

DRAFT MEETING SUMMARY

METROPOLITAN WASHINGTON COUNCIL OF GOVERNMENTS

Human Services and Public Safety Policy Committee (HSPSPC)

Friday, June 19, 2015

Noon – 2:00 PM

ATTENDEES

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| 1. Walter Tejada, Arlington, VA – Chairman | 9. Terry Seamens, Takoma Park, MD |
| 2. Brianne Nadeau, District of Columbia | 10. Sophie Mintier, MWCOG |
| 3. Barry Stanton, Prince George’s County, MD | 11. Paul DesJardin, MWCOG |
| 4. Virginia Onley, Rockville, MD | 12. Stuart Freudberg, MWCOG |
| 5. Jarrett Smith, Takoma Park, MD | 13. Jenny Schitter, MWCOG |
| 6. Brenda Donald, District of Columbia | 14. David McMillion, MWCOG |
| 7. Courtney Tierney, Prince William, VA | 15. Hilary Chapman, MWCOG |
| 8. George Barker, Virginia Senate Representative | |

1. CALL TO ORDER AND INTRODUCTION

Discussion:

Chairman Tejada opened the meeting by welcoming everyone and thanking COG staff.

2. APPROVAL OF APRIL 17, 2015 MEETING MINUTES AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

Discussion:

- Chairman Tejada made a motion to approve the minutes from April 17, 2015 meeting. A second was received and the motion was unanimously approved. He noted that staff had done a good job capturing the robust conversation from the last meeting.
- Dave McMillion reported that the WRAP report “How Safe Are Our Roads?” was forwarded to the HSPSPC with a request for members to provide any recommended changes and that no recommended changes have been received to-date. The last day for providing comments is next Wednesday, July 1, 2015. If no recommended changes are received, the document will be submitted to the COG Board for consideration on July 8, 2015.

3. 2014 ANNUAL REPORT ON CRIME AND CRIME CONTROL

Discussion:

- Chairman Tejada welcomed Chief Alan Goldberg, Takoma Park Police and Chair of COG Police Chiefs Committee, Assistant Police Chief Patrick Burke, Metropolitan Washington Police Department, and Amy Phillips, Metro Transit Police and Chair, Police Chiefs Policy & Planning Subcommittee. He thanked the law enforcement community for preparing the Crime Report and the presenters coming in for their presentations.
- Amy Phillips presented the 2014 Crime Report for the NCR. She noted that Part I Crimes as defined by the FBI is very specific as shown on a slide in the presentation.
- The Crime Report showed how crime had decreased. Some credit went to the multi-agency partnerships that have been forged in the region. Crime was at the lowest level in years in 2014 and this is good news for our region; regionally we were down by 1%.
- Crime has decreased 8% in the past five years.

- In Prince George's County the rate for Part I Crimes from 2010 through 2014 dealing with homicide went down by 23%. The robbery rate went down by 13%. Property crimes are now 87% of all the crimes in this jurisdiction. Auto crimes drastically increased due to persons leaving their door unlocked and unsecured. Cell phone and bike thefts have increased as well.
- The District of Columbia trend from 2010 through 2014 for Part I Crimes has gone up by 16%. The increase in assaults, larceny and motor vehicle theft accounted for the increase.
- Maryland trends showed a slight decrease. Rapes was the major category that had the greatest decrease.
- Virginia showed a decrease in Part I Crimes from 2010 to 2014 of 12.1%. The only area that increased was aggravated assault.
- The five year trend showing a significant decrease in crime primarily has stabilized. Violence against persons and property crimes decreased. Larceny statistics fluctuated throughout the year.
- The population has grown significantly but the crime per capita has decreased.
- Calls for service are unreliable because jurisdictions report differently throughout the region. It could be the 9-1-1 dispatcher answering the phone from a victim or a police officer calling in a crime.
- The drug offenses that included actual drug arrest have decreased in the region by 4% : DC (29%), VA (5%), and MD (18%).
- Chief Goldberg mentioned a campaign that was started in communities last year that encouraged individuals to report crimes. That campaign resulted in an increase in the number of calls over past year. The top 2 crimes are home break-ins and the theft of cars not being locked. Active Crews were deployed to target cross jurisdictional issues concerning burglary and robbery last year. Chief Goldberg stated that the overall crime rate for the region is lower than that of other metropolitan areas nationwide.
- Chairman Tejada commented on the statistics by bringing back to memory the terminology used for the District of Columbia some years ago, "The Murder Capital". Of course we would like the numbers to be lower, even to zero if we can. Arlington County has had a low murder rate in the past and now it seems to be steadily rising. "I would like this report discussed at my County Board meeting, this is really important."
- Chairman Tejada stated that it would be great to have an expanded agenda at a later date to discuss these topics further.
- Chief Goldberg noted how electronics are the top commodity. Mac Books, iPads, and laptops are in high demand, but they are not being pawned. These items are being resold or kept for personal reasons.
- Terry Seamens, Takoma Park, MD suggested that future discussions involving the loss of electronic devices would be beneficial.
- Brenda Donaldson, District of Columbia reminded everyone that these are trends over a period of 5 years. She noted that population had increased yet the crime rate had gone down.
- Chairman Tejada suggested the acceptance of the Crime Report and recommended that it be submitted to the COG Board for consideration. The recommendation was approved.
- Chairman Tejada welcomed Senator George Barker, VA and Virginia Onley, Rockville, MD as they joined during the presentations.

Tasks:

- Add agenda item to further discuss theft of electronic devices in the future.**

4. COG ECONOMIC COMPETITIVENESS AND WORKFORCE INITIATIVES

Discussion:

- Chairman Tejada thanked all the guests for providing input to the **COG Economic Competitiveness and Workforce Initiatives**. It was recommended that more substance be made available in our community and identify avenues where voices/opinions are heard. The workforce development portion of this discussion will be laid out by Paul DesJardin's Department of Community Planning and Services.
- Paul DesJardin headed-up the topic of conversation for this portion, and thanked Sophie Mintier, COG Regional Planner III here.
- Paul DesJardin expressed how the COG Board adopted three new initiatives this year in which one of the main focuses was on economic development. Numerous conversations have taken place involving the slowing of the economy and new potential opportunities discussed by the Brooking Staff. We are determined to get very specific outcomes with growth projections which are assessed through occupational projections, investment decisions, and traffic zone initiatives. Our services sector is expansive which ranges from IT to a fry cook. How do you occupy your day to pay forward to the workforce needs?
- Paul DesJardin discussed the Storm Weather Management project between the COG Board and Board of Trade developing new strategies for future endeavors. At our upcoming COG Retreat this topic may be discussed. Our prosperity partnership with the Atlanta COG revealed economic clusters such as with Federal, State, and Local. In doing so, devising the strengths and opportunities to show best practices and to affirm our goals and objectives in the area as a collective region.
- Senator George Barker, VA expressed his concern about the Weldon Cooper calculated projections being dated and not supported fully by the region as a whole. It brings about frustrations throughout the region of independent methods and biased opinions. Other regions in-turn feel pressured; have unrealistic lows, standardized options, and population highs and lows.
- Chairman Tejada stood by the statistics and stated they were unpredictable therefore not carrying a lot of weight in the region. These documents are presumed to come from a prestigious source.
- Senator George Barker, VA, I don't have any particular discussion prepared for today.
- Stuart Freudberg, Deputy Executive Director, we have reviewed the numbers top down and bottom up.
- Paul DesJardin reinforced that the collection criteria have been running smoothly since the mid-1970s. Our metric model has constraints built in for the National Capitol Region as a whole. The local government has short term updates for future uncertainties. The index forecasts can be discussed offline to focus on the ideals for today's committee meeting.
- Chairman Tejada elected for the topic of Cooperative Forecasting be a main topic for a future meeting, the intricacies can be prepared in such a way that will be beneficial to everyone.
- Senator George Barker, VA didn't want to push today. It would behoove us to tackle these issues in the future to combat political and public resistance.
- Chairman Tejada agreed and suggested a more policy driven future discussion. Thus, in a clear manner, we would uplift our constituencies. We have managed well to create the proper amenities. "I had no idea what density meant upon my election. Through my growth I've learned so much." When we come together to promote best practices, successes,

and resources, schools and public safety are of high importance and need to be vastly improved.

- Senator George Barker, VA Arlington is vastly different for Alexandria through the management of space and curriculum.
- Walter Tejada I concur seeing as through the use of space is vastly different. 89% of our space is residential, we have an 11% increase in open land left over, 11 metro stations, with an increased number of people relying on public transit. Also we have the upcoming Tysons Corner stop which will expand the transit opportunities.
- Stuart Freudberg, Deputy Executive Director, we need to implement some time to get Senator Barker involved in more of these conversations about this topic.

Tasks:

- Chairman Tejada elected for the topic of Cooperative Forecasting be a main topic for a future meeting, the intricacies can be prepared in such a way that will be beneficial to everyone.
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5. REGIONAL WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT SYSTEMS AND RESOURCES LANDSCAPE

Discussion:

- Chairman Tejada acknowledged and thanked Sophie for her hard work to gather all of the necessary information relevant to this topic. Additionally, the panelists were acknowledged for participating in today's meeting and coming prepared to provide this committee with valuable information related to the strategic plan that can be shared with our respective constituency.
- Sophie Mintier briefly introduced the topic and asked for the panelists to give a one to two minute introduction of themselves and which organization they represent in serving job seekers in the jurisdictions.
- David Hunn, The Skills Source Group Inc., we serve Fairfax, Loudoun, and Manassas VA Our one-stop shops have six locations. Support for our facilities come from federal and local entities. Those with low skills and income which include dislocation, as well as well-educated and skilled workers. Veterans and those with disabilities have come to visit our locations in this downward economy trend.
- Barbara Kaufmann, Montgomery County Workforce Investment Board discussed the support they provide from the Department of Economic Development. We have federal, state, and local support for our one-stop facilities. Our facilities are located in Germantown, Montgomery County Corrections Facility, and Wheaton. We deal with a large number of new Americans. The youth have become a large population to assist as well. Our numbers since the recession have been about the same.
- David Remick, Alexandria/Arlington Workforce Investment Board, we have a cross jurisdictional force to serve. Our impact area is Alexandria and Arlington serving about three thousand people and sixty percent of which is a one-on-one ratio.
- Andrew Rogers, DC Workforce Investment Council we work primarily with WIC and WIB clientele. Working with direct services within our community provides a different aspect that my colleagues don't necessarily incur. Our goal is to implement them into intermediate programs within the construction and hospitality fields.
- Sophie Mintier, thank you for those great introductions. Moving forward you will have five minutes to delve deeper into your area of expertise delegated for this presentation.

- David Hunn gave a WIC/WIB 101 within the human services business: we have our clients working with case managers, core services, and career assessment. This provides opportunities for those who may be new to the job market or for those in transition. Certifications are offered to increase the skill-sets of our constituents. While implementing innovation we increase their chances of gaining employment.
- Sophie Mintier, we will now discuss major factors driven by change within gaps and challenges.
- Barbara Kaufmann alluded to major gaps within our region ranging from demographics to new legislative funding. Unemployment is down, but our clients haven't slowed down coming in for services. Many of the jobs on the horizon are involved with cybersecurity. Most of the searches involve the same type of wage compensation. The new legislation allowed a congruency of skill-set training to be offered. Many of the regions planning involve the new flow of employment on the horizon. Funding is always a major aspect for the level of training. Eighty percent of our funding comes from the government and twenty percent comes from outside entities.
- Andrew Rogers spoke to some of the ways we provide training to potential employees. With more training many of the barriers previously faced would be eliminated. Increasing their skills from remedial to intermediate affords more opportunity to fill the jobs that are in demand. In Washington, DC sixty thousand are without a high school diploma. Forty to fifty percent of the residents lack basic literary and numeric skills. We strive to institute on-the-job training to allow income to flow while increasing skills. The high growth industries, which many are trying to break into, are in the areas of culinary, security, law enforcement, and IT. Many of the investors are concerned about basic skills. We've moved from the big job fairs because of the feedback received. Many left feeling hopeless, therefore we will strategize and increase targeted events. The goal is to match skills with certain employers, hopefully resulting in a pre-apprenticeship.
- David Remick spoke on the subject of Region Collaboration and Competition. The public workforce includes community colleges to try and gain education while acknowledging incoming earning experiences. Gaps we are incurring are the true relationship with educational programs. Perhaps COG could be a convener and lead the cause to bring the job systems together to create a more intricate flow of skills matching the jobs available. The District of Columbia has a middle skills job campaign to increase the awareness. In order to enter the job force with a competitive gain, the region needs to acquire greater cohesiveness. Many of the challenges come forth from different jurisdiction requirements being resolved.
- Chairman Tejada expressed how glad he was to hear about the many levels of services for our region that have low income and skills. Cybersecurity has a lot of stability. Many times our region bypasses the blue collar field to attract more people to the region. The blue collar fields seem not be high paying in the jurisdiction. Many times we don't think about it until we need them.
- Stuart Freudberg encouraged the suggestion of COG being the center of the push to get more of a community aspect to the job fields in the area. We need to build core competencies to begin to build values added. Sophie Mintier can pull together notes from her planning and this meeting to access how to move forward on the priorities from the committee.
- Chairman Tejada suggested we submit thoughts and ideas for this topic so we can come together. Our assessment can shed light on the Maryland, Virginia, and District of

Columbia at the local level. The skills and competency levels need to meet the national standard.

- Stuart Freudberg please submit suggestions to Dave McMillion

Task:

- Further assess/discuss skill and competency levels in DC, MD and VA. S. Mintier to suggest priorities to the committee
- Stuart Freudberg please submit suggestions to Dave McMillion regarding the push to get more of a community aspect to the job fields in the area; the skills and competency levels need to meet the national standard. We need to build core competencies to begin to build values and shed light on the Maryland, Virginia, and District of Columbia at the local level.

6. WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT THROUGH INFRASTRUCTURE

Discussion:

- Chairman Tejada welcomed Karen Pallansch, CEO of Alexandria Renew Enterprises our special guest for this meeting. We look forward to hearing your presentation on infrastructure.
- Karen Pallansch discussed how her company treats the waste water in Alexandria, VA; there is also an agreement with Arlington. Our company employs one hundred people. Our services are critical three hundred and sixty five days a year. Our jobs are not truly broadcasted, but are needed. We have the 4th growing job market overall nationally. The blue collar title needs to be obsolete as it has a negative connotation. The title from 1950s has grown into a more skilled and certified individual. Most of us didn't want to go to college to have a hands-on job. No longer minimum wage, these skills pay well for these trades. We are the backbone of these strong vital communities in our National Capitol Region. These jobs never go away. It's a vital asset that has constant attention that needs to be renewed and/or replaced. An issue rising currently is the coming retirement of the "baby boomers" from the industry. The workforce will suffer greatly. In the 70s and 80s the "baby boomers" joined the industry due to the Clean Water Act. Many of the workers are truly loyal and their longevity has great meaning to the industry. The service industry has become a hi-tech industry over the past couple of years. We've begun an apprenticeship program with an electrician, mechanic, and operations. In the past we're trying to forge a relationship with colleges so it can be a stronger program in the future. Other companies we would love to partner with are OSHA and DC Water.
- Chairman Tejada expressed that it would be great to introduce these ideals to the Latin America community. Thank you for coming out.

7. ROUNDTABLE DISCUSSION

Discussion:

- Chairman Tejada "thanks to you all". We are passing our ending time of 2:00 pm. Our next meeting will be on September 18, 2015 in which the topic will be Public Safety. If you have any recommendations for the agenda please submit them.
- Senator George Barker, stressed the need for increased coordination. We need to work more as a region to insure that we do not end-up with a surplus of skilled workers and no job opportunities.

- Stuart Freudberg welcomed the advice and would like to see how we can effectively coordinate an approach.

Tasks:

- Contact Dave McMillion, MWCOG, to be a more active participant with our next meeting topic - Public Safety.

8. **SUMMARY OF OUTCOMES/PREVIEW OF SEPTEMBER 18TH MEETING AND ADJOURNMENT**

Discussion:

- COG would be a great asset to facilitate the gap between community colleges and upcoming apprenticeship program.

NEXT MEETING: SEPTEMBER 18, 2015, 12 NOON – 2PM