

**METROPOLITAN WASHINGTON COUNCIL OF GOVERNMENTS  
777 North Capitol Street, N.E.  
Washington, D.C. 20002-4290**

**MINUTES  
Board of Directors' Meeting  
COG Board Room**

**November 10, 2010**

**BOARD MEMBERS, ALTERNATES AND PARTICIPANTS PRESENT AND NOT PRESENT**

**\*SEE ATTACHED CHART FOR ATTENDANCE**

**STAFF**

**David J. Robertson, Executive Director  
Sharon Pandak, General Counsel  
Nicole Hange, Clerk to the Board**

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**1. CALL TO ORDER AND PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE**

Vice Chairman Harrison called the meeting to order at 12:15 p.m.

**2. CHAIRMAN'S ANNOUNCEMENTS**

Staff prepared a table listing election outcomes for District of Columbia, Maryland and Virginia local offices. Several of these officials are members of the COG Board or serve on other COG boards and committees. Vice Chairman Harrison congratulated all of those who were elected or re-elected and we thanked those public officials who did not stand for re-election or were defeated for their service to COG and the National Capital Region.

Vice Chairman Harrison asked members to mark their calendar for COG's Annual Meeting on December 8 at the Grand Hyatt Washington.

**3. EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S REPORT**

Mr. Robertson noted that all newly elected officials will be invited to the annual luncheon; he will also be setting up meetings to orient the new members to COG and the benefits of membership and importance of active participation.

An outcome of the annual leadership retreat was the need to revise COG's strategic plan to integrate the themes and goals of *Region Forward*. A Strategic Plan Review Committee has been created to review staff recommendations which will come forward to the Board in early 2011; City of Takoma Park Mayor Bruce Williams will chair the committee.

Mr. Robertson attended the American Planning Association's National Capital Area Chapter awards reception where he accepted, on behalf of Fairfax County Board Chairman Sharon Bulova, an award for her dedicated leadership and work on *Region Forward*.

As part of COG's focus on economic development and job creation, Mr. Robertson attended and spoke at "Companies for a Cause," a meeting of private sector foundations, philanthropic and non-profit agencies aimed at better connecting and fostering partnerships among these groups and local businesses.

Mr. Robertson stated that the work of the WMATA Governance Task Force is nearing completion and is expected to release its report and recommendations next week. The Board will be briefed on the findings during its January 2011 Board meeting.

#### **4. AMENDMENTS TO THE AGENDA**

There were no amendments to the agenda.

#### **5. APPROVAL OF OCTOBER 13 MINUTES**

The minutes of the October 13 meeting were unanimously approved and adopted.

#### **6. CONSENT AGENDA**

Supplemental Documents: R64-10 through R66-10.

##### **A. Resolution Authorizing the Execution of a Memorandum of Understanding with the Maryland Department of Natural Resources for Anacostia River Watershed Reforestation-Related Services**

The Board adopted Resolution R64-10, authorizing the Executive Director, or his designee, to execute a memorandum of understanding with the Maryland Department of Natural Resources (MDDNR) in an amount not to exceed \$25,000 for Anacostia reforestation-related support services. The project duration is eight months. No matching funds are required.

##### **B. Approval of COG Sublease Agreement with the National Association of Regional Councils**

The COG Board adopted Resolution R65-10, authorizing the Executive Director, or his designee, to execute a sublease agreement with the National Association of Regional Councils (NARC). COG has vacant office space available following the termination of COG's subtenant lease agreement with the National Jewish Democratic Council. Under the terms of the proposed lease agreement, NARC will occupy approximately 2,400 square feet of office space. The initial lease will extend through 2016 and may be renewed. The lease agreement will allow COG to pass along increases in operating costs and property taxes to NARC during the term of the lease. COG will also provide NARC with a tenant rent credit for tenant building improvements.

##### **C. Approval of Grant Application to Freddie Mac to Support the Capital Area Foreclosure Network (CAFN)**

The Board adopted Resolution R67-10, authorizing the Executive Director, or his designee, to seek and receive funds from Freddie Mac to support the Capital Area Foreclosure Network (CAFN) in an amount not to exceed \$125,000. No matching funds are required.

**ACTION: Upon motion made, and seconded, Resolutions R64-10 through R66-10 were unanimously approved and adopted.**

## **7. PRESENTATION ON MARC GREEN CONSORTIUM'S GREEN JOB SURVEY RESULTS**

Supplemental Documents: MARC Green Consortium Backgrounder

Jobs and economic development has been a top priority for the COG Board and the National Capital Region. In January, COG produced the report *Closing the Gaps to Build the Future* which stressed the importance of the region's ability to identify and respond quickly to emerging industries that create jobs.

During its annual leadership retreat, Ed Trumbull, Project Director for the Mid-Atlantic Regional Collaborative's (MARC) Green Consortium briefed members on the mission and goals of the Consortium which included detailed survey analysis of the region's green economy; a sector that is expected to be one of the region's high growth industries. Members requested periodic updates on the work of the Consortium, including a briefing on survey results. Mr. Trumbull and Andrew Moser, president of the Maryland Workforce Corporation, highlighted preliminary survey results, showcased the new regional web portal for employers and job seekers in green industries and discussed implications for local governments

The tri-state regional green jobs and training survey is the first of its kind in the National Capital Region and was sent out to small, medium and large employers; a majority of respondents were from small businesses. The data show that this region has the highest percentage of green jobs in the country. Green jobs are defined by the Department of Labor as those which involve any amount of time spent in producing a product or service that addresses one or more of the following seven categories: Renewable energy and alternative fuels; Energy efficiency and energy conservation; Greenhouse gas reduction; Pollution reduction and cleanup; Recycling and waste reduction; Sustainable agriculture and natural resource conservation; or Education, compliance, public awareness and training related to green jobs.

A detailed final analysis of the results will be conducted in February with state specific related research on green workforce to be release in April 2011. An information only regional website is available now and located at [www.marcgreenworks.com](http://www.marcgreenworks.com). The fully integrated website will be in operation in May. This site will not only help connect workers with available jobs and employers with qualified job seekers; it will also provide valuable insight into the labor market to better enable elected officials and other policy makers as they make decisions on funding for specific training and educations programs. Mr. Trumbull noted that one of the most important outcomes of this research will be the ability to provide gap analysis which is a critical component to quickly and effectively respond to the employment needs; as well as forecast future needs.

## **8. COG 2011 STATE LEGISLATIVE PRIORITIES**

Supplemental Documents: Draft 2011 State Legislative Priorities

During this year's annual retreat the Board discussed the need for greater coordination of policy and legislative priorities with state and federal elected officials. COG staff has worked with the Ad Hoc Legislative Committee of the Board and its Legislative Director's Committee to draft a set of 2011 state legislative priorities.

Nicole Hange, COG's Policy Coordinator, provided an overview of the priorities and asked for the Board's adoption. The 2011 Legislative Priorities will be used in outreach efforts in Richmond, Annapolis and the District of Columbia.

The proposed legislative priorities are grounded in the work of each of COG's policy and technical committees and are consistent with COG's effort to promote the integration of transportation, land use, and environmental planning and policies. The document recognizes the difficult budgetary constraints facing all levels of government and urges the states to recognize the symbiotic relationship that exists between themselves and local government by investing their fair share and not shifting the burden solely to localities.

Of the ten proposed priorities, three were highlighted as "top priorities:" transportation, Chesapeake Bay and stormwater management due to their significant budgetary impacts; the other priorities are more policy focused. The priorities are the same as last year but have been updated to include references to *Region Forward*.

City of Falls Church Council Member David Snyder requested the inclusion of a public safety related statement. Staff will incorporate in the final document.

Several members suggested that the "Climate and Energy" statement be re-named to "Energy and Climate" to better reflect the political sensitivities associated with the topic and the nature of the statement which is largely focused on the reduction of energy consumption.

**ACTION: Upon motion made, and seconded, COG's 2011 Legislative Priorities were unanimously approved and adopted as amended.**

## **9. APPROVAL OF THE ROUND 8 COOPERATIVE FORECASTS OF EMPLOYMENT, POPULATION AND HOUSEHOLDS**

Supplemental Documents: Resolution R67-10  
Round 8 Summary Tables

COG has maintained its cooperative forecasting program since 1975 to ensure that planners at local, regional and federal agencies use common assumptions about growth and development. The Metropolitan Development Policy Committee (MDPC) approved the 8<sup>th</sup> major update to the forecasts earlier this year. Paul DesJardin, COG's Director of Community Planning and Services, briefed the Board on the new Round 8 forecasts, which will become an important element in the planning tools used by the Transportation Planning Board. The Round 8 forecasts also will serve as an initial basis for re-defining the Regional Activity Centers that are a key element in the Greater Washington 2050 *Region Forward* report and process.

The Board was asked to approve the new Round 8 Cooperative Forecasts concurrent with the National Capital Region Transportation Planning Board's (TPB) approval of the results of the Air Quality Conformity Analysis of the FY2011-2016 Transportation Improvement Program (TIP) and 2010 financially Constrained Long-Range Transportation Plan (CLRP). The TPB is scheduled to approve the results of the Air Quality Conformity Analysis during its meeting on November 17, 2010.

**ACTION: Upon motion made, and seconded, Resolution R67-10 was unanimously approved and adopted.**

## **10. ADOPTION OF REGION FORWARD WORK PROGRAM FOR 2011**

Supplemental documents: Draft Region Forward Work Program

Shortly after adoption of the Region Forward report and Greater Washington 2050 compact by COG and its member local governments in July 2010, COG re-focused its efforts to respond to the HUD Sustainable Communities Regional Planning Grant. COG hoped to use the HUD grant to accelerate and expand Region Forward implementation. Unfortunately, COG was not selected by HUD to receive the grant award. Fairfax County Board Chair, and Chair of the Greater Washington 2050 Coalition, Sharon Bulova and Mr. Robertson outlined a work plan to implement several elements of Region Forward in the balance of the year and 2011, as well as the work elements that are being included in the draft FY 2012 COG Work Program and Budget.

The 18-month *Region Forward* work plan provides a series of integral next steps that COG will undertake to implement *Region Forward* and guide the transformation of regional centers into Complete Communities. These critical activities will require a new approach to regional planning and prioritization. The more immediate tasks will include the creation of a new Regional Sustainability Coalition and completion of a baseline analysis for the metrics and indicators used as part of *Region Forward's* targets and indicators to help the region measure progress toward its regional goals.

This new regional sustainability coalition will be shaped through the reorganization of the Metropolitan Development Policy Committee (MDPC) with the purpose to improve regional coordination of housing, land use, transportation, environmental, and economic issues at the regional level and undertake future comprehensive regional planning and implementation initiatives recommended in *Region Forward*.

Additional next steps include launching a *Region Forward* website, updating MWCOG's Regional Activity Centers, preparing a focused strategy toolbox to prioritize specific local and regional actions to implement *Region Forward* and publishing progress reports in combination with a public survey to understand progress towards regional goals.

Mr. Robertson stated that staff will continue to reach out to member jurisdictions and other interested groups during various phases of the work program to ensure optimal stakeholder input.

**ACTION: Upon motion made, and seconded, the Proposed 2011 Region Forward Work Program was unanimously approved and adopted.**

## **11. ACCEPTANCE OF FY 2010 AUDIT**

Supplemental Document: FY 2010 Audit

Graylin Smith, an external auditor with SB and Co., stated that COG has received an unqualified opinion based on an evaluation of its financial statements. The auditor also made recommendations to improve several administrative procedures.

**THE NEXT BOARD MEETING WILL BE ON WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 12, 2011.**

**ATTENDANCE: NOVEMBER 9, 2010  
BOARD OF DIRECTORS/ALTERNATES 2010**

<u>Jurisdiction</u>	<u>Member</u>	<u>Y/N</u>	<u>Alternate</u>	<u>Y/N</u>
<b>District of Columbia</b>				
<b>Executive</b>	Hon. Adrian Fenty	N		
	Mr. Neil Albert	N		
<b>Council</b>	Hon. Vincent Gray	N	Hon. Michael Brown	N
	Hon. Kwame Brown	N	Hon. Phil Mendelson	Y
<b>Maryland</b>				
Bowie	Hon. G. Frederick Robinson	N	Geraldine Valentino-Smith	N
College Park	Hon. Andrew Fellows	Y	Hon. Robert Catlin	Y
City of Frederick	Hon. Randall McClement	Y	Karen Young	N
Frederick County	Hon. David Gray	Y	Hon. Jan Gardner	N
Gaithersburg	Hon. Sidney Katz	N	Hon. Cathy Drzyzgula	Y
Greenbelt	Hon. Judith "J" F. Davis	Y	Hon. Emmett Jordan	N
Montgomery County				
<b>Executive</b>	Hon. Isiah Leggett	N	Mr. Tim Firestine	N
<b>Council</b>	Hon. Roger Berliner	Y		
	Hon. Michael Knapp	Y		
Prince George's County				
<b>Executive</b>	Hon. Jack B. Johnson	N	Ralph Moultrie	N
<b>Council</b>	Hon. Camille Exum	N	Hon. Tom Dernoga	Y
	Hon. Andrea Harrison	Y		
Rockville	Hon. John Britton	Y		
Takoma Park	Hon. Bruce Williams	Y	Hon. Terry Seamens	N
Maryland General Assembly	Hon. Benjamin Barnes	Y		
<b>Virginia</b>				
Alexandria	Hon. William Eulle	N	Hon. Redella Pepper	Y
Arlington County	Hon. Walter Tejada	Y	Hon. Jay Fisette	N
City of Fairfax	Hon. Dan Drummond	N	Hon. Jeffrey Greenfield	N
Fairfax County	Hon. Sharon Bulova	Y	Hon. Catherine Hudgins	N
	Hon. Penelope A. Gross	Y	Hon. Michael Frey	N
	Hon. John Foust	Y	Hon. Patrick Herrity	N
Falls Church	Hon. Nader Baroukh	N	Hon. David Snyder	Y
Loudoun County	Hon. Andrea McGimsey	N		
Manassas	Hon. Sheryl Bass	Y		
Manassas Park	Hon. Frank Jones	N	Hon. Suhas Naddoni	N
Prince William County	Hon. Wally Covington III	N		
	Hon. Frank Principi	N		
Virginia General Assembly	Hon. James M. Scott	N		