



## MEMORANDUM

**TO:** COG Board of Directors  
**FROM:** Chuck Bean, COG Executive Director  
**SUBJECT:** Executive Director's Report – January 2020  
**DATE:** January 2, 2020

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## POLICY BOARD & COMMITTEE UPDATES

**National Capital Region Transportation Planning Board (TPB)** – At its November meeting, the TPB learned about the Regional Travel Survey preliminary results, received a briefing on the Street Smart campaign, and reviewed draft Highway Safety Targets for the region, a federal requirement for measuring the number of serious injuries and fatalities. At its December meeting, the board approved the new slate of officers for 2020: Frederick Alderman Kelly Russell will serve as Chair and D.C. Councilmember Charles Allen and Manassas Vice Mayor Pamela Sebesky as Vice Chairs. The board also approved the regional Highway Safety Targets reviewed in November.



### [ANNUAL VIDEO](#)

[Officials from the District of Columbia, Maryland, and Virginia took regional collaboration to the next level in 2019. Reflect on the many ways we worked together over the last year as we prepare for the year ahead.](#)

[Watch the video](#)

### **Metropolitan Washington Air Quality**

**Committee (MWAQC)** – At its December meeting, MWAQC elected new officers for 2020: Chairman Brandon Todd, District of Columbia Councilmember; Vice Chair Robert Day, City of College Park Councilmember; and Vice Chair Erik Gutshall, Arlington County Board Member. The group also shared local updates and was briefed on the 2019 ozone season.

**Chesapeake Bay and Water Resources Policy Committee (CBPC)** – At its November meeting, the CBPC focused on how local governments are updating their stormwater programs to consider climate and flooding resiliency. Members were also briefed on the Chesapeake Bay Program's climate initiatives. Incoming Chair Jon Stehle, City of Fairfax Councilmember, proposed a new partnership between the committee and regional universities on applied research, beginning with a focus on agriculture.

**Human Services Policy Committee (HSPC)** – The November HSPC meeting featured a discussion on "Connecting Residents to Services," with briefings from speakers with Kaiser Permanente and Unite Us. In addition, the group was updated on the regional housing targets adopted by the COG Board.

## OUTREACH & PROGRAM HIGHLIGHTS

**Regional Housing Targets** – COG leadership completed speaking engagements in November and December on the region’s new housing targets and related topics. COG Executive Director Chuck Bean spoke at a Regional Chambers Dinner hosted by the Greater Washington Board of Trade and at event on equitable development hosted by Capital Impact Partners. Department of Community Planning and Services staff spoke to the Apartment and Office Building Association, American Public Transportation Association, and moderated a panel for ULI Washington’s Regional Land Use Leadership Institute, among other groups.

**Protect Your Pipes** – A fall public outreach campaign coordinated by COG’s Community Engagement Campaign made up of local water and wastewater utilities used radio and social media advertising to spread the word about the damage caused by Fats, Oils, and Grease (FOG) to household plumbing and wastewater infrastructure.

**Dockless Micromobility Workshop** - On December 9, the TPB’s Bicycle and Pedestrian Subcommittee hosted a workshop highlighting dockless micromobility in the region, which includes bikeshare, scooters, and other types of devices people can rent to ride for short distances. The workshop was held with the TPB’s Access for All Advisory Committee.

**Adoption Exchange** - DCPS staff hosted the 2019 regional “Adoption Exchange” with members of the Foster Care Committee and Adoption Committee on November 7.

**Climate and Energy** – COG Principal Environmental Planner Jeff King attended a Global Covenant of Mayors for Climate and Energy International Urban Cooperation meeting in Brussels, part of a global delegation dedicated to working together across city and regional sister pairings on sustainable development and climate change. Planner Maia Davis participated as an executive committee member for the Sustainable States Network, which focuses on ramping up environmental action in small to medium-sized communities, including Maryland and Virginia.

**Winter Weather Conference** – COG hosted local, state, and federal partners on November 7 for the annual Winter Weather Conference to help the region coordinate and prepare for the winter weather season.

**Community Leadership Institute** – Over 20 leaders graduated from the TPB’s fall Community Leadership Institute, which engaged community leaders in discussions and education about how transportation projects are planned, funded, and implemented in the region.



**INITIAL SURVEY RESULTS AVAILABLE**  
Department staff completed data collection and reported initial results for the once-in-a-decade Regional Travel Survey, which gathered detailed demographic and travel information over the course of a year from nearly 16,000 area households.

[Read the TPB News Article](#)

## MEDIA HIGHLIGHTS

**How DC-area leaders are planning for expected 1.5 million new residents over next 25 years** - COG Executive Director Chuck Bean is quoted about how the region's leaders are working to optimize the location of jobs, transportation options, and housing to accommodate future growth.

[WTOP article](#)

**COG: 320,000 new housing units needed by 2030; mostly for low-to-middle income residents** - COG Vice Chair and Arlington County Board Chair Christian Dorsey, talks about the region's housing targets, and why local jurisdictions are working collaboratively to meet them.

[WJLA story](#)

**A sneak peek behind what happens when decisions are made about snow-related cancellations and closings** - COG Executive Director Chuck Bean is quoted about the protocols, procedures, and communication strategies that go into making decisions about handling winter weather in the region.

[WTOP article](#)



**TRACKING THE REGION'S AIR QUALITY**  
Metropolitan Washington Air Quality Committee Chair and City of Falls Church Council Member David Snyder discusses the region's air quality in an interview with Comcast Newsmakers.

[Watch the video](#)