



FOOD AND AGRICULTURE REGIONAL MEMBER (FARM) POLICY COMMITTEE

Friday, April 14, 2023

9:00 am to 10:00 am: New Member Orientation
10 am to noon: FARM April Meeting

In-person meeting*: Kirby Training Center,
Metropolitan Washington Council of Governments,
777 N. Capitol St., NE
Washington, DC 20002

Virtual WebEx option

<https://mwcog.webex.com/mwcog/j.php?MTID=m567cb69f523912e7c8b6b0362c40708f>

Meeting number (access code): 2432 373 0495
Meeting password: COGFARM0414

Tap to join from a mobile device (attendees only)
+1-202-860-2110,,24323730495##

In-person participants will need to bring a driver's license or other government issued ID to enter the building.

DRAFT AGENDA

NEW MEMBER ORIENTATION

9:00 A.M. 1. ARRIVAL AND NETWORKING

Coffee, tea, and morning refreshments will be available.

WebEx meeting room will open at 9:05 am.

9:10 A.M. 2. WELCOME AND INTRODUCTIONS

Councilmember Jon Stehle, FARM Policy Committee Chair
Councilmember Kate Kennedy, FARM Policy Committee Vice Chair

Chair Stehle will welcome members to the New Member Orientation. Chair Stehle

Reasonable accommodations are provided upon request, including alternative formats of meeting materials.
Visit www.mwcog.org/accommodations or call (202) 962-3300 or (202) 962-3213 (TDD).

and Vice Chair Kennedy will facilitate introductions of FARM members. In addition to basic biographical information, new and returning FARM members will be asked to share a favorite food or farm memory related to family, community, or work.

9:25 A.M. 3. COG AND FARM POLICY COMMITTEE ORIENTATION

Lindsay Smith, Regional Food Systems Planner

FARM members will participate in an interactive 20-minute presentation followed by discussion and questions.

Recommended Action: Participate in presentation and discussion.

9:50 A.M. 4. ADJOURN AND BREAK BEFORE REGULAR MEETING

Councilmember Kate Kennedy, FARM Policy Committee Vice Chair

Conclusion of New Member Orientation. WebEx will remain open and running for virtual participants.

FARM POLICY COMMITTEE APRIL MEETING

Schools, Food Security, Food and Agriculture Education, Policy, and Budget

10:00 A.M. 1. WELCOME, CALL TO ORDER, AND FEBRUARY MEETING REVIEW

*Jon Stehle, FARM Policy Committee Chair
Kate Kennedy, FARM Policy Committee Vice Chair*

Chair Stehle and Vice Chair Kennedy will facilitate introductions of FARM Members and guests. COG staff will take attendance.

Vice Chair Kennedy will review highlights from the February meeting and call for meeting summary approval.

Recommended Action: Approve February meeting summary.

10:10 A.M. 2. EXPANDING FREE SCHOOL MEALS

*Andrea Nannery, SNP Coordinator, Office of School Nutrition Programs, Virginia Department of Education
Ayesha B. Holmes, Director, No Kid Hungry, Maryland
Tariq Sheriff, Food Policy Analyst, DC Office of Planning*

Ms. Nannery will share an opportunity for public comment on a [proposed federal](#)

[rule change](#). The USDA is proposing to lower the Community Eligibility Provision (CEP) qualifying threshold for schools. All students in CEP schools and school districts are provided free breakfast and lunch. Ms. Nannery will discuss what the proposed change would mean for schools generally and in the Commonwealth where eligible schools are required to participate in CEP.

Following this, Ms. Holmes will share some related legislative updates from the Maryland General Assembly and some preliminary thoughts on the proposed change to CEP.

Mr. Sheriff will provide several updates on school meals in DC and pose several questions to start discussion.

Recommended Action: Receive briefings and discussion. Determine if FARM should submit comment on the proposed CEP rule change to USDA.

10:45 A.M. 3. RAPID FIRE PRESENTATIONS

Jon Stehle, FARM Policy Committee Chair

Presenters will share a project or initiative in five minutes. There will be seven minutes for questions and discussion from FARM Members.

- Food Learning Locator. *Michelle Caruso, Manager, Strategic Partnerships, Montgomery County Food Council*
- Loudoun Farmer Trading Cards. *John Magistro, Business Development Officer, Agriculture and Business Services, Loudoun County Economic Development*

Recommended Action: Receive briefings and discussion

11:10 A.M. 4. FARM POLICY COMMITTEE MEMBER ROUNDTABLE

Kate Kennedy, FARM Vice Chair
FARM Members

FARM Members are asked to bring announcements and updates of regional interest to share. A Padlet will be available to capture updates from all participants, in the event there is not time to share them all during the meeting.

FARM Members are asked to prioritize any brief updates related to:

- Food security and demand for food assistance in the region
- Childhood nutrition and schools
- Food and agriculture education
- New state or local policies and FY24 budget matters related to food security and food system resilience.

Recommended Action: Share updates and discussion

11:40 A.M. 6. FARM MEMBER BUSINESS

Jon Stehle, FARM Policy Committee Chair
Lindsay Smith, Regional Food Systems Planner

Chair Stehle will review the revised Strategic Planning document. Members will be asked for any final comments. Based on February's meeting, the Chair will provide a suggested set of meeting topics for the remainder of the calendar year.

Ms. Smith will introduce the draft FY24 and FY25 budget information. Several other announcements will be shared.

Recommended Action: Approve revised Strategic Planning Framework for 2023 and 2024, discuss FY24 and FY25 budget information.

NOON 7. ADJOURN

Lunch and networking to follow for in-person participants.

The next regularly scheduled FARM Policy Committee meeting is Friday, June 9th at 10:00 am. This meeting will be virtual only.