

# Metropolitan Washington Council of Governments

*One Region Moving Forward*

## COG BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING

*District of Columbia*

*Bladensburg\**

*Bowie*

*Charles County*

*College Park*

*Frederick*

*Frederick County*

*Gaithersburg*

*Greenbelt*

*Montgomery County*

*Prince George's County*

*Rockville*

*Takoma Park*

*Alexandria*

*Arlington County*

*Fairfax*

*Fairfax County*

*Falls Church*

*Loudoun County*

*Manassas*

*Manassas Park*

*Prince William County*

*\*Adjunct Member*

**DATE: June 11, 2014**  
**TIME: 12:00 – 2:00PM**  
**PLACE: COG Board Room**

**PLEASE NOTE: The board meeting will begin promptly at Noon. Lunch for members and alternates will be available at 11:30AM**

### AGENDA

**1. CALL TO ORDER AND PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE  
(12:00PM)**

**Phil Mendelson, Council Chair, District of Columbia  
COG Board Chair**

**2. ANNOUNCEMENTS  
(12:00 – 12:05PM)**

**Chair Mendelson**

**A. COG Leadership Retreat July 25<sup>th</sup>-27<sup>th</sup>**

**3. EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S REPORT  
(12:05 – 12:10PM)**

**4. AMENDMENTS TO AGENDA  
(12:10 – 12:15PM)**

**5. APPROVAL OF MINUTES OF MAY 14, 2014  
(12:15 – 12:20PM)**

**6. ADOPTION OF CONSENT AGENDA ITEMS  
(12:20 – 12:25PM)**

**A. RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING COG TO RENEW THE ANNUAL CONTRACT WITH GARTNER INC. FOR INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY AND BUSINESS SERVICES**

The Board will be asked to adopt Resolution R42-2014 authorizing the Executive Director, or his designee, to renew the annual contract with Gartner Inc. in an amount not to exceed \$34,800 annually. COG routinely contracts with outside firms to provide specialized subject matter expertise. Gartner Inc. is the industry leader in providing expertise on IT industry analysis, best practices, technical training, and executive business skills. Gartner Inc. will also provide review of Requests For Proposals and vendor responses. Most of COG's members also subscribe to services from Gartner Inc., but at a much higher participation level. Funding for this contract is budgeted in the FY2015 IT Annual Operating Budget.

**RECOMMENDED ACTION: Adopt Resolution R42-2014.**

**B. RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING COG TO ENTER INTO CONTRACTS WITH SELECTED VENDORS FOR FY2015 FACILITIES PROJECTS**

The Board will be asked to adopt Resolution R43-2014 authorizing the Executive Director, or his designee, to enter into an annual contracts with selected vendors not to exceed \$115,000 for the construction and completion of the identified projects. COG management has recommended facility capital improvement projects that are necessary to maintain COG's office space and optimize utilization of existing office space. In Fiscal 2015 COG will undertake renovations to create office space near the Executive Director, create an interview space and workroom for Human Resources, create a media room to support the multimedia needs of Public Affairs, perform workspace improvements to the Commuter Connections Operations Center, and installation of fire suppression systems in the COG data center as recommended by COG's auditors. Funding for these projects is budgeted in the FY2015 Capital Repair & Replacement Plan.

**RECOMMENDED ACTION: Adopt Resolution R43-2014.**

**C. RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING COG TO ENTER INTO CONTRACTS WITH SELECTED VENDORS FOR INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY SERVER INFRASTRUCTURE**

The Board will be asked to adopt Resolution R44-2014 authorizing the Executive Director, or his designee, to enter into annual contracts with selected vendors not to exceed \$243,000 for the scheduled 5-year replacement for MWCOG's Storage Area Network (SAN) and server infrastructure. COG Information Technology Systems are on the industry standard 5-year replacement cycle. The majority of COG's servers and connected systems were last procured in 2009, and are now scheduled for replacement. In 2009 COG selected Xiotech as COG's SAN vendor through a competitive procurement process. COG has also standardized on HP for desktop and server infrastructure. COG has engaged a value added reseller and HP to bundle server procurement in order to save over 10% for individual purchases. Funding for this procurement is budgeted in the FY2015 IT Annual Operating Budget.

**RECOMMENDED ACTION: Adopt Resolution R44-2014.**

**D. RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING COG TO RECEIVE A GRANT, PROCURE AND ENTER INTO A CONTRACT TO DESIGN, DEVELOP, AND IMPLEMENT A TEXT ALERT PUBLIC AWARENESS AND EDUCATION CAMPAIGN**

The Board will be asked to adopt Resolution R45-2014, authorizing the Executive Director, or his designee, to receive and expend up to \$262,500 through a Subgrant from the State Administrative Agent (SAA) to design, develop, and implement a text alert public awareness campaign for the NCR. The campaign will serve to educate individuals in the region on how to navigate the features of the new regional text/email emergency alert system. Funding for this effort will be provided through a Subgrant from the State Administrative Agent (SAA). **No COG matching funds are required.**

**RECOMMENDED ACTION: Adopt Resolution R45-2014.**

**E. RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING COG TO RECEIVE A GRANT TO PROVIDE EXECUTIVE, PROFESSIONAL, AND TECHNICAL PROGRAM MANAGEMENT OFFICE AND SECRETARIAT SUPPORT THAT WILL CONTRIBUTE TO ENHANCED EMERGENCY PREPAREDNESS IN THE REGION**

The Board will be asked to adopt Resolution R46-2014, authorizing the Executive Director, or his designee, to receive and expend grant funds through a Subgrant from the State Administrative Agent (SAA) in the amount of \$414,500. Funds will be used to provide Executive, Professional, and Technical Program Management Office and Secretariat Support. The purpose of the Program Management Office and Secretariat Support will be to assist the Emergency Preparedness Council, the Chief Administrative Officers, the Senior Policy Group, Regional Emergency Support Functions, Regional Program Working Groups, State Administrative Agent, Office of National Capital Region Coordination, and others and to support the investment planning process in enhancing emergency preparedness in the National Capital Region. COG is being provided \$414,500 through a Subgrant from the State Administrative Agent (SAA) to fund COG staff transition from secretariat to PMO support during the period June 1, 2014 to September 30, 2014 and to work with others in the region to enhance emergency preparedness. **No COG Matching funds are required.**

**RECOMMENDED ACTION: Adopt Resolution R46-2014.**

**7. PRESENTATION OF CAMPAIGN TO PROMOTE NEW EMERGENCY TEXT ALERT SIGN-UPS ACROSS THE REGION  
(12:25 – 12:45PM)**

**Jeremy Lasich**

**Chairman, External Affairs Committee, RESF 15, and Deputy Director, Fairfax County Office of Public Affairs**

**Jeanne Saddler**

**Director, COG Office of Public Affairs**

The National Capital Region is in the process of installing a new, more effective text alert system to deliver emergency warnings during any regional threat or hazardous event. The new system is designed to work well on smart phones and other mobile devices. The region's public information officers have developed a coordinated outreach campaign to make residents aware of the system and how to sign up for it in each jurisdiction. This presentation will focus on the outreach campaign, which is being financed

by the Urban Area Security Initiative grant program.

**RECOMMENDED ACTION: Adopt Resolution R47-2014.**

**8. OVERVIEW OF THE NATIONAL CAPITAL REGION'S WATER QUALITY PROTECTION INFRASTRUCTURE (12:45-1:45PM)**

**Tanya Spano**  
**Chief, Regional Water Quality Management, COG Division of Environmental Programs**

**Adam Krantz**  
**Managing Director, Government & Public Affairs, The National Association of Clean Water Agencies (NACWA)**

**William Hicks**  
**Director, Fairfax County Maintenance and Stormwater Management Division**

**Christopher Pomeroy, Esq.**  
**President, AquaLaw PLC**

This briefing on regional wastewater and stormwater infrastructure builds off of the April 9th briefing on the Region's drinking water infrastructure. COG staff will present background information on the Region's wastewater and stormwater infrastructure. This will be followed by a panel of Adam Krantz from NACWA, speaking about the region's wastewater and stormwater challenges and innovations and challenges with that infrastructure; Gary Gumm, from WSSC, speaking about the wastewater systems infrastructure challenges; William Hicks, from Fairfax County's Maintenance and Stormwater Management Division, speaking about the challenges and growing infrastructure demands of the Region's stormwater management systems; and Chris Pomeroy, from the law firm AquaLaw, speaking about the regulatory and legal drivers behind the requirements for new wastewater and stormwater investments.

**RECOMMENDED ACTION: Receive briefing and discuss.**

**9. RECOMMENDATION FOR MARKET-BASED SALARY ADJUSTMENT FOR COG EMPLOYEES FOR FY 2015 (1:45-1:55PM)**

**Chuck Bean, Executive Director**

**Imelda Roberts, Director, Office of Human Resources Management**

The Board will be asked to adopt Resolution R46-2014 providing all COG employees with a two percent (2%) pay increase effective on July 1, 2014 as supported by the Board's Employee Compensation & Benefits Review Committee. The change represents a structural salary increase based on the annual market based salary study conducted by COG's Office of Human Resources Management and salary study consultants, the Management Advisory Group (MAG). As previously authorized by the Board under R34-2005, associated changes to COG's salary ranges based on the MAG study, as well as adjustments for individual employees will be implemented concurrently with the structural pay increase. This increase will assist with recruitment and retention of employees and help offset recent



increases in employee pension and health insurance contributions. It is consistent with trends by COG member governments, and the costs can be absorbed within the FY 2015 approved COG work program and budget.

**RECOMMENDED ACTION: Approve Resolution R48-2014.**

**10. OTHER BUSINESS**

**(1:55-2:00PM)**

**11. ADJOURN – THE NEXT MEETING IS WEDNESDAY JULY 9, 2014**

**(2:00PM)**



Reasonable accommodations are provided for persons with disabilities. Please allow 7 business days to process requests. Phone: 202.962.3300 or 202-962.3213 (TDD). Email: [accommodations@mwkog.org](mailto:accommodations@mwkog.org). For details: [www.mwkog.org](http://www.mwkog.org)



## **AGENDA ITEM #2**

## **ANNOUNCEMENTS**



# Leadership for Infrastructure



**2014 Council of Governments Leadership Planning & Work Session**  
July 25-27 | Hyatt Regency Chesapeake Bay | Cambridge, MD  
Program Begins Friday at Lunch

## Planning & Work Session Highlights



FRIDAY SPEAKER

### Economic Competitiveness and Local Governance

Anirban Basu, CEO, Sage Policy Group

Advising municipal leaders across the Mid-Atlantic, Mr. Basu will share high profile economic competitiveness and related strategies.



SATURDAY SPEAKER

### Lessons Learned: Infrastructure & Resiliency Investment in the Public, Private Sectors

Dr. Shalini Vajjhala, Founder & CEO, Re:focus Partners

Through her Rockefeller Foundation funded Invest Initiative, Ms. Vajjhala will share the best practices of local infrastructure funding and public-private partnerships in eight cities across the United States.



SATURDAY SPEAKER

### Crossing State Lines, International Borders for Infrastructure

Dan Carol, Director, Strategic Initiatives, State of Oregon

A senior adviser to Oregon Governor Jack Kitzhaber, Mr. Carol will share the intra-regional efforts of the West Coast Infrastructure Exchange, a consortium of leaders in California, Oregon, Washington State and British Columbia.



## RSVP / Cost / Check-In / Check-Out

- Please contact Pat Warren at 202-962-3214 or [pwarren@mwcog.org](mailto:pwarren@mwcog.org) by June 27 to RSVP or if you have any questions about the event.
- Room and meals are complimentary for COG members. **Guest fee of \$50 per person per evening for spouses, partners, or guests.**
- Check-in begins at 4pm on Friday. (If rooms are available you can check-in early, otherwise hotel will hold your luggage.)
- Check-out required by 11am on Sunday.

## Map/ Directions



### Hyatt Regency Chesapeake Bay 100 Heron Blvd. Cambridge, MD 21613

#### From Annapolis, MD:

- Take Route 50 East over the Bay Bridge
- From the Bay Bridge, travel approximately 40 miles to Cambridge.
- Continue through Cambridge to intersection of Church Creek Rd. (Wal-Mart on right) and turn left into the resort entrance on Heron Blvd.

#### From Richmond, VA:

- Take I-95 North to 301 North. & I-95 South
- Continue on 301 North to 50 East and cross over Bay Bridge.
- Follow directions from Annapolis.

#### From Baltimore, MD:

- Take 295 South out of Baltimore to I-695 East.& I-95 South
- Take I-695 East to I-97 South.
- Take I-97 South to Route 50 East toward Annapolis. 4.
- Follow directions from Annapolis.

#### From Washington, DC:

- Take New York Avenue (Route 50) East.
- Take Route 50 East over the Bay Bridge.
- Follow directions from Annapolis.



## **AGENDA ITEM #3**

# **EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S REPORT**



# Metropolitan Washington Council of Governments Executive Director's Report • June 2014

**COMMITTEE WORK HEART OF COG OUTREACH MEDIA EVENTS/MEETINGS**

Policy Board & Committee Work

## **TRANSPORTATION PLANNING BOARD**

At its May meeting, the Board approved [a letter to Congress urging immediate action to replenish the federal Highway Trust Fund](#) and to secure more reliable, long-term sources of revenue to support ongoing transportation investments into the future. Federal officials anticipate that the fund, from which nearly all federal aid for road and transit projects flows, will become insolvent by the end of August.

## **METROPOLITAN WASHINGTON AIR QUALITY COMMITTEE**

The Committee heard a presentation on the health effects of ground-level ozone on the region's residents from Dr. Janet Phoenix of the George Washington University School of Public Health & Health Services.

## **CHESAPEAKE BAY AND WATER RESOURCES POLICY COMMITTEE**

The Committee held a water infrastructure panel discussion with invited leaders from the American Water Works Association, the National Association of Clean Water Agencies, and the Water Environment Federation, which focused on infrastructure financing, the future of utility staffing, and messaging for the public and the media. Over the coming months, COG staff will quantify water infrastructure investments and needs on a regional level.

## **CLIMATE ENERGY AND ENVIRONMENT POLICY COMMITTEE**

The Committee discussed how metropolitan Washington compares favorably to others across the country in terms of climate and energy action plans. For example, the region ranks first in number of LEED Certified Buildings and EPA Green Power Partners.

## Heart of COG: Cleaning the Air One Partnership at a Time

**JEFF KING, DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL PROGRAMS**



Cleaning the region's air has long been a priority at the Council of Governments. We are known for our air quality planning at the Metropolitan Washington Air Quality Committee, air quality forecasting, and educating the public through Clean Air Partners. Building on this reputation, COG set out on another air quality project—identifying old, polluting engines and equipment and helping owners find sustainable solutions.

Through his combination of technical know-how and collaborative and entrepreneurial spirit, Jeff King turned this off-road diesel emission reduction initiative into a regional success. In 2006, he worked with partners at EPA's Region 3 office to hold an inaugural Mid Atlantic Diesel Collaborative meeting at COG. The meeting brought together leaders

like our current Chairman Phil Mendelson for a discussion about funding options, incentives, and partnership opportunities.

King then successfully pursued funding from EPA's Diesel Emissions Reduction Act and managed a variety of projects benefitting the entire region, including the installation of particulate filters at landfills in Prince William County and engine upgrades of construction equipment in Maryland. After witnessing a boat puffing a big plume of smoke, King contacted tour boat owners, which led to [repower projects in Alexandria and the District](#). A trainmen's union sought out King's help to [repower Amtrak switcher locomotives at Union Station](#). We recently unveiled one on Earth Day. Identifying opportunities, networking, and bringing diverse interests together to solve problems... Jeff King's work is an example of what COG does best.

- Chuck Bean, Executive Director



**PRESENTATION TO GAITHERSBURG**

In May, Executive Director Chuck Bean gave a presentation on COG and its work program to the Gaithersburg City Council.

**TAP WATER TALK AT SMITHSONIAN EVENT**

Fairfax County Supervisor and COG Chesapeake Bay Policy Committee Chair Penny Gross spoke at Smithsonian Garden Fest as part of National Drinking Water Week. Gross also recognized the Smithsonian Museum of Natural History as the newest member of TapIt Metro DC, a network of businesses and institutions providing free tap water refills to the public



*Marlo Watson (Prince William County Service Authority), Heidi Bonnaffon (COG), Penny Gross (Fairfax County), and Jeanne Bailey (Fairfax Water)*

**CORRECTIONS OFFICERS CEREMONY**

The COG Corrections Chiefs Committee sponsored the 23rd Annual Wreath Laying Ceremony in honor of fallen corrections officers at the National Law Enforcement Memorial. The event brought together local officials from Maryland, Virginia, and the District of Columbia as well as correctional employees and their families from around the United States. COG Executive Director Chuck Bean and Assistant U.S. Attorney General Karol Mason joined officials in giving remarks.



*Craig Floyd (National Law Enforcement Officers Memorial Fund Executive Director), SGT Aaron Livell, SGT Earnest Capitulo, CPL Killian Hayter (3rd US Infantry Regiment- Arlington National Cemetery), and Thomas Faust (DC Dept. of Corrections & COG Corrections Chief Committee Chair)*

**HOUSING & PLACEMAKING DISCUSSIONS**

Chuck Bean moderated two panels at the 23rd Annual Affordable Housing Conference of Montgomery County. Environmental Programs Director Steve Walz and Community Planning and Services Director Paul DesJardin participated in the Fairfax County Healthy Community Design Leadership Briefing. Regional Planner Sophie Mintier served as a panelist, discussing economic benefits of place-making, at an event organized by Alliance for Housing Solutions in Arlington County.

**INFRASTRUCTURE WEEK ACTIVITIES**

As part of Infrastructure Week, the Brookings Institution hosted a forum to address both the challenges and opportunities for magnetic levitation (maglev) in the U.S. today, as well as transportation technology as a new area for U.S.-Japan collaboration. Chuck Bean served as a panelist and discussed the region's transportation priorities and infrastructure needs.



*Connie Crawford (The Louis Berger Group) and Chuck Bean at Brookings Maglev Talk.*

**DATA HONORS RON KIRBY**

At the 28th Annual Dulles Area Transportation Association (DATA) Awards, the transportation management association posthumously honored Ron Kirby with a Career Achievement award. Chuck Bean accepted the award on Kirby's behalf.

**BTWD 2014: +16,700 COMMUTERS REGISTER**

Despite the inclement weather, thousands of area commuters participated in Bike to Work Day on May 16 and a record number--more than 16,700 people--registered in advance of the event. U.S. Transportation Secretary Anthony Foxx was among the dignitaries celebrating the event, which featured 79 pit stops throughout the region. The event was coordinated by COG's Commuter Connections program and the Washington Area Bicyclist Association. Numerous articles, blogs, and social media posts provided coverage before and during the event, including a [WTOP story about COG employees that bike to work and our building's bike-friendly amenities](#).



*Foxx and Bean at Freedom Plaza in D.C. for Bike to Work Day*

**COG RELEASES REPORT ON HOMELESSNESS**

According to an annual report by COG, there are 11,946 homeless people living in the region – a 3.5 percent increase from 2013. The report, which was covered by *The Washington Post*, *The Gazette*, and several other media outlets, stressed the greatest barrier to ending homelessness in our communities is a lack of fixed, affordable permanent housing opportunities for the lowest income households.

**ENERGY TALK FOCUSES ON INFRASTRUCTURE, RELIABILITY, AND EFFICIENCY**

Area leaders turned their attention to energy for the next installment of COG's 2014 Regional Infrastructure Series. During the May Board meeting, utility officials and experts led a wide-ranging discussion on more than \$5.5 billion in investments over the next five years to replace and upgrade aging natural gas pipes and electric power lines as well as new technologies to improve reliability. The meeting was covered by the *Washington Business Journal* and CTV.

**MARC, VRE DISCUSS LONG-RANGE PLANS AT TPB**

Members of the Transportation Planning Board received briefings on the region's commuter rail services, MARC and VRE. [WTOP](#) covered their presentations.

**TRANSPORTATION PLANNING BOARD -**  
WEDNESDAY, JUNE 18

**HUMAN SERVICES & PUBLIC SAFETY POLICY COMMITTEE -**  
FRIDAY, JUNE 20

**COG LEADERSHIP PLANNING & WORK SESSION -**  
FRIDAY, JULY 25 – SUNDAY, JULY 27 – CAMBRIDGE, MD

*For more information about these events and other COG meetings, visit [www.mwcog.org/calendar](http://www.mwcog.org/calendar)*





News about the Council of Governments and our Members

May 15, 2014

Connect With Us



### Foster Parent Awards



At a reception before the Board meeting, COG's Families Like Yours Campaign honored the region's outstanding foster parents, including Cherie & Keith Smith of Alexandria. Rockville Mayor Bridget Newton and Foster Parent Honoree Florence Bell of Montgomery County are pictured in header above. [Click here](#) to view and share videos and photos and learn more about these inspiring families.

### Calendar

[Bike to Work Day](#)  
May 16, 2014

[Chesapeake Bay Policy Committee Meeting](#)  
May 16, 2014

[More Events/Meetings](#)

### ICYMI on Twitter

The Council of Governments and our members and partners are active participants on social media. Here's a sampling of some tweets--in case you missed it--to show the wide array of topics covered on Twitter.

Smithsonian [@Smithsonian](#)

Need a mid-day break? Meet our [@SIGardens](#) experts, fill up your h2o bottles w/ [@RegionForward](#) & more <https://vine.co>

## 2014 Report on Homelessness Highlights Challenges as well as Successful Strategies

According to an annual report by the Council of Governments, there are 11,946 homeless people living in the metropolitan Washington region – a 3.5 percent increase from 2013. The report revealed family homelessness in the region rose by 11 percent since last year's count. It also showed the unsheltered homeless population dropped by 25 percent. The report, which was covered by *The Washington Post* and several other media outlets, stressed the greatest barrier to ending homelessness in our communities is a lack of fixed, affordable permanent housing opportunities for the lowest income households.

[Read report and news clips.](#)



## Penny Gross Promotes Tap Water at Smithsonian Event

Fairfax County Supervisor and COG Chesapeake Bay Policy Committee Chair Penny Gross spoke at Smithsonian Garden Fest on May 9 as part of National Drinking Water Week. She encouraged people to protect area waterways, use water wisely, and drink tap water, while local water utilities provided reusable bottles and fresh tap water to attendees. Gross also recognized the Smithsonian Museum of Natural History as the newest member of TapIt Metro DC, a network of businesses and institutions providing free tap water refills to the public. [Read more and](#)



[download the TapIt app.](#)

## Region Forward Coalition Focuses on Sustainability


During its April meeting, COG's Region Forward Coalition discussed how local communities could use cross-cutting sustainable practices in transportation, housing and economic development in addition to energy infrastructure. Montgomery County Councilmember and COG Climate Energy and Environment Policy Committee Chair Roger Berliner moderated a discussion on projects in Montgomery County, the City of Frederick, Arlington County, and the District of Columbia that illustrate these green efforts.



[Read more.](#)

[/v/MgZjWXdMAPt](#)

Chuck Bean [@Chuck4TheRegion](#)

 Commuter Connections goes mobile <http://bit.ly/1qFHhJV> via [@frednewspost](#) [@KelsiFNP](#) [@BiketoWorkDay](#)

### Recent Newsletters

[New Amtrak Switcher Latest Project to Further Clean D.C. Region's Air and Q&A w US Capitol Police Chief Kim Dine](#)  
April 24, 2014


[Officials Launch Series with Discussion on Water Infrastructure](#)  
April 15, 2014

[Archives](#)

### About COG



The Council of Governments is an independent, nonprofit association where area leaders address regional issues affecting the District of Columbia, suburban Maryland and Northern Virginia. COG's membership is comprised of 300 elected officials from 22 local governments, the Maryland and Virginia state legislatures, and U.S. Congress

## Ceremony Honors Fallen Corrections Officers

The COG Corrections Chiefs Committee sponsored the 23rd Annual Wreath Laying Ceremony on May 3 in honor of fallen corrections officers at the National Law Enforcement Memorial. The event brought together local officials from Maryland, Virginia, and the District of Columbia as well as correctional employees and their families from around the United States. COG Executive Director Chuck Bean and Assistant U.S. Attorney General Karol Mason joined officials in giving remarks. [Read more and view photos.](#) 



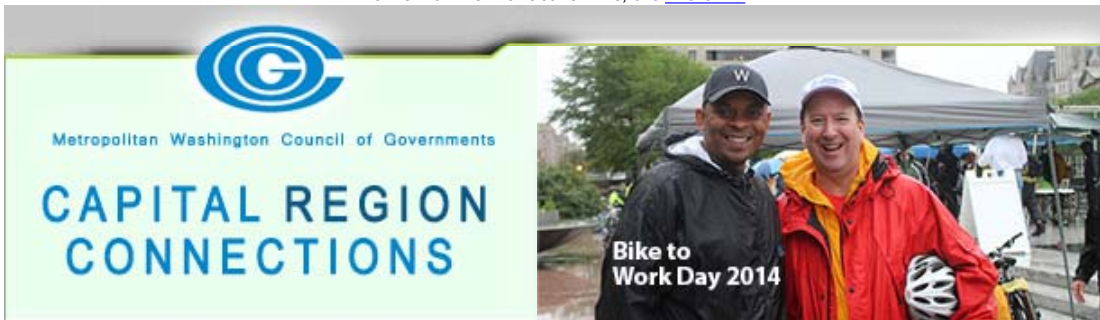
## Preliminary Assessment Shows Some Progress in Implementing Priorities

At its April meeting, the Transportation Planning Board was briefed on a preliminary assessment of how the region is implementing key priorities spelled out in the *Regional Transportation Priorities Plan*. The report found that area agencies are pursuing many of its individual strategies, for example, the region is on track to ensure proper maintenance of its existing road, bridge, and transit network. The assessment also noted funding for core capacity improvements in Metro 2025—a priority highlighted in the plan—has not yet been identified. [Read more.](#)  



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News about the Council of Governments and our Members

May 29, 2014

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### Region Forward Q&A



College Park Councilmember Patrick Wojahn, who serves as Chair of the Transportation Planning Board at COG, discusses regional growth, infrastructure needs, transit-oriented development and more. [Read the Q&A.](#)

### Calendar

[COG Board of Directors](#)  
June 11, 2014

[Transportation Planning Board](#)  
June 18, 2014

[More Events/Meetings](#)

### ICYMI on Twitter

The Council of Governments and our members and partners are active participants on social media. Here's a sampling of some tweets--in case you missed it--to show the wide array of topics covered on Twitter.

Anthony Foxx [@SecretaryFoxx](#)

Thanks for your [#BTWD2014](#) hospitality [@DDOTDC](#), [@WABADC](#), [@RegionForward](#) [@BikeToWorkDay!](#) Safe riding, all! <http://1.usa.gov/1qw703h>

The Gazette [@Gazette\\_Net](#)

## Energy Talk Focuses on Newer Infrastructure, Greater Reliability and Efficiency

Area leaders turned their attention to energy for the next installment of COG's 2014 Regional Infrastructure Series. During the May Board meeting, utility officials and experts led a wide-ranging discussion on more than \$5.5 billion in investments over the next five years to replace and upgrade aging natural gas pipes and electric power lines as well as new technologies to improve reliability. In addition, they covered topics central to our Region Forward goals for sustainable growth, such as energy efficiency and renewable sources of energy. [Read more.](#) [f](#) [t](#)



## TPB to Congress: Protect the Highway Trust Fund, Re-Authorize Transportation Spending Package


At its May meeting, the Transportation Planning Board (TPB) voted to send a letter to Congress, calling for the replenishment of the Federal Highway Trust Fund and the reauthorization of MAP-21, the current surface transportation funding package. The impending insolvency of the Trust Fund will jeopardize critical projects in the coming fiscal year, which is set to improve safety on roads, railways, and pedestrian and bike infrastructure for more than 5 million people in the region. [Read more.](#) [f](#) [t](#)



## Bike to Work Day Breaks Regional Record with More Than 16,700 Registered

Despite the inclement weather, thousands of area commuters participated in Bike to Work Day on May 16. Registration for the event jumped, 14 percent over last year, and the largest number since the first regional Bike to Work Day was held in the region in 2000. U.S. Transportation Secretary Anthony Foxx (pictured above with COG Executive Director Chuck Bean) was among the dignitaries celebrating the event, which featured 79 pit stops throughout the region. The event is coordinated by COG's Commuter Connections program and the Washington Area Bicyclist Association. [f](#) [t](#)





 A lack of affordable housing has more Washington-area residents living in shelters and on the streets, but in... <http://fb.me/31oSUIEb>

#### About COG

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## Seminars Bring Officials Together to Focus on School Safety

School safety and campus security were the focus of a seminar series held earlier this spring in the District of Columbia, Virginia, and Maryland by COG's Regional Planners (Emergency Management) Subcommittee. During the three seminars, which drew a combined audience of more than 500 people, participants exchanged valuable information and strategies that they hope to apply in their schools and communities. [Read more.](#)  




## COG Encourages Area Governments, Partners to Apply for New Climate and Energy Awards

There is still time to apply for COG's new Climate and Energy Leadership Awards. The program recognizes and encourages public agencies, non-governmental organizations, and stakeholders in their efforts to achieve local and regional climate and energy goals. Award applications are due by June 18. [Read more.](#)  



## COG Child Welfare Program Launches Kickstarter Campaign

COG's Child Welfare Program launched a fundraising campaign through the online crowdfunding site Kickstarter, Inc. to support its creative efforts focused on the region's foster parents. COG works to highlight the need for foster parents by creating documentaries and sponsoring events to honor foster parents in Washington, D.C., suburban Maryland and Northern Virginia. The campaign runs through June 14. [Read more.](#) 



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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE  
May 21, 2014

CONTACT: Matt Kroneberger, [mkroneberger@mwkog.org](mailto:mkroneberger@mwkog.org) / 202.962.3209 / [@RegionForward](https://www.regionforward.org)

## TPB Sends Message to Congress: Fund the Highway Trust Fund, Re-Authorize Transportation Spending Package

*Board sends letter to Washington Area Congressional Delegation to fund long term transportation goals*

Washington, D.C. – At its meeting today, the National Capital Region Transportation Planning Board (TPB) voted to send [a letter to Congress](#), calling for the replenishment of the Federal Highway Trust Fund (HTF) and the reauthorization of MAP-21, the current surface transportation funding package passed in 2012. The impending insolvency of the HTF will jeopardize critical projects in the coming fiscal year, which is set to improve safety on roads, railways, and pedestrian and bike infrastructure for more than 5 million people in the region.

The Highway Trust Fund is likely to run out of funds by August 2014. As the letter notes, federal per-gallon excise taxes on motor fuels, traditionally the main source of revenue for the HTF, have not been increased in more than 20 years. In recent years, the HTF has only been kept solvent through General Fund transfers to the HTF. These one-time fixes have been used to fill the widening gap between traditional revenue sources and the region’s growing transportation needs.

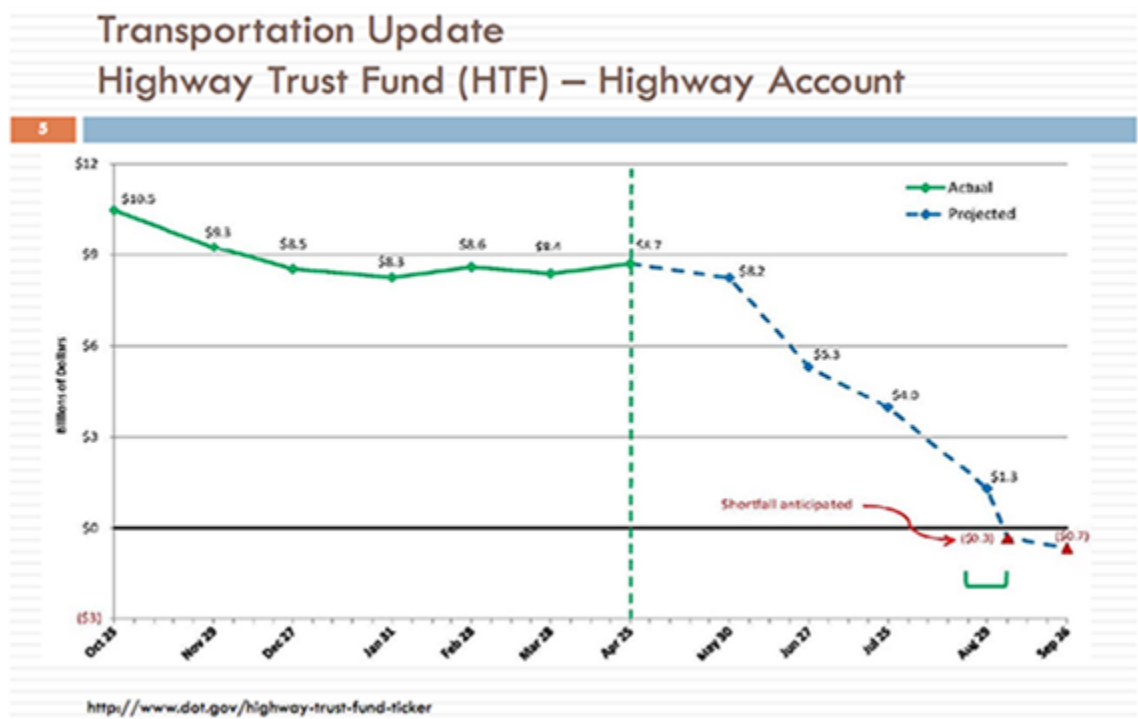


Image: Courtesy of AMPO



Compounding the imminent default of the HTF in August is the expiration of MAP-21 on September 30. DeLania Hardy, Executive Director of the Association of Metropolitan Planning Organizations (AMPO), [presented to the TPB](#) and noted these funding gaps give MPOs few options for planning for the future of our economy and said that “failure to fix HTF funding means no new funding commitments in 2015.” Hardy also noted that, “a two year reauthorization [at current spending levels] would still require \$35 billion in new revenue to the Highway Trust Fund.”

The letter also notes that recent measures to raise new transportation funding locally by the District of Columbia, Maryland and Virginia have shown a regional commitment to growing the economy and increasing mobility. The TPB urges decisive federal action to meet the region’s needs.

#

*The TPB is the regional transportation planning organization for the Washington region. It includes local governments, state transportation agencies, the Washington Metropolitan Area Transit Authority (WMATA), and members of the Maryland and Virginia General Assemblies.*

**One Region Moving Forward**

[www.mwcoq.org](http://www.mwcoq.org) / TPB & COG on Facebook: [Click Here](#)



# NATIONAL CAPITAL REGION

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## TRANSPORTATION PLANNING BOARD

May 21, 2014

Senator (or Congressman or Congresswoman) [FIRST] [LAST]  
United States Senate (or House of Representatives)  
XX-XXX Senate (or House) Office Building  
Washington DC 20XXX

**RE: Protect the Highway Trust Fund from Insolvency—Now and Into the Future**

Dear Senator (or Congressman or Congresswoman) [LAST],

A day we have long feared is finally upon us: the federal Highway Trust Fund will be insolvent as soon as July of this year. And MAP-21, the authorizing legislation for transportation infrastructure investment in our country, is set to expire at the end of September.

As the federally designated metropolitan planning organization for the National Capital Region, a growing region of more than 5 million people, we urgently request your help—and soon.

Insolvency will result in significant administrative burdens and immediate unmet transportation needs. Agencies responsible for keeping our roadways and transit systems safe and in a state of good repair have programmed nearly \$2 billion in federal funding to spend on hundreds of improvements this year. Many of the projects address critical safety needs. Insolvency will put agencies in the impossible position of deciding which projects to keep funding and which to halt.

Disruptions in the flow of federal dollars will also threaten job growth and economic recovery in our region. And they will make it harder to maintain mobility for the federal workforce and for the millions of people who visit our nation's capital each year.

Imminent insolvency is not our only worry, however.

The Highway Trust Fund needs a more sustainable source of revenue for the long-term. Agencies need greater predictability in order to plan the major, long-term transportation investments we know we need. One-time cash infusions and other short-term funding fixes are not sufficient to meet these challenges.

In 2013, both states in our region—Maryland and Virginia—took historic steps to raise new revenue for transportation at the state level, by raising user fees and other taxes to continue investing in critical infrastructure. The District of Columbia took similar steps five years ago.

Now it's time for the federal government to do its part. Federal per-gallon excise taxes on motor fuels, traditionally the main source of revenue for the Highway Trust Fund, have not been increased in over 20 years, during which time inflation has eroded nearly 40 percent of their purchasing power. The result: more and more transfers of general fund revenues and other one-time fixes have been used to fill the widening gap between traditional revenue sources and our growing transportation needs.

We urge you to take decisive action now to replenish the Highway Trust Fund, and to secure more sustainable funding for transportation into the future when you reauthorize MAP-21 later this year.

Should you have any questions, please don't hesitate to contact Gerald Miller, acting co-director of transportation planning at the Transportation Planning Board. He can be reached by phone at 202.962.3319, or by e-mail at [gkmiller@mwkog.org](mailto:gkmiller@mwkog.org).

We hope we can count on your help in this exceptionally urgent matter.

Sincerely,

Patrick Wojahn  
Chair, National Capital Region Transportation Planning Board





# TPB Weekly Report

An online publication of the National Capital Region Transportation Planning Board

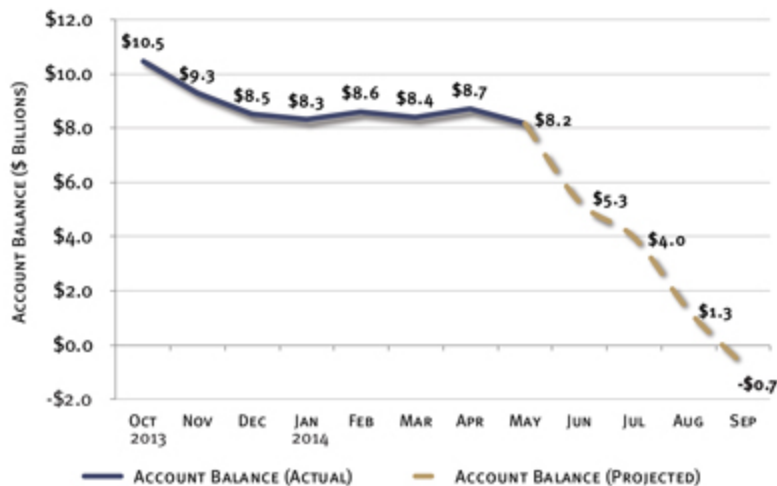
June 3, 2014

## TPB to Congress: Protect the Highway Trust Fund From Insolvency, Now and Into the Future

The Transportation Planning Board recently urged the United States Congress to act immediately to replenish the federal Highway Trust Fund and to secure more reliable, long-term sources of revenue to support ongoing transportation investments into the future.

Federal officials anticipate that the fund, from which nearly all federal aid for road and transit projects flows, will become insolvent by the end of August. That means that incoming revenues, from fuel taxes and other sources, will not be able to pay for the \$51 billion in transportation spending that Congress has already promised during the current fiscal year, which ends September 30. If that happens, officials would have to delay or stop payments to states and localities for projects that are already under construction or are scheduled to begin soon.

### FEDERAL HIGHWAY TRUST FUND EXPECTED TO BE INSOLVENT BY AUGUST



SOURCE: US DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION HIGHWAY TRUST FUND TICKER (WWW.DOT.GOV)

The TPB [conveyed its message in an official letter](#) to members of Congress representing districts in the Washington region. The letter says that insolvency of the Highway Trust Fund would result in "significant administrative burdens and immediate unmet transportation needs in the Washington region."

"Agencies responsible for keeping our roadways and transit systems safe and in a state of good repair have programmed nearly \$2 billion in federal funding to spend on hundreds of improvements this year," the TPB said in its letter. "Many of the projects address critical safety needs. Insolvency will put agencies in the impossible position of deciding which projects to keep funding and which to halt."

The letter pointed out the major impacts such disruptions would have in the region, including threatening job growth and economic recovery, and making it

#### Related Links

[TPB Letter to Congress: "Protect the Highway Trust Fund From Insolvency--Now and Into the Future" \(5/21/14\)](#)

#### Recent Weekly Reports

**May 27, 2014**  
Holiday - No Report

**May 20, 2014**  
"Commuter Connections Goes Mobile With New Website and Apps for Smartphones and Tablets"

**May 13, 2014**  
"2014 CLRP Update Enters Next Phase: Air Quality Conformity Analysis"

**May 6, 2014**  
"Washington Region Forecast to Continue Growing, Mostly in Activity Centers"

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TPB News



The Region

"TPB Weekly Report" is an online publication designed to provide brief, timely summaries of recent TPB research, analysis, outreach, and planning in the metropolitan Washington region.

Questions and comments about "TPB Weekly Report" should be directed to the [TPB Weekly Report team](#).

harder to maintain mobility for the federal workforce and for the millions of people who visit the nation's capital each year.

States and localities across the country have long relied on federal funding to make major investments in transportation infrastructure to support economic growth and quality of life. The Washington region's Metro system and its Interstate highways, including critical bridge connections across the Potomac River, would never have been built without the promise of federal funds to help pay for them.

Traditionally, Congress has provided long-term assurances of federal aid by authorizing funding for up to six years at a time. Until recently, federal fuel taxes provided the kind of reliable source of revenue needed to make such promises.

But those taxes, which are assessed on a per-gallon basis, have not been increased in more than 20 years. During that time, the TPB letter says, "inflation has eroded nearly 40 percent of their purchasing power" and less reliable solutions, like transfers of general fund revenues and other one-time fixes, have been used to fill the widening gap between traditional revenue sources and growing transportation needs.

Later this year, Congress will have an opportunity to secure a more sustainable source of revenue for the long-term when it considers extending the current federal authorization, known as MAP-21, or when it introduces a brand-new bill. Authorization must happen to allow any federal spending on transportation beyond September 30, the date that MAP-21 expires.

In its letter, the TPB cited the historic steps Virginia and Maryland took in 2013 to raise new revenue for transportation by raising user fees and other taxes. "Now it's time for the federal government to do its part," the letter says.

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The National Capital Region Transportation Planning Board (TPB) is the metropolitan planning organization (MPO) for the Washington region. The TPB is responsible for directing the continuing transportation planning process carried out cooperatively by the states and the local communities in the region. The TPB is staffed by the Department of Transportation Planning of the Metropolitan Washington Council of Governments.

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777 North Capitol St NE, Ste 300 | Washington DC 20002 | 202-962-3200 | [www.mwcog.org/transportation](http://www.mwcog.org/transportation)



## **AGENDA ITEM #4**

### **AMENDMENTS TO AGENDA**

**(No attachment)**



## **AGENDA ITEM #5**

# **APPROVAL OF MINUTES OF MAY 14, 2014**

**METROPOLITAN WASHINGTON COUNCIL OF GOVERNMENTS  
777 North Capitol Street, NE  
Washington, D.C. 20002**

**MINUTES  
Board of Directors Meeting  
COG Board Room  
May 14, 2014**

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

See attached chart for attendance.

**STAFF:**

Chuck Bean, Executive Director  
Sharon Pandak, General Counsel  
Monica Beyrouti, Member Services Associate/Clerk to the Board

**GUESTS:**

Jerry Pasternak, Pepco  
William L. Murray, Dominion  
Steven Jumper, Corporate Public Policy, WGL Holdings, Inc.  
Rajnish Barua, National Regulatory Research Institute  
Michael Ferrell, Coalition for the Homeless

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

After the conclusion of the Foster Parent of the Year video, Chair Mendelson called the meeting to order at 12:10PM and led those present in the Pledge of Allegiance.

**2. ANNOUNCEMENTS**

- A. Foster Parent of the Year Reception**
- B. Infrastructure Week 2014**
- C. Bike to Work Day – May 16**

**3. EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S REPORT**

Executive Director Chuck Bean briefed the Board on various events taking place throughout COG over the last month including two media highlights that featured College Park Councilmember Patrick Wojahn and COG staff member Phong Trieu. Mr. Bean announced that the current COG Chief Financial Officer will be retiring and that Dennis Turner was appointed as the Interim CFO. He also highlighted the current status of the search and selection process for the COG Director of Transportation Planning. Mr. Bean thanked all of the foster parents present for attending the Foster Parent of the Year Reception. He introduced the honorees from each county and shared a brief description of their involvement and dedication to foster care.

**4. AMENDMENTS TO AGENDA**

There were no amendments to the agenda.

## **5. APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

An attendance correction was noted and the minutes of the April 9, 2014 Board Meeting were approved.

## **6. ADOPTION OF CONSENT AGENDA ITEMS**

### **A. RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING COG TO ENTER INTO CONTRACTS TO RENOVATE THE DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION PLANNING DIRECTOR'S OFFICE AND SURROUNDING WORKSPACES**

The Board adopted Resolution R38-2014 authorizing the Executive Director, or his designee, to enter into contracts not to exceed \$75,000 with vendors to complete office space renovations. COG performed an office space utilization assessment in 2012 that identified spot improvements that would better utilize office space and provide a uniform office space offering. COG will perform the spot renovations to the offices around, and including, the space to be occupied by the Director of the Department of Transportation Planning. The renovations will upgrade two offices, a conference room, and three workstations that are original furnishings from 1989. The renovations will include carpeting, painting, and new office furniture. Funding is available in the COG Facility Operating Budget.

### **B. RESOLUTION RATIFYING EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE AUTHORIZATION FOR COG TO ENTER INTO A CONTRACT FOR AN INTERIM CHIEF FINANCIAL OFFICER/CONTROLLER**

The Board adopted Resolution R39-2014 authorizing Executive Committee approval to enter into a contract not to exceed \$61,440 with luvo Systems, Inc. (luvo) to serve as Interim CFP/Controller until a permanent CFO is hired. CFO Paul Beriault has resigned effective mid-May. Pursuant to Rule of Procedure 5.07(c)(1) and at the request of the Executive Director, the Executive Committee approved entering into a contract with luvo for luvo's Dennis Turner to be Interim CFO/Controller, beginning May 1 until the position is filled permanently. The Executive Director will also enter into a contract not to exceed \$24,000 with BDO USA LLP, as consulting financial advisor, to assist Mr. Turner, coordinate the annual audit and implement BDO's Assessment of the COG's finance and accounting operations. Funding is available in existing indirect budgeted funds.

**ACTION:** The Board adopted Resolution R38-2014 and Resolution R39-2014.

## **7. FY 2014 THIRD QUARTER REPORT**

Chief Financial Officer Paul Beriault provided the COG Board with the FY 2014 third quarter (July 2013 – March 2014) financial report.

**ACTION:** The Board received the report.

## **8. OVERVIEW OF THE NATIONAL CAPITAL REGION'S ENERGY INFRASTRUCTURE**

Staff provided information on the basics of the NCR's electric, natural gas, and non-utility energy infrastructure; including information on main providers of energy and their infrastructure, such as wires, generation plants, pipelines, rail, and storage. The overview was followed by a panel of regional energy experts from Pepco Region Maryland, Dominion, Washington Gas, and the National Regulatory Research Institute. The panel focused on the need and plans to upgrade and pay for improvements to address reliability through underlining, hardening, rebuilding and expansion, and a focus to improve cyber and physical security.

**ACTION:** The Board engaged in discussion on the topic of energy infrastructure in the region and adopted Resolution R40-2014, endorsing Infrastructure Week 2014.

**9. EFFORTS TO END HOMELESSNESS IN THE NATIONAL CAPITAL REGION & RESULTS OF THE 2014 HOMELESS ENUMERATION**

Michael Ferrell, Executive Director of the Coalition for the Homeless, and Chair of COG's Homeless Services Committee, shared the results of the 2014 Point-in-Time count and highlighted best practices and challenges in addressing homelessness in the metropolitan Washington region.

**ACTION:** The Board adopted Resolution R41-2014, endorsing the results of the 2014 Point-in-Time Homeless Enumeration.

**10. OTHER BUSINESS**

There was no other business.

**11. ADJOURNMENT**

Upon motion duly made and seconded, the meeting was adjourned at 2:00PM. The next meeting is June 11, 2014.

**BOARD OF DIRECTORS – May 2014**

<u>Jurisdiction</u>	<u>Member</u>	<u>Y/N</u>	<u>Alternate</u>	<u>Y/N</u>
<b><i>District of Columbia</i></b>				
<b>Executive</b>	Hon. Vincent Gray		Christopher Murphy	
	Mr. Allen Lew		Warren Graves	Y
<b>Council</b>	Hon. Phil Mendelson ( <b>Chair</b> )	Y		
	Hon. Kenyan R. McDuffie			
<b><i>Maryland</i></b>				
Bowie	Hon. G. Frederick Robinson		Hon. Dennis Brady	Y
Charles County	Hon. Reuben Collins	Y – CC	Hon. Ken Robinson Hon. Debra Davis	
City of Frederick	Hon. Randy McClement	Y		
Frederick County	Hon. David Gray	Y	Hon. Blaine Young	
College Park	Hon. Andrew Fellows	Y	Hon. Denise Mitchell	
Gaithersburg	Hon. Sidney Katz		Hon. Cathy Drzyzgula	Y
Greenbelt	Hon. Emmett Jordan	Y	Hon. Judith “J” Davis	
Montgomery County				
<b>Executive</b>	Hon. Isiah Leggett		Mr. Tim Firestine	
<b>Council</b>	Hon. Roger Berliner ( <b>Vice Chair</b> )			
	Hon. Nancy Navarro			
Prince George’s County				
<b>Executive</b>	Hon. Rushern Baker		Mr. Nicholas Majett	Y
<b>Council</b>	Hon. Karen Toles			
	Hon. Andrea Harrison	Y		
Rockville	Hon. Bridget Newton	Y	Emad Elshafei	
Takoma Park	Hon. Bruce Williams	Y	Hon. Terry Seamens	
Maryland General Assembly	Hon. Brian Feldman	Y		
<b><i>Virginia</i></b>				
Alexandria	Hon. William Euille ( <b>Vice Chair</b> )		Hon. Redella Pepper	
Arlington County	Hon. Walter Tejada	Y	Hon. Jay Fissette	
City of Fairfax	Hon. Dan Drummond		Hon. Jeffrey Greenfield	
Fairfax County	Hon. Sharon Bulova	Y	Hon. Catherine Hudgins	
	Hon. Penelope A. Gross		Hon. Patrick Herrity	
	Hon. John Foust		Hon. Michael Frey	
Falls Church	Hon. David Tarter		Hon. David Snyder	
Loudoun County	Hon. Matt Letourneau			
Loudoun County	Hon. Scott York	Y	Hon. Shawn Williams	
Manassas	Hon. Jonathan Way	Y		
Manassas Park	Hon. Suhas Naddoni		Hon. Frank Jones	
Prince William County	Hon. Frank Principi	Y	Pete Candland	
	Hon. Wally Covington			
Virginia General Assembly	Hon. George Barker	Y		

Total: 20





## **AGENDA ITEM #6**

# **ADOPTION OF CONSENT AGENDA ITEMS**

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

**RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING COG TO RENEW THE ANNUAL CONTRACT WITH GARTNER INC. FOR  
INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY AND BUSINESS SERVICES**

**WHEREAS**, the Metropolitan Washington Council of Governments (COG) requires information technology and business services from Garner Inc. in an amount not to exceed \$34,800; and

**WHEREAS**, COG owns and operates a complex information technology infrastructure; and

**WHEREAS**, COG occasionally requires additional expertise in the review of complex technical requests for proposals and routinely contracts with outside vendors to provide subject matter expertise; and

**WHEREAS**, Gartner Inc. is the industry leader in providing information technology and business training and consulting services.

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS OF THE METROPOLITAN  
WASHINGTON COUNCIL OF GOVERNMENTS THAT:**

The Executive Director, or his designee, is authorized to renew contracts not to exceed \$34,800 with Gartner Inc. for the delivery of industry analysis, best practices, technical training, executive business skills training, and technical contracts review.

Funding for this project in the amount of \$34,800 will be utilized from the FY2015 IT Annual Operating Budget.

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

**RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING COG TO ENTER INTO CONTRACTS WITH SELECTED VENDORS FOR FY2015  
FACILITIES PROJECTS**

**WHEREAS**, the Metropolitan Washington Council of Governments (COG) owns office space on the second and third floors of 777 North Capitol Street, NE; and

**WHEREAS**, office space near the Executive Director could be optimized to provide additional office space for staff; and

**WHEREAS**, the Office of Human Resources Management requires a space for secure file storage and to perform confidential employee meetings and interviews; and

**WHEREAS**, the Office of Public Affairs requires a media room to support expanded multimedia products and outreach to region; and

**WHEREAS**, spot improvements Commuter Connections Operations Center will increase natural light entering the workspace; and

**WHEREAS**, COG's auditors recommended that COG install a pre-action fire suppression system in COG's data center; and

**WHEREAS**, COG management recommended and the COG Board of Directors approved the Capital Repair & Replacement Plan for FY2015 as part of the annual budget process.

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS OF THE METROPOLITAN WASHINGTON COUNCIL OF GOVERNMENTS THAT:**

The Executive Director, or his designee, is authorized to enter into contracts not to exceed \$115,000 for the construction and completion of the above projects that were identified and approved in the FY2015 Capital Repair and Replacement Plan.

Funding for these projects is budgeted for in the FY2015 Capital Repair & Replacement Plan.

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

**RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING COG TO ENTER INTO CONTRACTS WITH SELECTED VENDORS FOR  
INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY SERVER INFRASTRUCTURE**

**WHEREAS**, the Metropolitan Washington Council of Governments (COG) owns and operates a data center that is necessary to support COG operations; and

**WHEREAS**, COG has adopted the instruct standard 5-year replacement cycle for servers and connected systems; and

**WHEREAS**, COG acquired a Xiotech Storage Area Network (SAN) through competitive procurement in 2009; and

**WHEREAS**, COG has standardized on HP for server and desktop hardware needs; and

**WHEREAS**, COG routinely engaged value added resellers to bundle procurements to obtain volume procurement discounts; and

**WHEREAS**, COG's Office of Information Technology & Facilities Management has recommended scheduled replacement for COG's SAN and servers within the FY2015 IT Annual Operating Budget; and

**WHEREAS**, The COG Board of Directors approved the FY2015 COG Budget in January 2015 which included funding for the IT Annual Operating Budget.

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS OF THE METROPOLITAN  
WASHINGTON COUNCIL OF GOVERNMENTS THAT:**

The Executive Director, or his designee, is authorized to enter into contracts not to exceed \$243,000 for the procurement and installation of a Storage Area Network and servers that will replace those that are currently in use and at their end of useful life.

Funding for this procurement is budgeted in the FY2015 IT Annual Operating Budget.

**METROPOLITAN WASHINGTON COUNCIL OF GOVERNMENTS  
777 NORTH CAPITOL STREET, NE  
WASHINGTON, DC 20002-4239**

**RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING COG TO RECEIVE A GRANT, PROCURE AND ENTER INTO A  
CONTRACT TO DESIGN, DEVELOP, AND IMPLEMENT A TEXT ALERT PUBLIC AWARENESS AND  
EDUCATION CAMPAIGN**

**WHEREAS**, the Metropolitan Washington Council of Governments (COG) serves as the Secretariat for the Urban Area Security Initiative for the National Capital Region; and

**WHEREAS**, COG has been requested by the District of Columbia Homeland Security and Emergency Management Agency (HSEMA) and R-ESF 15 External Affairs to issue a contract to consulting firm to design, develop, and implement a text alert public awareness campaign; and

**WHEREAS**, the Washington DC area continues to be considered as one of the higher-risk urban areas in the country and the new emergency alert system will allow officials throughout the NCR to continue their efforts to increase emergency awareness and improve disaster preparedness for residents; and

**WHEREAS**, residents in the region will be educated on the look and feel of the new alert and notification system, when changes to the alerting and notification system will take place, what they need to do to sign-up or stay connected, and where they can go to find more information; and

**WHEREAS**, funding for the contract to design, develop, and implement a text alert education and public awareness campaign will be provided by the State Administrative Agent for the National Capital Region.

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS OF THE  
METROPOLITAN WASHINGTON COUNCIL OF GOVERNMENTS THAT:**

The Executive Director, or his designee, is authorized to receive and expend grant funds from the State Administrative Agent in the amount of \$250,000 to complete a text alert education and public awareness campaign. The new emergency alert system will allow the NCR to continue its efforts to increase emergency awareness and disaster preparedness for residents throughout the region.

Funding for this effort will be provided through a Subgrant from the State Administrative Agent for the National Capital Region. No COG funds will be required.

**METROPOLITAN WASHINGTON COUNCIL OF GOVERNMENTS  
777 NORTH CAPITOL STREET, NE  
WASHINGTON, DC 20002-4239**

**RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING COG TO RECEIVE A GRANT TO PROVIDE EXECUTIVE,  
PROFESSIONAL, AND TECHNICAL PROGRAM MANAGEMENT OFFICE AND SECRETARIAT  
SUPPORT THAT WILL CONTRIBUTE TO ENHANCED EMERGENCY PREPAREDNESS IN THE REGION**

**WHEREAS**, the Metropolitan Washington Council of Governments (COG) has provided tremendous professional and technical secretariat support for homeland security activities in the National Capital Region since September 11, 2001; and

**WHEREAS**, COG has been requested by the Chief Administrative Officers (CAOs) and the Senior Policy Group to establish a Program Management Office (PMO) to provide enhanced professional and technical support for the Urban Area Security Initiative (UASI) in the National Capital Region; a governance structure, a staffing plan, and other documents are being prepared for the PMO; and the professional and technical secretariat support that COG has been providing for the past 10 years will be transitioned to the PMO by September 30, 2014; and

**WHEREAS**, COG's initial work was funded by a special federal appropriations awarded in October 2001; COG now receives U.S. Department of Homeland Security grant funding through UASI as approved by the Senior Policy Group and the CAOs to support regional homeland security preparedness, response, and recovery activities in the region.

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS OF THE  
METROPOLITAN WASHINGTON COUNCIL OF GOVERNMENTS THAT:**

The Executive Director, or his designee, is authorized to receive and expend a UASI subgrant in the amount of \$414,500 to continue to provide regional support for homeland security activities in the National Capitol Region. Activities include professional and technical PMO and secretariat support for the National Capital Region Emergency Preparedness Council, Chief Administrative Officer's Committee, 16 Regional Emergency Support Functions, and several Regional Program Work Groups and support for the investment planning process. The grant is included in the FY13 UASI funds for the transition from secretariat to PMO support during the period June 1, 2014 to September 30, 2014. No COG matching funds are required.



## **AGENDA ITEM #7**

# **PRESENTATION OF CAMPAIGN TO PROMOTE NEW EMERGENCY TEXT ALERT SIGN-UPS ACROSS THE REGION**

**METROPOLITAN WASHINGTON COUNCIL OF GOVERNMENTS  
777 NORTH CAPITOL STREET, NE  
WASHINGTON, DC 20002-4239**

**RESOLUTION ENDORSING AD CAMPAIGN PROMOTING NEW EMERGENCY TEXT ALERT SYSTEM:  
*CAPITALERT.GOV*  
*EMERGENCY WARNINGS WHEN AND WHERE YOU NEED THEM***

**WHEREAS**, the Metropolitan Washington Council of Governments (COG) is comprised of the 22 jurisdictions of the National Capital Region's local governments and their governing officials, plus area members of the Maryland and Virginia legislatures and the U.S. Senate and House of Representatives, and COG provides a focus for action on issues of regional concern; and

**WHEREAS**, the COG Board has received a presentation on the advertising campaign to promote a new emergency text alert system, which is designed to work well on smart phones and other mobile devices; and

**WHEREAS**, the advertising campaign and outreach effort for the new text alert system will reach the great majority of the region's residents and use one web site to link them to the text alert systems for their home jurisdictions; and

**WHEREAS**, the COG Board recognizes the text alert system and said advertising campaign as initiatives that will increase the safety and security of the residents of the National Capital Region by ensuring they can be made aware of regional threats or emergencies in a timely fashion.

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS OF THE METROPOLITAN WASHINGTON COUNCIL OF GOVERNMENTS THAT:**

The Board endorses the advertising campaign to promote the region's new emergency text alert system: *CAPITALERT.GOV - EMERGENCY WARNINGS WHEN AND WHERE YOU NEED THEM* and directs its Executive Director, or his designee, to notify all COG members of the Board's endorsement.





## **AGENDA ITEM #8**

# **OVERVIEW OF THE NATIONAL CAPITAL REGION'S WATER QUALITY PROTECTION INFRASTRUCTURE**



# Protecting Local and Regional Water Quality

## Stormwater Management in the Metropolitan Washington Region

June 2014

### STORMWATER MANAGEMENT — MEETING THE MANY CHALLENGES

This fact sheet provides an overview of the challenges, program drives and financial implications of local government stormwater programs in the Washington metropolitan region, as well as a sense of the regulatory requirements that drive these programs.



#### CHALLENGES



#### PROGRAM DRIVERS & GOALS



#### FUNDING



#### ANACOSTIA—A LOCAL INITIATIVE

Contents

Challenges	P.2
Program Drivers	P. 3-5
Funding	P.6-7
Anacostia	P.8
Summary	P.8

## STORMWATER MANAGEMENT MEETING THE MANY CHALLENGES

Local governments in the region have been working since the 1930s to protect local and regional water quality. Great progress has been made, largely through employment of ever more sophisticated water quality technology at the area's wastewater treatment plants starting in the 1960s. Despite this progress, there

is a need to do even more, particularly in response to the pollution budgets known as **Total Maximum Daily Loads** (TMDLs). In addition to their wastewater efforts, COG's member governments are now also

focused on the challenge of reducing the negative water quality impacts of stormwater runoff.

COG's members have accomplished a lot in the stormwater arena. This includes the pioneering development and implementation of new types of "best management practices," or **BMPs**, known collectively as "low impact development" (**LID**) and "environmental site design" (**ESD**) practices. It also includes implementation of dedicated stormwater program funding mechanisms by most of COG's members. Today, the region's local government stormwater programs continue to adapt in response to changing federal and state regulations. This includes a new generation of municipal **separate storm sewer system (MS4)** permits and the need for new revenues at a time of limited local government funding. And much of this has been happening at a very accelerated schedule over the past 10 years.

**MS4 Permit Status of COG's Member Jurisdictions (as of April 2014)**



## STORMWATER PROGRAM DRIVERS

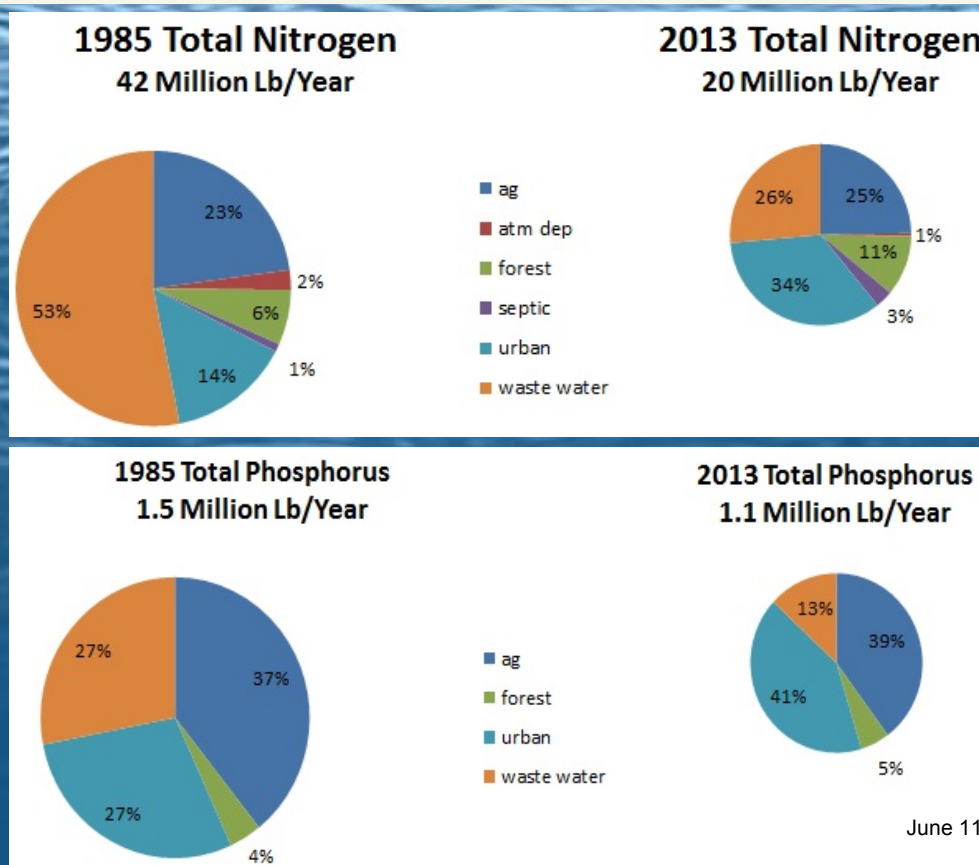
- **State and Local Stormwater Management Regulations** – Outline requirements for erosion and sediment control during the construction process and for the installation of BMPs to address stormwater runoff post-construction.
- **MS4 Permits** – Issued by the states and EPA, these require local governments to implement a variety of programs (ranging from detection and correction of illicit discharges to public outreach and education) to lessen the volume of pollutants carried by their municipal stormwater conveyance systems. These regulatory permits require consistency with the pollution budgets of applicable TMDLs; and have been issued over time (i.e., **Phase I** for larger jurisdictions, and **Phase II** for smaller municipalities—based on population).
- **Local TMDLs** – Established by the states and EPA, these TMDLs set target reductions for pollutants (nutrients, sediment, bacteria, trash and PCBs) in a number of waters in the region that have been designated as ‘impaired’ ( e.g. the Anacostia River, Four Mile Run and Seneca Lake).
- **Chesapeake Bay TMDL** – Established by EPA in December 2010, this massive pollution budget requires reductions in nutrient (nitrogen and phosphorus) and sediment pollution throughout the Bay watershed and for major tributaries such as the Potomac River.

## URBAN STORMWATER RUNOFF: A GROWING BAY-WIDE CHALLENGE

As illustrated in the charts below, in 2013 urban (stormwater) runoff accounted for about 33 percent of the nitrogen and 39 percent of the phosphorus amounts that reached the Bay from the COG region, according to estimates from the latest EPA models. This is about the same amount of both nutrients lost from agriculture.

### COG REGION: PERCENTAGE OF ANNUAL BAY NITROGEN AND PHOSPHORUS CONTRIBUTIONS BY SOURCE

*(estimated for 1985 and 2013 by EPA's Chesapeake Bay Watershed Model)*

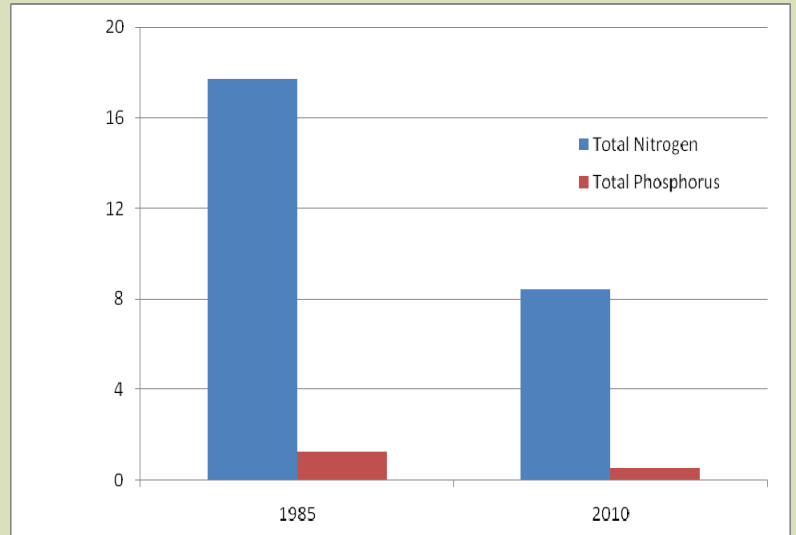




## STORMWATER: THE NEED TO ADDRESS LEGACY POLLUTION

Stormwater is often singled out as the only significant source of pollutants to the Bay that has increased in recent years, but this characterization ignores the fact that the overall amount of land devoted to urban uses has increased in recent years both in the region and throughout the watershed. The Chesapeake Bay Program estimates that urban land acreage in the COG region increased 35 percent in the last 25 years. However, **the pollutant loads associated with urban lands have increased at a much lower rate because of the widespread use of stormwater BMPs on new and re-development sites.** This can be seen by looking at the amount of nutrient pollution generated on a per-acre basis by urban land in 1985 compared to 2010 as shown in the chart below (again, as estimated for the COG region as-a-whole by EPA models).

**COG REGION: COMPARISON OF ANNUAL AVERAGE URBAN NUTRIENT LOADS TO THE BAY FOR 1985 AND 2010**  
*(estimated by EPA's Chesapeake Bay Watershed Model)*  
*Pounds Per Acre Per Year*



*Stormwater Retention Pond*

Despite these successes, the Bay TMDL and other drivers are requiring stormwater programs to also address pollution from the runoff from urban areas built before 1985, when stormwater BMPs first became widely used. The most common way of addressing this legacy pollution is through what are known as **stormwater retrofits**, in which various modern urban stormwater BMPs are incorporated into older existing urban landscapes. These retrofits, which cost significantly more to install than BMPs on new developments, are now a requirement of MS4 permits in Maryland and the District of Columbia—and they will be necessary for Virginia local governments to meet the nutrient reduction requirements in their permits.

## **STORMWATER PROGRAM MANAGEMENT GOALS**

Broadly stated, the goals of stormwater management are:

- (1) water quality protection;
- (2) stream channel erosion control; and
- (3) flood reduction.

Every jurisdiction, as part of its MS4 permit requirements, has a suite of stormwater management practices in place to accomplish these goals. Examples of the following diverse services are noted below.

### **Project Design Construction Management & Oversight**

- Permitting and plan review for new or retrofit construction, including roads in Maryland and the District of Columbia
- Facility inspection, maintenance and enforcement (public and private Best Management Practices (BMPs))

### **Physical**

- Impervious surface reduction/ disconnect
- Structural BMPs (including environmental site design, such as rain gardens and green roofs)

### **Education/outreach**

- Fertilizer reduction
- Integrated pest management
- Pet waste
- Anti-littering
- Homeowner stormwater management incentives programs
- Trash / litter removal

### **Mitigation/Restoration**

- Installation of riparian buffers and urban tree canopies
- Stream restoration
- Wetland restoration
- Street sweeping/inlet cleaning
- Illicit connection detection and elimination

### **Water Quality and Aquatic Habitat Monitoring**

- Nutrient, Metals, Pesticides, Organics, Bacteria
- Sediment and Physical Habitat



Local government stormwater programs are increasingly focused on infiltration of stormwater in public right of ways.

## LOCAL STORMWATER FUNDING IN THE COG REGION

Unlike the wastewater sector, whose nutrient reduction efforts have received significant cost-share monies from state and federal governments—in addition to major local funding investments, stormwater programs are funded almost entirely at the local level, either by developers who install BMPs during construction or through the stormwater programs conducted by local governments. The latter are funded through a variety of means, but more and more local governments have turned to dedicated taxes or utility fees to fund their stormwater management programs.

**Where** – All but one of COG's member jurisdictions have either established their own dedicated taxes or fee programs or are subject to the tax and fee programs of other jurisdictions.

**When** – The majority of these local programs have been established in the last 5 years, although at least two of them date back to the late 1980s.

**Who Pays** – The tax/fee programs cover residential property owners; the majority of programs also cover commercial and multi-family properties.

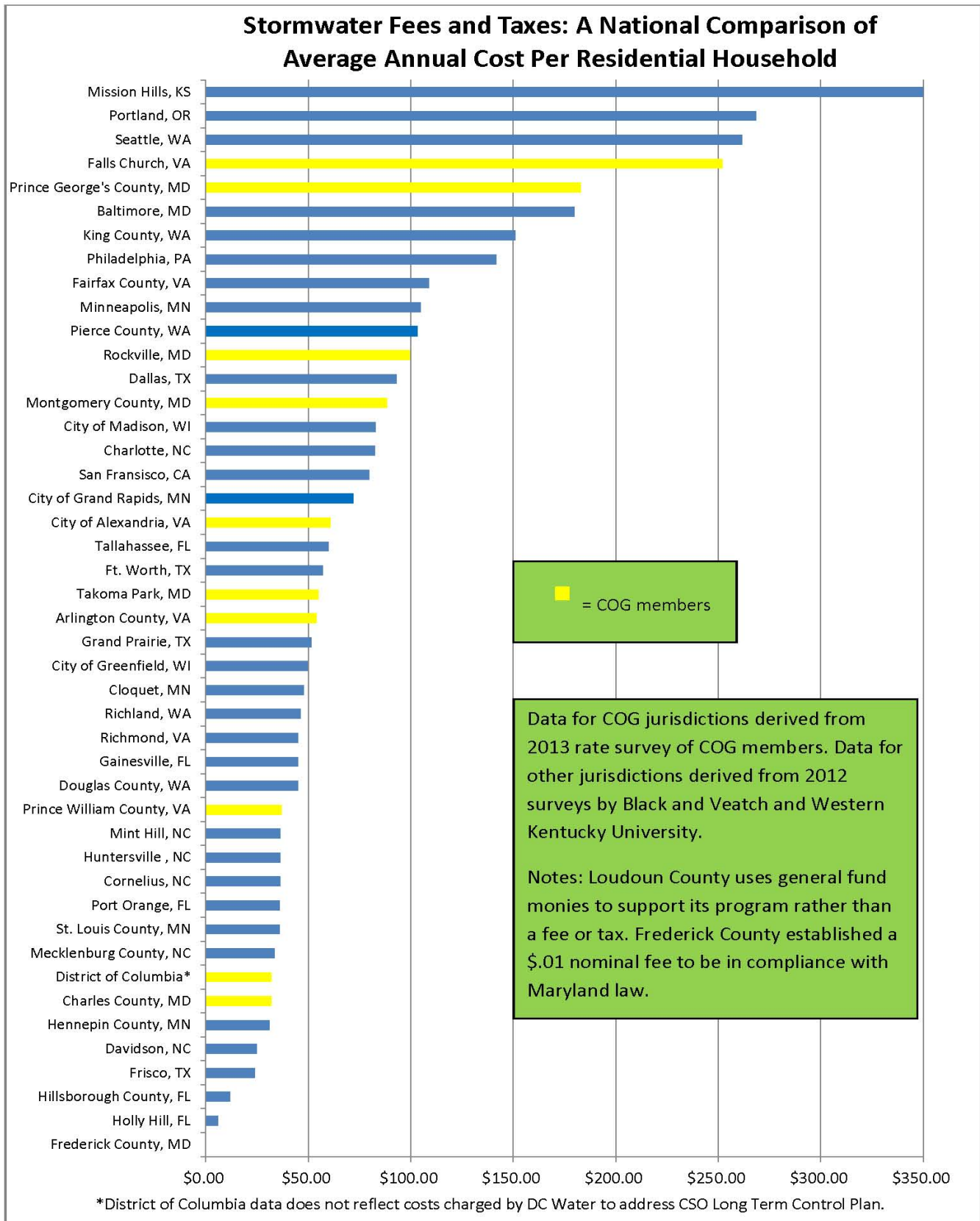
**How Much** – The cost per household currently ranges from less than \$1 to \$252 per year; the average cost is about \$90 per household per year. Some of the fee programs are based on a sliding payment scale based on the size of the property or the extent of its impervious footprint. Some programs provide a credit for property owners who voluntarily install BMPs or do not charge non-profit organizations.



While both the extent and cost of the upgrades in stormwater management infrastructure to meet future regulatory requirements is still uncertain, it is clear that local governments will have to do a lot more in terms of both capital projects and annual operations and maintenance programs to meet future permit obligations. In the chart opposite, stormwater program costs in the COG region are compared to a random sample of similar costs from across the country. It is likely that stormwater fees and taxes in the region will continue to rise toward the levels now seen only for local governments in the Pacific Northwest.



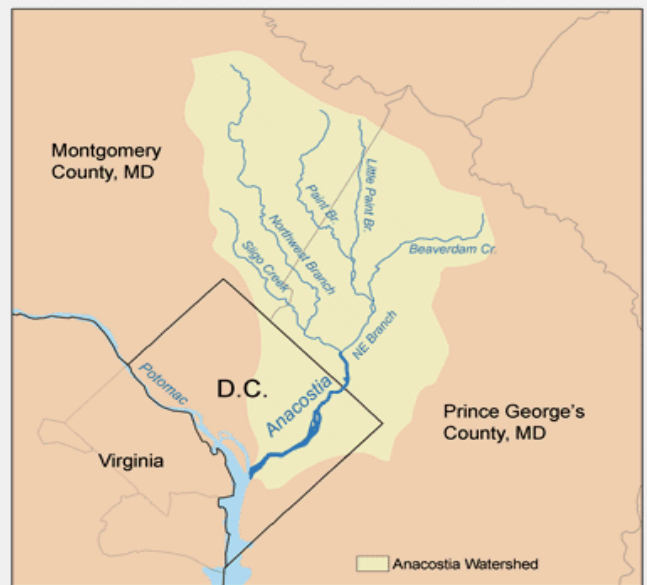
# COMPARISON OF STORMWATER FEES AND TAXES AS OF JUNE 2014





## Anacostia Restoration – A Local Example

The Anacostia Watershed Restoration Steering Committee (SC) was established by COG Board Resolution R28-06 in June 2006; and created the Anacostia Watershed Restoration Partnership (Partnership). The Partnership's role is to oversee the accelerated restoration of the Anacostia River and its tributaries. The membership is drawn from the District of Columbia, Montgomery and Prince George's counties, the state of Maryland, the Anacostia Watershed Citizens Advisory Committee (AWCAC), academia, federal agencies, foundations, businesses and NGOs. While the Partnership was created through COG Board of Directors action, and is administered through COG; it functions as an independent entity in terms of adoption of policy, as well as work program, budget and other financial matters. Since the Partnership was reconstituted, its members have accomplishments include:



- **Anacostia Restoration Plan** – Includes 1,781 stormwater retrofits
- **Trash TMDL** - The second enforceable trash limit implemented in the Nation
- **Strongest Stormwater Ordinances & Permits** – Local requirements lead the Nation
- **Focus on Green Streets** – Six new green streets projects planned for the watershed
- **Designation as 'Urban Water of National Significance'** – Partnership's strong coordination function was a strong factor in receiving this designation
- **Stakeholder Involvement** - Developers, environmental groups, municipalities and funders are all engaged in a regular dialog with governmental agencies and entities
- **Bag Fee** – Strong bag fee bills have been adopted to help reducing trash in the waterway

More information is available at the Partnership's web site at <http://www.anacostia.net/>

## Summary

The overall picture of stormwater management in the COG region will change dramatically in the next few years as local government programs adapt to the challenges posed by new permits and regulations. More efforts will be made to retrofit older developed areas. And COG's member governments will gain further experience with LID and ESD techniques that are being promoted by state and federal regulation. Stormwater funding mechanisms at the local level will also continue to evolve. COG expects to continue to work with its members and integrate efforts with other jurisdictions (see Region Forward section on the left) to collect and update cost and performance data that will help shape the future direction of stormwater management. COG and its members will also continue to evaluate the potential implications of climate change impacts on the frequency, duration, and intensity of precipitation patterns and runoff volumes which is the basis of stormwater management.



### Region Forward Greater Washington 2050

As part of COG's Region Forward sustainability goal, a target has been set to achieve 100% of the Chesapeake Bay Program's Water Quality Implementation Goals by 2025. Visit [www.mwco.org](http://www.mwco.org) for more information.

### COG's Water Resources Program

The Department of Environmental Programs (DEP), Water Resources Program assist COG's local government members, and affiliated wastewater treatment and drinking water utilities, with protecting, restoring, and conserving the region's water resources as well as addressing the policy and technical implications of various state and federal initiatives that have water quality. Visit our [Web Site](#) for additional information about our program and regional activities (including the Anacostia Program).



June 11, 2014 45





June 2014

# Protecting Local and Regional Water Quality

## Potomac River Water Quality in the Metropolitan Washington Region - A Summary

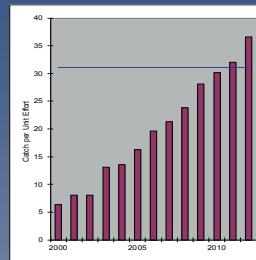
### WATER QUALITY IMPROVEMENTS - PROGRESS, BUT MORE TO BE DONE

The assessment of water quality in the Potomac River shows that the Washington region's huge investments in improving wastewater treatment over the past thirty years have yielded significant improvements, especially in our portion of the Potomac River. Among the success stories: the amount of nitrogen and phosphorus discharged by wastewater plants in the metropolitan Washington region has declined dramatically since the 1980s and is on track for further reductions. As a result, the potential for harmful algal blooms in the upper Potomac estuary has declined significantly. And the populations of at least some of the plants and animals that live in this portion of the river, such as submerged aquatic vegetation and American shad, have rebounded.

But these improvements do not mean that either the river itself has fully recovered from the poor conditions of previous decades nor that further efforts are unnecessary. As is the case in the Chesapeake Bay watershed as a whole, local governments and other entities are addressing other sources of pollution, such as runoff from farms and urban areas, and working to restore local streams, which, in turn, will benefit the river and the Bay.



**SUCCESS STORIES**  
WWTP nutrient reductions



**SAV + FISH**  
Increased Submerged Aquatic Vegetation, American Shad, Other Species

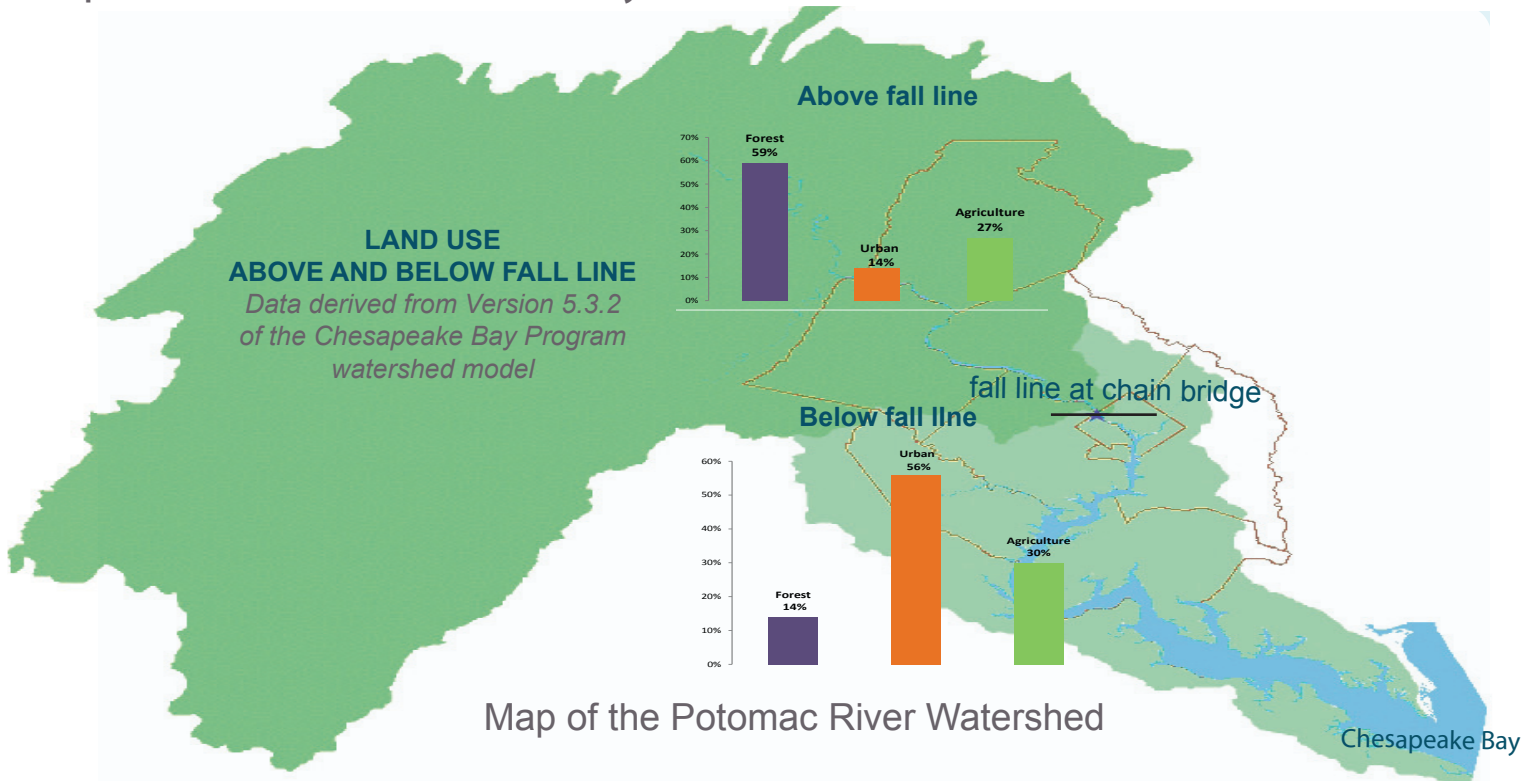


**ALGAL BLOOMS**  
Decline in Severity  
(photo from a 1983 bloom)



**WATER QUALITY**  
Some places improving, others worsening

# Inputs to the Potomac Estuary



## POTOMAC RIVER WATERSHED AT A GLANCE

- Length:** 383 miles from origins in West Virginia to confluence with the Chesapeake Bay
- Area:** At 14,670 miles, the watershed comprises about 23 percent of the overall Bay watershed
- Nature:** Free-flowing to the fall line at Chain Bridge; a tidally-influenced estuary for the rest of its length
- Population:** About 6 million, 80 percent of whom live in COG region
- Land use:** Primarily forested in the portion that drains above Chain Bridge; primarily urban in the portion that drains below Chain Bridge.

Determining how much pollution arises from the watershed's different land uses is key to understanding what management actions are necessary to further improve water quality.

In broad terms, water quality in the estuary, which stretches from the river's fall line at Chain Bridge in Washington, D.C., downriver to the mouth of Mattawoman Creek, is determined by three major inputs:



Potomac River at Chain Bridge

### The quality of the water flowing across the fall line at Chain Bridge -

Through a contractor, COG monitors water quality at the Potomac River fall line at Chain Bridge. On an annual basis, the amount of nutrients and sediment varies in response to different precipitation patterns. The analysis of this data for trends is complicated and currently inconclusive, with some measures indicating that water quality is improving and others that it is deteriorating.



Stormwater Retention Pond

### The quality of the water that drains to the river below Chain Bridge -

Because much of the land draining to the river below Chain Bridge is urbanized, the quality of stormwater runoff is a critical factor, both to the river and local streams.



Blue Plains WWTP

### Discharge from wastewater plants directly to the estuary -

Starting in the early 1980s and continuing through today, the area's wastewater treatment plants (WWTPs) have made many upgrades to increase the efficiency with which they remove nutrients and other sources of pollution from their effluent. Reductions in wastewater nutrient loadings represent the greatest achievement in the 30-year history of the Chesapeake Bay restoration effort.



# Regional Wastewater Treatment - An Unparalleled Success Story

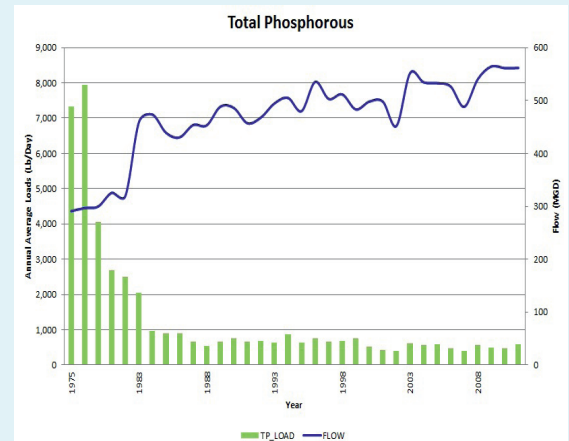
Starting in the early 1960s and continuing through today, the area's wastewater treatment plants have made many upgrades to increase the efficiency with which they remove nutrients and other sources of pollution from their effluent.

Originally, **phosphorus** was the major nutrient concern because of its role in stimulating harmful levels of algal bloom in the freshwater portion of the Potomac estuary. Together with a ban on phosphates in detergents, phosphorus controls at area treatment plants have reduced the amount discharged by about 96 percent. Those controls still achieve limit-of-technology levels today.

Beginning in the 1990s, the plants began to focus on reducing discharges of **nitrogen**. The first round of such reduction efforts, known as biological nutrient removal, reduced wastewater loadings by about 44 percent from previous levels. More recently, the plants have begun to install another round of nitrogen removal technology, which will result in significant further reductions and achieve limit-of-technology standards for nitrogen.

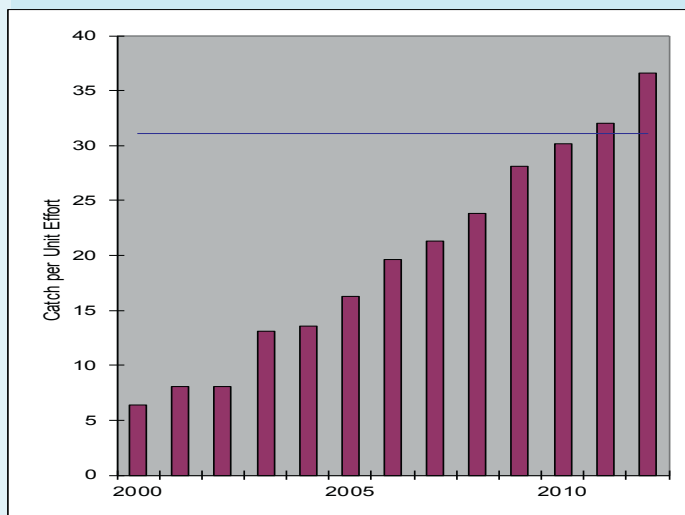
The reduction in nutrient discharges from wastewater treatment plants has been achieved despite increases in wastewater flow (blue line in the chart) to the plants as a result of population growth in the region.

## Amounts of Total Phosphorus Discharged by Wastewater Plants in the COG region



## Success Stories - More Submerged Aquatic Vegetation, More Fish and Fewer Algal Blooms

### American Shad in Potomac



Shad populations in the Potomac River estimated by the Virginia Institute of Marine Sciences, as reported in the Maryland DNR's 2013 "Potomac Assessment." The size of the population is compared to a target for the Potomac set by the Chesapeake Bay Program.

### Submerged Aquatic Vegetation (SAV)

The amount of SAV growing in the upper estuary fluctuates annually because of changes in weather conditions and other factors, but overall it has increased significantly in recent years as nutrient levels in the water have decreased.

### Fish

The increase in SAV acres has been good news for other living resources -- such as anadromous fish species that live mostly in saltwater but spawn in freshwater -- that inhabit the upper Potomac estuary. One example is American shad, which has staged a major comeback in the Potomac in recent years.

### Algal Blooms

Another success story has been the extent to which the explosive growth in algal populations in the estuary -- known as algal blooms -- has been kept in check in recent years. The blooms, which can lead to fish kills and harm human health, still occur when weather conditions are especially favorable, but the extent and severity of the blooms is much lower in recent years than in previous decades.

# Conclusions and Next Steps

## Water Quality Data - A Mixed Picture

Although various state and local government agencies monitor water quality in the river, the Maryland Department of Natural Resources conducts a useful assessment of what the data means. According to its analysis, water quality measurements in the Potomac River estuary over the past 10-15 years paint a picture that defies simple explanation. There are places in the river where current water quality conditions meet the habitat requirements for living resources, but the trends in these same conditions are worsening. There are other places where water quality conditions do not meet the habitat requirements, but the living resources trends are improving.

## A Job Not Finished

From a management perspective, the assessment of water quality in the Potomac indicates that the initial efforts to improve water quality have succeeded to a point, but that reductions in the amount of pollutants in wastewater discharges are not, in themselves, sufficient to achieve water quality standards under the Clean Water Act nor to have the abundance of living resources we seek.

Declines in the amount of nutrients and sediment entering the estuary from upriver appear to have stalled and may in some cases be headed in the wrong direction. While some water quality indicators have improved in the upper part of the estuary, many of them, particularly water clarity and the amount of algal growth, still do not meet habitat requirements throughout the estuary as a whole. The level of dissolved oxygen, while currently sufficient to support aquatic life, appears to be in decline at some spots in the estuary.

The success of efforts to reduce nutrients and sediment that wash off urban or agricultural land with stormflow – or nutrients that enter the groundwater and gradually re-emerge into surface waters – is still uncertain. The Chain Bridge fall line data are difficult to interpret and may be complicated by significant lag times between when pollutants originally leave the land surface and when they show up in surface waters. What is certain is that additional effort to reduce these nonpoint sources will be needed to achieve the river's long-term water quality goals.

## Future Fact Sheets

COG staff will explore further aspects of water quality in the Potomac in future updates to this fact sheet. Subsequent updates will explore the water quality data in more detail, examine the link between the water quality in local streams and the river, and address the other actions local governments are taking to improve water quality.

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## COG's Water Resources

The Department of Environmental Programs (DEP), Water Resources Program assists COG's local government members, and affiliated wastewater treatment and drinking water utilities, with protecting, restoring, and conserving the region's water resources as well as addressing the policy and technical implications of various state and federal initiatives that have water quality impacts. Visit our [Web Site](#) for additional information about our program and regional activities.

## For additional information

For detailed information, additional charts and graphs please visit COG's website to download the [Potomac River Water Quality in the Washington Region Fact Sheet](#):

[http://www.mwcog.org/environment/water/downloads/Potomac%20WQ%20factsheet\\_January%202014.pdf](http://www.mwcog.org/environment/water/downloads/Potomac%20WQ%20factsheet_January%202014.pdf).





## **AGENDA ITEM #9**

# **RECOMMENDATION FOR MARKET-BASED SALARY ADJUSTMENT FOR COG EMPLOYEES FOR FY 2015**

**Resolution R48-2014  
June 11, 2014**

**METROPOLITAN WASHINGTON COUNCIL OF GOVERNMENTS  
777 NORTH CAPITOL STREET, N.E.  
WASHINGTON, DC 20002**

**RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING A GENERAL SALARY STRUCTURE INCREASE FOR COG EMPLOYEES AND  
RELATED SALARY ACTIONS FOR FY 2015**

**WHEREAS**, the Metropolitan Washington Council of Governments (COG) has established a salary structure and pay-for-performance process for its employees; and

**WHEREAS**, in 2000, the Board of Directors authorized staff to conduct a yearly market-based salary study to enable COG to attract and retain high qualified staff to provide the best service to its member jurisdictions; and

**WHEREAS**, market-based salary studies have been conducted on an annual basis, and the 2014 study has been performed by the Office of Human Resources Management with analytical support from an external consulting firm, using benchmark salary data from COG member governments, major regional councils, and other nonprofit organizations; and

**WHEREAS**, a market-based salary adjustment effective on July 1, 2014 will help promote employee retention and aid in recruitment; and is fully supported by budgeted revenue.

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS OF THE METROPOLITAN  
WASHINGTON COUNCIL OF GOVERNMENTS THAT:**

1. Effective July 1, 2014, COG employees shall receive a two (2) percent general across the board salary structure increase.
2. The Executive Director is authorized to take appropriate actions consistent with the above, including adjustments of salary ranges, internal review of affected positions, and conducting yearly follow up salary and benefits study consistent with past compensation practices.



## **AGENDA ITEM #10**

## **OTHER BUSINESS**

**(No attachment)**





## **AGENDA ITEM #11**

**ADJOURN – THE NEXT MEETING  
IS WEDNESDAY JULY 9, 2014**

**(No attachment)**