

homeland security  
policy development

transportation  
planning

growth  
forecasts

Anacostia Watershed  
restoration

Commuter  
Connections

water supply planning

Street Smart safety campaign

# COG MEMBER BENEFITS

food security

regional snow calls

mutual aid agreements

air quality  
forecasts & alerts

travel demand modeling

electric vehicle clearinghouse

homeless services  
coordination

cooperative  
purchasing

Bike to Work Day



Metropolitan Washington  
Council of Governments

March  
2025

# ABOUT COG

In the DMV, the Metropolitan Washington Council of Governments (COG) is the one place that regularly connects area leaders—across jurisdictions and disciplines—to address regional issues and plan for the future. COG is an association of 24 local governments with a membership of 300 local, state, and federal elected officials. We invite you to learn more about COG's wide range of programs and services for its member governments, partner organizations, and the public.



**24**  
LOCAL GOVERNMENTS

**300**  
ELECTED OFFICIALS

## Transportation Planning

▶ **Transportation Planning Board**—COG ensures major transportation projects receive federal funding and approvals. These projects must be included in the National Capital Region Transportation Plan (NC RTP) of the National Capital Region Transportation Planning Board (TPB) at COG, the region's federally designated Metropolitan Planning Organization.

NEW

▶ **Visualize 2050**—The current NC RTP plan, *Visualize 2045*, includes \$223B in funding for projects and programs. The next version of this plan, *Visualize 2050*, is under development and scheduled to be approved in 2025.

▶ **Travel demand modeling**—TPB modeling provides officials with a picture of future travel in the region to inform the development of transportation projects and decision-making.

NEW

▶ **DMVMoves**—A COG/WMATA collaboration, including bus and rail service providers, area jurisdictions, business, labor, and community organizations, to create a unified vision and sustainable funding model for the region's transit network.

▶ **Commuter Connections**—COG provides free services and programs to assist employers and commuters with making smart choices about their commuting needs, including ridematching, transit, bicycling, and teleworking.

▶ **Bike to Work Day**—COG organizes the annual event encouraging green, cost-efficient commutes and featuring 100+ "pit stops" regionwide.

▶ **Street Smart**—COG manages the region's public awareness campaign for drivers, pedestrians, and bicyclists to improve roadway safety.

▶ **MATOC**—COG convenes the Metropolitan Area Transportation Operations Coordination (MATOC) program, a partnership of transportation agencies sharing real-time information to enhance incident management.

▶ **Airport access**—COG forecasts future air passenger and cargo needs, developing plans for improving how people and goods get to and from the region's three major airports.

NEW

▶ **Transportation resilience**—With a new resilience plan and mapping tool, the TPB is working with its members to help identify and reduce risks posed by natural hazards to transportation infrastructure.

▶ **Enhanced Mobility**—The TPB selects projects for the FTA program for specialized transportation for older adults and people with disabilities (\$10M, biennially).



# VISUALIZE 2050



Enhanced  
Mobility

Street  
Smart



Commuter  
Connections

## Transportation *continued*

- ▶ **Transportation Alternatives Set-Aside Program**—The TPB selects projects for non-highway, smaller-scale projects (more than \$9M annually) which is part of the Federal Surface Transportation Block Grant Program.
  - ▶ **Transportation Land-Use Connections (TLC)**—The TPB's TLC program provides consultant services for small planning projects supporting mixed-use, walkable communities and transportation alternatives. (\$9M since 2007)
  - ▶ **Transit Within Reach (TWR)**—The TPB's TWR program funds design and preliminary engineering projects to help improve bike and walk connections to existing and planned high-capacity transit stations. (\$250K, biennially)
  - ▶ **Regional Roadway Safety Program (RRSP)**—The TPB's Regional Roadway Safety Program (RRSP) provides technical assistance to local planning and engineering safety-related projects (\$1.7M since 2021).
- NEW**

  - ▶ **Allies in Action**—The TPB has joined the federal Allies in Action roadway safety initiative, pledging to continue current roadway safety activities, enhance data collection, and strengthen coordination to hold dangerous drivers accountable.

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TOGETHER

CARPOOL  
TOGETHER



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## Environmental Programs

- ▶ **Air quality planning/alerts**—COG coordinates air quality planning and monitors pollution, issuing air quality forecasts and health advisories to the public when the air is unhealthy.
- ▶ **Chesapeake Bay & Potomac River restoration**—COG helps members voice local concerns, measure progress, and share best practices related to wastewater treatment and stormwater management.
- ▶ **Anacostia Watershed Restoration Partnership**—COG leads a consortium of government agencies, partner organizations, and residents taking action, including overseeing a major, new four-year cleanup effort.

NEW

- ▶ **Water supply/security**—COG convenes the region's Drought Coordination Committee to issue watches and warnings, supports coordination during emergencies, and is helping lead a new backup water source study for the region.
- ▶ **Regional wastewater agreement**—COG brokered and manages the pact providing support to users of the Blue Plains Advanced Wastewater Treatment Plant, which treats approximately 50 percent of the region's wastewater.



Tree  
Canopy  
Action  
Plan

Backup  
Water  
Source  
Study







Air Quality  
Forecasts



Solar Energy Goals  
(credit: DCSEU)

## Environment *continued*

- ▶ **Climate planning**—Working toward its 2030 regional climate goal, COG is supporting the development of local climate action plans and helping implement actions to reduce emissions and build resiliency.
  - ▶ **Electric vehicles**—COG is supporting expanded deployment of electric vehicles through a working group and technical resources focused on planning a more consistent system regionwide and accelerated deployment of charging infrastructure.
  - ▶ **Solar energy**—COG is working with members and partners to accelerate the deployment of solar installations regionwide and advance COG's 2030 solar goals.
  - ▶ **Food system resilience**—COG coordinates efforts to improve food security and grow a more connected food and farm economy.
- NEW**
  - ▶ **Urban forestry**—Following adoption of new regional tree canopy goals, COG is working with members and partners to develop a Tree Canopy Action Plan and advance preservation and enhancement strategies and monitor conditions in metropolitan Washington.
  - ▶ **Environmental outreach**—COG supports the Clean Air Partners public education program, the DMV Climate Partners website on local climate-related activities, as well as campaigns on recycling, battery safety, and protecting household plumbing.



## Homeland Security & Public Safety

- ▶ **Mutual aid**—COG establishes mutual aid agreements for local governments to ensure first responders and resources are available during emergencies, in real time, to help neighboring jurisdictions.
  - ▶ **Public safety briefings/trainings**—COG regularly convenes area officials, including the region's police chiefs, to focus on coordinating across multiple agencies on a variety of planned events as well as emergency scenarios.
- NEW**
  - ▶ **Crime data sharing**—COG has been working with area police departments to develop a regional crime dashboard for release in early 2025 to provide law enforcement, area leaders, the media, and public with more current, consistent data in one place.
- ▶ **Regional public safety programs**—COG manages cross-jurisdictional public safety information sharing projects like fingerprint identification systems and license plate readers.
  - ▶ **Homeland security**—COG helps officials continually assess risks and make investments to enhance preparedness, including facilitation of the federal Urban Area Security Initiative (UASI) program.
  - ▶ **RICCS**—COG runs the Regional Incident Communication and Coordination System (RICCS) providing 24/7 notifications that allow area officials at the local, state, and federal levels to communicate during emergencies.
  - ▶ **Winter weather coordination**—COG oversees planning and convenes “snow calls” that include OPM, the National Weather Service, transportation agencies, and COG members.

Snow  
Calls

Mutual  
Aid







Growth  
Forecasts

Homeless  
Services  
(credit:  
Pathways to  
Housing DC)



## Community Planning & Services

- ▶ **Cooperative forecasts**—COG develops long-range population, job, and household forecasts for the region, enabling its members to coordinate planning activities using common assumptions about future growth.
- NEW** ▶ **Economic development**—COG is working with partners to develop a Comprehensive Economic Development Strategy as well as responding to changes in the federal workforce.
- ▶ **Housing**—Working toward its 2030 housing targets and fair housing goals, COG is supporting its members in implementing strategies to increase affordable and accessible housing regionwide and leveraging funding received from federal grants and the private sector.
- ▶ **Homelessness**—COG supports homeless services coordination among members and is partnering with Community Solutions on the national Built For Zero initiative to apply data-informed strategies to end the experience of homelessness.
- ▶ **Public health**—COG convenes the region's health officials to track trends, promote health in all policy making, and respond to health concerns and emergencies.
- ▶ **Foster Parents of the Year**—COG coordinates and awards local efforts to recruit, support, and retain foster parents in the community.

## Research & Data

COG staff are a trusted source of regional information, providing members with data and tools to inform decision-making, including:

- ▶ **Daily newsletter of media stories**, COG's *Regional Roundup*, is provided free to members and partners as well as a variety of monthly newsletters on COG and TPB programs and data.
- ▶ **Economic trends dashboard**, featuring information on employment, inflation rates, and new housing permits.
- ▶ The TPB's **Transportation Resources and Applications (TRAP) page** provides a variety of maps, databases, visualizations, and other resources.
- ▶ **Commuting and travel trends**, like the *State of the Commute Survey* and *Regional Travel Survey*.
- ▶ Federally required **point-in-time count of people experiencing homelessness** and annual report.
- ▶ Drinking water supply monitoring and **drought reports**.
- ▶ **Electric Vehicle Clearinghouse** featuring EV funding, incentives, laws and regulations, local plans, and a charging station locator.

## Leadership Development

COG helps prepare future leaders through a variety of learning opportunities that build stronger connections among local government professionals in the region.

- ▶ **Advancing Equity in Local Government Learning Cohort**—A yearlong program with Government Alliance on Race and Equity (GARE).
- ▶ **Public Safety Leadership**—Three-part seminar for homeland security and public safety professionals.
- ▶ **Institute for Regional Excellence (IRE)**—A yearlong program of COG and The George Washington University—graduates become Certified Public Managers.
- ▶ **Community Leadership Institute (CLI)**—This TPB program teaches community leaders about how, where, and when transportation decisions are made in the region, and encourages them to get involved.

## Cooperative Purchasing

COG members save money and time through regional bulk purchasing and contracting opportunities. COG also partners with the Baltimore Metropolitan Council on the Mid-Atlantic Purchasing Team (MAPT) to further expand the program's reach.

- ▶ **Member-only cooperative contracts** result in larger volume and better unit pricing. More than 40 agencies across the region participate in COG's Cooperative Purchasing Program saving more than \$2M annually.
- ▶ The **MAPT Rider Clause** allows members to join hundreds of contracts and avoid the need to do in-house bidding.
- ▶ **Contracts are available** for items such as: Diesel Fuel and Biodiesel; Gasoline; Interoperable Radios; Chemical/HAZMAT equipment; Self-Contained Breathing Apparatus (SCBA) Gear.



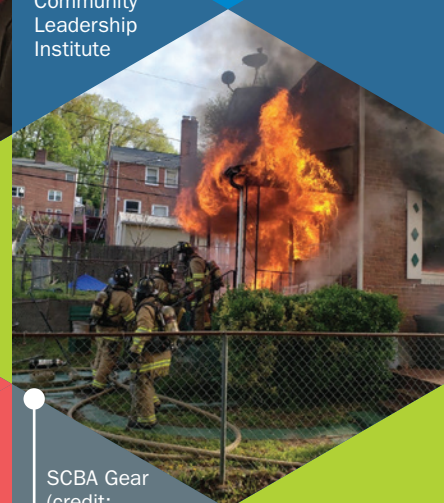
Metropolitan Washington  
**Council of Governments**

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Community  
Leadership  
Institute



SCBA Gear  
(credit:  
Arlington  
County)