**Region Forward Coalition Teams**

1. **Performance Analysis Team**

During 2008 and 2009, the Planning Tools Task Force under the direction of the Greater Washington 2050 Coalition developed metrics to measure the region’s progress toward achieving regional policy goals. As part of the Region Forward initiative, COG staff and members of the Region Forward Coalition will complete a baseline analysis of the targets and indicators as outlined in the Region Forward report. The regional performance baseline report will identify where the region stands in terms of meeting the goals outlined in Region Forward and highlight key gaps. The baseline report will be completed by spring 2012 and will be updated every four years (at most). This report will include a combination of tables, graphs, maps and narratives for each regional target and indicator.

Baseline Analysis Team members (to date) include the following:

* Shirley Marcus Allen (Venture Philanthropy Partners)
* Hiro Iseki (National Center for Smart Growth, University of Maryland)
* Emmett V. Jordan (City of Greenbelt)
* Lisa Sturtevant, (George Mason University)

Two members (to be determined) of the Team will serve as chair and co-chair. Performance Analysis Team members are asked to participate in roughly eight team meetings that will oversee the completion of the regional performance baseline report. These meetings will be held before and after the larger Coalition meetings in order to develop and execute a work plan geared toward identifying, researching and analyzing interdisciplinary targets and indicators. The Team’s work plan will be created in concert with a COG staff member acting as a team liaison. The work plan will provide specific quarterly milestones for the Team to meet to fulfill its ultimate mission of creating Region Forward’s regional performance baseline. The Team’s chair and co-chair will inform the larger Coalition of its progress and activities at quarterly Coalition meetings.

1. **Complete Communities Team**

A key recommendation in the adopted regional vision, Region Forward is to update the Regional Activity Center map and develop strategies and tools to support Region Forward’s implementation. The Complete Communities Team will be working to update the Regional Activity Center map and define Complete Community Priorities for the Region’s Activity Centers.

**Regional Centers Identification and Need Prioritization**

**Part One: Defining Regional Centers:**

Defining existing and future regional activity centers will build on the existing Regional Activity Centers map adopted by the Metropolitan Washington Council of Governments. The update will seek to improve the existing regional activity centers map by making better connections to locally adopted comprehensive and general plans that seek to manage growth. Defining where regional centers are located will be guided by the goals and targets in *Region Forward* and will have several fundamental characteristics of successful regional centers.

**Definition**

1. Examine Regional Centers Best Practices from other regions, including how centers are defined and implementation programs supporting regional centers.
2. Examine *Region Forward*’s Goals and Targets to understand how to apply them to define Regional Activity Centers
3. Examine locally adopted centers in Comprehensive Plans and General Plans
4. Develop new criteria for designating Regional Activity Centers
5. Examine Center Geographies

**Part Two: Defining Complete Community Priorities**

The Complete Communities concept is a way to identify priorities for Regional Activity Centers. This process will seek to take COG’s Regional Activity Centers to the next level by beginning to prioritize needs in regional centers that contribute to a regional issue. This physical and social planning effort will build on regional research and analysis to identify which centers are best positioned to address regional issues ranging from equity, the economy and the environment. The prioritization effort will also examine successful regional centers to determine fundamental attributes that are needed for regional centers to become Complete Communities.

**Complete Communities Prioritization**

1. Examine successful regional centers and develop a menu of fundamental attributes that can inform complete community priorities for other regional centers
2. Examine existing and missing fundamental center attributes needed to enhance/transform regional centers into Complete Communities
3. Identify common Complete Community needs in regional centers across the region to clearly shape overarching regional priorities

Examine how regional programs can support Complete Community priorities in regionally identified centers

Complete Communities Team members (to date) include the following:

* Robert Brosnan, Arlington County Planning Director
* Dawud Abdur-Rahman, General Services Agency, Planning Director
* Anne Marie Bairstow, DC BID Council
* Eric Hallstrom, Greater Greater Washington
* Vasily Kisunko Sierra Club Sustainable Metro DC Campaign
* Sam Parker, Envision Prince George’s
* Bill Cook, Southeast Fairfax Development Corporation
* Julia Koster, National Capital Planning Commission

1. **Impact Team**

Over the next two years, the Region Forward Coalition will bring together members from diverse sectors to address complex interdisciplinary challenges and increase the region’s prosperity, sustainability, accessibility, and livability. Regional Activity Centers will be focal points for implementing the ambitious goals and target in Region Forward, and the Impact Team will develop strategies and partnerships to make these Activity Centers more complete.

Impact team members will prioritize regional opportunities and will generate strategies, leverage existing resources, and coordinate partnerships to address them. Examples of these opportunities include preparing the region’s lower skilled workforce for participation in the area’s main industry clusters; creating a medium for the region’s communities (through its citizenry) to tell its stories as it relates to Region Forward; and pooling resources to preserve affordable housing throughout the region. The Impact Team’s efforts will result in concrete implementation tools and programs that will be managed by COG and its partners.

Impact Team members (to date) include the following:

* David Bowers, Enterprise Community Partners
* Tamara Copeland, Washington Regional Association of Grantmakers
* Pamela Dunn, Maryland National Capital Parks and Planning Commission
* Kristin Pauly, Prince Charitable Trusts
* Martha Ross, The Brookings Institute
* Lisa Rother, ULI Washington
* Marvin Turner, HUD DC Field Office
* Marcel Acosta, National Capital Planning Commission

David Bowers and Tamara Copeland will serve as the group’s chair and co-chair, respectively. Impact Team members are asked to participate in roughly 16 team meetings throughout the two-year Region Forward Initiative period in addition to full Coalition meetings. These meetings will be held before and after the larger Coalition meetings in order to develop and execute a work plan geared toward creating and coordinating effective tools to complete the region’s Activity Centers. The Team’s work plan will be created in concert with COG’s staff liaison. The work plan will provide specific quarterly milestones for the Team to meet to fulfill its ultimate mission of creating concrete implementation tools for Region Forward. The Team’s chair and co-chair will inform the larger Coalition of its progress at the quarterly Coalition meetings.