



ONE REGION MOVING FORWARD

COG and the City of Alexandria

Chuck Bean
COG Executive Director

Presentation to the City Council
May 14, 2019

Doug Kerr/Flickr



Metropolitan Washington
Council of Governments

About COG

- COG is an independent, nonprofit association
- Brings area leaders together to address major regional issues in the District of Columbia, suburban Maryland, and northern Virginia
- Membership comprised of 300 elected officials from 24 local governments, the Maryland and Virginia state legislatures, and U.S. Congress





COG is the hub of regional partnership:

1,500 officials and experts come to COG each month to make connections, share information, and develop solutions to the region's major challenges



About COG

- COG Board of Directors
- National Capital Region Transportation Planning Board
- Metropolitan Washington Air Quality Committee
- Policy/Technical Committees
- Chief Administrative Officers



Staff and Work Program

- 130+ professional staff members
- \$56M budget in FY 2019
- Departments include:
 - Transportation Planning
 - Environmental Programs
 - Community Planning and Services
 - Homeland Security and Public Safety Services





Home to the region's Metropolitan Planning Organization (MPO)

- Transportation Planning Board (TPB), one of 300+ MPOs in the nation
- TPB prepares programs and plans that the federal government must approve in order for the region to receive federal funds
- Visualize 2045, TPB's long-range transportation plan





Housing

- COG Planning and Housing Directors Committees 3-part analysis
- **Amount** – 100,000 additional units needed beyond what is currently forecast
- **Accessibility** – Located in 141 Activity Centers and 297 high-capacity transit stations
- **Affordability** – coming soon

(Dan Reed/Flickr)



Smart Region Movement

- Partnership with COG, Board of Trade, and Consortium of Universities
- Create digitally enabled region
- Deploy smart technologies to drive economic growth and improve quality of life



Return on Investment: COG & Alexandria



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Transportation

Transportation Alternatives Program:

- Holmes Run Connection Trail – **\$424,619**

JARC & Enhanced Mobility Funding:

- Diamond Transportation – **\$678,139**
- Jewish Council for the Aging – **\$1,469,102**
- Columbia Lighthouse for the Blind – **\$385,418**



Transportation

- Street Smart
- Commuter Connections
- Guaranteed Ride Home



Environment

GOrecycle



Protect your community and water supply!

**MEDICATION
TAKE BACK DAY**



Regional Safety

Regional Emergency Communications:

- RICCS, a 24/7 system, helps officials communicate during emergencies
- 56 Alexandria officials are registered to receive messages
- Conference calls on snow and other emergencies: **16 calls in 2018**



Alexandria's Participation in Cooperative Purchasing Program

- **Fuel** – 850,000 gallons of gasoline and diesel a year, nearly **\$90,000** in annual savings
- **Road Salt** – 3,000 tons a year, about **\$10,000** in annual savings
- **P-Card (Financial Services Contract)** – saves thousands of dollars per year on transaction fees



Current Cooperative Contracts

- Self-Contained Breathing Apparatus
- Subscriber Handheld Radios
- Medical Supplies
- Water Treatment Chemicals
- Health and Wellness Training
- Public Safety Training and Consulting
- Furniture, Bottled Water, and more!



Mid-Atlantic Purchasing Team (MAPT)

- The Mid-Atlantic Purchasing Team (MAPT) is a partnership between COG and the Baltimore Metropolitan Council to provide cooperative purchasing opportunities throughout the region.
- Register vendors, advertise solicitations, and track contracts on MAPT website: www.midatlanticpurchasing.net
- Bids exposed to over 25,000 vendors.
- The MAPT website electronic solicitation lock-box feature allows members to save on the cost of in-house software.



Opportunities to Get Involved

- COG Board of Directors
- Transportation Planning Board
- Metropolitan Washington Air Quality Committee
- Climate, Energy, and Environment Policy Committee
- Chesapeake Bay and Water Resources Policy Committee
- Human Services Policy Committee
- Region Forward Coalition



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