



## BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Wednesday, October 8, 2025  
12:00 P.M. - 2:00 P.M.  
Walter A. Scheiber Board Room

### AGENDA

- 12:00 P.M.**
- 1. CALL TO ORDER**  
*Rodney Lusk, COG Board Chair*
  - 2. CHAIR'S REPORT**  
*Rodney Lusk, COG Board Chair*
    - A. Congressional Delegation Reception – October 20
    - B. DMVMoves Regional Rail Meeting – October 24
    - C. Membership & Awards Reception – December 3
    - D. 2026 Board Meeting Dates
  - 3. AMENDMENTS TO THE AGENDA**  
*Rodney Lusk, COG Board Chair*
- 12:05 P.M.**
- 4. EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S REPORT**  
*Clark Mercer, COG Executive Director*
    - A. Notice of Proposed By-law Amendment
    - B. Update to COG's Cooperative Forecasts
- 12:15 P.M.**
- 5. APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES FROM SEPTEMBER 10, 2025**  
*Rodney Lusk, COG Board Chair*  
**Recommended Action: Approve minutes.**
  - 6. ADOPTION OF CONSENT AGENDA ITEMS**  
*Rodney Lusk, COG Board Chair*
    - A. Resolution R21-2025 – Resolution approving appointments to the COG 2026 Nominating Committee
    - B. Resolution R22-2025 – Resolution approving appointments to the COG 2026 Legislative Committee
    - C. Resolution R23-2025 – Resolution approving appointments to the COG 2025 Awards Committee

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

- D. Resolution R24-2025 – Resolution authorizing COG to procure and enter into a contract to conduct PFAS and precursor compounds monitoring in the Potomac River Watershed
- E. Resolution R25-2025 – Update to COG’s Cooperative Forecasts Round 10.1

**Recommended Action: Adopt Resolutions R21-2025-R25-2025.**

- 12:20 P.M.     7. 2025 CLIMATE AND ENERGY LEADERSHIP AWARDS**  
*Sarah Bagley, Climate, Energy, and Environment Policy Committee Chair*
- This awards program recognizes local governments, educational institutions, and non-governmental organizations for their efforts to achieve local and regional climate and energy goals.
- Recommended Action: Receive briefing.**
- 12:40 P.M.     8. FISCAL YEAR 2027 MEMBER DUES & REGIONAL FEES**  
*Clark Mercer, COG Executive Director*  
*Julie Mussog, COG Chief Financial Officer*
- The board will be briefed on the proposal for the Fiscal Year 2027 Member Dues and Regional Fees.
- Recommended Action: Receive briefing and adopt Resolution R26-2025.**
- 12:55 P.M.     9. APPROVAL OF THE FISCAL YEAR 2026 & FIVE-YEAR CAPITAL EXPENDITURE PLAN AND BUDGET**  
*Julie Mussog, COG Chief Financial Officer*
- The board will be briefed on the proposed FY 2026 Capital Expenditure Budget and Five-Year Capital Expenditure Plan.
- Recommended Action: Receive briefing and adopt Resolution R27-2025.**
- 1:05 P.M.     10. CAPITAL AREA FOOD BANK 2025 HUNGER REPORT**  
*Hilary Salmon, Capital Area Food Bank Senior Director of Marketing and Communications*  
*Sabrina Tadele, Capital Area Food Bank Director of Strategic Initiatives*
- The board will be briefed on results of the 2025 Hunger Report, highlighting food insecurity and hunger challenges in the metropolitan Washington region.
- Recommended Action: Receive briefing and adopt Resolution R28-2025.**
- 1:55 P.M.     11. OTHER BUSINESS**
- 2:00 P.M.     12. ADJOURN**

**AGENDA ITEM #2**

**CHAIR'S REPORT**



Metropolitan Washington  
Council of Governments

## CONGRESSIONAL DELEGATION RECEPTION

COG cordially invites you to meet with the NCR Congressional Delegation to build relationships and discuss opportunities for regional collaboration on common priorities.



Monday, October 20, 2025

Networking Reception: 5:00 - 6:30 P.M.



Rayburn House Office Building Foyer

45 Independence Ave SW

Washington, DC 20515

Invitation RSVP here: <http://bit.ly/4p7omrs>



# DMVMoves Regional Rail Meeting

Register: [bit.ly/regionalrail](https://bit.ly/regionalrail)

## Join Us:

Get ready to dive into the world of regional rail  
at Union Station - it's time to make moves!



Union Station East Hall  
Washington, DC 20002

**DMVMOVES**  
Moving our region forward, together.



## 2025 COG MEMBERSHIP & AWARDS RECEPTION

Register: [bit.ly/cogawards25](https://bit.ly/cogawards25)

### JOIN US

Recognize regional partnership and outstanding leadership at COG's annual celebration.



December 3, 2025  
4:00 - 6:00 P.M.  
(Registration at 3:30 P.M.)

**COG Board of Directors**  
**Proposed 2026 Meeting Schedule**

- Wednesday, January 14<sup>th</sup> 12:00 – 2:00PM – Board Meeting
- Wednesday, February 11<sup>th</sup> 12:00 – 2:00PM – Board Meeting
- Wednesday, March 11<sup>th</sup> 12:00 – 2:00PM – Board Meeting
- Wednesday, April 8<sup>th</sup> 12:00 – 2:00PM – Board Meeting
- Wednesday, May 13<sup>th</sup> 12:00 – 2:00PM – Board Meeting
- Friday and Saturday, June 26-27<sup>th</sup> – Leadership Retreat  
In-person at the Hyatt Regency Chesapeake Bay (100 Heron Blvd US-50, Cambridge, MD)
- Wednesday, July 22<sup>nd</sup> 12:00 – 2:00PM – Board Meeting
- August – No meetings
- Wednesday, September 9<sup>th</sup> 12:00 – 2:00PM – Board Meeting
- Wednesday, October 14<sup>th</sup> 12:00 – 2:00PM – Board Meeting
- Wednesday, November 4<sup>th</sup> 12:00 – 2:00PM (Veteran’s Day adjustment) – Board Meeting
- Wednesday, December 9<sup>th</sup> 4:00 – 6:00PM – Membership & Awards Reception

\*Note – The COG offices and board room will be closed for renovations in Spring 2026.

**AGENDA ITEM #3**

**AMENDMENTS TO  
THE AGENDA**



# **AGENDA ITEM #4**

## **EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S REPORT**



## MEMORANDUM

**TO:** COG Board of Directors  
**FROM:** Clark Mercer, COG Executive Director  
**SUBJECT:** Executive Director's Report – October 2025  
**DATE:** October 1, 2025

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## POLICY BOARD & COMMITTEE UPDATES

**National Capital Region Transportation Planning Board (TPB)** – The TPB did not meet in September and staff has continued preparations for the Visualize 2050 comment period scheduled for October 23-November 21, 2025. The TPB will decide the final project list for the Visualize 2050 National Capital Region Transportation Plan at its October 15 TPB meeting. The TPB Steering Committee has nominated Fairfax County Supervisor Walter Alcorn as new TPB Chair for the remainder of 2025 upon former TPB Chair James Walkinshaw's election to U.S. Congress.

**Metropolitan Washington Air Quality Committee (MWAQC)**– The Metropolitan Washington Air Quality Committee met virtually on September 24 to review transportation conformity results, discuss the past ozone season, and receive a briefing on EPA's reconsideration of the Endangerment Finding.

**Chesapeake Bay Policy Committee (CBPC)**– CBPC held its 15th Annual Bay & Water Quality Forum on September 26, featuring a keynote by George Hawkins of Moonshot Missions (and formerly the General Manager at DC Water) on turning water challenges into opportunities. A panel of state and local leaders discussed federal funding, affordability, and infrastructure needs, followed by member dialogue on shared priorities.



### Talent Capital Launch

Leaders from across the Greater Washington region launched a groundbreaking, public sector driven workforce tool on October 1 to support displaced federal workers and build long-term economic resilience. The tool, Talent Capital, offers free job matching, career training, reskilling, credentialing, and coaching, and is housed at COG.

[Learn more and explore the resource](#)

**Climate Energy & Environment Policy Committee (CEEPC)** - At the September 24 CEEPC meeting, the U.S. Geological Survey (USGS) presented on its 2021-2022 Chesapeake Bay land use cover and tree canopy assessment. CEEPC reviewed the key elements of the Metropolitan Statistical Area (MSA) Draft Comprehensive Climate Action Plan (CCAP), which will be available for public comment in October. Lastly, staff presented updates on the Midcourse Review which is analyzing progress towards the region's 2030 greenhouse gas (GHG) emission reduction goal; and the EPA's reconsideration of the Endangerment Finding.

**Food and Agriculture Regional Member (FARM) Policy Committee and Human Services Policy Committee (HSPC)** - FARM and HSPC co-hosted a meeting on Friday, September 12 ahead of the release of Capital Area Food Bank's annual *Hunger Report*. The meeting included a roundtable with leaders of major food banks serving the region, and remarks from legislators in the Maryland and Virginia General Assemblies. Key takeaways include: tracking both food assistance and Medicaid issues as they serve the same populations; coordination and dialogue to ensure that other policy changes benefit food-insecure families against the backdrop of cuts to essential federal programs; and to think about providing support to reduce food insecurity in a multi-year horizon.

## OUTREACH & PROGRAM HIGHLIGHTS

**Public Safety** - On September 8, COG hosted a regional tabletop exercise to test and further develop the draft NCR Cybersecurity Mutual Aid Operations Plan, which will enable agencies to share resources and information across the region for a cyber incident. On September 29, hosted by COG, dozens of emerging governmental leaders in the region



### DMVMoves Transit Tour

More than 50 regional leaders marked World Car Free Day with the DMVMoves Transit Tour, highlighting bus priority lanes, Metro modernization, and the Purple Line as key investments for a visionary transit future.

[Read highlights and view photos from the event](#)



### Great Place to Work Certification

In September, COG earned its first-ever Great Place To Work certification. Great Place to Work highlights organizations with positive, engaging workplace cultures. To achieve the certification, COG had to meet specific, globally recognized benchmarks.

[Learn more about the certification](#)

graduated from the nine-week Mid-Level Leadership Development Program pilot, provided by The McChrystal Group.

**COG 101** – At September’s Loudoun County Chamber of Commerce forum, COG Executive Director Clark Mercer addressed the county’s transportation outlook and underscored the importance of regional collaboration through the DMVMoves program, focusing on aligning transit operations and addressing funding challenges. Mercer also joined an Economic Mobility forum in Arlington, hosted by the Gates Foundation and Results for America, where leaders and partners from national organizations discussed strategies to advance community and economic mobility.

**COG and Brookings Launch DMV Monitor** –Brookings Metro, in collaboration with COG, launched a new resource called DMV Monitor to track real-time changes in the regional economy since January 2025 to capture the effects of federal restructuring and other national policy shifts. View the [DMV Monitor](#).

## MEDIA HIGHLIGHTS

**DMV Monitor** - COG and Brookings’ new DMV Monitor was covered by several news outlets, including the Washington Business Journal, The New York Times, and AP News. Clark Mercer was also interviewed by The Washington Post, Washingtonian, WMAL, and DC News Now on stories related to the region’s economy and the federal workforce.

[Washingtonian](#)

**Upcoming TPB Vote on Southside Express Lanes Project**– The upcoming TPB vote on the Southside Express Lanes projects was covered by WUSA9, WTOP, and FFXnow.

[FFXnow](#)

**Loudoun Chamber of Commerce Forum** – Clark Mercer’s transportation presentation to the Loudoun Chamber was covered by Loudoun Now.

[Loudoun Now](#)



### COG AI in Government Workshop

COG’s first-ever AI in Government Workshop was covered by FOX 5, including an interview with COG Board Chair Rodney Lusk on key takeaways from the event.

[FOX 5](#)

## **Greater Washington region unites for first-of-its-kind workforce digital tool for displaced federal workers**

*Regional leaders unveil [TalentCapital.AI](#) — a free career resource featuring coaching, reskilling, credentialing, and more*

**WASHINGTON, DC (October 1, 2025)** — Leaders from across the Greater Washington region — including elected officials, business executives, philanthropic organizations, and higher education institutions — today launched a groundbreaking, public sector driven workforce tool to support displaced federal workers and build long-term economic resilience.

Talent Capital —a first-of-its-kind digital platform—offers free job matching, career training, reskilling, credentialing, and coaching. The platform, housed at the Metropolitan Washington Council of Governments (COG), combines technology with personalized, human-centered support from partners across Washington, DC, Maryland, and Virginia to help residents navigate career transitions and connect with meaningful employment opportunities.

The launch event, hosted at JPMorganChase’s Washington, DC office, highlighted the region’s unified approach to addressing workforce shifts. It also introduced the “We the People” public awareness campaign aimed at guiding jobseekers to the new resource.

“This launch is not just about a website — it’s about all of us working together to build long-standing economic resilience for our region,” said Rodney Lusk, Chair of the COG Board of Directors. “Talent Capital is a critical step in a bold, cross-sector effort to ensure displaced workers have the support they need today, and that our region remains a national leader in talent and innovation.”

The event brought together a broad coalition of leaders from across the region, including: Washington DC Mayor Muriel Bowser; Portia Wu, Maryland Secretary of Labor; Lizbeth Casco White Deputy Secretary of Labor of the Commonwealth of Virginia; Rodney Lusk, COG Board Chair of the Metropolitan Washington Council of Governments (COG) and Fairfax County Supervisor; Victor Hoskins, President and CEO of the Fairfax County Economic Development Authority; Dr. Unique Morris-Hughes, DC Secretary of Labor; Kate Stewart, President of the Montgomery County Council; Clark Mercer, Executive Director of the Metropolitan Washington Council of Governments; Alex Orfinger, Market President and Publisher of the *Washington Business Journal*; Tonia Wellons, President and CEO of the Greater Washington Community Foundation; Jack McDougale, President & CEO, Greater Washington Board of Trade; Kathy Hollinger, CEO of the Greater Washington Partnership; Alexis Bataillon, Head of Public Engagement and Market Leadership at JPMorganChase; Donald “Blue” Jenkins, Executive Vice President and President of Utilities at AltaGas and President of Washington Gas; Maurice D. Edington, Ph.D., President of the University of the District of Columbia; Nina Albert, Washington, DC Deputy Mayor for Planning and Economic Development; and Paul Kihn, Washington, DC Deputy Mayor for Education among others.

“In Washington, DC, we know that talent is our greatest asset, and that every Washingtonian deserves the opportunity to succeed,” said Mayor Muriel Bowser. “Talent Capital ensures that our



residents can stay in the region they call home, access high-quality jobs, grow their careers, and drive innovation across key industries. We are proud to lead this effort, and confident that economic mobility and opportunity will continue to define our region for years to come.”

“Talent Capital shows what’s possible when we align innovation with purpose,” said President and CEO of Fairfax County Economic Development Victor Hoskins. “In Virginia, we’re proud to support bold solutions that not only help displaced workers today but also prepare our communities for the opportunities of tomorrow. By working across borders, we’re strengthening the region’s resilience and global competitiveness.”

“This unified regional approach is what we need,” said Maryland Department of Labor Secretary Portia Wu. “Maryland is proud to stand with our partners in DC and Virginia to build a more resilient and equitable workforce and economy. By aligning the strength of our local workforce boards, education partners, and proven programs, we can help more residents access the meaningful training and clear career pathways they need to thrive.”

### **About Talentcapital.AI**

TalentCapital.AI is the region’s front door to jobs, curated training, career events, and workforce resources across DC, Maryland, and Virginia. Unlike static job boards, it’s powered by [BuildWithin’s](#) agentic AI—technology that thinks, adapts, and acts on behalf of each user. Job matches are tailored not just to past roles, but also to skills, career stage, aspirations, and location, while trainings and credentials are highlighted to boost career transitions.

Behind the scenes, a team of specialized AI agents guide residents through discovery and application. As a living platform, [TalentCapital.AI](#) grows with new partners, expanding its data, job postings, trainings, and events. This regional approach is vital: many jobseekers live in one jurisdiction and work in another, or simply haven’t had access to so many trusted resources in one place. By unifying them in one adaptive, AI-driven system, [TalentCapital.AI](#) makes career navigation more connected, accessible, and future-focused for the Greater Washington workforce.

In addition to the launch of [TalentCapital.AI](#), speakers announced a range of free programs and services from across the Greater Washington region. These include the District of Columbia’s partnership with Grounded Idealist to provide 200 free job coaching packages, as well as employer-aligned training programs offered by George Washington University, the University of the District of Columbia, Trinity University, and others. All of these resources will be accessible through [TalentCapital.AI](#).

The event concluded with a unified call to sustain and expand support for the public sector effort and Talent Capital platform, emphasizing the importance of continued collaboration across sectors to ensure the region’s displaced workers have the resources, training, and opportunities they need to thrive. Leaders reaffirmed their commitment to making this effort and Talent Capital a lasting pillar for workforce resilience and economic growth throughout the Greater Washington region.

To support or learn more about the regional effort visit [TalentCapital.AI](#).



## MEMORANDUM

**TO:** COG Board of Directors  
**FROM:** Monica Beyrouiti Nunez, COG Government Relations and Member Services Manager  
**SUBJECT:** Notice of Proposed By-Law Amendment Relating to State General Assembly Representation on COG Board of Directors  
**DATE:** October 1, 2025

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## PROPOSED BY-LAW AMENDMENT

In January 2025, the COG Board expressed interest in strengthening their relationship with the Maryland and Virginia General Assemblies and increasing their participation on the COG Board of Directors. The current composition of the COG Board of Directors includes one (1) Maryland General Assembly member and one (1) Virginia General Assembly member. This proposed By-Law amendment to section 5.02 is to increase the membership of the COG Board to include two (2) Maryland General Assembly members (one senator and one delegate) and two (2) Virginia General Assembly members (one senator and one delegate).

## TEXT OF PROPOSED AMENDMENT

5.02 The Board of Directors shall be selected from the general membership as follows:

- (a) One member selected by each government having a population of no more than 300,000.
- (b) Two (2) members selected by each government having a population of more than 300,000 but no more than 600,000.
- (c) Three (3) members selected by each government having a population of more than 600,000.
- (d) Four (4) members selected by the District of Columbia, two (2) from the Executive Branch and two (2) from the Legislative Branch, unless the two (2) branches shall decide on a different apportionment. A representative from the Executive Branch of the District of Columbia need not be selected from the general membership.
- (e) Two (2) members of the Maryland General Assembly (one senator and one delegate) and two (2) members of the Virginia General Assembly (one senator and one delegate), representing portions of the Washington Metropolitan Statistical Area, both of whom shall be selected biennially by separate consultation of the same-state Board members of COG followed by election by the entire Board of Directors.

## PROPOSED PROCESS

This advance notice is given pursuant to the By-Laws requirement in Section 13.02 which requires notice one meeting in advance of the meeting scheduled for voting on By-Law amendments. The

proposed amendment will be before the board for consideration and a vote at the November 12, 2025 regular board meeting. By-Laws may be amended at a regular meeting of the board by a 3/4 majority of the members present and voting.





## MEMORANDUM

**TO:** COG Board of Directors

**FROM:** Greg Goodwin, COG Principal Regional Planner  
Kanti Srikanth, COG Deputy Executive Director for Metropolitan Planning

**SUBJECT:** Round 10.1 Update to the Cooperative Forecasts

**DATE:** October 1, 2025

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The Metropolitan Washington Council of Governments (COG) established the Cooperative Forecasting Program in 1975 to provide for the development population, household and employment growth projections that could be used throughout the region as a consistent set of planning assumptions. The current set of Cooperative Forecasts, Round 10, is a “major” update approved by the COG Board of Directors in 2023. As part of the Cooperative Forecasting Program process, member local governments may submit technical updates of their forecasts annually to COG. The COG Board will be asked to approve the latest minor update to the Cooperative Forecasts, Round 10.1, at its October 8, 2025 meeting. This memorandum provides documentation on the process to develop Round 10.1 as well as the updated forecasts.

### COOPERATIVE FORECASTING PROCESS AND ROUND 10.0

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 a “round,” provides forecasts of employment, population, and households by five-year increments, and each round covers a period of 20 to 30 years. The Cooperative Forecasting process provides data necessary for regional planning activities including analyzing the effects of growth and developing policy responses to regional issues. A primary use of these regional cooperative growth forecasts is the development of the region’s long range transportation plan by the Transportation Planning Board (TPB), which funds this activity. In addition, the forecasts are used by COG members to determine the demand for schools, parks, medical facilities, roads, stores, and services, and as the basis for calculating COG member dues. COG’s Cooperative Forecasting and Data Subcommittee members prepare the Forecasts working with TPB staff and with oversight by the Planning Directors Technical Advisory Committee.

The current Round 10.0 Cooperative Forecasts were approved by the COG Board in June 2023. This round considered the impact of the COVID-19 pandemic on utilization, density, and development of commercial office space and housing in the region. Typically, the Cooperative Forecasts undergo a “major” update approximately every five years on average and take into consideration available new baseline data such as Census data, regionally-significant planning and development decisions,

economic market developments, and national and international macroeconomic assumptions that may affect future growth in metropolitan Washington.

## ROUND 10.1 UPDATE TO THE COOPERATIVE FORECASTS

Each year, the Cooperative Forecasting program provides an opportunity – but not a requirement – for jurisdictions to update their Forecasts on an annual basis. Key factors or actions that may warrant a local update include:

- Updates to a small-area or comprehensive plan;
- Notable commercial or residential rezonings;
- Changes to the amount, location, or market timing of local residential and commercial permits and construction; and
- Changes to local labor and employment markets.

In 2024, the year following approval of Round 10.0 Cooperative Forecasts, in response to staff’s solicitation, several jurisdictions indicated a need to provide updates, prompting the development of the Round 10.1 Cooperative Forecasts (See Table 1).

Given the timing of this minor update and the evolving nature of policies and actions, it is important to note that actions of the current federal Administration, including reductions in the federal government workforce, are not included in this minor update. Such actions would be considered in the development of the next major round of Cooperative Forecasts.

**Table 1: Jurisdictions Submitting Changes for Round 10.1**

Jurisdiction	Employment	Population	Households
Montgomery County		✓	✓
City of Rockville		✓	✓
Prince George’s County	✓	✓	✓
City of Alexandria	✓	✓	✓
Arlington County	✓	✓	✓
Fairfax County		✓	✓
Loudoun County	✓	✓	✓
Prince William County	✓	✓	✓

## KEY FINDINGS

Table 2 below summarizes the updated forecasts of growth in employment, population and households for the COG region between 2025 and 2050. Under the Draft Round 10.1 Cooperative Forecasts, between 2020 and 2050, the region will add more than:

- 1.4 million people
- 990,600 jobs
- 684,500 households

**Table 2: Summary of Draft Round 10.1 Cooperative Forecasts – COG Region (Millions)**

	2020	2025	2030	2035	2040	2045	2050	Absolute Change	% Change
Employment	3.1	3.3	3.5	3.7	3.8	4.0	4.1	1.0	31.3
Population	5.7	5.9	6.2	6.4	6.7	6.9	7.1	1.4	25.1
Households	2.1	2.2	2.3	2.5	2.6	2.7	2.8	0.7	32.2

Table 3 and Table 4 show the absolute and percent difference, respectively, between the Draft Round 10.1 Cooperative Forecasts and the Round 10.0 Cooperative Forecasts and provide an indication of the “de minimis” nature of this update.

**Table 3: Absolute Change in Forecasts from 10.0 Forecasts – COG Region (Thousands)**

	2020	2025	2030	2035	2040	2045	2050
Employment	0.1	-0.5	17.7	9.3	11.3	9.1	3.3
Population	-3.5	-19.3	-22.0	-18.2	-21.0	-17.6	-13.2
Households	-0.1	-9.1	-6.0	-3.1	-1.5	3.6	8.1

**Table 4: Percentage Change in Forecasts from 10.0 Forecasts – COG Region**

	2020	2025	2030	2035	2040	2045	2050
Employment	0.0%	0.0%	0.5%	0.2%	0.3%	0.2%	0.1%
Population	-0.1%	-0.3%	-0.4%	-0.3%	-0.3%	-0.3%	-0.2%
Households	0.0%	-0.4%	-0.3%	-0.1%	-0.1%	0.1%	0.3%

## **JURISDICTIONAL LEVEL FINDINGS**

### **Employment**

Consistent with the Round 10.0 Cooperative Forecasts, the District of Columbia, Fairfax County, and Montgomery County will add the greatest number of new jobs to the region's employment base during the 2025 to 2050 forecast period.

### **Population**

Like the Round 10.0 Cooperative Forecasts, most of the population growth will occur in Prince George's County, Fairfax County and Montgomery County.

### **Households**

The largest number of new households in terms of growth will be in the District of Columbia, Fairfax County, and Montgomery County.

## **NEXT STEPS**

Later this year, a Growth Trends report will be released providing more information and detail about the Round 10.1 Cooperative Forecasts. The report will include data tables and maps providing insights on existing and future growth of employment, population, and households anticipated in the region. Also, the updated forecasts will be available for all the Regional Activity Centers approved by the COG Board earlier this year.

# **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**  
**September 10, 2025**

**BOARD MEMBERS AND ALTERNATES:** See attached chart for attendance.

**SPEAKERS:**

Don Beyer, U.S. Congressman  
Joe Paul, OptimaNOVA  
Rita Reynolds, National Association of Counties  
Seamus Dowdall, National Association of Counties  
Chuck Wemple, Houston-Galveston Area Council  
Bryan Hill, Fairfax County  
Stephen Miller, District of Columbia  
Vanetta Pledger, City of Alexandria  
Gail Roper, Montgomery County  
Nate Wentland, Loudoun County  
Erin McKinney, Amazon Web Services  
Sergio Ortega, Amazon Web Services

**1. CALL TO ORDER AND PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE**

COG Board Chair Rodney Lusk called the meeting to order at 12:03 P.M. and led the Pledge of Allegiance.

**2. CHAIR'S REPORT**

The Chair's report included the following items:

- COG Congressional Delegation Reception on October 20<sup>th</sup>
- COG Annual Membership Meeting and Awards Reception on December 3<sup>rd</sup>

**3. AMENDMENTS TO THE AGENDA**

There were no amendments to the agenda.

**4. EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S REPORT**

The Executive Director's report included the following items:

- In June, the Transportation Planning Board (TPB) received updates on regional resilience efforts, including a new flood risk analysis, the 2025 Enhanced Mobility Program application, and a DMV/Moves update. In July, the TPB set the fall schedule for the Visualize 2050 review, presented air quality and performance results, received a Virginia DOT Southside Express Lanes update, and approved funding for 12 projects under the Maryland Carbon Reduction and Transportation Alternatives Programs.
- At its July meeting, Chesapeake Bay Policy Committee (CBPC) heard from the Water Suburban Sanitary Commission (WSSC) Water about a Water Research Foundation (WRF) funded project to reduce PFAS, also known as forever chemicals in biosolids. The group also received an update from the Chesapeake Bay Program Office and heard about a recent report from the MD Pesticide Education Network on the impact of pesticides to the Chesapeake Bay Watershed.
- In July, COG hosted its annual Leadership Retreat, bringing together DC, Maryland, and Virginia officials to tackle shared challenges. Discussions centered on emergency management, transportation, workforce development, and developing COG's mission

statement and strategic plan.

- At Climate Energy & Environment Policy Committee's (CEEPC) July meeting, members heard presentations on and discussed barometric changes impacting recent extreme weather events, the TPB's new flood risk analysis, and draft local and regional greenhouse gas inventories.
- In mid-July, the Food and Agriculture Regional Member Committee (FARM) held a policy forum to discuss opportunities for regional collaboration amidst rising food prices, cuts to food distribution programs, including those connecting the region's farmers to schools and food banks, and upcoming federal cuts to SNAP and Medicaid.
- The Human Services Policy Committee (HSPC) met in July to discuss housing solutions for older adults. Members learned about a new and impactful Frederick County service coordination model, heard from the director of Culpepper Garden, one of the region's oldest and largest affordable senior housing communities, and gained insights from Fairfax City on its locally funded Village in the City model as a replicable and cost-effective approach to supporting aging populations.
- Clark Mercer made presentations to Arlington and Charles County officials to detail COG's work in the county and regionally, as well as the Return on Investment for member governments. Mercer also made a presentation to the Loudoun County Chamber of Commerce.
- COG began sending a revamped version of its newsletter on economic trends promoting its Regional Economic Monitoring System (REMS) reports and new interactive dashboard, which tracks three decades of regional data on jobs, unemployment, inflation, and housing. Early insights showed the Washington MSA lost 17,000+ federal jobs between June 2024 and June 2025, making federal employment the fastest-shrinking subsector in the region. The reports also generated strong media interest.

## **5. APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES FROM JUNE 11, 2025**

The minutes from the June 11, 2025 board meeting were approved.

## **6. ADOPTION OF CONSENT AGENDA ITEMS**

Resolution R19-2025 – Resolution authorizing COG to receive a grant to execute the National Capital Prism Invasive Species Management and Outreach Project

Resolution R20-2025 – Resolution authorizing updates to the COG Procurement Policy

**Action: The board adopted Resolutions R19-2025 and R20-2025.**

## **7. INTRODUCTION TO AI IN LOCAL GOVERNMENT**

Chair Lusk introduced Joe Paul, Founder and CEO of OptimaNOVA. Mr. Paul briefly discussed why AI in local government is an important topic.

## **8. U.S. CONGRESSMAN DON BEYER – AI IN GOVERNMENT**

Congressman Beyer gave insights into the state of AI nationally and policies at the federal level. The board asked Congressman Beyer a few questions and discussed.

## **9. ARTIFICIAL INTELLIGENCE COUNTY COMPASS: PRACTICAL TOOLKIT FOR LOCAL IMPLEMENTATION**

Ms. Reynolds and Mr. Dowdall shared the best practices with the NACo AI Toolkit.

## **10. HOUSTON-GALVESTON AREA COUNCIL – AI POLICY DEVELOPMENT**

Mr. Wemple discussed the AI Policy developed and implemented by the council of governments representing the Houston, Texas region.

## **11. AI IN LOCAL GOVERNMENT – REGIONAL BEST PRACTICES**

Bryan Hill moderated a panel discussion on AI best practices and policies for local governments in the region.

**12. LIVE AI DEMONSTRATION & NEXT STEPS**

Mr. Paul, Ms. McKinney, and Mr. Ortega discussed the best AI practices and detailed lessons learned and facilitated an interactive AI demonstration for COG board members.

**13. ADJORN**

The meeting was adjourned at 3:53 P.M.



**COG Board of Directors  
Meeting  
September 10, 2025 Attendance**

<b>Jurisdiction</b>	<b>Member</b>	<b>Y/N</b>	<b>Alternate</b>	<b>Y/N</b>
<b><i>District of Columbia</i></b>				
<b>Executive</b>	Hon. Muriel Bowser		Ms. Beverly Perry	
	Mr. Kevin Donahue		Mr. Tomas Talamante	
<b>Council</b>	Hon. Phil Mendelson	Y	Hon. Brianne Nadeau	Y
	Hon. Charles Allen	Y		
<b><i>Maryland</i></b>				
City of Bowie	Hon. Tim Adams	Y	Mr. Dufour Woolfley	
Charles County	Hon. Reuben Collins	Y	Hon. Thomasina Coates	
City of Frederick	Hon. Michael O'Connor	Y	Hon. Gayon Sampson	
Frederick County	Hon. Jessica Fitzwater	Y	Ms. Victoria Venable	
City of College Park	Hon. Denise Mitchell	Y	Hon. Fazlul Kabir	Y
City of Gaithersburg	Hon. Robert Wu	Y	Hon. Neil Harris	
City of Greenbelt	Hon. Emmett Jordan	Y	Hon. Kristen Weaver	
City of Laurel	Hon. Keith Sydnor		Hon. Kyla Clark	Y
Montgomery County - Exec	Hon. Marc Elrich		Mr. Richard Madaleno Ms. Fariba Kassiri Mr. Earl Stoddard	Y
Montgomery County - Council	Hon. Evan Glass			
Montgomery County - Council	Hon. Kate Stewart	Y		
Prince George's County - Exec	Hon. Aisha Braveboy		Mr. Barry Stanton	
Prince George's County - Council	Hon. Tom Dernoga	Y	Hon. Wanika Fisher	
Prince George's County - Council	Hon. Ingrid Watson		Hon. Krystal Oriadha	
City of Rockville	Hon. Monique Ashton	Y		
City of Takoma Park	Hon. Talisha Searcy			
Maryland General Assembly	Hon. Brian Feldman			
<b><i>Virginia</i></b>				
City of Alexandria	Hon. Alyia Gaskins	Y	Hon. Sarah Bagley	
Arlington County	Hon. Takis Karantonis	Y		
City of Fairfax	Hon. Catherine Read	Y	Hon. Stacey Hardy-Chandler	
Fairfax County	Hon. Rodney Lusk	Y	Hon. Daniel Storck	
Fairfax County	Hon. Jeff McKay		Hon. Andres Jimenez	
Fairfax County	Hon. James Walkinshaw		Hon. Walter Alcorn	Y
City of Falls Church	Hon. David Snyder	Y	Hon. Marybeth Connelly	
Loudoun County	Hon. Laura TeKrony	Y		
Loudoun County	Hon. Phyllis Randall		Hon. Koran Saines	
City of Manassas	Hon. Mark Wolfe	Y	Hon. Sonia Vasquez Luna	Y
City of Manassas Park	Hon. Darryl Moore			
Prince William County	Hon. Deshundra Jefferson	Y	Hon. Kenny A. Boddye	
Prince William County	Hon. Andrea Bailey		Hon. Tom Gordy	
Virginia General Assembly	Hon. Mark Sickles			

Y = voting member present

P = present alternate in addition to member

Total voting present: 26

# **AGENDA ITEM #6**

## **ADOPTION OF CONSENT AGENDA ITEMS**

**ADOPTION OF CONSENT AGENDA ITEMS**  
**October 2025**

**A. RESOLUTION APPROVING APPOINTMENTS TO THE COG 2026 NOMINATING COMMITTEE**

The board will be asked to adopt Resolution R21-2025 approving the appointments to the 2026 Nominating Committee. The Nominating Committee is appointed annually with the task of nominating the three members of the executive committee of the Board of Directors and the four corporate officers. The Nominating Committee is comprised of seven members, balanced geographically among the District of Columbia, the State of Maryland, the Commonwealth of Virginia, and chaired by the current COG Board Chair. If a member of the appointed Nominating Committee is unable to serve throughout the tenure of the committee, the COG Board Chair will appoint an alternate member. Recommended individuals to serve on the 2026 Nominating Committee are as follows:

Rodney Lusk, Fairfax County (Committee Chair)

Takis Karantonis, Arlington County

David Snyder, City of Falls Church

Monique Ashton, City of Rockville

Jessica Fitzwater, Frederick County

Phil Mendelson, District of Columbia

Beverly Perry, District of Columbia

**RECOMMENDED ACTION: Adopt Resolution R21-2025.**

**B. RESOLUTION APPROVING APPOINTMENTS TO THE COG 2026 LEGISLATIVE COMMITTEE**

The board will be asked to adopt Resolution R22-2025 authorizing the appointments to the 2026 Legislative Committee. The Legislative Committee is appointed annually with the task of reviewing and proposing an advocacy platform that outlines the region's federal and state policy priorities for the calendar year. The Legislative Committee is comprised of individuals from each of COG's policy committees and boards. Recommended individuals to serve on the 2026 Legislative Committee are as follows:

Reuben Collins, COG Board of Directors (Committee Chair)

Walter Alcorn, Transportation Planning Board

Tom Dernoga, Metropolitan Washington Air Quality Committee

Kenny Boddy, Chesapeake Bay and Water Resources Committee

Andrew Friedson, Food and Agriculture Regional Member Policy Committee

Sarah Bagley, Climate, Energy, and Environment Policy Committee

Anita Bonds, Human Services Policy Committee

Mark Sickles, Virginia General Assembly

Brian Feldman, Maryland General Assembly

**RECOMMENDED ACTION: Adopt Resolution R22-2025.**

**C. RESOLUTION APPROVING APPOINTMENTS TO THE COG 2025 AWARDS SELECTION COMMITTEE**

The board will be asked to adopt Resolution R23-2025 authorizing the appointments to the 2025 Awards Committee. The Committee is appointed annually with the task of reviewing nominations and selecting awardees for the following awards: Elizabeth and Davis Scull Metropolitan Service Award, Ronald F. Kirby Award for Collaborative Leadership, and the Stuart A. Freudberg Award for Regional Partnership. The Committee is composed of the COG

Board Executive Committee and past award winners. Recommended individuals to serve on the 2026 Awards Selection Committee are as follows:

Rodney Lusk, Fairfax County (Committee Chair)

Reuben Collins, Charles County

Charles Allen, District of Columbia

Phyllis Randall, Loudoun County

Phil Mendelson, District of Columbia

**RECOMMENDED ACTION: Adopt Resolution R23-2025.**

**D. RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING COG TO PROCURE AND ENTER INTO A CONTRACT TO CONDUCT PFAS AND PRECURSOR COMPOUNDS MONITORING IN THE POTOMAC RIVER WATERSHED**

The board will be asked to adopt Resolution R24-2025 authorizing the Executive Director, or his designee, to expend COG funds from the Regional Water Fund in the amount of \$100,000. The resolution also authorizes the Executive Director, or his designee, to proceed with procurement for a contractor, or contractors, and enter into a contract to collect samples from the Potomac River and measure PFAS and precursor compounds to establish source water monitoring for utilities in the Washington DC-Maryland-Virginia region.

**RECOMMENDED ACTION: Adopt Resolution R24-2025.**

**E. RESOLUTION ADOPTING THE DRAFT ROUND 10.1 COOPERATIVE FORECASTS AS A MINOR UPDATE TO THE ROUND 10 COOPERATIVE FORECASTS**

The board will be asked to adopt Resolution R25-2025 acknowledging receipt of Round 10.1 Cooperative Forecasts (attached) and adopting the forecasts for use by the Transportation Planning Board (TPB) in future transportation planning activities, for COG's land use and planning activities and by members of the COG in local planning activities as appropriate. The board desires the adopted Forecasts support continued coordination of land use and transportation planning at the regional and local levels.

**RECOMMENDED ACTION: Adopt Resolution R25-2025.**

**Summary of Employment Forecasts**  
**Final Round 10.1 Cooperative Forecasts**  
**(Thousands)**

**Final COG Board of**  
**Directors**  
**October 8, 2025**

JURISDICTION	2020	2025	2030	2035	2040	2045	2050	2020 to 2050 Growth	
								Number	% Change
District of Columbia	785.9	846.1	886.3	923.5	954.4	989.0	1,021.6	235.7	30.0%
Arlington County	221.6	220.5	233.6	250.6	257.4	261.8	266.1	44.5	20.1%
City of Alexandria	101.8	97.2	101.7	104.0	110.4	114.9	119.1	17.3	17.0%
<b>Central Jurisdictions</b>	<b>1,109.3</b>	<b>1,163.8</b>	<b>1,221.6</b>	<b>1,278.0</b>	<b>1,322.1</b>	<b>1,365.7</b>	<b>1,406.8</b>	<b>297.5</b>	<b>26.8%</b>
Montgomery County	493.6	522.9	545.6	568.3	591.0	613.8	636.5	142.9	29.0%
City of Rockville (1)	76.4	78.7	81.1	83.8	87.8	91.1	94.5	18.0	23.6%
City of Gaithersburg (1)	43.0	48.0	52.0	54.5	56.5	58.0	59.0	16.0	37.2%
Prince George's County	343.5	357.6	375.2	394.2	410.5	429.8	448.7	105.2	30.6%
Fairfax County (2)	658.8	690.5	750.8	788.8	812.5	832.0	842.0	183.2	27.8%
City of Fairfax	20.5	22.0	22.3	22.6	22.9	23.2	23.5	3.0	14.6%
City of Falls Church	12.4	13.1	15.4	16.5	17.4	18.3	19.4	7.1	57.0%
<b>Inner Suburbs</b>	<b>1,528.7</b>	<b>1,606.2</b>	<b>1,709.2</b>	<b>1,790.3</b>	<b>1,854.4</b>	<b>1,917.0</b>	<b>1,970.1</b>	<b>441.4</b>	<b>28.9%</b>
Loudoun County	187.7	221.7	237.1	249.1	260.4	269.4	277.2	89.5	47.7%
Prince William County	161.8	172.2	194.3	209.8	223.4	235.6	246.4	84.6	52.3%
City of Manassas	25.3	26.1	26.9	27.7	28.3	28.8	29.3	3.9	15.5%
City of Manassas Park	4.3	4.7	5.0	5.1	5.2	5.3	5.4	1.1	25.5%
Charles County	43.9	46.1	49.8	54.0	57.4	60.0	62.2	18.3	41.8%
Frederick County	108.3	115.6	123.8	132.5	141.8	151.8	162.5	54.2	50.1%
City of Frederick (3)	57.4	60.1	64.4	67.6	69.5	74.4	79.6	22.2	38.7%
<b>Outer Suburbs</b>	<b>531.4</b>	<b>586.4</b>	<b>636.8</b>	<b>678.2</b>	<b>716.5</b>	<b>750.9</b>	<b>783.0</b>	<b>251.6</b>	<b>47.4%</b>
<b>Virginia Jurisdictions</b>	<b>1,394.3</b>	<b>1,468.1</b>	<b>1,587.0</b>	<b>1,674.1</b>	<b>1,737.9</b>	<b>1,789.2</b>	<b>1,828.5</b>	<b>434.2</b>	<b>31.1%</b>
<b>Maryland Jurisdictions</b>	<b>989.2</b>	<b>1,042.3</b>	<b>1,094.3</b>	<b>1,149.0</b>	<b>1,200.8</b>	<b>1,255.4</b>	<b>1,309.9</b>	<b>320.7</b>	<b>32.4%</b>
<b>COG Region</b>	<b>3,169.4</b>	<b>3,356.4</b>	<b>3,567.6</b>	<b>3,746.6</b>	<b>3,893.0</b>	<b>4,033.7</b>	<b>4,160.0</b>	<b>990.6</b>	<b>31.3%</b>

(1) Included in Montgomery County total.

(2) Forecasts for all years include Fairfax County Government employees working at the Fairfax County Judicial Center.

(3) Included in Frederick County total.

**Summary of Population Forecasts**  
**Final Round 10.1 Cooperative Forecasts**  
**(Thousands)**

**Final COG Board of**  
**Directors**  
**October 8, 2025**

JURISDICTION	2020	2025	2030	2035	2040	2045	2050	2020 to 2050 Growth	
								Number	% Change
District of Columbia	689.5	697.6	728.6	757.2	787.1	816.4	844.4	154.9	22.5%
Arlington County	238.4	247.4	258.8	269.8	283.1	295.4	308.5	70.2	29.4%
City of Alexandria	159.5	168.6	182.7	197.5	211.5	227.2	235.5	76.1	47.7%
<b>Central Jurisdictions</b>	<b>1,087.4</b>	<b>1,113.6</b>	<b>1,170.1</b>	<b>1,224.5</b>	<b>1,281.7</b>	<b>1,339.1</b>	<b>1,388.5</b>	<b>301.1</b>	<b>27.7%</b>
Montgomery County	1,061.2	1,082.9	1,118.2	1,154.1	1,189.8	1,222.2	1,250.7	189.5	17.9%
City of Rockville (1)	67.2	69.9	73.9	77.6	81.9	86.1	90.4	23.2	34.5%
City of Gaithersburg (1)	69.7	72.5	75.7	78.5	81.2	83.7	85.8	16.1	23.2%
Prince George's County	967.1	1,003.2	1,047.5	1,106.4	1,147.3	1,184.2	1,218.8	251.7	26.0%
Fairfax County	1,171.9	1,200.8	1,240.9	1,277.0	1,310.7	1,345.0	1,379.4	207.5	17.7%
City of Fairfax	24.1	27.8	32.7	34.4	36.1	37.8	39.6	15.4	63.8%
City of Falls Church	14.7	15.5	18.0	19.6	20.7	21.8	23.3	8.6	58.8%
<b>Inner Suburbs</b>	<b>3,239.0</b>	<b>3,330.2</b>	<b>3,457.3</b>	<b>3,591.4</b>	<b>3,704.6</b>	<b>3,811.0</b>	<b>3,911.7</b>	<b>672.7</b>	<b>20.8%</b>
Loudoun County	421.0	455.2	484.4	506.9	522.6	533.8	543.7	122.7	29.2%
Prince William County	480.6	503.5	536.6	553.0	565.0	573.6	579.5	98.9	20.6%
City of Manassas	42.8	43.7	46.3	47.6	48.5	49.5	50.4	7.7	17.9%
City of Manassas Park	17.2	19.0	20.4	20.9	21.4	21.9	22.4	5.2	30.3%
Charles County	168.0	176.3	193.6	203.8	216.5	230.4	242.7	74.6	44.4%
Frederick County	271.7	293.2	316.3	341.3	368.3	397.4	428.8	157.1	57.8%
City of Frederick (2)	78.2	83.8	89.5	95.1	100.8	106.4	112.0	33.9	43.3%
<b>Outer Suburbs</b>	<b>1,401.3</b>	<b>1,491.0</b>	<b>1,597.8</b>	<b>1,673.6</b>	<b>1,742.4</b>	<b>1,806.7</b>	<b>1,867.6</b>	<b>466.3</b>	<b>33.3%</b>
<b>Virginia Jurisdictions</b>	<b>2,570.1</b>	<b>2,681.5</b>	<b>2,820.9</b>	<b>2,926.7</b>	<b>3,019.6</b>	<b>3,106.2</b>	<b>3,182.4</b>	<b>612.4</b>	<b>23.8%</b>
<b>Maryland Jurisdictions</b>	<b>2,468.1</b>	<b>2,555.7</b>	<b>2,675.7</b>	<b>2,805.6</b>	<b>2,921.9</b>	<b>3,034.2</b>	<b>3,141.0</b>	<b>672.9</b>	<b>27.3%</b>
<b>COG Region</b>	<b>5,727.709</b>	<b>5,934.780</b>	<b>6,225.138</b>	<b>6,489.511</b>	<b>6,728.638</b>	<b>6,956.769</b>	<b>7,167.828</b>	<b>1,440.1</b>	<b>25.1%</b>

(1) Included in Montgomery County total.

(2) Included in Frederick County total.

**Summary of Household Forecasts**  
**Final Round 10.1 Cooperative Forecasts**  
**(Thousands)**

**Final COG Board of**  
**Directors**  
**October 8, 2025**

JURISDICTION	2020	2025	2030	2035	2040	2045	2050	2020 to 2050 Growth	
								Number	% Change
District of Columbia	312.4	344.2	366.8	386.6	407.6	426.0	441.4	129.0	41.3%
Arlington County	109.7	120.7	127.1	133.7	141.1	147.9	155.4	45.7	41.6%
City of Alexandria	75.6	81.8	91.5	101.7	111.3	122.1	127.8	52.2	69.1%
<b>Central Jurisdictions</b>	<b>497.7</b>	<b>546.7</b>	<b>585.4</b>	<b>622.0</b>	<b>659.9</b>	<b>696.1</b>	<b>724.6</b>	<b>226.9</b>	<b>45.6%</b>
Montgomery County	386.6	398.4	416.5	434.2	450.1	463.2	474.3	87.7	22.7%
City of Rockville (1)	26.9	28.1	30.0	31.7	33.6	35.7	37.8	11.0	40.8%
City of Gaithersburg (1)	25.9	27.2	28.9	30.3	31.7	33.0	34.2	8.3	32.0%
Prince George's County	342.2	355.7	373.5	395.2	409.8	423.0	435.2	93.0	27.2%
Fairfax County	417.5	429.5	446.1	461.8	476.6	491.8	506.8	89.4	21.4%
City of Fairfax	9.3	10.6	13.0	13.8	14.6	15.4	16.3	6.9	74.3%
City of Falls Church	5.8	7.3	8.7	9.6	10.3	11.1	12.1	6.3	108.5%
<b>Inner Suburbs</b>	<b>1,161.5</b>	<b>1,201.5</b>	<b>1,257.8</b>	<b>1,314.7</b>	<b>1,361.5</b>	<b>1,404.5</b>	<b>1,444.7</b>	<b>283.2</b>	<b>24.4%</b>
Loudoun County	137.5	148.2	158.7	166.9	172.8	177.2	181.0	43.5	31.6%
Prince William County	153.9	158.1	173.4	180.0	185.1	189.0	191.9	37.9	24.6%
City of Manassas	14.0	14.3	15.1	15.5	15.8	16.1	16.4	2.4	17.5%
City of Manassas Park	5.4	6.2	6.9	7.1	7.4	7.7	8.0	2.6	47.9%
Charles County	59.1	64.3	71.2	75.3	80.0	85.2	89.7	30.6	51.8%
Frederick County	98.4	106.2	114.5	123.5	133.2	144.3	155.7	57.3	58.3%
City of Frederick (2)	31.8	34.1	36.3	38.7	40.9	43.3	45.6	13.8	43.3%
<b>Outer Suburbs</b>	<b>468.3</b>	<b>497.2</b>	<b>539.9</b>	<b>568.3</b>	<b>594.3</b>	<b>619.4</b>	<b>642.6</b>	<b>174.4</b>	<b>37.2%</b>
<b>Virginia Jurisdictions</b>	<b>928.7</b>	<b>976.6</b>	<b>1,040.6</b>	<b>1,090.2</b>	<b>1,135.0</b>	<b>1,178.3</b>	<b>1,215.7</b>	<b>287.0</b>	<b>30.9%</b>
<b>Maryland Jurisdictions</b>	<b>886.3</b>	<b>924.6</b>	<b>975.7</b>	<b>1,028.2</b>	<b>1,073.1</b>	<b>1,115.6</b>	<b>1,154.9</b>	<b>268.6</b>	<b>30.3%</b>
<b>COG Region</b>	<b>2,127.5</b>	<b>2,245.4</b>	<b>2,383.1</b>	<b>2,505.0</b>	<b>2,615.7</b>	<b>2,720.0</b>	<b>2,812.0</b>	<b>684.5</b>	<b>32.2%</b>

(1) Included in Montgomery County total.

(2) Included in Frederick County total.

# **AGENDA ITEM #7**

## **2025 CLIMATE AND ENERGY LEADERSHIP AWARDS**





## 2025 Climate and Energy Leadership Awards

The Metropolitan Washington Council of Governments' (COG) Climate and Energy Leadership Awards Program recognizes organizations that develop climate stewardship projects and programs that engage and serve the region's underserved communities. The program highlights a broad range of climate solutions for their unique engagement practices as well as their results, creativity, and replicability.

COG presents the 2025 Climate and Energy Leadership Awards to:

- Small Government Sector: City of Frederick, MD - Residential Composting Pilot Program

The Residential Curbside Composting Pilot Program is the City of Frederick's primary waste recovery program. Residents sign up and receive a compost bin for curbside collection of food scraps and other organic materials. The City led culturally sensitive communications and marketing efforts to increase household participation to underrepresented communities. Since December 2023, 3500 people have been engaged, and the compost education materials were translated into 7 languages.

The program saw a 69% increase in subscribers when the pilot was expanded citywide and since June of 2022, City residents have recovered 1.2 million pounds of food waste.

- Large Government Sector: Frederick County, MD - Green Homes Program

Frederick County's Green Homes Program connects education, personalized support, community partnerships, and financial incentives to promote long-term change at the household and neighborhood level. Particularly focused on historically underserved and overburdened communities, the Green Homes Challenge has 2,193 households currently enrolled, which equates to annual cumulative results of:

- 15,123 tons of CO2 emissions reduced,
- 5,226 pounds of sediment pollution reduced,
- 40,619,449 gallons of water saved,
- 159,766 gallons of gasoline saved per year, and an
- \$1,497,943 estimated savings across participating households.

The Green Homes Program demonstrates that local action can drive measurable changes.

- Non-governmental Organization Non-Profit: Emerald Cities Collaborative - DC Contractor Incubator

The DC Contractor Incubator is a holistic clean energy and business development program designed to support small, minority and women-owned construction businesses in Washington, DC, particularly those located in or serving Wards 5, 7, and 8. The program offers cohort-based training, one-on-one coaching, and individualized technical and



business assessments focused on green building technologies, climate policy readiness, and investment-aligned green energy and infrastructure projects. Businesses engage in 5-8 weeks of structured curriculum, followed by up to two years of tailored business coaching and technical assistance. Since launching in 2024, the DC Contractor Incubator has served 53 unique construction firms across three cohorts. Of these:

- 21 received one-on-one coaching leading to operational improvements and
- 14 secured new contracts within 6 months of participation, including projects related to school modernization, affordable housing, and green infrastructure.

The Women Build DC is an innovator component of the DC Contractor Incubator that provided specialized training to an all-women's retrofit cohort of 15 women business owners of color who are historically excluded from construction and energy efficiency sectors.

The DC Contractor Incubator is highly replicable. The model is effective in jurisdictions with existing or emerging building performance standards, such as Maryland's statewide Building Energy Performance Standards and Montgomery County's building decarbonization policies.

- **Educational Institution Sector: Montgomery County Public Schools - Indoor Air Quality Monitoring Network: A Scalable Strategy for Equity and Climate Resilience**

Montgomery County Public Schools (MCPS) implemented a groundbreaking Indoor Air Quality (IAQ) Monitoring Network across its facilities. The initiative includes the deployment of environmental sensors in every classroom across the school district. Each sensor is capable of measuring carbon dioxide, particulate matter 2.5, temperature, and humidity across classrooms, media centers, and cafeterias. IAQ data is captured 24/7 to allow for retrospective and current-state evaluation. The constant monitoring resulted in:

- Almost 5 billion data points collected per year across 10,000 spaces,
- Humidity level measurements that provide an early warning system to trigger corrections and proactively prevent mold and related damage,
- Improved student, teacher, and parent confidence in a school's environmental safety, and
- Systemwide metrics to quantify performance and target trouble spots.

The data analysis also assists the MCPS team control energy use, occupancy analytics, and environmental controls, allowing for the facilitation of broader sustainability and resiliency goals.

# **AGENDA ITEM #8**

## **FISCAL YEAR 2027 MEMBER DUES & REGIONAL FEES**



# MOVING THE REGION FORWARD, TOGETHER

## Overview of COG's FY27 Member Dues and Regional Funds

Clark Mercer, COG Executive Director  
Julie Mussog, COG Chief Financial Officer/Chief Administrative Officer

COG Budget and Finance Committee  
September 29, 2025



Metropolitan Washington  
**Council of Governments**

# About COG

- Nonprofit association founded in **1957**
  - Brings area leaders together to address regional issues and plan for the future
  - Home of the Transportation Planning Board, the region's Metropolitan Planning Org.
  - **125+** professional staff
- Our membership:
  - **24** local governments
  - **300** local, state & federal elected officials representing about **6M** people



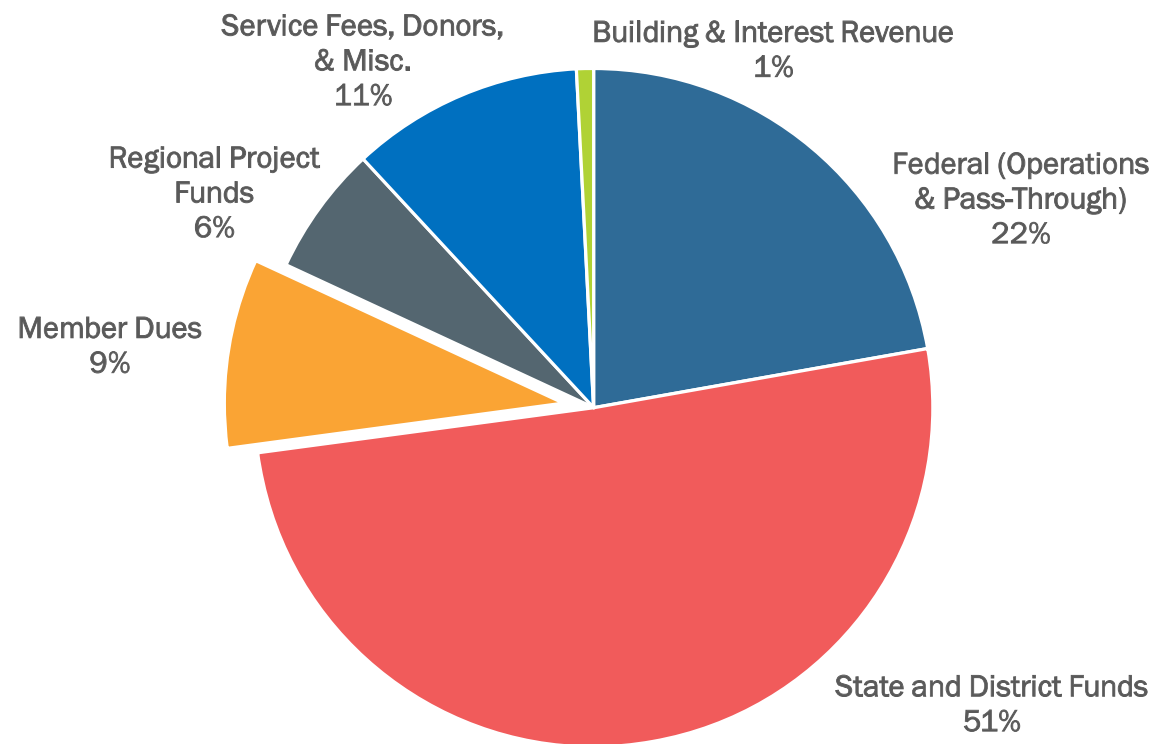


## Member Dues

- While just 9% of the overall budget, member dues from COG's local governments unlock a variety of benefits.
- Local support leverages tens of millions of dollars in federal and state funding and helps advance a wide range of regional priorities.



# Member Dues Provide 9% of Total COG Resources



# Member Dues: Additional Investments for FY27

Proposed 5% increase for priority areas:

- Workforce and Economic Development  
**+ \$57,540**
- Federally Mandated 10% Match for the TPB  
**+ \$111,720**
- Member Services and Communications  
**+ \$68,090**



COG Capital Caucus 2025 – Event convening state legislators, local leaders



# Member Dues: Housing, Workforce & Economic Development, Health

- Regional planning services: growth forecasts, data tools, and analysis.
- Guiding affordable housing planning, annual PIT count.
- Boosting economic and workforce development through new strategic initiatives like Talent Capital.
- Supporting public health and human services coordination.

**FY27 Proposed Member Dues:**

**\$1,208,340** (\$57,540 increase from FY26)



Job Fair by COG partner Greater Washington Region Clean Cities Coalition (GWRCCC/X)

# Member Dues: Transportation Planning

- Ensuring major projects receive federal funding and approvals and guiding long-term planning through the TPB's Visualize 2050 plan and the Transportation Improvement Program (TIP).
- Funding grant programs for local roadway safety, transit, and land-use projects that improve mobility, accessibility, and sustainability.

**FY27 Proposed Member Dues:**

**\$2,346,120** (\$111,720 increase from FY26)



*National Capital Region Transportation Plan*

# Member Dues: Public Safety Programs (Non-Federally Supported)

- Coordinating among local, state, regional, and federal with a focus on emergency preparedness, response, and recovery.
- Managing the Urban Area Security Initiative (UASI) grant program and maintaining the Regional Incident Communication and Coordination System (RICCS) for 24/7 alerts.

**FY27 Proposed Member Dues:**

**\$524,875** (\$27,625 decrease from FY26)



COG Board honors first responders for heroic efforts following mid-air collision

# Member Dues: Anacostia Watershed Restoration

- Decades of efforts led by the Anacostia Watershed Restoration Partnership are improving water quality, wildlife habitat, and recreation.
- Implementing federally funded project with Anacostia Riverkeeper to remove abandoned vessels and large debris to further protect the watershed's health.

**FY27 Proposed Member Dues:**

**\$167,900** (level funded from FY26)



The Anacostia Watershed Restoration Project improves water quality, cleans up trash, supports fish and wildlife habitats, and creates opportunities for recreation and outdoor adventure.

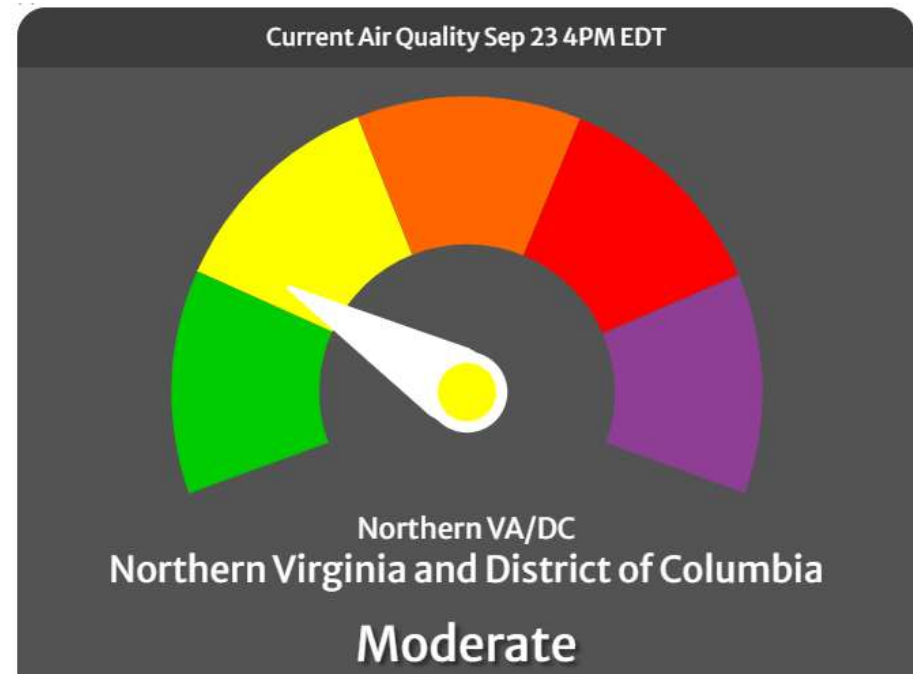


# Member Dues: Air Quality Planning

- Coordinating air quality planning through the Metropolitan Washington Air Quality Committee to meet federal air standards.
- Monitoring pollution and issuing air quality forecasts and health advisories to the public when the air is unhealthy.
- Supporting the Clean Air Partners public education program.

**FY27 Proposed Member Dues:**

**\$309,800** (level funded from FY26)



COG regional air quality widget.

# Member Dues: Clean Energy Projects

- Coordinating climate planning and greenhouse gas emissions inventories to help advance efforts to meet 2030 climate goals.
- Working with members and partners to accelerate deployment of solar installations regionwide.
- Supporting greater electric vehicle usage through EV charging infrastructure planning.

**FY27 Proposed Member Dues:**

**\$429,170** (\$47,730 decrease from FY26)



The COG Board set a goal of 250,000 solar rooftops by 2030, advancing clean energy through local, community, and equity-focused efforts.

# Member Dues: Member Services & Communications

- Member-driven legislative advocacy and development of partnerships with business, non-profit leaders.
- Spotighting members and programs through multi-channel comms strategy: media outreach, e-news, video, and social media.
- Supporting board retreat, annual meeting, and special events.

**FY27 Proposed Member Dues:**

**\$1,429,890** (\$68,090 increase from FY26)



COG Fire Chiefs Fireworks Safety Press Conference – July 2025

# FY27: Revenue Outlook

- COG is currently facing a revenue gap of **\$493,874**
  - Lack of building revenue, inflationary costs
- Staff propose to close the gap through the following approach:
  - Potential underruns in program expenses
  - Higher than anticipated returns from Cooperative Purchasing and investments
  - Other savings or sources to be identified by the COG administration





# Proposed Assessment Rate Increase for FY27

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The proposed assessment rate for FY27 is increased by 4.5 cents from the FY26 rate.

**COG Proposed Assessment Rate  
Increase of \$0.045 (5.14%) from \$0.875 to \$0.920**

For comparison purposes FY26 was a 5% increase with the assessment increasing 3.55% and a population increase of 0.76%.

**Metropolitan Washington Council of Governments**  
**PROPOSED FY2027 Schedule of Membership Dues**

FY2026 Assessment Rate:	0.875	Increase of
FY2027 Assessment Rate:	0.920	5.14%

Jurisdiction	POPULATION FIGURES			DUES AMOUNT		
	FY2026 Population Estimate	FY2027 Population Estimate	Compare to FY2026	FY2027 Adjusted Contribution (1)	FY2027 Increase (Decrease)	FY2027 Percent Increase
Alexandria, City of	170,000	174,200	2.47%	\$ 160,264	\$ 11,514	7.74%
Arlington County	248,700	251,900	1.29%	\$ 231,748	\$ 14,136	6.50%
Bladensburg, Town of (adj)	9,400	10,200	8.51%	\$ 4,565	\$ 452	11.00%
Bowie, City of	57,300	61,700	7.68%	\$ 55,653	\$ 5,515	11.00%
Charles County	179,800	183,300	1.95%	\$ 168,636	\$ 11,311	7.19%
College Park, City of	34,200	36,600	7.02%	\$ 33,217	\$ 3,292	11.00%
District of Columbia	703,800	710,000	0.88%	\$ 653,200	\$ 37,375	6.07%
Fairfax County	1,211,400	1,217,000	0.46%	\$ 1,119,640	\$ 59,665	5.63%
Fairfax, City of	28,800	29,800	3.47%	\$ 27,416	\$ 2,216	8.79%
Falls Church, City of	16,000	16,500	3.13%	\$ 15,180	\$ 1,180	8.43%
Frederick County	297,800	302,400	1.54%	\$ 250,452	\$ 24,820	11.00%
Frederick, City of	84,900	86,100	1.41%	\$ 79,212	\$ 4,925	6.63%
Gaithersburg, City of	73,100	73,800	0.96%	\$ 67,896	\$ 3,934	6.15%
Greenbelt, City of	24,400	26,200	7.38%	\$ 23,699	\$ 2,349	11.00%
Hyattsville, City of (adj)	20,700	22,200	7.25%	\$ 10,052	\$ 996	11.00%
Laurel, City of	29,400	31,900	8.50%	\$ 26,516	\$ 2,628	11.00%
Loudoun County	463,800	466,900	0.67%	\$ 429,548	\$ 23,723	5.85%
Manassas Park, City of	19,300	19,600	1.55%	\$ 18,032	\$ 1,145	6.78%
Manassas, City of	44,300	44,800	1.13%	\$ 41,216	\$ 2,454	6.33%
Montgomery County	1,090,000	1,097,000	0.64%	\$ 1,009,240	\$ 55,490	5.82%
Prince George's County	1,004,800	1,021,000	1.61%	\$ 939,320	\$ 60,120	6.84%
Prince William County	519,500	516,400	-0.60%	\$ 475,088	\$ 20,526	4.52%
Rockville, City of	71,600	71,500	-0.14%	\$ 65,780	\$ 3,130	5.00%
Takoma Park, City of	17,500	18,100	3.43%	\$ 16,652	\$ 1,340	8.75%
<b>Totals</b>	<b>6,420,500</b>	<b>6,489,100</b>	<b>1.07%</b>	<b>\$ 5,922,221</b>	<b>\$ 354,232</b>	<b>6.36%</b>

(1) Adjusted Contribution is calculated by multiplying the adjusted population by the approved rate, limited to 11% annual increase per jurisdiction.

# FY27: Regional Funds

Regional fees are increased in proportion to the annual dues increase.

- Regional Water Fund
- Regional Environmental Funds
- Regional Public Safety Fund
- Food & Agriculture Regional Member (FARM) Fund





**Regional Funds**  
**FY2027 Proposed Contributions**

FY2027 REGIONAL FUNDS Proposed Fee Schedule by Jurisdiction	Regional Water Fund (1)	Regional Environmental Fund	Regional Public Safety Fund (2)	Regional FARM Fund (3)	Total Regional Funds
Alexandria, City of	40,024	29,235	21,651	15,900	106,810
Arlington County	57,877	42,275	31,309	22,992	154,452
Bladensburg, City of	-	-	-	-	-
Bowie, City of (4)	13,858	10,103	-	-	23,961
Charles County	-	-	-	16,730	16,730
College Park, City of (WSSC)	8,201	6,032	-	3,030	17,263
District of Columbia (DC Water)	400,612	119,155	88,246	42,438	650,450
Fairfax County	400,612	204,241	151,261	42,438	798,552
Fairfax, City of	6,847	5,001	-	3,030	14,878
Falls Church, City of	3,791	2,769	-	-	6,560
Frederick County	-	-	-	27,601	27,601
Frederick, City of	-	-	-	7,859	7,859
Gaithersburg, City of (WSSC)	16,956	12,385	-	-	29,342
Greenbelt, City of (WSSC)	5,901	4,309	6,753	3,030	19,994
Hyattsville, City of	-	-	-	3,030	3,030
Laurel, City of	-	-	-	3,030	3,030
Loudoun County (Loudoun Water)	107,276	78,357	58,031	42,438	286,101
Manassas Park, City of	-	-	-	3,030	3,030
Manassas, City of	-	-	6,753	3,030	9,784
Montgomery County (WSSC)	400,612	184,102	136,346	42,438	763,498
Prince George's County (WSSC)	400,612	171,348	123,833	42,438	738,231
Prince William County	118,649	86,664	64,183	42,438	311,934
Rockville, City of	16,428	11,999	-	-	28,427
Takoma Park, City of (WSSC)	4,159	3,038	6,753	3,030	16,980
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>2,002,415</b>	<b>971,013</b>	<b>695,121</b>	<b>369,950</b>	<b>4,038,499</b>

- (1) Where indicated, water and sewer utilities support the Regional Water Fund on behalf of the local jurisdiction.  
(2) Additional jurisdictions may opt into the Regional Public Safety Fund before the start of FY2027.  
(3) New fund in FY2023.  
(4) RWF fee is pro-rata split by flow

**Change from FY26**

Regional Water Fund	Regional Environmental Fund	Regional Public Safety Fund	Regional FARM Fund	Total Regional Funds
(610)	2,186	1,480	1,061	4,118
3,691	2,705	1,799	1,284	9,478
-	-	-	-	-
1,373	525	-	-	1,898
-	-	-	1,036	1,036
813	598	-	181	1,592
24,793	7,175	4,737	2,539	39,244
24,793	11,497	7,523	2,539	46,352
572	419	-	181	1,172
305	223	-	-	528
-	-	-	1,607	1,607
-	-	-	448	448
1,029	754	-	-	1,784
585	427	404	181	1,597
-	-	-	181	181
-	-	-	181	181
6,224	4,562	2,999	2,539	16,324
-	-	-	181	181
-	-	404	181	585
24,793	10,674	7,013	2,539	45,019
24,793	11,476	12,272	2,539	51,080
5,461	4,007	2,542	2,539	14,549
828	607	-	-	1,435
346	253	404	181	1,184
<b>119,790</b>	<b>58,090</b>	<b>41,577</b>	<b>22,118</b>	<b>241,575</b>

## **Clark Mercer**

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## **Julie Mussog**

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**[mwkog.org](http://mwkog.org)**

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777 North Capitol Street NE, Suite 300  
Washington, DC 20002



FY2026: Member Dues and Regional Fees  
September 20, 2024

Resolution R26-2025  
October 8, 2025

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

**RESOLUTION ADOPTING THE FISCAL YEAR 2027 COG MEMBER DUES AND REGIONAL FUNDS  
ASSESSMENT RATE**

**WHEREAS**, COG bylaws require that assessment of the annual membership rate for all members and other participating governments and agencies be fixed no later than January 31 for the subsequent fiscal year beginning July 1; and

**WHEREAS**, the Budget and Finance Committee comprised of the COG Board executive committee, the chairs of the Transportation Planning Board and the Metropolitan Washington Air Quality Committee, and the COG Secretary Treasurer and Corporate President, reviewed and approved the proposed FY2027 COG member dues and regional fund assessment rates.

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

The board approves the proposed FY2027 member assessment rate, and corresponding regional fund fees, as recommended by the Budget and Finance Committee.

Staff shall transmit the assessment to member jurisdictions and ask that the proposed assessments be integrated into local government FY2027 budgets.

# **AGENDA ITEM #9**

## **APPROVAL OF THE FISCAL YEAR 2026 & FIVE-YEAR CAPITAL EXPENDITURE PLAN AND BUDGET**



## MEMORANDUM

**TO:** COG Board of Directors  
**FROM:** Julie Mussog, COG Chief Financial Officer/Chief Administrative Officer  
**SUBJECT:** COG Capital Plan Fiscal Years 2026-2030  
**DATE:** October 1, 2025

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On September 29, 2025 COG presented the 5-year capital plan to the Budget & Finance Committee for approval of current year capital expenditures, and a preview of expected expenditures for the next four years. COG has a Board-designated Capital Expenditure Reserve that is used for the purchase of long-term assets. It is replenished over time through the allocation of depreciation expense to COG's various funding sources.

The FY2026 – FY2030 capital plan proposes expenditures in FY2026 of \$10,120,000 and a total of \$10.620,000 in expenditures over the next five years, \$9.9 million of which is for the office remodel. The Budget and Finance Committee approved moving the FY2026-30 Capital Plan to the Board for full approval.

Approval of the Plan authorizes expenditure of \$10,120,000 in FY2026 for the assets described on page 4 of the Plan. The expenses noted in FY2027 – FY2030 are presented for planning purposes only. These expenditures will be reviewed, modified, and presented to the Budget and Finance Committee and Board of Directors in subsequent fiscal years for final approval.

As always, I am pleased to answer any question or provide additional information.



# PROPOSED FIVE-YEAR CAPITAL EXPENDITURE PLAN

FY2026 – FY2030

October 2025



Metropolitan Washington  
**Council of Governments**

## **PROPOSED FIVE-YEAR CAPITAL EXPENDITURE PLAN FY2026 - 2030**

October 2025

### **ABOUT COG**

The Metropolitan Washington Council of Governments (COG) is an independent, nonprofit association that brings area leaders together to address major regional issues in the District of Columbia, suburban Maryland, and Northern Virginia. COG's membership is comprised of 300 elected officials from 24 local governments, the Maryland and Virginia state legislatures, and U.S. Congress.

### **ACCOMMODATIONS POLICY**

Alternative formats of this document are available upon request. Visit [www.mwcog.org/accommodations](http://www.mwcog.org/accommodations) or call (202) 962-3300 or (202) 962-3213 (TDD).

### **TITLE VI NONDISCRIMINATION POLICY**

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El Consejo de Gobiernos del Área Metropolitana de Washington (COG) cumple con el Título VI de la Ley sobre los Derechos Civiles de 1964 y otras leyes y reglamentos en todos sus programas y actividades. Para obtener más información, someter un pleito relacionado al Título VI, u obtener información en otro idioma, visite [www.mwcog.org/nondiscrimination](http://www.mwcog.org/nondiscrimination) o llame al (202) 962-3300.

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<b>SUMMARY OF FY2026 CAPITAL EXPENDITURES</b>	<b>4</b>
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# SUMMARY NARRATIVE

## Introduction

Board Resolution R25-2016 established a Board-Designated Capital Expenditure Reserve to ensure adequate resources for replacement and maintenance of COG's capital assets. Use of the reserve requires approval by the Board of Directors, based on an annual Five-Year Capital Expenditure Plan submitted by the Executive Director through the Budget and Finance Committee.

Approval of the Five-Year Capital Expenditure Plan for FY2026 – FY2030 will authorize use of the Board-Designated Capital Expenditure Reserve for the FY2026 expenditures outlined in the Plan. Expenditures outlined in FY2027 – FY2030 are subject to further review, modification, and approval by the Board of Directors when subsequent plans are presented.

## Definition of Capital Expenditure

COG's administrative policies define a capital expenditure as a tangible or intangible asset that can be capitalized in accordance with applicable accounting principles, with a cost of \$5,000 or more, and a useful life of more than one year. COG has two major categories of capital expenditures:

1. Equipment, Software, Data Center, and Website
2. Leasehold Improvements

## Five-Year Capital Expenditure Plan FY2026 – FY2030

The Five-Year Capital Expenditure Plan is based on repair, maintenance, and replacement schedules developed with the following goals:

- Maintain equipment, software, and technology solutions to adequately support program and administrative needs
- Maintain COG's website as a source of information for stakeholders
- Maintain existing office and meeting space to ensure usefulness and maintain value
- Prevent a backlog of deferred maintenance
- Minimize the fluctuation of annual depreciation expense in the Work Program and Budget
- Ensure adequate cash resources for both capital expenditures and operations

Proposed expenditures over the five fiscal years presented in the plan total \$10.6 million. The main expenditure will be remodel and buildout of office and meeting room space, IT upgrades, and an update of COG's website.

# Changes to Previously Approved Capital Expenditures

## OFFICE SPACE REMODEL

The board previously approved a design and construction budget of \$7.3 million to remodel COG's office and meeting room space. This remodel project was suspended in April 2019 to enable the exploration of sale of the building in collaboration with the two other owner organizations with whom COG is a joint owner, and for COG to assess office space alternatives. In January 2020 the board approved the decision not to sell the building and for COG to move forward with the remodel. As of June 30, 2020, approximately \$708,000 had been expended on design, project planning, and administration. The capital expenditures were left in construction in progress as a significant portion of the capital expenditures made to date on the remodel are transferable to the future remodel of existing space.

COG has been moving forward with the remodel process and has engaged professional staff for the design process and project management. It is expected that the major construction will begin in November of FY2026 and take 6 months to complete. \$10.4 million was approved in the FY2025 capital budget for this remodel and approximately \$406,000 was expended in FY2025 related to the remodel. Latest estimates have decreased slightly, and we are looking at about \$10.2 million for the remodel project all of which will be expended in FY2026.

## WEBSITE REFRESH

The board previously approved a budget of \$200,000 for a website refresh to take place in FY2025. As of the end of FY2025 \$169,000 was expensed and this project will be completed FY2026 at a total cost of \$204,000.

## DOCUMENT MANAGEMENT

The board previously approved a budget of \$50,000 for FY2023 with additional expenditures in FY2024 and FY2025 to complete the project for a total cost of \$130,000. \$86,300 has been spent on this project to date and the budget for FY2026 is \$25,000 to complete this project at savings of \$18,700 compared to the original budget. This project allowed COG to remove all material stored offsite and will digitize all documents in a searchable format. This is not only a more efficient search process but results in substantial savings in the long term by removing costly monthly storage fees from the budget. As of June 30, 2022, there are no further offsite storage costs to COG.

## NETWORK UPGRADE

The IT Director estimates that we will need \$150,000 to completely update the Wi-Fi in the new office space and replace network switches that need to be updated in order to fix security issues revealed during the cyber security audit.

## IT EQUIPMENT & SOFTWARE

This spending relates to the three-year refresh cycle of laptops and peripherals for all COG employees. It is estimated that COG will need approximately \$50,000 per year to keep hardware and software up to date.

## **Replenishment of the Capital Expenditure Reserve**

Capital expenditures are recovered over time through the allocation of depreciation expense to COG's various programs and funding sources. Board policy requires that an amount equal to annual depreciation expense is transferred to the Capital Expenditure Reserve to replenish the fund.

In addition, this year it is proposed to transfer an additional \$4.0 million from the undesignated fund balance to help fund the office renovation.

## **Summary**

The summary on page 7 of the plan estimates a balance of \$566,600 in the Capital Expenditure Reserve as of June 30, 2026, which reflects the changes noted above, proposed expenditures in FY2026, and the estimated annual replenishment of the reserve from depreciation and an additional \$4.1 million in funds from a transfer from the undesignated fund balance for the office renovation.

## **Approval of FY2026 Capital Expenditures**

Approval of the plan will authorize expenditure of \$10.1 million in FY2026 from the Capital Expenditure Reserve for board room technology updates, document management, other IT upgrades and equipment, and to engage an architectural firm to help assess office space.

Capital expenditures for FY2027 – FY2030 are provided for purposes of long-term planning, and will be reviewed, modified, and presented to the Board of Directors for approval with subsequent annual capital expenditure plans.

## SUMMARY OF FY2026 CAPITAL EXPENDITURES

Approval of this plan by the Board of Directors authorizes the following FY2026 Capital Expenditures:

Project #	EQUIPMENT AND SOFTWARE	Useful Life	FY2026 PROPOSED BUDGET
CP26-01	IT Equipment & Software - Other	3	\$ 50,000
CP26-02	Document Management	5	25,000
CP26-03	Network Upgrade	5	150,000
CP26-04	Website Refresh	7	35,000
Total Equipment and Software			260,000

Project#	LEASEHOLD IMPROVEMENTS & FURNITURE	Useful Life	FY2026 PROPOSED BUDGET
CP26-05	Remodel Project - Design and related	10	110,000
CP26-06	Remodel Project - Admin & Mgmt	10	100,000
CP26-07	Remodel Project-Leasehold Improvements	10	6,650,000
CP26-08	Remodel Project-Furniture and Fixtures	10	3,000,000
Total Leasehold Improvements and Furniture			9,860,000

Total FY2026 Proposed Capital Expenditures			\$ 10,120,000
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## EQUIPMENT, SOFTWARE, DATA CENTER, AND WEBSITE

5-Year Capital Expenditure Plan							
EQUIPMENT, SOFTWARE, DATA CENTER, & WEBSITE	Useful Life	FY2026	FY2027	FY2028	FY2029	FY2030	Total
IT Equipment & Software - Other	3	50,000	50,000	50,000	50,000	50,000	250,000
Document Management System	5	25,000					25,000
Website Refresh	7	35,000					35,000
Network Upgrade	5	150,000	75,000	75,000	75,000	75,000	450,000
Total Equipment, Software, Data Center, & Website		260,000	125,000	125,000	125,000	125,000	\$ 760,000



## LEASEHOLD IMPROVEMENTS AND FURNITURE

5-Year Capital Expenditure Plan							
LEASEHOLD IMPROVEMENTS	Useful Life	FY2026	FY2027	FY2028	FY2029	FY2030	Total
Remodel Project - Design and related	10	110,000					\$ 110,000
Remodel Project - Administration fees and costs	10	\$ 100,000					100,000
Remodel Project - Construction costs	10	\$ 6,650,000					6,650,000
Total Leasehold Improvements		6,860,000	\$ -	\$ -	-	-	6,860,000

FURNITURE	Useful Life	FY2026	FY2027	FY2028	FY2029	FY2030	Total
Remodel Project-Furniture and fixtures	10	3,000,000			\$ -	\$ -	3,000,000
Total Furniture		3,000,000	\$ -	-	\$ -	\$ -	3,000,000

TOTAL PLAN (IT, LEASEHOLD, FURNITURE)		10,120,000	125,000	125,000	125,000	125,000	\$ 10,620,000
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**Approval of this plan by the Board of Directors authorizes the replenishment of the Capital Expenditure Reserve:**

<b>Capital Expenditure Reserve</b>	
<b>Balance at 6/30/2024</b>	<b>\$ 6,301,300</b>
FY2025 IT Equipment & Software	(103,700)
FY2025 Document Management	(33,300)
FY2025 Website refresh	(169,000)
FY2025 Remodel project-design & related	(406,000)
FY2025 Replenish the reserve based on depreciation expense	397,300
<b>Balance at 6/30/2025</b>	<b>5,986,600</b>
FY2026 Remodel project - design & related	(9,860,000)
FY2026 IT Purchases	(260,000)
FY2026 Transfer Undesignated Funds to Reserve	4,100,000
FY2026 Replenish the reserve based on depreciation expense	600,000
<b>Capital Expenditure Reserve Balance at 6/30/2026 (forecast)</b>	<b>\$ 566,600</b>

Resolution R27-2025  
October 8, 2025

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

**RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE FIVE-YEAR CAPITAL EXPENDITURE PLAN FOR FY2026 – FY2030  
AND FY2026 CAPITAL EXPENDITURE BUDGET**

**WHEREAS**, pursuant to the Capital Expenditure Reserve Policy approved by Resolution R25-2016, the level, funding, and use of the Board-Designated Capital Expenditure Reserve is based on an annual Five-Year Capital Expenditure Plan; and

**WHEREAS**, COG By-Laws require the Executive Director to annually submit proposed budgets of the corporation to the Board of Directors for approval or modification; and

**WHEREAS**, the Five-Year Capital Expenditure Plan FY2026 – FY2030 outlines the proposed Capital Expenditure Budget for FY2026; and

**WHEREAS**, the Five-Year Capital Expenditure Plan for FY2026 – FY2030 and FY2026 Capital Expenditure Budget have been reviewed by COG staff and the Board's Budget and Finance Committee, with a recommendation for approval.

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

The board approves the Five-Year Capital Expenditure Plan for FY2026 – FY2030 and FY2026 Capital Expenditure Budget.

# **AGENDA ITEM #10**

## **CAPITAL AREA FOOD BANK 2025 HUNGER REPORT**



# 2025 HUNGER REPORT

## Executive Summary

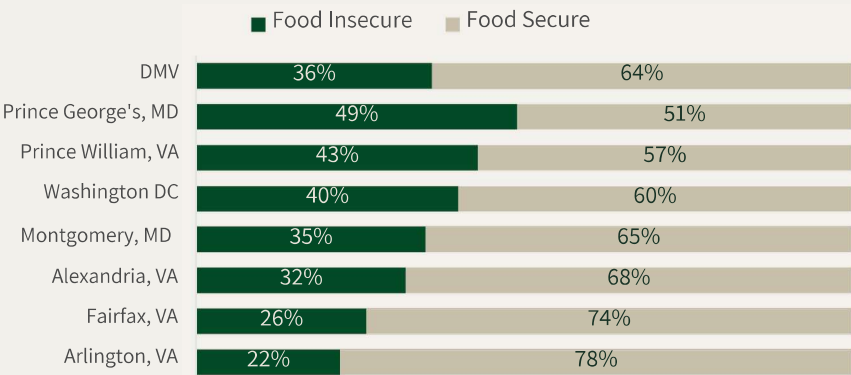
The past year in the Greater Washington region has seen numerous seismic shifts with wide-ranging impacts on the regional economy. To make sense of what all this has meant for regional food insecurity in the last year, CAFB conducted a fourth annual general population survey with trusted independent social research organization NORC at the University of Chicago, gathering data from nearly 4,000 DMV residents.

The results from the survey paint a picture of a regional hunger problem that is significant and deepening. **Food insecurity, which rose starkly in 2024, has remained at persistently high levels over the last twelve months and is, in fact, worsening in its severity.** For a large and expanding share of the population – now including many members of the federal and contractor workforce whose employment has been impacted by recent cuts – reports of impossible tradeoffs between food and other necessities, deferred savings, and deepening debt are rising.

## Key Headlines

- 1. Food insecurity remains elevated across Greater Washington for a second year. 36% of residents in the DMV are food insecure in 2025, up from 32% in 2023. County-level rates range from 22% to 49%, with Prince George’s County, MD; Prince William County, VA; and Washington DC experiencing the highest prevalence of food insecurity.
- 2. County, MD; Prince William County, VA; and Washington DC experiencing the highest prevalence of food insecurity.

Prevalence of food insecurity in the DMV



- 3. Very low food security\*, the most severe status, is worsening; rates have risen from 16% to 22% over the past four years. This increase is driven by deepening food insecurity in lower-income households, signaling a continuously widening gap in our regional economy.

\*People who were found to have very low food security reported multiple indications of disrupted eating patterns and reduced food intake in the screener.



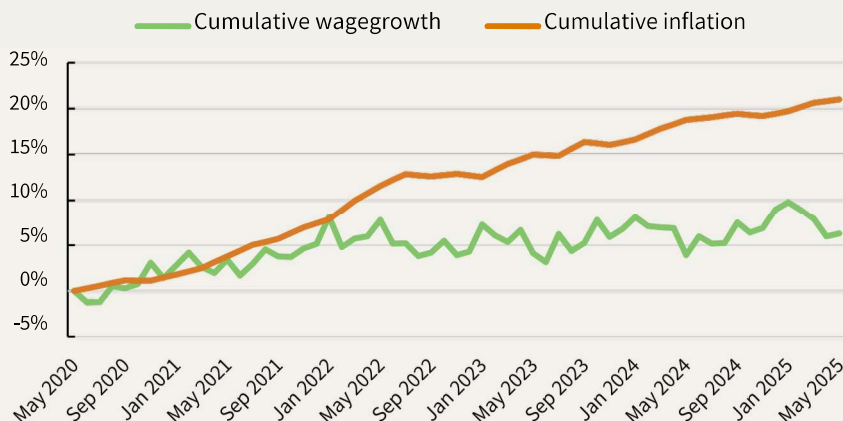


# 2025 HUNGER REPORT

## Key Headlines continued

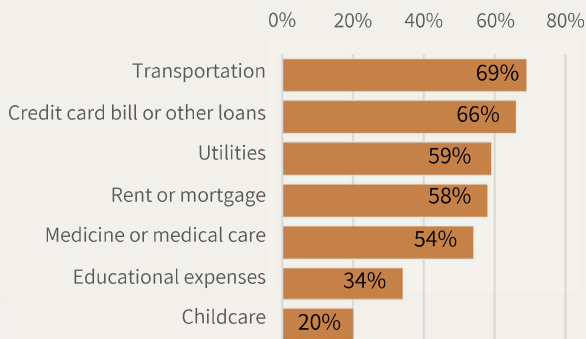
4. **In the DMV, wage growth has lagged inflation over time, putting increasing economic pressure on households.** Since May 2020, the cumulative growth in regional CPI is 21%, compared to just 6.3% in cumulative wage growth.
5. **As a coping mechanism, the survey found that 83% of food insecure people are using savings to pay for basic bills.** This is up from 64% in 2023.
6. **A new population facing high rates of food insecurity is households impacted by federal spending cuts.** 41% of these households are now food insecure – even higher than the general population rate of 36%.

Cumulative inflation and wage growth in the DMV



Estimated employment losses as of June 2025 when the CAFB-NORC survey was fielded

Forced tradeoffs between food and other expenses



7. **Food insecure people are facing impossible tradeoffs between food and other critical necessities like housing and transportation.** These also include tradeoffs with long-term implications, such as dipping into retirement savings, foregoing health costs, or pausing saving for children's college.
8. **These challenges are being exacerbated by cuts to SNAP and Medicaid.** Recent changes to legislation are estimated to reduce SNAP benefits by an average of \$187 per month for 50,000 families in the DMV, on top of an estimated 116,000 people who will lose Medicaid coverage.



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

**RESOLUTION ENDORSING ACTIONS TO REDUCE FOOD INSECURITY IN THE METROPOLITAN  
WASHINGTON REGION**

**WHEREAS**, the Metropolitan Washington Council of Governments (COG) is comprised of the 24 jurisdictions of the National Capital Region's 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 has recognized the importance of food security and the numerous benefits of having locally and regionally produced food including, healthy food access, diverse sources of supply and distribution, food system resilience, protection of our agricultural lands, and employment opportunities; and

**WHEREAS**, in 2021 the COG Board of Directors affirmed the need to create a forum for cross-sector, systems based learning, collaboration, and action to increase food security, food system resilience, equity, and the capacity of the region to provide for more of its food needs by establishing the Food and Agriculture Regional Member Policy Committee (FARM); and

**WHEREAS**, FARM and the Board continue to urge state and federal action to increase resources for healthy school meals, the Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP), the federal Child Tax Credit, and more, since FARM's creation; and

**WHEREAS**, the Board, in addition to the FARM and Human Services Policy Committee (HSPC), have been briefed by Capital Area Food Bank and other local and regional partners on factors driving persistent, high levels of food insecurity in the region, including growing rates amongst middle class families; and

**WHEREAS**, the Board and its policy committees are committed to increasing collaboration at COG and with regional partners to support bringing more resources to addressing food insecurity and its root causes like poverty, economic insecurity, and inequality; and

**WHEREAS**, addressing persistent food insecurity requires concerted and bold local, state, regional, and federal action with evidence-based approaches, innovation, and collaboration.

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

1. The Board supports immediate and continued multi-pronged action at the local, state, and federal levels to improve deployment of existing resources and advocates for greater investment in policies, programs, and practices which reduce food insecurity.

2. The Board directs the FARM Policy Committee and its Work Groups to continue to prioritize and advance policies and programs that assist member local governments in providing healthy food access to all residents in the National Capital Region including a new Local Food Procurement Challenge.
3. The Board directs COG staff to continue to partner with the Capital Area Food Bank, and to strengthen relationships with the Maryland Food Bank, the Arlington Food Assistance Center, Loudoun Hunger, and other stakeholders in the District of Columbia, Maryland, and Virginia to identify and promote equity-focused, high-impact short and long-term local and regional strategies, investments, and systems to address increasing food insecurity in the region.



**AGENDA ITEM #11**

**OTHER BUSINESS**

# **AGENDA ITEM #12**

## **ADJOURN**