

METROPOLITAN WASHINGTON COUNCIL OF GOVERNMENTS
777 North Capitol Street NE
Washington, DC 20002

Date: February 28, 2005

To: National Capital Region Emergency Preparedness Council

From: Bruce Williams, Chair

Subject: Report of Nominations and Bylaws Committee

Background

The National Capital Region Emergency Preparedness Council (EPC) was established by COG in November 2002, evolving from the Homeland Security Task Force created by COG immediately following the September 11, 2001 terrorist attacks. The EPC is a public-private advisory body staffed by COG. Initially, its purpose was to advise COG on the Regional Emergency Coordination Plan and to foster greater regional collaboration among emergency response agencies and other stakeholders. In 2003, the EPC agreed to also serve as the Urban Area Work Group required for oversight of the Urban Area Security Initiative (UASI) program. Federal guidelines strongly encouraged that *“previously established local working groups are leveraged for this purpose.”*

Status

The EPC appointed a Nominations and Bylaws Committee at its January 2005 meeting to nominate three 2005 vice chairs, recommend new members, and propose revisions to the EPC bylaws. The following Committee members met on February 3: Robert Malson, Ed Reiskin, Carol Schwartz, Bruce Williams and David Robertson and Lee Ruck of the COG staff.

Vice Chair Nominations

Following input from the Committee and discussion with proposed candidates, the Chairman nominates the following 2005 vice chairs:

- Gerry Connolly, Chairman, Fairfax County Board of Supervisors (Local Government Vice Chair)
- Ed Reiskin, Deputy Mayor for Public Safety and Justice, District of Columbia (State Government Vice Chair)
- Robert Peck, President, Greater Washington Board of Trade (Private Sector Vice Chair)

Membership Recommendations

EPC bylaws allow the Chair to invite representatives of key institutions and agencies to serve on the EPC, in addition to organizations, agencies, and committees specifically identified in the bylaws. The Chairman recommends that the following organizations be included in the revised bylaws:

- American Red Cross of the National Capital Area
- Metropolitan Washington Airports Authority
- Washington Area School Study Council (regional superintendents group)

The EPC retains the authority to recommend additional organizations and/or R-ESF groups for EPC membership at some future time.

Proposed Revised Bylaws

The EPC bylaws were adopted November 2002, prior to the evolution of the EPC role to include the Urban Area Working Group function, the expanded responsibilities of the Chief Administrative Officers Committee and the Senior Policy Group, and the formal organization of the Office of National Capital Region Coordination (ONCRC) within the U.S. Department of Homeland Security. Proposed revisions to the EPC bylaws now reference these new roles and relationships, address membership oversights, and clarify the vice chair positions and the composition of the EPC executive committee. The Chairman recommends that the EPC approve the revised EPC bylaws and that they be forwarded to the COG Board for its concurrence.

Attachments

Revised EPC Bylaws