



February 10, 2016

Honorable Phil Mendelson
Chairman
Council of the District of Columbia
1350 Pennsylvania Avenue, N.W.
Washington D.C. 20004

Dear Chairman Mendelson,

Enclosed are the responses to the Committee of the Whole performance oversight hearing preliminary questions for the Metropolitan Washington Council of Governments. I look forward to the opportunity to meet with the Committee next month.

If you have any questions or need further information please let me know.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads 'Chuck Bean'.

Chuck Bean
Executive Director

**METROPOLITAN WASHINGTON COUNCIL OF GOVERNMENTS
2016 PERFORMANCE OVERSIGHT SUMMARY STATEMENT**

The Metropolitan Washington Council of Governments (COG) is a membership organization of local elected officials from the District of Columbia and 22 other area jurisdictions in Maryland and Virginia. The region’s state and federal elected delegations also are members of COG. Three independent policy boards direct the Council’s work, including the COG Board of Directors, the National Capital Region Transportation Planning Board (TPB) – which is the federally-designated Metropolitan Planning Organization – and the Metropolitan Washington Air Quality Committee (MWAQC), which prepares the region’s air quality plans to comply with federal law. COG’s work is funded by government grants, membership dues and private foundations. (NB: The Council of Governments could not supply information on questions directed specifically to city agencies and therefore answered with “not applicable.”)

1. The COG’s organizational chart is attached. We currently have 128 FTE’s and six vacancies.
2. We cannot readily respond to this request. Because of the nature of its work, COG is a party to numerous memoranda of understanding (MOUs) with various entities. The MOUs are sometimes entered into by COG as a grant recipient and sometimes with COG as a “pass through” for grant funds. Other MOUs incorporate contractual/procurement arrangements. Further MOUs embody agreements between inter-jurisdictional information for sharing or access to various services or other agreements. The MOUs are not maintained in a separate file which increases the retrieval problem, rather they are largely maintained within the specific department which has responsibility for the subject area of the MOU. If you have a more specific question, we may be able to better respond.
- 3.

DATE EXECUTED	GRANT NUMBER	TYPE OF SERVICE	GRANT AMOUNT	MULTI-YEAR
10/1/2015	15UASI117-04	IC3 Program	\$112,183.75	No
9/30/2015	15UASI117-03	Situational Awareness Dashboard Continuation (DCER)	\$400,000.00	Yes
9/30/2015	15SHSP117-01	Strategic Support for HSEMA	\$125,000.00	No
9/30/2015	15UASI117-01	Program Management office for NCR Homeland Security (Continuation)	\$1,409,153.00	Yes
9/30/2015	15UASI117-02	District Emergency Response System PMO (Continuation)	\$845,875.00	Yes
9/30/2015	15UASI117-05	Metrorail Station Emergency Response Training	\$500,000.00	Yes
9/30/2015	15UASI117-06	Metrorail Station Emergency Response Exerercise Series	\$280,000.00	Yes
9/30/2015	15UASI117-07	Tactical Response to Multi-Site Ceritical Incidents Exercise Series	\$180,000.00	Yes
9/30/2015	15UASI117-08	Technical Resuce PPE (Continuation)	\$398,502.73	Yes
9/30/2015	15UASI117-09	District Preparedness Sytem Planning Toolkit (Continuation)	\$168,000.00	Yes
9/30/2015	15UASI117-10	District Community Profile (DCERS)	\$210,000.00	Yes

9/30/2015	15UASI117-11	District Preparedness Framework (DCERS)	\$367,500.00	Yes
9/30/2015	15UASI117-12	District All-Hazards Incident Management Team (IMT) Certification/Credentialing Program (Continuation)	\$300,000.00	Yes
9/30/2015	15UASI117-13	District Fire & Rescue Preparedness Plans	\$105,000.00	Yes
9/30/2015	15UASI117-14	District Logistics Management & Resource Support Plan (DCERS)	\$105,000.00	Yes
9/30/2015	15USSI117-15	State Program Manager	\$125,000.00	Yes
2/5/2016	15UASI117-16	District Snow Storm After Action Report	\$159,023.00	No
7/23/2015	DCAM-15-NC-0126	DC-CAM Analysis for St. Elizabeth Campus	\$50,000.00	No
3/18/2015	DDOT	Commuter Connections	\$549,027.00	No
3/18/2015	DDOT	Unified Planning Work Program	\$2,717,060.40	No
		TOTAL	\$9,106,324.88	

4. FY2016 Capital Projects:
Office Chair Refresh \$64,000
Executive Office Conference Room \$16,000
1st Floor Ceiling Grid & Lighting \$160,000
Data Center Fire Suppression \$60,000
5. There is no litigation which impacts funding by the District.
6. There are no investigations which impact funding by the District.
7. No employee grievances have been filed in fiscal year 2015 and fiscal year 2016 to date and no earlier grievances are pending in any judicial forum.
8. No DC funds have been used to purchase communications devices. However, 24 managers and employees with 24/7 responsibilities do use COG-issued mobile devices such as cell phones and PDAs.
9. COG does not have or use any government vehicles.
10. COG's Chief Financial Officer maintains a travel policy which requires staff members and regional officials to plan travel for the organization in the same economical and expeditious manner as prudent person would plan personal travel. Travel outside of the region requires the pre-approval of supervisors and the executive director, and all travel must be documented by completing a Travel and Related Expense Voucher Form.
11. The top priorities for the Council of Governments include its follow-up on the major recommendations made as part of its 2016 State of the Region: Economic Competitiveness Report, COG's commitment to convene regional partners to help better ensure the return of a world class Metrorail transit system, the commitment to serve as a hub for the Greenhouse Gas Multi Sector Working Group, a new commitment to improving regional cooperative purchasing.

The recommendations that resulted from **COG's Economic Competitiveness Initiative** and associated tasks include:

- Launch a coordinated **regional export promotions strategy** including organizing regional officials to participate in joint export missions to promote the National Capital Region
- **Convene top economic development directors** from the District, Maryland, and Virginia
- **Support workforce development** through infrastructure investment
- **Facilitate federal partnership** for regional economic gain specifically with the General Services Administration
- Learn from regional performance and **assess peer regions**

COG's commitment to **convene regional partners to help better ensure the safety of the Metrorail system** has begun with a number of actions, including:

- **Working closely with the COG Fire Chiefs Committee and WMATA to address coordination on testing of equipment, training of first responders and the rapid reporting and timely repair of all systems.**
- **Retaining technical experts** to assist with the project
- **Using COG's monthly Board meetings as a public forum** to follow-up on issues related to the overall improvement of the Metrorail system
- **Hosting a Metro forum** to bring top level officials together to address the current state of Metro and identify what is needed to make the system world-class again
- Continuation of the **Metrorail Communications Study** in where COG will continue to coordinate and assist the regional partners as they follow-up on recommendations included in the report, including monitoring completion of long-term projects to allow cell phone surface in Metrorail cars.
- Provide support for the creation of an independent **State Safety Oversight Agency** consistent with federal requirements to provide authority for safety oversight of Metro.

Greenhouse Gas Multi Sector Working Group is composed of transportation, land use planning, and energy/environmental professions from COG's member jurisdictions working together to accomplish the following goals:

- **Identifying viable, implementable local, regional, and state actions in each of the four sectors** (Energy, Transportation, Land Use, and the Built Environment)
- **Quantifying benefits, costs, and implementation timeframes**
- Jointly developing an **action plan** for the region.
- Exploring specific **greenhouse gas emission reduction goals**, measures and/or targets, along with reductions in criteria pollutants as a co-benefit, for the four sectors.

Improve the **Cooperative Purchasing program** to achieve the goal of **every COG member receiving at least twice the value of their membership contribution** from regional volume cooperative purchases by:

- Revamping the **Chief Purchasing Officers Committee**
- Conducting **feedback meetings** with individuals in each jurisdiction's purchasing/contracts department

- Strengthening our relationship with the Baltimore Metropolitan Council and the **Mid-Atlantic Purchasing Committee**
- Developing new mechanisms to collect and **quantify cooperative purchasing contract information**
- **Initiate consortium cooperative purchases** for the current commodities our jurisdictions need most
- Conducting **comparative research** with other regional cooperative purchasing programs and creating a position for a **Cooperative Purchasing Manager**



COG ORGANIZATIONAL CHART

