

WATER RESOURCES ADVOCACY – HIGHLIGHTS & PROPOSED ACTIVITIES

(CBPC meeting, 3/20/15)

AREAS OF FOCUS	PLANNED ACTIVITIES OR ACTIONS
A. Legislation	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Transmit comment letter(s) on key pieces of state legislation • Transmit comment letter(s) on federal legislative issues: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Fund implementation of WIFIA ○ Maintain/increase SRLF funding for wastewater and drinking water ○ Maintain tax-exempt status of municipal bonds (broadly and to help fund WIFIA projects)
B. Chesapeake Bay Program	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Continue to actively represent COG's interests (technical & policy) in various committees and meetings • Provide comments on CBP's recently issued draft Management Strategies • Increase coordination with LGAC to advance shared issues of importance to local governments • Continue coordination with other water resource utilities & related organizations (NVPC, VAMWA/MAMWA) to address common technical/scientific concerns • Provide input/comments on decisions being made re: 2017 Bay TMDL Mid-term Evaluation
C. Water Infrastructure	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Implement activities to advance COG Board's Regional Infrastructure report recommendations: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Regional Infrastructure Exchange 2. Public Education Campaign <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Use National Drinking Water Week (May 4-8) to broadly address water resource issues for the region and link to regional infrastructure efforts (via CEC) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Tours of facilities, various media event, etc. planned throughout the region ▪ Continue work with WRTC to gather water resources data to establish a strong baseline of scope, status and cost/funding needs for region's water infrastructure ▪ Continue to link water infrastructure to public health and environmental protection & restoration, economics, jobs, sustainability, resiliency, and security efforts 3. Continued Sharing of Best Practices <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Presentation to CBPC on Prince George's County's P3 (May 15) ▪ Continue to organize technical workshops on stormwater technical/program issues ▪ Co-sponsor another workshop on innovative wastewater practices (with CBP/STAC) 4. Workshop Series on Unique Funding Mechanisms <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ COG Innovative Financing event (May) –re: Focus Partners & Brookings ▪ Other Ideas: DC Water's Harvard Univ. Grant to Develop Innovative Green Infrastructure Financing Model, Prince George's County's P3 5. Advocacy <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ See legislative efforts and support for public education campaign efforts noted above ▪ Other?