



FOOD AND AGRICULTURE REGIONAL MEMBER (FARM) POLICY COMMITTEE

Friday, February 14th, 2025
10:00 A.M. – 12:00 P.M.
Virtual Only

MS Teams Meeting

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AGENDA

10:00 A.M. 1. WELCOME AND MEMBER INTRODUCTIONS
Councilmember Andrew Friedson, FARM Chair

Chair Friedson will provide a welcome. He will ask new FARM members for a one-minute introduction, and for all returning members to introduce themselves by name and jurisdiction. Outgoing member Hugo Mogollon, Executive Director of FRESHFARM, will offer reflections as he departs to lead another organization.

10:20 A.M. 2. FARM COMMITTEE BUSINESS
Andrew Friedson, FARM Chair

Chair Friedson will recap FARM's December meeting which included review of proposed changes to FARM's Bylaws. He will seek approval for both.

Recommended Action: Approve bylaws and meeting summary.

10:30 A.M. 3. AVIAN INFLUENZA'S IMPACT ON AGRICULTURE AND SOCIETY
Councilmember Zachary Parker, FARM Vice Chair
Kevin Atticks, Secretary, Maryland Department of Agriculture (MDA)

Reasonable accommodations are provided upon request, including alternative formats of meeting materials.
Visit www.mwcog.org/accommodations or call (202) 962-3300 or (202) 962-3213 (TDD).

Dr. Jennifer Trout, State Veterinarian, MDA
Dr. David A. Crum, State Public Health Veterinarian, Maryland Department of Health

Secretary Atticks, Dr. Trout, and Dr. Crum will share an overview of Avian Influenza and contextualize concerns about its impacts on animal and human health. They will review effects on the agricultural sector in Maryland and the Mid-Atlantic, along with insight into how its spread is being mitigated. Actions that a range of stakeholders can take to prevent the spread of the virus will be shared.

Recommended Action: Receive briefing and discuss.

- 11:20 A.M. 4. 2025 LEGISLATIVE TRACKING**
Supervisor Laura TeKrony, FARM Vice Chair
Ryan Losak, Banner Public Affairs

Vice Chair TeKrony will welcome Ryan Losak who will share an overview of COG Staff's process to track relevant legislation during the 2025 MD and VA general assemblies. He will also provide an update on federal legislation important to FARM's priorities. Vice Chair TeKrony will invite members to discuss how this process can support their outreach goals.

Recommended Action: Receive briefing and discuss.

- 11:35 A.M. 5. FARM'S 2-YEAR CITIZEN CENTRIC REPORT**
Jon Stehle, Past FARM Chair
Lindsay Smith, Senior Food and Agriculture Planner, COG

Mr. Stehle will review the 2023-2024 Citizen Centric Report for FARM which was initiated during his tenure as FARM Chair. Ms. Smith will highlight on-going work.

Recommended Action: Member discussion

- 11:50 A.M. 6. NEXT STEPS AND ADJOURN**
Andrew Friedson, FARM Chair

Chair Friedson will preview FARM's calendar for 2025 and call for announcements as time allows,

The next regular FARM meeting will be virtual and scheduled for Friday, April 11th.