Metropolitan Washington
Council of Governments

CHESAPEAKE BAY and WATER RESOURCES POLICY COMMITTEE MEETING & STORMWATER TOUR SUMMARY- Draft
May 19, 2017

1. CALL TO ORDER/WELCOME & INTRODUCTIONS

Chair Sze called the meeting to order at 10:10.

2. APPROVAL OF DRAFT SUMMARY FROM NOVEMBER 18TH CBPC MEETING

The draft summary of the March 17, 2017 meeting was approved as submitted.

3. CHESAPEAKE BAY PROGRAM (CBP) & RELATED WATER PROGRAMS

Ms. Spano reported on current federal funding for the CBP, noting that:

- Congress provided full appropriations for EPA and the EPA's CBP in the FY 2017 continuing resolution
- In the proposed FY 2018 federal budget, the EPA budget is expected to be cut.
- Regardless, local governments will still have to meet state permit requirements.

She proposed that the CBPC discuss with EPA and the CBP the uncertainty of funding and contingency planning during the CBPC's September Forum with EPA and the states.

Ms. Spano then walked through the CBP's Midpoint Assessment timeline (handout), noting that:

- The 2025 Bay TMDL "deadline" is the driver for the tight schedule.
- There will be opportunities this fall for the CBPC to weigh various technical and policy decisions and to take positions, using the CBPC's Policy Principles as a guide.
- Staff is tracking the assessment schedule and will pinpoint opportunities for comment.
- Potential policy decisions could include: How to equitably allocate the additional Conowingo nutrient loadings; whether/how to factor in climate change impacts, and how should population growth and land use projections be utilized in the new Watershed Model.

Refer to Ms. Spano's Power Point, and the *Midpoint Assessment CBP-COG Master Calendar* for further details.

<u>Member discussion:</u>

- Mr. Karimi reinforced the point, that regardless of any shift in CBP requirements, local water quality permits, and 3rd party suits, will not be diminished; and that even if the CBP were eliminated, the states will still be required to uphold the Clean Water Act requirements.
- Mr. Ortiz suggested that the Anacostia Partnership write a letter of support for CBP funding.
- Several members, including Chair Sze, Mr. Karimi, Ms. Gross, and Ms. Holman voiced interest in a CBPC letter of support for the CBP, and 'going on record' that the COG region has advocated full funding for the Bay Program.

<u>Action Item:</u>

COG staff will work with Chair Sze to develop a recommend from the CBP that a formal COG a letter supporting funding for the CBP be transmitted to Congress.

4. GENERAL UPDATES

A. Member updates

Ms. Holman said that DC Water was naming their two Navy Yard skimmer boats the same day as the CBPC meeting. She also shared that during National Infrastructure Week, DC Water experienced a main break of a pipe dating back to 1868, so it was the perfect time to shed light on the issues of aging infrastructure.

B. Staff updates

Ms. Bonnaffon shared COG's social media preparations for Chesapeake Bay Awareness Week (June 3-10) and requested that members share their outreach plans. Montgomery County, DC Water, Alexandria Renew Enterprises, and DOEE all said that they were making plans to promote Bay Awareness Week.

Ms. Bonnaffon also noted that Chair Sze was scheduled to present a summary of CBPC priorities and activities to the COG Board at their June 14th meeting.

5. STORMWATER PROGRAM BRIEFINGS

Mr. Berger presented a brief overview of regional stormwater permit requirements and differentiation of the permitted area in Virginia versus Maryland; and shared a table of the COG region's annual fee and taxes. He also mentioned the upcoming June 14th stormwater procurement workshop that COG will be holding jointly with Montgomery County's DEP. See COG's "Stormwater Snapshot" Power Point for details.

Ms. Feldt provided background on Montgomery County's stormwater program, noting:

- The challenging permit requirement that 20% of impervious surface be retrofitted within the 5-year permit term;
- How MDE Is currently drafting a consent decree for Montgomery County
- Montgomery County's approach for watershed assessments, - in particular how the county is addressing the most impaired streams first, namely in the Anacostia watershed.
- Montgomery County is also developing numerous innovative approaches for addressing stormwater. For example, in the Breewood Neighborhood (tour location), green infrastructure is being installed upstream of the restored stream segment to be protective of that investment.

Mr. Shofar then presented a map and details of the Breewood neighborhood, in preparation for tour. See the Montgomery County DEP "Breewood Pre-tour" Power Point for more details.

6. MONTGOMERY COUNTY STORMWATER FACILITY TOUR

See the attached Summary of the Breewood Neighborhood Stormwater Tour (previously emailed).

The next CBPC meeting will be the **Bay & Water Quality Forum** on **Friday, September 15** from 10:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m. at COG.

ATTENDANCE:

Members and Alternates:

Adam Ortiz, Prince George's County

Dan Sze, Chair, Falls Church

Hamid Karimi, Vice Chair, DOEE

JL Hearn, WSSC

Karen Pallansch, Alexandria Renew Enterprises

Lisa Feldt, Montgomery County

Maureen Holman, DC Water

Penelope Gross, Fairfax County

Steve Shofar, Montgomery County

Guests:
Amy Tarte, Virginia Dept. of Emergency Management
Lauren Pitts, Dept. of Justice

COG Staff:
Heidi Bonnaffon, DEP

Karl Berger, DEP

Steve Walz, DEP Director
Tanya Spano, DEP

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