



MEMORANDUM

TO: COG Board of Directors
FROM: Chuck Bean, COG Executive Director
SUBJECT: Executive Director's Report – October 2022
DATE: October 5, 2022

POLICY BOARD & COMMITTEE UPDATES

National Capital Region Transportation Planning Board (TPB) – At its September meeting, the TPB received a briefing on draft 2022-2025 regional targets for highway systems performance and bridge and pavement highway asset conditions. The board also received a briefing from Federal Highway Administration staff on the U.S. DOT Safe Systems approach paradigm which builds and reinforces multiple layers of protection to prevent crashes and minimize injury to those involved when crashes occur.

Metropolitan Washington Air Quality Committee (MWAQC) – At its September meeting, members received an update on the 2022 ozone season, showing the region had its best three-year period (2020-2022) since COG began tracking air pollution. The committee was also briefed on COG's electric vehicle initiatives and the implications of a recent Supreme Court ruling regarding the EPA's authority to regulate greenhouse gases.

Climate, Energy, and Environment Policy Committee (CEEPC) – In September, CEEPC was briefed on several military and community resilience strategies underway in the region through the Military Installation Resilience Review (MIRR) program. The committee was also briefed on COG's electric vehicle initiatives and held its first discussion on leading a Regional EV Deployment Working Group as directed by the COG Board.

Chesapeake Bay and Water Resources Policy Committee (CBPC) – In September, CBPC held its 11th Annual Water Quality Forum, which is an annual opportunity for CBPC, EPA, and state representatives to meet and exchange perspectives and resources. Focus areas included the history of the Potomac's improved water quality due to long-standing partnerships, the achievement of a



NEW OZONE DATA SHOWS STEADY IMPROVEMENT
The metropolitan Washington region experienced just three “code orange” unhealthy air days in 2022, a decrease from eight days in 2021, according to data collected as part of COG's ozone season summary.

[Learn more about the 2022 ozone season](#)

greater local government “voice” in the Chesapeake Bay Program, and utility perspectives on long-term planning to prepare for population growth and emerging issues.

Human Services Policy Committee (HSPC) – In September, local leaders from the District of Columbia, Montgomery County, and FEMA led a discussion on the response to migrants arriving in the region from southern border states, the types of support being provided, and the challenges being faced from the federal and local perspectives.

OUTREACH & PROGRAM HIGHLIGHTS

2030 Framework – COG Executive Director Chuck Bean presented *Region United* at a Greater Washington Community Foundation event focused on regional cooperation, racial equity, and prosperity in the DMV.

Car Free Day – COG’s Commuter Connections promoted Car Free Day, an annual event that encourages drivers to find more eco-friendly and healthy ways to travel. Over 4,000 residents registered for this year’s event celebrated on Thursday, September 22.

Transportation Resilience – At the conclusion of its four-part Transportation Resiliency Planning Capacity Building webinar series, the TPB developed a [Resiliency Webinars Resource Guide](#) with key takeaways from the webinars along with related publications, websites, and program resources.

Clean Air Partners – On September 27, COG’s Clean Air Partners program partnered with Washington Gas to bring an eco-driving exhibit to the Nationals Ballpark. The exhibit displayed air quality messages and real tips on how to reduce mobile-source emissions and included a vehicle encased in a clear plastic bubble, trivia questions, and a selfie wall.

Regional Homelessness Forum – On September 30, COG hosted the second annual homelessness forum in partnership with Kaiser Permanente. COG Housing Program Manager Hilary Chapman participated in a panel discussion about operationalizing racial equity within homeless services in the region.



REGIONAL FOOD SECURITY EFFORTS
A few of COG's Food and Agriculture Regional Member (FARM) Policy Committee members along with other area food leaders attended the White House Conference on Hunger, Nutrition, and Health on September 28.

MEDIA HIGHLIGHTS

2030 Planning Framework – *How the region's housing targets can support transit-oriented communities*

[Greater Greater Washington](#) – [Quotes COG Executive Director Chuck Bean.](#)

WMATA General Manager briefs COG Board – *Metro GM Wants Transit Agency to Be 'Boring'*

[NBC 4](#) – [WMATA GM Randy Clarke shares Metro's plans and priorities.](#)

2022 State of the Commute survey results - *Changing commuting habits doesn't mean traffic is getting better in the DMV*

[ABC 7](#) – [Quotes COG Transportation Operations Programs Director Nicholas Ramfos.](#)

Regional water supply resilience - *DC area could be moving closer to secondary water supply*

[WTOP](#) – [Covers water panel from September COG Board meeting.](#)