



LGAC Overview

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Laura Cattell Noll
LGAC Coordinator

LGAC Purpose

- Purpose is to advise the Executive Council on how to effectively implement Chesapeake Bay Program (CBP) projects and engage local governments to achieve the goals of the Watershed agreement.
- LGAC has both proactive and reactive roles in communicating with the Executive Council and with local governments.

LGAC's mission: *to share the views and insights of local elected officials with state and federal decision-makers and to enhance the flow of information among local governments about the health and restoration of the Chesapeake Bay watershed*

LGAC History and Structure

- Formed in 1988 by the Executive Council charge
- Membership:
 - Initially included just Maryland, Pennsylvania, Virginia, and the District of Columbia
 - Headwater states (Delaware, New York, and West Virginia) were added in 2014
 - All are gubernatorial appointees
- Executive Committee - quarterly meetings with Chair and five Vice Chairs
 - Chair rotates between MD, PA, VA, and DC (current chair) with annual elections.
 - Vice Chairs are elected for PA, MD, VA, DC, and At-Large (DE, NY and WV) with annual elections.
- Meetings:
 - Quarterly meetings throughout the watershed, plus an annual Local Government forum
 - Jurisdictions meetings quarterly to prepare for LGAC meetings

Current LGAC Membership

- Mayors, Councilmembers, Supervisors, Commissioners, and more
- 23 Current Members: 6 each from PA, MD, and VA, 3 from DC, and 1 each from WV and DE; also 3 Emeritus Members
- Membership breakdown:
 - 14 current local elected officials, 5 former elected officials, 1 appointed official, and 3 senior staff at a local government or a local government association
 - 8 county representatives, 7 small municipality representatives, 8 big municipality representatives
 - 9 urban representatives, 6 suburban representatives, 8 rural representatives

LGAC Recommendations 2013 - 2023

- Increased, easier to access **funding** (2013, 2016, 2019, 2021)
- Additional technical assistance (2017, 2018, 2023)
- Better **communication** with local governments (2013, 2014, 2015)
- Better **engagement** with local governments (2017, 2018, 2019)
- Training programs/**workforce development** (2014, 2018, 2020, 2021, 2022)
- Alignment of **priorities** (federal, state, local) (2015, 2016, 2019)
- More **meaningful engagement with Advisory Committees** (2019, 2020)

LGAC Recommendation Impacts 2013 - 2023

- 2013 request to have representation from headwaters states → DE, NY, and WV members added to LGAC in 2014
- 2015 request to convene a watershed-wide symposium on financing → symposiums held in 2016 and 2020, both led to significant innovation
- 2016 request for additional federal investment in water infrastructure → Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act (IIJA) passed in 2021
- 2017/2018 request for additional technical assistance → VA rolled out PDC liaisons in 2019, PA rolled out CAP Coordinators starting in 2018, and MD, WV and NY all expanded local liaison programs

LGAC Members Feedback

Challenges/Barriers

- Each state is unique, need state specific solutions/recommendations
- Recommendations do not result in action
- Gotten away from core purpose of advising the Chesapeake Bay Program
- Too many steps removed from the decision-makers on Executive Council/Principals' Staff Committee
- Need a broader diversity of appointees
- Missing link between local governments and CBP is state decision-makers

Successes

- Peer to peer learning exchange tours
- Roundtable discussions
- Jurisdiction meetings with secretaries and local government associations

Thank You!
