



GreaterWashington2050

E-Update No. 7 – December 18, 2008

Dear Greater Washington 2050 Coalition Members and Friends:

The Greater Washington 2050 Coalition hosted a compelling look into the future on November 20 when it sponsored a Scenarios Thinking Workshop along with the D.C. Office of Planning and the National Capital Planning Commission.

Kojo Nnamdi of WAMU moderated an outstanding panel comprised of Alice Rivlin of the Brookings Institute, William Halal of George Washington University, and Anna Motschenbacher of the Pew Center on Global Climate Change. These futurists examined the regional that might be some 40 years from now. Participants then considered four challenging visions of the future: high tech green; federal government dispersal; hot and gridlocked; and cooperation in hard times. The heavy lift came when participants worked to shape those futures and in some cases, conceive of actions that could change the future. All in all, it was an amazing discussion and the outcomes will be used to test and further shape the outcomes of the Greater Washington 2050 Coalition in 2009. All information on the Scenario Thinking Workshop including a podcast of the expert panel is posted on www.greaterwashington2050.org.

October 24 Meeting Outcomes

- The Coalition adopted the draft principles as recommended by the Planning Principles Task Force. Although Coalition members acknowledge further changes to principles may occur as the Coalition's work comes together, the Coalition's action will help the Compact Task Force to make further progress on its areas of responsibility
- The Compact Task Force has largely completed the framework for what a regional compact might look like. The Task Force also has begun to address what combination of public sector and private sector stakeholders might be asked to approve or endorse the compact. Lastly, the Task Force is grappling with how what type of regional development actions could be shaped by the compact. Further work on the compact will be a major focus for the Coalition in early 2009.
- The Planning Tools Task Force is to be congratulated for its very successful Scenarios Thinking Workshop described above. Additionally, the Task Force is developing metrics or other benchmarks that can be used to measure progress in achieving adopted principles.
- Following the recommendation of the Communications and Outreach Task Force, COG selected OPINION WORKS to conduct an attitudinal survey on a wide-range of regional issues in the National Capital Region in January 2009. The Task Force has met several time with OPINION WORKS representative and also sponsored several focus groups to help shape survey questions. The survey is taking final shape and is expected to "go in the field" in early January, with preliminary results as early as the next Coalition meeting.

Next Full Coalition Meeting/Please Mark Your Calendar

Date/Time: Friday, January 30; 9:45 a.m. to 12:00 noon

Location: COG Third Floor Board Room