



Local governments working together for a better metropolitan region

COG BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING

*District of Columbia
Bladensburg*
Bowie
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*

DATE: Wednesday, November 8, 2006
TIME: 12:00 Noon
PLACE: COG Board Room

PLEASE NOTE: Chair Fisetto will begin the meeting promptly at Noon.
Lunch for members and alternates will be available at 11:30 a.m.

A G E N D A

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

**Chair Jay Fisetto
Board Member, Arlington County**

- 2. APPROVAL OF MINUTES OF October 11, 2006
(12:00 – 12:05 p.m.)**

- 3. ANNOUNCEMENTS
(12:05 – 12:15 p.m.)**

Chair Fisetto

- A) COG GO Recycle Radio Campaign**
- B) Presentation of Certificate to Giant Food for Wise Water Campaign**
- C) Executive Director's Report**
 - a. Outreach**
 - b. Letters Sent/Received**
 - c. Legislative Report Update**

- 4. AMENDMENTS TO AGENDA
(12:15 – 12:20 p.m.)**

- 5. ADOPTION OF CONSENT AGENDA ITEMS
(12:20 – 12:25 p.m.)**

RECOMMENDED ACTION: Adopt Consent Agenda Items 12.A. & 12.B.

**Adjunct member*

**6. 2006 LONG RANGE TRANSPORTATION PLAN AND TRANSPORTATION/LAND USE CONNECTION PILOT PROGRAM
(12:25 – 12:45 p.m.)**

**Michael Knapp
Chairman
Transportation Planning Board**

**Ronald Kirby
Director of Transportation Planning, COG**

At its meeting on October 18, the National Capital Region Transportation Planning Board (TPB) approved the 2006 update to the region's Financially Constrained Long Range Transportation Plan (CLRP), and also approved a new Transportation/Land Use Connection (TLC) pilot program designed to strengthen the linkages between transportation and land use planning. The Board will be briefed on the content and performance of the 2006 CLRP, and on the rationale and structure for the new TLC pilot program, which is scheduled to begin on January 1, 2007.

RECOMMENDED ACTION: Receive briefing.

**7. DEVELOPMENT OF REGIONAL GREEN BUILDING POLICIES AND BEST PRACTICES GUIDELINES
(12:45 – 1:00 p.m.)**

**Stuart Freudberg
Director of Environmental Programs, COG**

**Joan Kelsch
Interim Chair, Intergovernmental Green Building Group
Environmental Planner, Arlington County**

In June, 2006 Chair Jay Fiset announced a goal of promoting Green Building policies and practices in the Washington region. This effort supports the Board's focus on growth and development and provides environmental and energy friendly methods for supporting sustainable development in the region, consistent with COG's Strategic Plan. On September 29th, COG's "Regional Leadership Conference on Green Building" was held with over 300 attendees from the public and private sectors. The conference focused on a review of local and national Green Building best management practices, policies, regulations and legislation. In addition, several COG members have adopted or will soon adopt legislation encouraging or requiring Green Building practices for government and private sector construction. The COG Board is requested to adopt resolution R55-06, which supports the development of regional Green Building policies and best practice guidelines, establishes a special ad hoc elected official advisory committee, and adopts the existing Intergovernmental Green Building Group (IGBG) as a COG technical committee.

RECOMMENDED ACTION: Adopt Resolution R55-06.

**8. REVIEW AND ADOPTION OF COG 2006 ENERGY STRATEGIC PLAN
(1:00 – 1:15 p.m.)**

**James Gorby, Fairfax County
Chair, CAOs Energy Advisory Committee**

**George Nichols
Principal Environmental Planner, COG**

The CAOs Energy Advisory Committee (EAC) recently completed its recommendations for an Energy Strategic Plan (Plan) for the National Capital Region. The Plan outlines an energy vision and mission for the region, and expands existing regional energy and environmental goals. The Plan also identifies potential initiatives to address the region's diversity of energy sources, help manage energy demand, mitigate the effects of energy disruption and enhance overall environmental quality. Development of the Energy Strategic Plan was identified last year by the COG Board of Directors as a 2006 priority. In June, 2006 the COG Board recommended that the draft Plan be transmitted to local governments and other stakeholders for a 90 day comment period prior to COG Board action in November 2006. The CAOs Energy Advisory Committee (EAC) has revised the Plan based on local government feedback. The Plan has also been reviewed by the Chief Administrative Officers Committee. Both the EAC and the CAOs recommend adoption by the COG Board.

RECOMMENDED ACTION: Adopt Resolution R56-06 and COG 2006 Energy Strategic Plan.

**9. AIR QUALITY PLANNING: LOCAL GOVERNMENT INITIATIVES/COMMITMENTS
(1:15 – 1:25 p.m.)**

**Hon. Phil Mendelson
Chair
Metropolitan Washington Air Quality Committee**

The Metropolitan Washington Air Quality Committee (MWAQC) is currently finalizing a regional plan to meet the ozone standard by 2009. Local government programs such as purchase of alternative energy and energy performance contracting help improve air quality and can be included as measures in the plan. Staff has collected information from local jurisdictions regarding the programs that have in place and plan to adopt before 2009. Jurisdictions must send official commitment letters to the state air agencies by the end of December for these measures to be included in the new plan. MWAQC expects to have a draft of the new ozone plan ("SIP") by January next year.

Mr. Mendelson will brief the COG Board on the survey of local government programs and ask approval of a resolution urging local government commitment to these efforts to improve air quality.

RECOMMENDED ACTION: Receive briefing and adopt Resolution R57-06.

**10. REVIEW AND ACTION ON BUDGET AND FISCAL MATTERS
(1:25 – 1:45 p.m.)**

The COG Board of Directors will be asked to review and act on several pending budget and fiscal matters:

(A) FY 2006 Fourth Quarter Financial Report

**Dr. Jacqueline Brown
CAO, Prince George's County
COG Secretary-Treasurer**

The COG Board will be briefed on COG's FY 2006 fourth quarter financial report.

RECOMMENDED ACTION: Receive report.

(B) Acceptance of FY 2006 Audit

**Abdool Akhran
Bert Smith and Company**

Bert Smith and Company performed COG's FY 2006 audit. A draft of the audit was presented to the Budget and Finance Committee at its October 11 meeting. Bert Smith and Company provided a "clean" audit for COG.

RECOMMENDED ACTION: Receive FY 2006 Audit.

(C) Approval of FY 2008 Work Program and Budget

**David Robertson
Executive Director**

The Budget and Finance Committee met on September 13 and October 11 to review the proposed General Local Contribution fee schedule and the proposed work program and budget for FY 2008, which begins July 1, 2007 and concludes June 30, 2008. The Committee recommended COG Board approval of the FY 2008 Work Program and Budget. Mr. Robertson will brief the COG Board on the proposed FY 2008 Work Program and Budget and significant changes from the current fiscal year. The COG Board will be asked to recommend adoption of the proposed FY 2008 Work Program and Budget by the general membership at the annual membership and awards luncheon on December 13 and to adopt Resolution R58-06, transmitting the proposed FY 2008 Work Program and Budget to member governments and officials.

RECOMMENDED ACTION: Adopt Resolution R58-06.

**11. BOARD DISCUSSION TIME
(1:45 – 2:00 p.m.)**

Chairman Fisette and Board members

At its July retreat, the COG Board of Directors requested that a block of time be set aside for general Board discussion at each of its monthly meetings; to be piloted in September and until modified. COG retreat participants recommended this step in order to allow for a more timely review of emerging issues and provide an opportunity for members to raise new business or briefly discuss issues of potential interest and action by COG. Chairman Fisette will invite Board members to share successful best practices and program issues of concern or opportunities for greater regional and COG engagement.

12. CONSENT AGENDA

A. RESOLUTION ENDORSING WILDLIFE-VEHICLE COLLISION AVOIDANCE POLICY STATEMENT AND WILDLIFE-VEHICLE COLLISION REDUCTION WORKING GROUP REPORT

COG's Animal Services Committee, Wildlife-Vehicle Collision Reduction Working Group, supports the recognition of wildlife-vehicle collisions as a public safety issue that impacts people, animals and property. The COG Animal Services Committee, Wildlife-Vehicle Collision Reduction Working Group, recommends that immediate action be taken by jurisdictions to create a seasonal awareness program centered on strong local public messages to include public service announcements on radio and local media coverage, to develop and deliver a comprehensive deer collision driver education package, and to support the creation of a standard for collecting and analyzing deer collision information that is to be implemented throughout the region. In addition, the Working Group requests consideration for recommendations on mitigation, planning and research as outlined in the September 2006 *Deer Vehicle Collision Report*.

RECOMMENDED ACTION: Approve Resolution R59-06.

B. RESOLUTION OPPOSING FUTURE LEGISLATION EQUATING PAWN SHOPS TO FINANCIAL INSTITUTIONS

Language proposed in a recent Congressional bill would have essentially extended bank-applicable individual transaction confidentiality to pawnshops and pawn transactions. In the view of law enforcement this would eviscerate the concepts and capacities of the project (Regional Pawn Data Sharing System/RPDSS) and would preclude its replication in other regions. In short, this would render RPDSS ineffective as a law enforcement investigatory tool. There has been a flurry of activity back and forth across the country in law enforcement circles expressing concern about this language and the movement by the National Pawnbrokers Association (NPA) to obstruct the use of systems like RPDSS. Although this language has now been pulled from the House Bill, law enforcement must stand ready for the next actions from the NPA to impede this formidable investigatory tool that will assist law enforcement in the protection of people and property in this region. Law enforcement requests your opposition to any future legislation equating pawn shops to financial institutions and recognition and support of RPDSS as an appropriate and effective initiative.

RECOMMENDED ACTION: Approve Resolution R60-06.

THE NEXT BOARD MEETING WILL BE ON WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 10, 2007.



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. For details: www.mwkog.org.