentee Voting Info](#)

**In-Person Absentee Voting begins
September 21.** Check with your local
registrar for details.

Election Day Voting Hours:
6am - 7pm



ARE YOU ELECTION READY?



www.metrodcvote.org

Are you registered to vote? Is your address up to date?

If you have moved since the last time that you voted, you must update your address in order to be eligible to vote this November!

Voter Registration Deadlines:

DC: October 9th (by postmark)
October 19th (In person)

MD: October 16th

VA: October 15th (postmark and in-person)

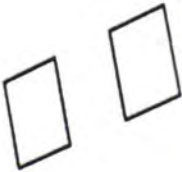
Do you know your polling place?

Many polling places are new or changed this year. Please check your voter registration card for your polling place or www.metrodcvote.org, to locate your local elections office for polling place locations.

Unable to vote on Election Day?

You may be eligible to vote by absentee ballot by mail or in person absentee voting. Please visit our website or use the QR code above for your locality's voting details and deadlines!

¿ESTA USTED LISTO PARA LAS ELECCIONES?



www.metrodcvote.org

¿Esta usted registrado para votar? ¿Esta su dirección correcta?

Si usted se ha mudado de casa desde la última vez que voto, usted debe de reportar dicho cambio para poder ser elegible para votar este noviembre!

Ultimo día para registrarse:

DC: 9 de octubre (Marcado con sello postal)
19 de octubre (en persona)

MD: 16 de octubre

VA: 15 de octubre (marcado con sello postal y en persona)

¿Sabe cual es su centro de votación?

Este año muchos centros de votación han cambiado. Por favor revise su tarjeta de registración para saber cual es su centro de votación vaya a: www.metrodcvote.org, para ubicar su centro de votación y conocer su oficina de elecciones local.

¿No puede votar el día de elecciones?

Usted puede ser elegible para votar en ausencia por correo o ausente en persona. Por favor visite nuestra página web o use el código QR que esta arriba para la información de su centro de votación y las fechas limites!



AGENDA ITEM #9

OTHER BUSINESS



AGENDA ITEM #10

ADJOURNMENT

NEXT MEETING: NOVEMBER 14, 2012