

**Metropolitan Development Policy Committee
Meeting Summary
March 9, 2005**

1. Call to Order, Approval of the January 12, 2005 Meeting Summary, and Announcements

Chair Hewlett called the meeting of the MDPC to order at 10:00 a.m. The January 12, 2005 meeting summary was approved. Paul DesJardin of the COG staff distributed copies of the updated work program for the COG Board's Policy Focus on Growth. Mr. DesJardin noted that staff had also distributed a summary of the dissemination to date of the "Smart Growth Begins at the Local Level" video CD project. Keith Fleury of the COG staff discussed the proposed public education campaign of the Washington Area Housing Partnership and indicated that staff was seeking MDPC members to serve on the advisory committee for the project.

2. Report of the February 2005 meeting of the Metropolitan Development Citizens Advisory Committee (MDCAC)

Chair Lee Quill discussed the status of the MDCAC and indicated that Committee was seeking new appointments for 2005. Mr. Quill also stated that the Committee had lost several key members and would devote the next meeting of the group to developing work program items.

3. Review and Approval of the Round 7.0 Cooperative Forecasts

Planning Directors Technical Advisory Committee (PDTAC) Chairman James Zook stated that since 2002, the Cooperative Forecasting Subcommittee of the Planning Directors Technical Advisory Committee has been working on the first major update to the Cooperative Forecasts since 1999 – "Round 7". Mr. Zook stated that this work includes recalibration of COG's Regional Econometric Forecasting Model through an examination of national and regional job growth by industry, as well as the evaluation of other "key factors" of economic and demographic change that will determine our region's economic growth. Mr. Zook stated that during their February 11 meeting, the PDTAC recommended approval of the draft Round 7.0 Cooperative Forecasts. Mr. Zook stated that PDTAC members agreed that the Round 7.0 Forecasts were the most reasonable projections given current plans and zoning, following a discussion concerning the jobs and housing imbalance noted by the D.C. Office of Planning staff for the 2020 to 2030 forecast period. Following extensive discussions on the jobs and housing imbalance issue, MDPC members approved the draft Round 7.0 Forecasts for use by the TPB subject to a minor technical revision to the employment projections for Fort Belvoir area and work by the PDTAC to assess the transportation, air, water quality and other potential implications of the projections. Councilmember Schlichting agreed to convey the concerns of the Committee members to the COG Board during their noon meeting.

4. Update on "Reality Check on Growth" Event and Proposed Next Steps

Len Forkas, Chairman of ULI Washington stated that on February 2, the Washington District Council of the Urban Land Institute (ULI Washington) hosted “Reality Check on Growth” - a one-day participatory GIS-based exercise similar to those recently completed in Los Angeles and Utah. Mr. Forkas stated that nearly 300 regional political, business, development, community, and environmental participated in exercise to collaboratively analyze and develop alternative growth scenarios for our rapidly growing region and that nearly 850 people in total attended the event. Mr. Forkas distributed a PowerPoint handout and stated that ULI Washington planned to release a report on April 19 summarizing the event, and the ULI and the Smart Growth Alliance were working to seek partners for the next steps in the exercise. Committee members suggested that it would be important to determine and share the what outcomes or changes occurred in other regions due to their local “visioning” efforts.

5. Briefing on Outcomes from November 8 “Surviving Security” Conference

Ms. Koster of the NCPC staff stated that on November 8, 2004, the National Capital Planning Commission (NCPC), COG, the Greater Washington Board of Trade, and the Federal Facilities Council jointly-sponsored *Surviving Security: Building Federal/Local Partnerships in the Region*. Ms. Koster stated that the conference brought together senior public and private-sector leaders to examine the planning, urban design, and transportation system impacts of the federal government in our region in a post-9/11 environment. Ms. Koster summarized the panel discussions from the conference and distributed a written summary of the sessions.

6. HUD Regulatory Barriers Clearinghouse

The U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) established the Regulatory Barriers Clearinghouse to provide information to localities and states in identifying and overcoming regulatory barriers to affordable housing. The Clearinghouse is Web-based and collects and disseminates information on the barriers. Mr. Zachmann and Mr. Houle will give an overview of the Clearinghouse and other services, and answer questions that Committee members might have concerning the program.

7. Other Business

There was no other business.

8. Adjournment

There were no additional items. Chair Hewlett adjourned the meeting at 11:50. The next meeting of the Committee is scheduled for May 11, 2005 at 10:00 a.m.