



Agenda Item Summary Report

Meeting Date:
January 12, 2025

Submitted by:
Michelle Bailey Hedgepeth, Town Administrator

Item Title: Information Memo | Washington Metropolitan Council of Governments (COG) Update | Jan 2026

This is an update on Washington Metropolitan Council of Governments (COG) Meetings and activities that the Town Administrator attended in January 2026.

**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 Metropolitan Washington Council of Governments (COG) Chief Administrative Officers (CAO) Committee meeting virtually on January 7, 2026. The meeting focused on several regional initiatives with potential operational, fiscal, and public safety implications for National Capital Region (NCR) jurisdictions.

The Committee received a briefing from the District of Columbia Homeland Security and Emergency Management Agency (HSEMA) on planned **America250 (Semi-Quincentennial) events** in the District and across the NCR. Discussion emphasized anticipated cross-jurisdictional impacts related to security, emergency management, transportation, and regional coordination.

COG Executive Director Clark Mercer provided an update on **regional transit planning** following adoption of the DMV Moves Task Force recommendations by both the COG and WMATA Boards. The discussion included upcoming milestones related to Metro funding and the need for continued CAO-level coordination.

Representatives from the region's **Emergency Response Systems (ERSs)**—DC ERS, NVERS, and MDERS—shared updates on planning and coordination efforts related to the transition to sub-regional funding, including potential risks and policy considerations.

Finally, CAO members discussed the status of **public safety communications encryption** across jurisdictions and identified opportunities for enhanced regional coordination and information sharing.

The next CAO Committee meeting is scheduled for February 4, 2026.

Budgeted Item: Yes [] No [] NA

Continued Date:

Budgeted Amount:

One-Time Cost: NA

Ongoing Cost: NA

Council Priority: Yes [] No []

Approved Date: