



CMAL Position on the Metropolitan Council

CMAL POSITION: Supports the Metropolitan Council as the decision-making body for metropolitan needs in accordance with these criteria: efficiency and economy, equitable financing, flexibility, citizen control and responsiveness to the electorate through appointment of its members, including the chair, by the governor. CMAL supports provision for coordinated metropolitan services focused through the Metropolitan Council. CMAL supports retention of a gubernatorial-appointed Metropolitan Council with use of its existing powers. (1969, 1976, 1993, 2001, 2019)

Details:

- The appointed Council is seen as less parochial, less subject to special interests, and better able to adopt and maintain positions for the good of the entire area. The most important qualifications for appointees are knowledge of regional issues, having a regional perspective, demographic diversity, and the ability to effectively meet the time requirements for service as Metropolitan Council member.
- The appointed council is responsible to the governor and the residents of the metropolitan area as a whole.
- CMAL supports an open appointment process including publicized vacancies, a nominating committee that recommends to the governor a slate of potential appointees, with citizen, local government and legislative influence on appointments.
- CMAL supports fixed staggered terms for Metropolitan Council members, removal only for cause, and districts of equal population.
- CMAL does not support the appointment of local elected officials to, or direct election of, members to the Metropolitan Council.