



HUMAN SERVICES POLICY COMMITTEE (HSPC) & FOOD & AGRICULTURE REGIONAL MEMBER POLICY COMMITTEE (FARM) JOINT MEETING

Friday, September 18, 2026
12:00 P.M. to 2:00 P.M.
In-Person & Hybrid

Metropolitan Washington Council of Governments
Kirby Training Center – First Floor
777 North Capitol St NE
Washington, DC 20002

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AGENDA

11:30 A.M. LUNCH AND NETWORKING

Please join your colleagues for an optional lunch.

12:00 P.M. 1. WELCOME AND MEMBER ANNOUNCEMENTS

Arlington County Board Member Julius D. “JD” Spain, Sr, HSPC Chair
Montgomery County Councilmember Andrew Friedson, FARM Chair

Chair Spain and Chair Friedson will provide a welcome, review the meeting packet, and ask FARM and HSPC members to introduce themselves.

Chair Spain will review the draft Regional Compact to End Homelessness with HSPC members.

Chair Friedson will provide a short update on COG's Local Food Procurement Challenge.

The Chairs will call for HSPC, FARM, and staff announcements.

12:20 P.M. 2. 2026 CAPITAL AREA FOOD BANK HUNGER REPORT

Sabrina Tadele, Capital Area Food Bank Director of Strategic Initiatives

Ms. Tadele will share the results of Capital Area Food Bank's 2026 Hunger Report. The report, in its seventh year, is based upon an annual survey which documents the prevalence of food insecurity in the metropolitan Washington region. They will discuss how food insecurity may be changing as new policies from HR 1 continue to be implemented, how CAFB and its network are responding, and the need for increased cross sector collaboration to mitigate negative impacts.

Recommended Action: Receive briefing and discuss.

1:05 P.M. 3. PREPARING FOR IMPACTS FROM SNAP & MEDICAID CUTS ON FOOD SECURITY & HEALTH

Moderator: George Jones, CEO, Bread for the City

Toni Blue, Virginia Deputy Secretary of Health and Human Resources

A. D. Rachel Pierre, Director, District of Columbia Department of Human Services

HR 1 narrowed eligibility for SNAP and Medicaid by creating new criteria for who qualifies as it simultaneously shifted program costs to states and localities. According to the Food Research and Action Center, [SNAP participation has decreased by 5 million people since January 2025.](#)

Enrollment in SNAP or Medicaid is also used by public agencies to "directly certify" participants into other programs like free school meals. Therefore, declines in SNAP and Medicaid enrollment are likely to have negative spillover effects. This panel will provide updates on changes to SNAP and Medicaid in DC, MD, and VA, discuss the importance of direct certification, and share what jurisdictions can do to monitor and prepare for this.

Recommended Action: Receive briefing and discuss.

1:50 P.M. 4. NEXT STEPS AND ADJOURN

Andrew Friedson, FARM Chair

Julius D. "JD" Spain, Sr, HSPC Chair

Chair Friedson and Chair Spain will facilitate discussion with FARM and HSPC members on several questions before adjourning the meeting:

- What regional issues from today's meeting should be elevated to the COG Board at its November meeting?
- Are there state-level legislative changes that should be considered?
- Is there additional information or perspectives members would like on food security issues discussed, or not discussed?

The next FARM meeting is the Annual Farm Tour on Friday, October 16th in Prince George's County.

The next HSPC meeting is Friday, November 13th from 12 p.m. to 1:30 p.m.