

February 11, 2015

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,



Chuck Bean
Executive Director

*District of Columbia
Bladensburg*
Bowie
Charles County
College Park
Frederick
Frederick County
Gaithersburg
Greenbelt
Montgomery County
Prince George's County
Rockville
Takoma Park
Alexandria
Arlington County
Fairfax
Fairfax County
Falls Church
Loudoun County
Manassas
Manassas Park
Prince William County*

**Adjunct Member*

**METROPOLITAN WASHINGTON COUNCIL OF GOVERNMENTS
2015 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 Council’s organizational chart is attached. We currently have 125 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.

GRANT NUMBER	TYPE OF SERVICE	GRANT AMOUNT	FEDERAL PORTION	DC PORTION	COG PORTION	MULTI-YEAR
13UASI117-19	District Terrorism Exercise Series	\$627,631.00	\$627,631.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	Yes
12UASI117-11	MEMA Exercise and Training Support	\$30,710.21	\$30,710.21	\$0.00	\$0.00	Yes
13SHSP117-02	District Crisis Communications Plans and Strategy	\$134,072.52	\$134,072.52	\$0.00	\$0.00	Yes
14UASI117-12	District Mass Care Plans (DCERS)	\$287,056.79	\$287,056.79	\$0.00	\$0.00	Yes
13UASI117-20	Technical PPE	\$711,900.00	\$711,900.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	Yes
14UASI117-03	Situational Awareness Dashboard Continuation (DCER)	\$450,000.00	\$450,000.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	yes
14UASI117-09	District Recovery Plan	\$52,500.00	\$52,500.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	Yes
14UASI117-11	District Damage Assessment Base Plan	\$105,000.00	\$105,000.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	Yes
14UASI117-14	District Preparedness System Planning Toolkit	\$84,000.00	\$84,000.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	Yes
14UASI117-10	District Mitigation Plan (DCERS)	\$55,000.00	\$55,000.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	Yes
14UASI117-08	District Emergency Response System PMO	\$157,500.00	\$157,500.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	Yes
14UASI117-13	District Prevention and Protection Plans	\$157,500.00	\$157,500.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	Yes
DS-96317501	Marine Diesel Repower Project	\$0.00	\$157,536.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	Yes
DDOT	Commuter Connections	528,882.00	423,105.60	105,776.40	\$0.00	No
DDOT	Unified Planning Work Program	\$2,489,968.00	\$1,991,974.40	\$248,996.80	\$248,996.80	No
TOTAL		\$5,871,720.52	\$5,425,486.52	\$354,773.20	\$248,996.80	

4. FY2015 Capital Projects:
Data Center Storage Area Network (SAN) - \$150,000
Data Center Fire Suppression - \$100,000
HR & EO Office Renovations - \$115,000
OPA Media Room - \$15,000
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 2014 and fiscal year 2015 to date and no earlier grievances are pending in any judicial forum.
8. No DC funds have been used to purchase communications devices. However, 16 managers and employees with 24/7 responsibilities do use COG-issued mobile devices such as cell phones and PDAs.

9. The Council of Governments' 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.
10. The top priorities for the Council of Governments include its follow-up on the major recommendations made as part of its 2015 State of the Region: Infrastructure Report, COG's commitment to convene regional partners to help better ensure the safety of the Metrorail transit system, and the commitment to serve as a hub for decision-making on ways to improve economic competitiveness in the National Capital Region.

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

- *Creation of a mid-Atlantic infrastructure* partnership to prioritize infrastructure costs, funding needs and mechanisms, and to continue to periodically assess the state of infrastructure in the region.
- *Increase public awareness of the infrastructure needs* in the region and the costs of implementing these needs.
- *Increase the exchange of best practices* by coordinating with regional entities and with experts across the U.S.
- *Facilitate a series of workshops focused on developing ideas for financing* essential infrastructure projects.
- *Insure that the COG Board's legislative priorities and policy positions champion the actions required* to close the funding gaps identified in the report.

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 January 12 smoke incident in the Metrorail L'Enfant Plaza station.

COG's commitment to serve as a **hub for regional decision-making on ways to improve economic competitiveness** was expressed by the Region Forward Coalition.

- *The Coalition set regional economic competitiveness as its 2015 focus* and discussed how reductions to the federal workforce and contracting activity will impact long-term regional competitiveness and how local governments and nonprofits can respond to improve the region's business climate.



COG ORGANIZATIONAL CHART

