![Metropolitan Washington Council of Governments logo]

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Wednesday, April 12, 2023
12:00 P.M. - 2:00 P.M.
Walter A. Scheiber Board Room

Virtual participation available for members upon request
Public livestream on website

AGENDA

12:00 P.M.   **1. CALL TO ORDER**
Kate Stewart, COG Board Chair

12:05 P.M.   **2. CHAIR'S REPORT**
Kate Stewart, COG Board Chair

A. Loudoun County Farm Tour – May 12
B. COG Leadership Retreat – July 14-15

12:10 P.M.   **3. EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S REPORT**
Clark Mercer, COG Executive Director

12:15 P.M.   **4. AMENDMENTS TO THE AGENDA**
Kate Stewart, COG Board Chair

5. APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES FROM MARCH 8, 2023
Kate Stewart, COG Board Chair

Recommended Action: Approve minutes.

6. ADOPTION OF CONSENT AGENDA ITEMS
Kate Stewart, COG Board Chair

A. Resolution R14-2023 – Resolution authorizing COG to purchase two COG vehicles
B. Resolution R15-2023 – Resolution acknowledging receipt of the COG contract list for January – March 2023

Recommended Action: Adopt Resolutions R14-2023 – R15-2023.

12:20 P.M. **7. COG REGIONAL COOPERATIVE FORECASTS ON EMPLOYMENT, POPULATION & HOUSEHOLDS**
Paul DesJardin, COG Director of Community Planning & Services
Greg Goodwin, COG Senior Regional Planner
Anthony Fusarelli, Co-Chair COG Planning Directors Committee, Arlington County Planning Director
Sakina Khan, Co-Chair COG Planning Directors Committee, District of Columbia Office of Planning Deputy Director

The board will be briefed on the draft regional Round 10 Cooperative Forecasts on long- term growth in employment, population, and household forecasts. The briefing will provide an overview of the typical forecasting process, additional examination of potential long-term effects of the COVID-19 pandemic on future growth, and draft forecasts at the regional level.

Recommended Action: Receive briefing and discuss.

1:05 P.M. **8. ELECTRONIC REGISTRATION INFORMATION CENTER**
Chris Piper, The Elections Group Chief Operating Officer

The board will discuss regional participation in the Electronic Registration Information Center (ERIC), a multi-state partnership to share voter registration data.

Recommended Action: Discuss and adopt Resolution R16-2023.

1:25 P.M. **9. COG CHIEF EQUITY OFFICERS COMMITTEE**
Karla Bruce, Fairfax County Chief Equity Officer
Tyree Davis IV, City of Rockville Advisor to City Manager for Justice, Equity Diversity & Inclusion
Dr. Amber A. Hewitt, District of Columbia Chief Equity Officer

The board will be briefed by the co-chairs of the Chief Equity Officers Committee on their regional work and local actions to advance racial equity within member jurisdictions.

Recommended Action: Receive briefing and discuss.

1:55 P.M **10. OTHER BUSINESS**

2:00 P.M. **11. ADJOURN**
The next COG Board Meeting will take place virtually on Wednesday, May 10th from 12:00 – 2:00 P.M.

AGENDA ITEM #2

CHAIR'S REPORT

AGENDA ITEM #3

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S REPORT

Metropolitan Washington Council of Governments

MEMORANDUM

TO: COG Board of Directors
FROM: Clark Mercer, COG Executive Director
SUBJECT: Executive Director's Report – April 2023
DATE: April 5, 2023

POLICY BOARD & COMMITTEE UPDATES

National Capital Region Transportation Planning Board (TPB) – At its March 15 meeting, the TPB adopted its FY 2024 Unified Planning Work Program (UPWP) as well as the FY 2024 Commuter Connections Work Program. The board was briefed on the Environmental Justice analysis results of the 2022 update of the *Visualize 2045* long-range transportation plan. The analysis reports that the plan does not have a disproportionately high or significantly adverse impact on low-income and racial and ethnic minority population groups. In addition, TPB members were introduced to new COG Executive Director Clark Mercer.

Climate, Energy & Environment Policy Committee (CEEPC) – At its March meeting, CEEPC discussed the global Race to Zero Campaign and how COG and member goals, and high impact action areas compare. ICLEI's Local Government Budgeting for Climate Action Cohort was highlighted, and members expressed interest in a future regional cohort on this topic. Frederick and Loudoun Counties' plans for climate, energy, and electric vehicle planning were also presented.

Chesapeake Bay and Water Resources Policy Committee (CBPC) –CBPC wrapped up its review and advocacy regarding legislation in the state assemblies. In their March meeting, CBPC members were briefed about Charles County's innovative oyster restoration project producing stormwater program credits and were presented with key findings from the Hughes Center Maryland Forest and Tree Canopy Study.

PFAS Summit focuses on 'Forever Chemicals'
At a summit organized by COG and hosted at DC Water Headquarters in honor of World Water Day on March 22, water utility professionals, researchers, environmental advocates and experts, and local government staff gathered to learn more about PFAS, their presence in the environment, and regulatory and policy implications as the region works together to ensure safe and clean water for residents. Fairfax County Vice Chair and COG Board Member Penny Gross provided opening remarks.

Read the highlight.

OUTREACH & PROGRAM HIGHLIGHTS

Fair Housing – Throughout March, COG Housing Program Manager Hilary Chapman presented the draft *Regional Fair Housing Plan* to: Northern Virginia Association of Realtors, Arlington County Tenant's Commission, the Loudoun County Board of Supervisors Public Hearing on the draft plan, the Northern Virginia Regional Commission, the Purple Line Corridor Coalition, Fairfax County Public Hearings and Listening Sessions, and ULI Washington as part of a panel presentation. Housing Planner Shirin Wilkerson participated as panelist to brief the Montgomery County Council Housing Task Force on the COG Housing Targets on March 27.

Homeland Security and Public Safety -- On March 30, COG and the Baltimore Metropolitan Council convened the first joint meeting of their cybersecurity committees. Participants included the State of Maryland and nearly two dozen local jurisdictions, schools, public utilities, and public transportation agencies across the National Capital Region and Baltimore Metro Region. Topics discussed included cybersecurity insurance, information security and emergency management collaboration, how entities may leverage federal government services to mitigate risk, and opportunities for future regular collaboration.

BATTERY MANAGEMENT CAMPAIGN: On April 3, COG launched a four-week public education campaign sharing information about proper disposal of batteries and fire risks associated with batteries in the solid waste and recycling collection process. The campaign is sponsored by several area waste haulers and local jurisdictions' public works departments.

Learn more about the campaign.

Regional Transit – Deputy Executive Director Kanti Srikanth briefed the Maryland General Assembly's Transit Caucus on the state of transit in the region.

Commuting Trends – On March 14, COG Commuter Connections Director Nicholas Ramfos joined the Montgomery County Action Committee for Transit to share the results of the *2022 State of the Commute Survey*.

Water Resources – COG's Community Engagement Campaign announced the winners of the 2023 One Water Regional Art Contest. The contest was open to high school aged youth and submitted pieces highlighted the ways in which community members can protect and preserve the region's water sources. Read the highlight.

Electric Vehicles – The Regional Electric Vehicle Deployment Working Group convened for its first meeting on March 16. Committee members received a briefing on regional deployment of electric vehicles as a COG priority. Representatives from Virginia, Maryland, and D.C. Departments of Transportation presented their plans for NEVI Formula Funding Deployment.

MEDIA HIGHLIGHTS

Housing – COG's Regional Housing Targets and the *Regional Fair Housing Plan* continue to be referenced in conversations on the region's housing needs.

Washington Post – Editorial on Arlington's "Missing Middle".

Greater Greater Washington – shares info on "Missing Middle" vote.

Roadway Safety – "How Safe are our Roads?" Report and Regional Roadway Safety Program highlight work to improve the safety of the region's multi-modal transportation network.

Greater Greater Washington – coverage of Northern Virginia Families for Safer Streets' "Near Miss Dashboard" mentions COG roadway safety grants.

PODCAST: PRIORITIZING SAFETY ON OUR REGION'S ROADWAYS

In the latest episode of COG's podcast, Think Regionally, area officials discuss strategies like redesigning streets to be safer for all users, increasing public outreach and education, and using equity tools (like EEAs) to target historically underserved areas.

Listen to the episode/read the transcript.

AGENDA ITEM #4

AMENDMENTS TO THE AGENDA

AGENDA ITEM #5

APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES

METROPOLITAN WASHINGTON COUNCIL OF GOVERNMENTS
777 North Capitol Street, NE
Washington, D.C. 20002

MINUTES
COG Board of Directors Meeting
March 8, 2023

BOARD MEMBERS AND ALTERNATES: See attached chart for attendance.

SPEAKERS:

Evan Glass, Montgomery County Council President
Richard Keech, Loudoun County Office of Elections Deputy Registrar
Michael O'Connor, City of Frederick Mayor
Kanti Srikanth, COG Deputy Executive Director of Metropolitan Planning
Terri Stroud, District of Columbia Board of Elections General Counsel
Meredith R. Weisel, ADL DC Regional Director
Justin Wilson, City of Alexandria Mayor

1. CALL TO ORDER AND PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE
COG Board Chair Kate Stewart called the virtual meeting to order at 12:00 P.M. and led the Pledge of Allegiance.

2. CHAIR'S REPORT
A. Registration open for the COG Leadership Retreat – July 14-15 in Cambridge, Maryland

3. EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S REPORT
COG Executive Director Clark Mercer briefed the board on the following:
- Mr. Mercer is in the process of meeting with all COG staff members, board members, and external partners to get to know more about our COG's work, regional and local priorities.
- Regional Fair Housing Plan – Currently half way through the 60 day public comment period and encourage board members to amplify the need for community input.
- The Transportation Planning Board (TPB) is currently undergoing a federal certification review and kicking off Visualize 2050, the next Long-Range Transportation Plan.
- In March Mr. Mercer testified at the District of Columbia Council Performance Oversight Hearing and shared information on COG's priorities for the fiscal year.
- Mr. Mercer attending a ribbon cutting for the District of Columbia Homeland Security and Emergency Management Agency Operations Center.
- The first meeting of the COG Electric Vehicle Deployment Working Group will be held on March 26th to begin planning for regional deployment of electric vehicle infrastructure.
- Regional Summit on PFAS is taking place on March 22nd to learn about the policymaking implications related to PFAS "forever chemicals" used in industry and consumer products that enter the environment and water cycle.

4. AMENDMENTS TO AGENDA
There were no amendments to the agenda.

5. APPROVAL OF MINUTES
The minutes from the February 8, 2023 board meeting were approved.

6. ADOPTION OF CONSENT AGENDA ITEMS
There were no consent agenda items for approval on the agenda.

7. REGION UNITED: LOCAL EXAMPLES OF IMPLEMENTING EEAS
COG Deputy Executive Director Kanti Srikanth provided an overview of what Equity Emphasis Areas (EEAs) are and how the planning tool can be used in local plans and policies. Three board members: Alexandria Mayor Justin Wilson, Montgomery County Council President Evan Glass, and City of Frederick Mayor Michal O'Connor shared examples from how their respective jurisdictions are using EEAs in planning, zoning, housing and parks.

ACTION: Received briefing.

8. COG ELECTION OFFICIALS COMMITTEE REGIONAL UPDATE
The leadership of the COG Election Officials Committee, Loudoun County Office of Elections Deputy Registrar Richard Keech and District of Columbia Board of Elections General Counsel Terri Stroud briefed the board on plans for upcoming elections in the region.

ACTION: Received briefing.

9. FIGHTING HATE FOR GOOD: HOW TO SPEAK UP AGAINST THE RISING TIDE OF ANTISEMITISM, HATE AND EXTREMISM
ADL DC Regional Director Meredith Weisel briefed on the rising antisemitism, other forms of hate and extremism we are seeing throughout our communities and discuss what we can do together to combat this hate and extremism regionally.

ACTION: Received briefing.

10. OTHER BUSINESS
There was no other business.

11. ADJOURN
The meeting was adjourned at 2:04 P.M.

COG Board of Directors
March 8, 2023 Attendance

Jurisdiction	Member	Y/N	Alternate	Y/N
District of Columbia				
Executive	Hon. Muriel Bowser		Ms. Beverly Perry	Y
	Mr. Kevin Donahue		Mr. Eugene Kinlow	Y
Council	Hon. Phil Mendelson			
	Hon. Charles Allen	Y		
Maryland				
City of Bowie	Hon. Tim Adams	Y		
Charles County	Hon. Reuben Collins	Y	Hon. Thomasina Coates	P
City of Frederick	Hon. Michael O'Connor	Y	Hon. Kelly Russell	
Frederick County	Hon. Jessica Fitzwater	Y	Ms. Joy Schaefer	P
City of College Park	Hon. Denise Mitchell	Y		
City of Gaithersburg	Hon. Robert Wu		Hon. Neil Harris	
City of Greenbelt	Hon. Emmett Jordan	Y	Hon. Kristen Weaver	
City of Laurel	Hon. Craig Moe	Y	Hon. Keith Sydnor	
Montgomery County - Exec	Hon. Marc Elrich		Mr. Richard Madaleno Ms. Fariba Kassiri	Y
Montgomery County - Council	Hon. Evan Glass	Y		
Montgomery County - Council	Hon. Kate Stewart	Y		
Prince George's County - Exec	Hon. Angela Alsobrooks		Ms. Tara Jackson	Y
Prince George's County - Council	Hon. Tom Dernoga	Y		
Prince George's County - Council	Hon. Wala Blegay	Y		
City of Rockville	Hon. Bridget Donnell Newton	Y		
City of Takoma Park	Hon. Talisha Searcy	Y		
Maryland General Assembly	Hon. Brian Feldman			
Virginia				
City of Alexandria	Hon. Justin Wilson	Y	Hon. Kirk McPike	
Arlington County	Hon. Christian Dorsey	Y		
City of Fairfax	Hon. Catherine Read	Y		
Fairfax County	Hon. Jeff McKay		Hon. James Walkinshaw	
Fairfax County	Hon. Penelope Gross	Y	Hon. Daniel Storck	
Fairfax County	Hon. Rodney Lusk	Y	Hon. Walter Alcorn	
City of Falls Church	Hon. David Snyder		Hon. David Tarter	
Loudoun County	Hon. Juli Briskman	Y		
Loudoun County	Hon. Phyllis Randall	Y		
City of Manassas	Hon. Mark Wolfe	Y		
City of Manassas Park	Hon. Darryl Moore	Y		
Prince William County	Hon. Ann Wheeler	Y		
Prince William County	Hon. Andrea Bailey	Y		
Virginia General Assembly	Hon. George Barker	Y		

4/5/2023 3:40 PM; total: 32
Y = present virtually, voting
P = present virtually as alternate in addition to primary

AGENDA ITEM #6

ADOPTION OF CONSENT AGENDA ITEMS

ADOPTION OF CONSENT AGENDA ITEMS

April 2023

A. **RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING COG TO PURCHASE TWO COG VEHICLES**

The board will be asked to adopt Resolution R14-2023 authorizing the Executive Director, or his designee, to expend funds in the amount of $33,603.35 to buy out and purchase the two current COG vehicle leases. The project will allow COG to utilize lightly used vehicles to save money over signing leases for new vehicles. Both vehicles are low mileage due to less use during the COVID-19 emergency. The current leasing and financing market is not favorable for setting up new leases. Funding for this project is available in the capital budget.

RECOMMENDED ACTION: Adopt Resolution R14-2023.

B. **RESOLUTION ACKNOWLEDGING RECEIPT OF THE COG CONTRACT LIST FOR JANUARY – MARCH 2023**

The board will be asked to adopt Resolution R15-2023 acknowledging receipt of the 2023 list of COG contracts from January – March 2023 (attached). As stated in the COG Procurement Policy, an annual list of contracts shall be delivered to the COG Board of Directors.

RECOMMENDED ACTION: Adopt Resolution R15-2023.

Contract List		January 2023 - March 2023			
Date of Contract	**Contract #**	**Project**	**Vendor**	**Amount**	**Note**
7/15/2021	21-102	Swat Training	Dieter's Close Quarters Defense, Inc.	$ 12,000	per session RFP Award renewal
1/3/2023	23-013	COG Boardroom Audio & Audio & Video Systems Upgrade	Covergint Technologies LLC	$ 373,400	RFP Award
1/18/2023	23-017	Physical Health & Wellness Program Services	On-Site Solutions Physical Therapy, LLC		RFP - Hourly price rate
1/1/2023	23-019	Expert facilitator and supporting consulting personnel to guide the Homeland Security Executive Committee ("HSEC")	The Clearing, Inc.	$ 47,813	Sole Source - Renewal
1/6/2023	23-020-A	Road to Independence through Savings and Education Transportation (RISE-TRANS)	Boat People SOS	$ 120,000	Enhanced Mobility - Grant Program
3/17/2023	23-020-B	Rides to Health Service	Transit Group, Inc.	$ 100,000	Enhanced Mobility - Grant Program
1/23/2023	23-020-C	Growing Independence: Expanding the Reach of Mobility Options in the Washington Metropolitan Region	The ARC of Northern Virginia	$ 693,194	Enhanced Mobility - Grant Program
1/31/2023	23-020-D	The Network for Volunteer Driving of Greater of Greater Washington 3 (NVD 3)	Jewish Council for the Aging of Greater Washington, Inc.	$ 586,452	Enhanced Mobility - Grant Program
2/9/2023	23-020-E	Data 2022 Volunteer Driver Recruitment Program for Seniors and Veterans with Disabilities	Dulles Area Transportation Association	$ 271,787	Enhanced Mobility - Grant Program
1/20/2023	23-020-G	Koach Enhanced Mobility & Centralized WAV Dispatch	Coach Transportation Inc., DBA Koach	$ 208,836	Enhanced Mobility - Grant Program
3/8/2023	23-020-H	Passport to Independence: DC Villages' Ambassadors to Mobility	Capitol Hill Village	$ 539,964	Enhanced Mobility - Grant Program
1/12/2023	23-020-I	Travel Training Program for Independence for People we Support and Our Partners	Opportunities, Inc	$ 120,000	Enhanced Mobility - Grant Program
2/10/2023	23-021-A	Fixing America's Surface Transportation Act	ECHO	$ 267,680	Enhanced Mobility - Grant Program
2/10/2023	23-021-C	Vehicle Acquisition Project	New Horizons Supported Services, Inc.	$ 190,941	Enhanced Mobility - Grant Program
2/24/2023	23-021-H	Vehicle Acquisition Project	Chinese Culture and Community Service Center	$ 220,822	Enhanced Mobility - Grant Program
3/1/2023	23-021-I	Adult Medical Daycare Transportation at Easterseals' Intergenerational Center Vehicle Acquisition Project	Easterseals	$ 124,913	Enhanced Mobility - Grant Program
3/14/2023	23-022	Amazon Web Services	Carasoft	$ 58,000	GSA Contract Riding
2/13/2023	23-023	Wavelength - IOC - 1GIG-E	Lumen	$ 1,884	GSA Contract Riding
2/24/2023	23-024	Electronic reporting and criminal investigation system for receiving Transaction Data for the use of Law Enforcement Officials	Leads Online	$ 4,465,578	GSA Contract Riding

AGENDA ITEM #7

COG REGIONAL COOPERATIVE FORECASTS ON EMPLOYMENT, POPULATION & HOUSEHOLDS

MEMORANDUM

Date: April 5, 2023
To: COG Board of Directors
From: Paul DesJardin, COG Director of Community Planning and Services
Subject: Round 10 Cooperative Forecasts of Growth

Background

At the April 12th COG Board meeting, the Board will be briefed on the draft <u>regional</u> Round 10 Cooperative Forecasts of growth in employment, population and housing to the year 2050. The projections are the result of more than a year's work by the COG Planning Directors Committee and their Cooperative Forecasting Subcommittee. As with prior forecasts, the draft regional projections are driven by national and local trends in employment, population, and housing and, for the first time, reflect assumptions concerning potential long-term effects of the COVID-19 pandemic on future growth.

Established by COG's Planning Directors in 1975, the Cooperative Forecasting Program enables local, regional, and federal agencies to coordinate planning decisions using common assumptions about future growth and development in the region. Each series of forecasts, or "round," provides land use activity forecasts of employment, population, and households by five-year increments for a period of 20 to 30 years.

The Cooperative Forecasting process provides the data necessary for regional planning activities, including analyzing the effects of future growth and developing policy responses to regional issues. As the official growth projections for all jurisdictions, the Cooperative Forecasts are also used to determine the demand for transportation, schools, and public safety facilities, as well as the need for hospitals, parks, and other services.

The Cooperative Forecasting Process

The Cooperative Forecasts employ a multi-stage, "top-down/bottom-up" process undertaken by COG's Planning Directors Technical Advisory Committee (PDTAC) and the Cooperative Forecasting and Data Subcommittee, and employs both a regional econometric model and local jurisdictional forecasts. The econometric model projects employment, population, and households for the metropolitan Washington region based on national economic trends and local demographic factors. The econometric model results are the consensus projection for the maximum amount of likely growth to be anticipated in the COG region for the forecast period.

Concurrent with development of the Econometric Model, local governments independently develop Forecasts for their jurisdictions, including the TAZs comprising their land area. There are more than 3,000 Traffic Analysis Zones (TAZs) throughout the region. Local forecasts for

the next 10 years are based upon current permitting and development activity, while long-term projections are guided by zoning, and comprehensive and small-area plans.

Once completed, the sum of all the local government Forecasts is compared with the Regional Econometric projections and reconciled into 1 consistent set of projections.

The Forecasting process permits – but does not require - annual updates based upon significant new land use and comprehensive plan changes, or due to new transportation facility investments. The Board approved the last major update to the Cooperative Forecasts, Round 9.0, in 2016, and annual updates Round 9.1 and Round 9.2 in 2018 and 2021, respectively.

Process Updates for Round 10

A significant change for Round 10 was the extension of the forecast to the year 2050 to ensure a 25-year plus horizon for planning purposes. Another key change for development of Round 10 was consultant assistance to examine the potential long-term effects on future growth due to ongoing uncertainties resulting from the COVID pandemic. The consultant team identified a potential 'range' of future growth, the least-possible and most-possible outside of the benchmark Econometric Model, changes in office space use, and likely changes to future average household sizes. These assumptions informed COG member local governments as they developed their own Round 10 projections.

Next Steps

April 12th: The Board will be briefed on the draft Round 10 jurisdictional Cooperative Forecasts.

April 21st: COG's Planning Directors will review and vote to approve the draft Round 10 jurisdictional Cooperative Forecasts.

May 12th: The COG Board will be briefed on and asked to review and adopt the jurisdictional Round 10 Cooperative Forecasts – the official growth projections for the COG region.

Upon approval by the Board in May, the regional and jurisdictional Round 10 Cooperative Forecasts will be used extensively as the official growth projections for the COG region, including as the official land use growth assumptions for the Visualize 2050 Long-range Transportation Plan update.

AGENDA ITEM #8

ELECTRONIC REGISTRATION INFORMATION CENTER

Electronic Registration Information Center (ERIC) FAQ

1. What is ERIC?

ERIC is a public charity non-profit membership organization comprised of 32 states and the District of Columbia. ERIC's mission is to assist states in improving the accuracy of America's voter rolls and increasing access to voter registration for all eligible citizens.

2. Who created ERIC?

State election officials from seven states formed ERIC in 2012, with assistance from The Pew Charitable Trusts. These seven states were Colorado, Delaware, Maryland, Nevada, Utah, Virginia, and Washington.

3. Which states are members of ERIC?

Thirty-two states and the District of Columbia are members of ERIC. A full membership list is available on the ERIC website – www.ericstates.org.

4. Who controls ERIC?

The states. The chief election official from each member state designates a Member Representative to the ERIC Board of Directors. Each Member Representative serves as a voting member of the board. For more on ERIC's governance and membership requirements, read the ERIC Bylaws and Membership Agreement. Just looking for a quick overview? Check out the ERIC Summary of Membership Guidelines and Procedures. Want to learn more about what a "chief election official" is? Check out this guide.

5. How is ERIC Funded?

Member states fund ERIC. New members pay a one-time membership fee of $25,000, which is earmarked to help cover expenses for technology upgrades and expansions necessary to support a growing membership. States also pay annual dues. Annual dues cover operating costs and are based, in part, on the citizen voting age population in each state. Thus, large states pay more in annual dues than small states. Members approve the dues and the annual budget. Dues for the 2022-23 fiscal year range from about $26,000 to about $116,000. ERIC's 2021-22 operating budget is about $1,538,000. ERIC conducts annual independent audits of its financial statements.

6. Is ERIC made up of election officials from mostly one political party?

ERIC had seven founding members in 2012. Four of these were led by a Republican and three by a Democrat, when looking at the party affiliation of each state's chief election official. ERIC's current membership is divided almost evenly between states led by a Republican and states led by a Democrat, excluding states where the position is nonpartisan.

7. Why did election officials create ERIC?

Keeping voter rolls up to date is a challenge because, every day, voters move or die. Voters don't always remember to update their registration. ERIC was created to address these challenges. Inaccurate, Costly, and Inefficient, published in 2012, found that approximately 1 out of 8 voter registrations in the U.S. were no longer valid or significantly inaccurate, more than 1.8 million deceased individuals were listed as voters, and approximately 2.75 million people had registrations in more than one state. Additionally, the report

estimated there were at least 51 million eligible U.S. citizens who were not registered - about 24 percent of the eligible population. The seven states that founded ERIC believed using state-of-the-art data matching technology, a robust data sharing program built on widely accepted information security standards, and an unprecedented commitment to cooperation would vastly improve their ability to maintain accurate voter rolls. It would also have the added benefit of allowing them to reach out to unregistered, but likely eligible, individuals far more accurately and efficiently than anyone else.

8. Why are accurate voter rolls so important?

As the official record of all eligible voters in a state, a state's voter registration rolls are the foundation of free, fair, and accurate elections. Most states are required by the federal National Voter Registration Act to "conduct a general program that makes a reasonable effort to remove the names of ineligible voters" from the rolls. States not subject to this federal law have state "list maintenance" laws aimed at keeping voter records up to date. Illegal voting is exceedingly rare but maintaining accurate voter rolls reduces the opportunity for such behavior and it helps build confidence in election outcomes.

9. What does ERIC do?

At least every 60 days, each member submits their voter registration data and licensing and identification data from motor vehicle departments (MVD) to ERIC. ERIC refers to these data as Member Data. ERIC's technical staff uses sophisticated data matching software to compare Member Data from all member states, sometimes with data from other sources, to create the following four "list maintenance" reports.

1) Cross-State Movers Report: Identifies voters who appear to have moved from one ERIC state to another using voter registration data and MVD data.
2) In-State Movers Report: Identifies voters who appear to have moved within the state using voter registration and MVD data.
3) Duplicate Report: Identifies voters with duplicate registrations in the same state using voter registration data.
4) Deceased Report: Identifies voters who have died using voter registration data and Social Security death data known as the Limited Access Death Master File.

In addition, ERIC offers three other reports:

1) Eligible but Unregistered Report: Identifies individuals who appear to be eligible but who are not yet registered by matching voter registration data against MVD data.
2) National Change of Address (NCOA) Report: Identifies voters who have moved using official data ERIC licenses from the US Postal Service.
3) Voter Participation Report: After each federal general election, states can request reports identifying voters who may have cast ballots in more than one state or more than one ballot in the same state.

More information about all of ERIC's reports is available in the ERIC Bylaws and Membership Agreement.

10. What are member states required to do with the data ERIC provides?

ERIC's four list maintenance reports identify voters who have moved within the state, voters who have moved from one ERIC state to another, voters who have died, and voters with duplicate registrations in the state. These reports help states improve the accuracy of their voter lists. They must request at least one of

these reports at a minimum of once a year, though the ERIC Membership Agreement strongly encourages states to establish a regular schedule for requesting these reports.

At least once every two years Members are required to send voter registration information to potentially eligible residents who are not registered to vote, as identified in the report produced by comparing motor vehicle licensing data to voter data. This report helps increase access to voter registration for all eligible citizens. These mailings must be conducted by October 1 or 15 days before the state's voter registration deadline, whichever is earlier. These mailings clearly identify the state's voter eligibility requirements. Prior to conducting the mailing, states review the data to remove any known ineligible individuals, as per state law.

Members must act on all these reports in accordance with federal laws that protect the data contained within the reports, as well as with applicable state and federal laws regarding voter registration and voter list maintenance.

11. Why does ERIC need a state's voter registration and driver's licensing data?
Keeping voter rolls up to date is a challenge because voters move or die. Voters rarely remember to update their voter registration when they move or change their name, but they do update their license or ID with the motor vehicle licensing agency. While not perfect, driver's licensing data is official government data, and it is a reliable data source for identifying people who have moved or changed their name. It just makes sense to compare these data to voter data to spot out-of-date voter registrations. These data are also highly useful for comparing against Social Security death data to identify deceased voters more accurately. Learn more about how the organization compares data by reading ERIC's Technology and Security Overview.

12. What steps does ERIC take to keep data secure?
Data privacy and security is the top priority for ERIC and its member states. ERIC's Bylaws and Membership Agreement include numerous provisions addressing the protection of the data states submit to ERIC and the data reports ERIC creates for the states. ERIC also follows an extensive set of security policies and procedures approved by the Board of Directors in its Information Security Management Plan. In 2017 and 2020, ERIC successfully completed a third-party review of how it handles protected data in the Social Security Limited Access Death Master File. In 2020, another independent cybersecurity assessment confirmed that ERIC complies with security standards. For more details about the organization's approach to data security and these assessments, read ERIC's Technology and Security Overview.

13. Is the ERIC organization or its member states permitted to share ERIC's List Maintenance and Eligible but Unregistered Reports with outside parties?
It depends on the report and applicable federal law. Because ERIC's List Maintenance and Eligible but Unregistered Reports are all created using licensing and identification data from motor vehicle departments (MVD) and because ERIC additionally relies on Limited Access Death Master File ("LADMF") data to create the Deceased Report, the two federal laws of central concern to ERIC are the Driver's Privacy Protection Act ("DPPA") and Section 203 of the Bipartisan Budget Act of 2013 and associated regulations administered by the National Technical Information Service ("LADMF Regulations"). MVD data is generally protected against release under the DPPA. LADMF data is generally protected from release during the three-calendar year period starting from the date of death. The ERIC Bylaws and Membership Agreement include provisions intended to ensure compliance with these federal laws. What follows explains ERIC's

position on how these laws apply to each of ERIC's List Maintenance reports and its Eligible but Unregistered Report. This same information is summarized in this chart.

In-State Movers, Cross-State Movers, and Eligible but Unregistered Reports and the DPPA:

These reports are created by comparing voter registration data with MVD data, and the reports themselves contain MVD data from motor vehicle records. Under the DPPA, these reports cannot be released unless a statutory exception applies.

In-State Duplicate and Deceased Reports and the DPPA:

MVD data plays an important role in creating these two ERIC list maintenance reports. Specifically, MVD data is used in the background to help strengthen the matches identified in these two reports, but such data does not actually appear in the reports. As part of its ongoing review of its data protection policies and procedures and applicable law, ERIC's position is that these two reports do not fall within the scope of the DPPA. This means members may, if they deem it appropriate, disclose data from the In-State Duplicate Reports and Deceased Reports (after the LADMF protection expires).

Deceased Report and the LADMF Regulations:

The National Technical Information Service has certified ERIC to receive LADMF data for the purpose of preparing Deceased Reports for member states. The LADMF Regulations define LADMF data as death master file data for individuals who died within the three-calendar period beginning on the date of death. By way of example, this means that if an individual died on March 3, 2022, their data is protected until March 3, 2025. Once that period expires, the LADMF data becomes what the regulations call Open Access DMF data and is no longer protected. Therefore, under the LADMF regulations, neither ERIC nor its member are permitted to disclose data in the Deceased Reports within the three-year period of protection. Once that period expires, however, ERIC members may disclose unprotected data contained in Deceased Reports.

14. Is ERIC connected to state voter registration systems?
No. ERIC is not connected to any state system. ERIC is not a "national voter registration database." Read ERIC's Technology and Security Overview to learn more about how states securely submit data to ERIC and how states receive reports from ERIC in a secure manner.

15. Have ERIC members removed ineligible voters from their voter rolls?
Yes. States subject to the federal National Voter Registration Act are required to remove ineligible voters from the voter rolls. The ERIC Membership Agreement requires members to act on the reports it provides in a manner consistent with the law, including taking action to remove ineligible voters. The headline of a recent story about ERIC stated, "The Largest U.S. Counties Removed Only Zero to Two Ineligible Voters from Their Voter Rolls the Last 4 years." The story leads readers to believe these counties are in states that are members of ERIC. In fact, the counties listed are in states that are NOT members of ERIC.

METROPOLITAN WASHINGTON COUNCIL OF GOVERNMENTS
777 NORTH CAPITOL STREET, NE
WASHINGTON, DC 20002

RESOLUTION ENDORSING CONTINUED REGIONAL PARTICIPATION IN THE ELECTRONIC
REGISTRATION INFORMATION CENTER (ERIC)

WHEREAS, the Metropolitan Washington Council of Governments (COG) comprises the region's 24 local governments and their governing officials, plus area members of the Maryland and Virginia legislatures and the U.S. Senate and House of Representatives, and COG provides a focus for action on issues of regional concern; and

WHEREAS, COG convenes officials and experts to learn about the latest trends and data, share best practices, and develop solutions to the region's major challenges; and

WHEREAS, the COG Election Officials Committee coordinates on elections taking place in member jurisdictions throughout the District of Columbia, Maryland and Virginia; and

WHEREAS, the District of Columbia, Maryland and Virginia are members of the Electronic Registration Information Center (ERIC); and

WHEREAS, ERIC, was founded in 2012 as a non-partisan organization created by state election officials, including Maryland and Virginia as founding members, to help improve the accuracy of state voter rolls and register more eligible Americans to vote; and

WHEREAS, ERIC is a non-profit membership organization funded entirely by member state contributions; and

WHEREAS, ERIC utilizes voter registration and motor vehicle department data, provided by members through secure channels, along with official federal death data and change of address data, in order to provide members with reports to update their voter rolls, remove ineligible voters, investigate potential illegal voting, or provide voter registration information to individuals who may be eligible to vote; and

WHEREAS, given the transient nature of the metropolitan Washington region, residents are often moving across state and District lines, making it essential to share information between the District, Maryland, and Virginia, in addition to other states throughout the country; and

WHEREAS, we believe ERIC is the best resource available to prevent voter fraud on a national basis and participation is essential to ensuring accurate voter rolls in our region.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS OF THE METROPOLITAN WASHINGTON COUNCIL OF GOVERNMENTS THAT:

The Board endorses continued membership and participation by the District of Columbia, the State of Maryland and the Commonwealth of Virginia in the Electronic Registration Information Center (ERIC) and encourages local and state election officials to provide and review voter reports to prevent fraud and ensure accuracy.

AGENDA ITEM #9

COG CHIEF EQUITY OFFICERS COMMITTEE

Metropolitan Washington Council of Governments
Chief Equity Officers Committee
Purpose and Scope of Work

The purpose of the COG Chief Equity Officers Committee (CEOC) is to advance racial equity within COG programs and committees, COG member local governments, and throughout the metropolitan Washington region. The Committee will support COG's mission to be anti-racist and advance racial equity through work focused on implementing policies and practices that promote racial equity for all area residents and throughout COG's analyses, operations, procurement, programs, and priorities. The Committee's work will support the Chief Administrative Officers, the COG Board of Directors, and policy committees. The Committee is comprised of the Chief Equity Officer, or equity lead, from each COG jurisdiction. The Committee meets the fourth Thursday of the month at 2:00pm.

Scope of Work:

1. Serve as the hub for regional collaboration and coordination on advancing racial equity initiatives throughout the region, within COG's member local governments, and through COG's work.

2. Share information, data, resources, and best practices to advance racial equity and serve as a forum for cross-jurisdictional discussion.

3. Coordinate COG regional education and training initiatives as deemed appropriate by the Committee.

4. Support the COG Board of Directors, Chief Administrative Officers Committee and COG Policy Committees to advance racial equity through the priorities and projects executed each committee as requested.

5. Support the Region Forward Coalition to update the Greater Washington 2050 Compact focused on creating a more prosperous, accessible, livable, and sustainable metropolitan Washington by re-aligning the goals and targets to illuminate and support equity and inclusion.

6. Serve as a hub for collaboration and partnership with external community organizations on efforts to address racial equity in the region.

Metropolitan Washington Council of Governments
Chief Equity Officers Committee
2023 Committee Roster

Jurisdiction	Name	Title
City of Alexandria	Jaqueline Tucker	Chief Equity Officer
Arlington County	Samia Byrd	Chief Race and Equity Officer
Town of Bladensburg	*Vacant*	
City of Bowie	*Vacant*	
Charles County	Renesha Miles	Chief Equity Officer
City of College Park	Kayla Carter	Racial Equity Officer
District of Columbia - Council	Namita Moody	Office of Racial Equity Director
District of Columbia - Executive	Amber Hewitt	Chief Equity Officer
Fairfax County	Karla Bruce	Chief Equity Officer
City of Fairfax	Melanie Zipp	Chief of Staff/City Clerk
City of Falls Church	Steve Mason	Human Resources Director
City of Frederick	Rebecca DeSantis-Randall	Manager of Equity and Inclusion
Frederick County	Michael Hughes	Chief Equity and Inclusion Officer
City of Gaithersburg	Hazel Monae	Racial Equity Diversity & Inclusion Program Manager
City of Greenbelt	Tyra Smith	Diversity Equity and Inclusion Officer
City of Hyattsville	Shakira Louimarre	Race and Equity Officer
City of Laurel	Melissa Klinger	Human Resources Officer
Loudoun County	Carl Rush	Chief Equity Officer
City of Manassas	*Vacant*	
City of Manassas Park	*Vacant*	
Montgomery County – Council	Selena Mendy Singleton	Racial Equity & Social Justice Manager
Montgomery County - Executive	Tiffany Ward	Chief Equity Officer
Prince George's County	Anthony Ferguson	Chief Diversity, Equity and Inclusion Officer
Prince William County	Maria Burgos	Equity and Inclusion Officer
City of Rockville	Tyree Davis IV	Advisor to the City Manager for Diversity, Equity and Inclusion
City of Takoma Park	Rosalind Grigsby	Deputy City Manager

AGENDA ITEM #10

OTHER BUSINESS

AGENDA ITEM #11

ADJOURN