



Agenda Item Summary Report

Meeting Date:
November 10, 2025

Submitted by:
Michelle Bailey Hedgepeth, Town Administrator

Item Title: Information Memo | Washington Metropolitan Council of Governments (COG) Update | November 2025

This is an update on Washington Metropolitan Council of Governments (COG) Meetings and activities that the Town Administrator attended.

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

Documentation Attached:

Recommended Action:

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

SUMMARY

The Town Administrator attended the **Winter Weather Operations Meeting for COG on October 30, 2025**, online. Below is a summary of this meeting and its key points:

- The Regional Winter Weather Plan remains consistent in procedures but includes updated contact rosters and new tools to improve situational awareness. Participating agencies include the National Weather Service (NWS), regional DOTs, WMATA, and emergency management offices, ensuring unified operations during snow and ice events.
- VDOT reported readiness across 14,300 lane miles with substantial salt, sand, and brine reserves, a 12-hour shift structure, and a new public snow tracker to increase transparency.
- Maryland SHA highlighted ongoing staffing challenges but continues to operate 17,000+ lane miles with expanded fleet technology and green lighting for visibility.
- DC DPW and DDOT emphasized integrated command operations, AVL tracking, and strong community engagement through Business Improvement District partnerships.
- WMATA outlined its Severe Weather Plan, which includes service tiers based on snowfall.
- The National Weather Service (NWS) predicted a La Niña winter, bringing warmer temperatures and near-normal precipitation, along with elevated risks of mixed precipitation and ice. OPM reaffirmed its centralized role in federal operating decisions to ensure workforce safety and government continuity. All agencies reaffirmed collaboration and readiness for regional winter weather response.

The Town Administrator also attended the Chief Administrative Officers (CAO) Committee Meeting, Which Was held in person on November 5, 2025 online. The meeting covered regional updates and focused on homeland security funding.

FY 2025 UASI Funding & Public Safety Implications

The CAOs received an update on the **Homeland Security Executive Committee (HSEC)** changes in **Urban Area Security Initiative (UASI)** grant funding.

- The National Capital Region (NCR)'s FY 2025 award dropped nearly 90%, from approximately \$45 million to \$4.4 million.

- This reduction will affect the sustainment of regional public safety programs and may have downstream impacts on local budgets.
- The HSEC is evaluating options to freeze most UASI-related hiring and spending while reassessing priorities and transition plans.
- Action Item: The HSEC Strategy Group met throughout October 2025 to revise the funding strategy and timeline. This group provided its overview to the group on November 5, 2025.

Next Steps & Concluding Remarks

The Town Administrator is engaged with the CAO group and will continue to attend meetings on behalf of the Town of Bladensburg. She is available to provide further insights if you have any questions or would like additional details.

Budgeted Item: Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/> NA Budgeted Amount: One-Time Cost: NA Ongoing Cost: NA	Continued Date:
Council Priority: Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/>	Approved Date: