



Agenda Item Summary Report

Meeting Date:
February 10, 2025

Submitted by:
Michelle Bailey Hedgepeth, Town Administrator

Item Title: Washington Metropolitan Council of Governments (COG) Update | February 2025

The quarterly update on Washington Metropolitan Council of Governments (COG) Meetings and activities.

Work Session Item [X]
Council Meeting Item [X]

Documentation Attached:
2025 COG Legislative Priorities Report

Recommended Action:

INFORMATION ONLY: This has been provided to the Council and community informed of Council and staff actions.

Council and Public Update: Town of Bladensburg's Engagement with the Washington Metropolitan Council of Governments (COG)

The Town of Bladensburg proudly continues its active membership in the Washington Metropolitan Council of Governments (COG), ensuring our community has a strong voice in regional decision-making. This membership allows Bladensburg to participate in vital discussions and initiatives that impact the entire region, including transportation, housing, climate change, and emergency preparedness.

I attended the Chief Administrative Officers Meeting on **Wednesday, February 5, 2025**. During this meeting, we talked about the Transportation Planning Board, Technical Assistance Program. We also, received an update on the Regional Crime Dashboard and they provided an update report on the After-action report from Table Top Exercise that was conducted in November 2024. The meeting closed with a discussion on the CAO Roundtable. This was a productive meeting.

2025 COG Legislative Priorities

The COG Board of Directors recently approved its 2025 Legislative Priorities, focusing on key areas that benefit Bladensburg and the surrounding communities:

- Transportation funding
- Affordable housing
- Water quality improvements
- Climate and energy innovation
- Air quality enhancements
- Human services
- Emergency preparedness
- Infrastructure investment

A copy of the 2025 Legislative Priorities Report is attached for your review. These priorities align with Bladensburg's goals for sustainable growth, enhanced public safety, and improved quality of life for our residents.

Winter Storms and Regional Alerts

Over the past several weeks, the Town Administrator and Police Chief have actively participated in numerous online meetings and briefings related to winter weather events and regional updates. These sessions, facilitated by COG, provided:

- Detailed weather forecasts tailored to the Capital Region.
- Road condition updates to ensure resident safety.
- Security updates during the evolving transition in federal and regional administration.

COG has proven to be an invaluable resource for information sharing and collaboration during these critical times, enabling Bladensburg to remain proactive and prepared.

Committee Representation

Bladensburg remains actively engaged in COG committee work. In December 2024, Town Council members were reappointed to their respective committees, ensuring continued representation and advocacy for our community's interests in regional initiatives.

Ongoing Support and Engagement

The Town of Bladensburg remains committed to leveraging its COG membership to bring regional resources and opportunities to our community. Together, we continue strengthening Bladensburg's voice in the Washington Metropolitan region while working toward a better future for all.

The town administrator is available to provide further insights if you have any questions or would like additional details.

Budgeted Item: Yes ☐ No ☐ NA

Budgeted Amount:

One-Time Cost: NA

Ongoing Cost: NA

Council Priority: Yes ☐ No ☐

Continued Date:

Approved Date: