



## MEMORANDUM

**TO:** COG Board of Directors  
**FROM:** Chuck Bean, COG Executive Director  
**SUBJECT:** Executive Director's Report – April 2022  
**DATE:** April 6, 2022

## POLICY BOARD & COMMITTEE UPDATES

**National Capital Region Transportation Planning Board (TPB)** – In March, the TPB adopted four resolutions amending the *FY 2022 Unified Planning Work Program (UPWP)* and approving the *FY 2023 UPWP*, *FY 2023 Commuter Connections Work Program*, and 2022 transit asset management targets. TPB members also held a Q&A with staff on the draft *2022 Update of the Bicycle and Pedestrian Plan for the National Capital Region*, expressing interest in how e-bikes might affect network needs, micromobility, pedestrian-oriented development, equity, and safety. The board was also briefed on the draft Round 9.2 COG Cooperative Forecasts and recent market observations related to return-to-work patterns and the effects of COVID-19 on employment and housing forecasts.



**POLICY COMMITTEES ADVANCE REGIONAL GOALS**  
COG's policy board and committees are tracking and advising on many legislative priorities, like transportation funding, air quality, water quality, climate and energy, and human services, as well as advancing several efforts that contribute to priorities in COG's *Region United* planning framework.

[Learn more about the board/committee work](#)

**Chesapeake Bay and Water Resources Policy Committee (CBPC)** – At its March meeting, CBPC received a briefing on winter salt pilot programs in the region and COVID-19 wastewater surveillance. Members were also briefed on potential areas for policy consideration within the Chesapeake Bay Program.

**Climate, Energy, and Environment Policy Committee (CEEPC)** – In March, CEEPC continued its series on local climate and energy action planning with presentations from the City of Rockville and Prince George's County. COG Executive Director Chuck Bean presented on *Region United* and discussed implementation of the COG Board's climate priorities for 2022.

**Human Services Policy Committee (HSPC)** – At its March meeting, HSPC received an overview of COG's Housing Targets and were briefed on local housing efforts in Prince George's County. Members were also briefed on *Region United*.

## OUTREACH & PROGRAM HIGHLIGHTS

**2030 Framework** – COG Executive Director Chuck Bean presented *Region United* to the Cities of Manassas and Manassas Park.

**Housing** –COG Community Planning and Services Director Paul DesJardin presented an overview of COG’s Housing Targets at Fairfax County’s Housing Symposium and to Prince William County’s Planning Commission. COG Housing Programs Director Hilary Chapman participated in the National Housing Conference’s “Solutions for Housing Communications” event.

**Economy** – Paul DesJardin presented a summary of regional economic trends to the Montgomery County Council.

**Food & Agriculture** –COG Regional Food Systems Planner Lindsay Smith along with Maryland Food Bank and the DC Homeland Security and Emergency Management Agency briefed the Charles County Board of County Commissioners on the impact of COVID-19 on food security, regional response, and food resiliency planning.

In collaboration with the Institute for Public Health Innovation, COG staff helped plan and facilitate a Food Policy Directors Roundtable. Approximately 45 participants heard from speakers from Arlington County, the District of Columbia, Fairfax County, Montgomery County, Prince George’s County, and Prince William County about the state of the region’s food system, common practices and lessons learned, and opportunities for learning, engagement, and coordination.

## MEDIA HIGHLIGHTS

**Travel Trends** - *As workers return to the office, experts see early signs of more driving*

[The Washington Post](#) – [Quotes COG Deputy Executive Director for Metropolitan Planning Kanti Srikanth and Planning Data and Research Program Director Tim Canan](#)

**Population & Employment Trends** - *Prince George’s County is steadily absorbing movers from D.C.*

[Washington Business Journal](#) – [Quotes COG Department of Community Planning and Services Director Paul DesJardin](#)



**PODCAST: ELECTRIC VEHICLES IN THE DMV**  
On this episode of *Think Regionally*, host Robert McCartney talks with leaders in the government, business, and non-profit sectors, including COG Board member and Montgomery County Executive Marc Elrich about electric vehicles and alternative fuels as important solutions to fight climate change.

[Listen to the episode or read the transcript](#)