



EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S REPORT

November 2015

COMMITTEE WORK FEATURE OUTREACH CALENDAR MEDIA

Policy Boards & Committees

NATIONAL CAPITAL REGION TRANSPORTATION PLANNING BOARD (TPB)

The TPB approved the 2015 Amendment to the Constrained Long-Range Transportation Plan, which includes all regionally significant transportation projects and programs that are planned in metropolitan Washington through 2040. The amendment featured a variety of updates, including a Virginia proposal to add express lanes and bus service on I-66 inside and outside of the Beltway.

CLIMATE, ENERGY, AND ENVIRONMENT POLICY COMMITTEE (CEEPC)

CEEPC received updates on the Climate and Energy Leadership Awards, the draft Climate and Energy Progress Report, as well as the work of the Multi-Sector Work Group focused on reducing greenhouse gas emissions. CEEPC was also briefed on COG's Cooperative Purchasing program, which generates significant discounts for member governments. CEEPC members asked COG staff to share with them information on the next Chief Purchasing Officers Committee meeting to discuss new contracts for environmentally friendly ice melt, lamps, and batteries and to explore other opportunities.

REGION FORWARD COALITION

The coalition met in Tysons and discussed the area's plans to transform from a suburban jobs center to a walkable, transit-oriented city. Topics included housing affordability, pedestrian mobility, and the speed and intensity of redevelopment. The coalition also discussed a draft outline for a COG economic competitiveness report and considered a range of economic indicators like transportation, poverty, and housing affordability.



Member Feature:

Q&A WITH BRUCE WILLIAMS

City of Takoma Park Mayor Bruce Williams will leave office when his term ends in November. We sat down with Williams to discuss his long career in public service and the lessons that he has learned as the longest-serving current member of the COG Board of Directors.

Credit: Bill Petros

[CLICK HERE FOR THE Q&A, VIDEO](#)

IRE GRADUATION

COG honored Falls Church City Manager Wyatt Shields with its Institute for Regional Excellence (IRE) Visionary Leadership Award during the graduation ceremony of new Certified Public Managers of the institute. A total of 30 managers graduated from IRE, a partnership between COG and the George Washington University.

LEADERSHIP GREATER WASHINGTON - REGION FORWARD DAY

COG hosted the Leadership Greater Washington Class of 2016 for a special Region Forward Day. COG Executive Director Chuck Bean gave an overview about COG and its vision plan.

ANNUAL WINTER WEATHER BRIEFING

COG hosted the U.S. Office of Personnel Management, National Weather Service, public information officers, and emergency management and transportation agencies to discuss the upcoming winter and review emergency coordination and communication plans.

METRO SAFETY COMMISSION

COG's Nicholas Ramfos and Travis Johnston attended an FTA-sponsored State Safety Oversight (SSO) Program Managers meeting in Baltimore to share information on the startup of an SSO program. COG is helping establish an SSO, the Metro Safety Commission, for the region's transit system.

SOLAR PROJECTS

COG's Jeff King also participated in the final in-person meeting of the Solar Ready II project team, which brought together partners from NARC, MARC (Kansas City's COG), and other groups to discuss best practices on growing and streamlining regional solar markets.

INTERNATIONAL CITY/COUNTY MANAGEMENT ASSOCIATION, STATE DEPARTMENT FELLOWS

COG is hosting two international fellows from the Philippines and Singapore until early November. The fellows are working with COG's water program and climate and energy team.

CLEAN TECH FORUM

Following the nation's first Smart Cities Week in the District of Columbia, public and private sector leaders came together at COG to identify clean technology opportunities. [CLICK HERE FOR THE BLOG](#)

AMERICA RECYCLES DAY

COG is holding an America Recycles Day regional drawing on November 15 and encouraging people pledge online at the national site or at local events. [CLICK HERE TO VISIT THE COG EVENT PAGE](#)



Heart of COG: **JENNIFER SCHITTER AND HOW COG PROMOTES REGIONAL COORDINATION ON HEALTH**

Improving the region's readiness and response to communicable diseases as well as addressing other public health concerns requires close coordination. COG Principal Health Planner Jennifer Schitter helps ensure that this coordination happens, harnessing big data to paint a more accurate picture of health in the region.

[CLICK HERE FOR THE FEATURE](#)

ANNIVERSARY CELEBRATION: THE TPB IS TURNING 50 (PRE-TPB MEETING EVENT) - November 18

TRANSPORTATION PLANNING BOARD - November 18

CHESAPEAKE BAY AND WATER RESOURCES POLICY COMMITTEE: WATER QUALITY FORUM WITH EPA AND THE STATES - November 20

HUMAN SERVICES AND PUBLIC SAFETY POLICY COMMITTEE - November 20

COG ANNUAL MEETING - December 9

[CLICK HERE FOR MORE ABOUT THESE AND OTHER COG MEETINGS & EVENTS](#)

I-66 CHANGES, PAPAL VISIT STUDY DRAW ATTENTION AT TPB MEETING

ABC7, WTOP, WAMU, and The Washington Post covered the TPB vote on the long-range plan, which included changes to I-66. In addition, WTOP and The Washington Post featured a TPB Weekly Report showing sharp drops in rush-hour congestion on area roadways during the Papal visit. [CLICK HERE FOR THE WASHINGTON POST PAPAL VISIT STORY](#)

FIRE CHIEFS HIGHLIGHT SAFETY TIPS AT PRESS CONFERENCE

On the Friday before Halloween, area fire chiefs gathered at COG for a press conference on fire safety, which was covered by NBC4, ABC7, Univision, CTV, and WTOP. [CLICK HERE FOR THE WTOP STORY](#)

CONFERENCE HIGHLIGHTS LATINO HEALTH ISSUES

COG Human Services and Public Safety Committee Chairman Walter Tejada of the Arlington County Board summarized key points from the conference during interviews with Univision and El Zol 107.9 FM. [CLICK HERE FOR THE UNIVISION STORY](#)

METRORAIL COMMUNICATIONS STUDY CALLS FOR NEW EQUIPMENT, COORDINATION

COG Deputy Executive Director Stuart Freudberg was interviewed by ABC7, WTOP, and WAMU about the study led by the COG Fire Chiefs Committee and DC Homeland Security and Emergency Management Agency. [CLICK HERE FOR THE WTOP STORY](#)



Media Highlight:
BUSINESS JOURNAL FEATURES RECENT COG WORK ON ECONOMIC COMPETITIVENESS

Chuck Bean, the Board of Trade's Jim Dinegar, and 2030 Group's Bob Buchanan were interviewed as part of an in-depth feature on regional cooperation on economic development.

Credit: Joan S. Lawton - WBJ

[CLICK HERE FOR THE WASHINGTON BUSINESS JOURNAL COVER STORY](#)