

LEGISLATIVE PRIORITIES

Supporting the region's transportation funding, water quality, climate and energy innovation, air quality, workforce development, human services, and emergency preparedness

January 2018



Metropolitan Washington
Council of Governments

WATER QUALITY PROTECTION

Support Investments in Water Infrastructure

Support ~~sustained and expanded full funding for federal water quality programs including mechanisms such as tax credits, infrastructure banking, the~~ Water Infrastructure Finance and Innovation Act (WIFIA) funding, state revolving funds (SRFs), ~~and the Chesapeake Bay Program and tax exemption status for municipal bonds.~~ Ensure that ~~local water infrastructure~~ investments ~~built in local infrastructure~~ to meet water ~~quality~~ permit load allocations and handle future population and economic growth are protected. ~~Enhance infrastructure investments with investments in workforce training and~~ ~~workers to fill~~ ~~ector system~~ ~~operators jobs~~

Ensure Stormwater Regulatory Feasibility

~~Endorse legislation that supports~~ ~~Supports~~ legislative and regulatory actions that provide for a feasible pace for MS4 stormwater permits, and applies the “Maximum Extent Practicable” standard. Support flexible ~~ility for~~ local funding for stormwater management. Ensure ~~that~~ reporting requirements are reasonable.

Support Climate and Flood Resiliency Initiatives

Support funding to address robust climate change analysis, adaptation and resiliency planning, flood control and management, and development and coordinated implementation of local best practices.

Ensure Local Government Input

Ensure ~~that~~ local governments and ~~wastewater and drinking~~ water utilities are given opportunities to provide timely and meaningful input on management decisions about the Chesapeake Bay and local water quality.

Support Affordability and Regulatory Flexibility

Support cost-effective ~~approaches for~~ scheduling and financing of water quality programs, including ~~efforts for~~ streamlining permits, ~~and~~ flexibility ~~to for~~ achieving nutrient and sediment reduction ~~across wastewater, stormwater, and other sectors, and~~ ~~Support full funding for~~ ~~including agricultural conservation program trading.~~

Support Water Supply Security

Support water quality, ~~wastewater, and drinking water~~ security, and resiliency ~~through~~ research, planning, and program ~~matic support.~~

~~Support Drinking Source Water Protection~~

~~Support and~~ drinking water source protection policies and programs ~~to that~~ ensure ~~a reliable and clean drinking water supply for the region. people’s basic need for a clean, safe, and abundant water supply is reliably met.~~