



**Local Government
Advisory Committee**
to the Chesapeake Executive Council

Beyond 2025 Recommendations

March 2024

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Recommendations Aligned with LGAC Priorities

Shallow Waters #1

*Design and implement system-scale shallow water habitat restoration to include multiple practices (i.e., oysters, wetlands, SAV, and reforestation) that **provides social, economic, and ecological benefits while also providing resilience and connectivity under changing land-use and climate conditions.** A disconnected restoration project will have limited benefits, particularly in upstream areas of the watershed*

LGAC Priority: aligning Chesapeake Bay restoration with local priorities

People #1

*Utilize an independent expert on equitable and **collaborative partnerships** to reimagine the governance, structure, accountability framework, and decision-making process of the Chesapeake Bay Program.*

....advisory committees...need to factor more heavily into agenda setting and conversation for the Principals Staff Committee meetings...

LGAC Priority: more meaningful engagement with the Advisory Committees

People #4

*Create intentional **partnerships with networks** focused on issues related to Watershed Agreement goals to learn from those networks and accelerate outcome attainment in collaboration with their members.*

*...**trusted relationships with key demographics**...can help to not only engage these audiences in the restoration effort more but serve as a feedback loop...*

LGAC Priority: engaging with local governments through trusted networks

People #5

*Create a budget and staffing allocation plan to support the **strategic application of social science** best practices, research, and synthesis to advance goal achievement and ensure partnership impact.*

...Understand social, economic, and cultural contexts...

LGAC Priority: improve federal/state understanding of local government needs

Clean Water #5

*Expand support for **local government capacity**.*

...Identify opportunities to **expand on existing local liaisons programs**...

LGAC Priority: local government technical assistance

Healthy Watersheds #3

*Local Engagement: Increase the reach and effectiveness of **Local Community** and Partner Engagement through **capacity building**.*

...These local coordinator programs go by different names but often have similar functions including facilitation, communication, planning, funding/finance, project management, implementing watershed actions and tracking results...

LGAC Priority: local government technical assistance

Climate #2

Improve the resilience of communities to key regional climate vulnerabilities.

...helping communities protect water quality and habitat while **adapting to climate change impacts such as sea level rise, extreme heat, and changing rainfall patterns....**

LGAC Priority: aligning Chesapeake Bay restoration with local priorities

Recommendations with Local Government Impacts

Shallow Waters #3

Implement an active approach to climate adaptation in shallow water habitats that integrates vulnerability assessments for living resources and communities, alternative future scenarios, community engagement, and learning elements.

...Co-develop adaptation strategies with communities to take advantage of local knowledge and collaborate with local planning and zoning entities....

People #3

Diversity, Equity, Inclusion and Justice (DEIJ) must be a central frame from which all work of the Chesapeake Bay Program flows.

...institutionalize and activate the DEIJ Implementation Plan...

...Centering DEIJ at the foundation of the Chesapeake Bay Program's work will require all Goal Implementation Teams, workgroups, action teams, advisory committees and leadership to adopt and employ DEIJ best practices....

Clean Water #2

Adopt a tiered approach to the Chesapeake Bay TMDL which prioritizes living resources response, near term benefits, and climate resiliency.

...Recognizing pollutant reductions are needed throughout the watershed, target improvement strategies based on a phased approach to progressively achieve near-term, mid-term and long-term outcomes adapted to state/regional workplans and resources...

Healthy Watersheds #2

Planning: Support strategic green infrastructure planning for watershed health at multiple scales.

...local plans are often not integrated across watershed and/or jurisdictional boundaries...CBP Partners should help communities create strategic spatial plans for land conservation and restoration that incorporate green infrastructure elements...

Climate #1

Develop and Implement a Framework for a Climate Adaptive Bay and Watershed of the Future

...work with partners and communities to envision a Bay of the future and enact climate adaptive measures to support a healthy system given anticipated changes...

Thank You!
