

Governance Work Group WMATA Governance Reform Phase I Recommendations

Presentation to the
National Capital Region Transportation Planning Board
September 21, 2011

Overview

- ▶ Background
 - Formation of the Governance Work Group
- ▶ Progress by WMATA Board
- ▶ Phase I Draft Report/Findings & Recommendations
- ▶ Phase II Recommendations
- ▶ Public Comments
- ▶ Next Steps

Governance Work Group

- ▶ January, 2011: The three WMATA Signatories established the Governance Work Group (GWG)
 - The GWG consists of the transportation executives from Maryland, Virginia and the District of Columbia.
- ▶ WMATA Governance Reform Implementation Plan – released January, 2011
 - Identified three Phases of Recommendations and Implementation Options over 24 months.

Progress by WMATA Board

- ▶ Governance Committee
- ▶ Comprehensive self-review
- ▶ First-ever Bylaws
 - Roles and Responsibilities
 - Eliminated annual rotation of Chair
 - Anticipated increase in Chair Term
 - Roles and Responsibilities of Chair
 - Advance Notice Requirement: Jurisdictional Veto
 - Public input at Committee meetings
- ▶ Revised Procedures
- ▶ Strategic Planning sessions

Governance Work Group

- ▶ **Phase I Recommendations Draft Report**
 - Released by the GWG on July 21, 2011 for a 30-day Public Comment period.

- ▶ **Phase II Recommendations**
 - Currently under discussion;
 - Will include the drafting of and advocating for any legislation that was recommended by Phase I, in addition to resolving the items that remain open for further discussion.

- ▶ **Phase III** – the GWG continue to advocate for and enact any necessary legislation at the state and federal level and seek to implement any necessary Compact amendments.

Phase I Report Draft Findings/Recommendations

- ▶ Aim to improve leadership, regional, high-level policy focus, accountability and transparency.
 - Board member terms and term limits
 - Board Chair term
 - Board member qualifications and reporting requirements:
 - ridership, attendance
 - Overall Board composition
 - annual review by Signatories and Executives
 - High-level policy and regional focus
 - Frequency of meetings
 - Compensation: public disclosure
 - Enhance oversight authority of the TOC
 - Orientation Program
 - Public input process
 - Use of Executive Sessions

Phase II Recommendations

- ▶ Currently under discussion by the GWG and the Executives
- ▶ Includes the drafting of and advocating for any legislation that was recommended in Phase I, in addition to resolving any items that remain open for further discussion, such as:
 - Role of alternates
 - Size of Board
 - Jurisdictional Veto – appropriate use

Public Comments Received

- ▶ Public Comments received from just 3 groups
- ▶ Overall – supportive of the Phase I Recommendations
- ▶ Overview of issues raised:
 - Public reports (ridership, attendance, annual work plan)
 - Define “experience”
 - Value of representation by elected officials
 - Board member term limits (Pros/Cons)
 - Chair term limits (Pros/Cons)
 - *Phase II issues:*
 - Jurisdictional Veto (retain/eliminate)
 - Role of Alternates/ Size of Board (retain/modify)
 - Uniform Compensation
 - Chairman appointed from outside the Board

Next Steps

- ▶ Provide the Governors and Mayor with consensus recommendations on the Phase I topics in time for the development of legislation to be considered in early 2012.
- ▶ The GWG will continue to engage with Board members and the Governance Committee to ensure
 - that the positive steps outlined in the new Bylaws and revised Procedures are fully implemented moving forward, and
 - that the Board's strategic planning sessions culminate in a successful, regional vision and mission for the agency.
- ▶ We will continue to seek input from interested stakeholders as we further evaluate the policy issues that require further discussion at this point.

Thank You

- ▶ Questions or Comments– Please feel free to contact us

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