The Local Government Advisory Committee
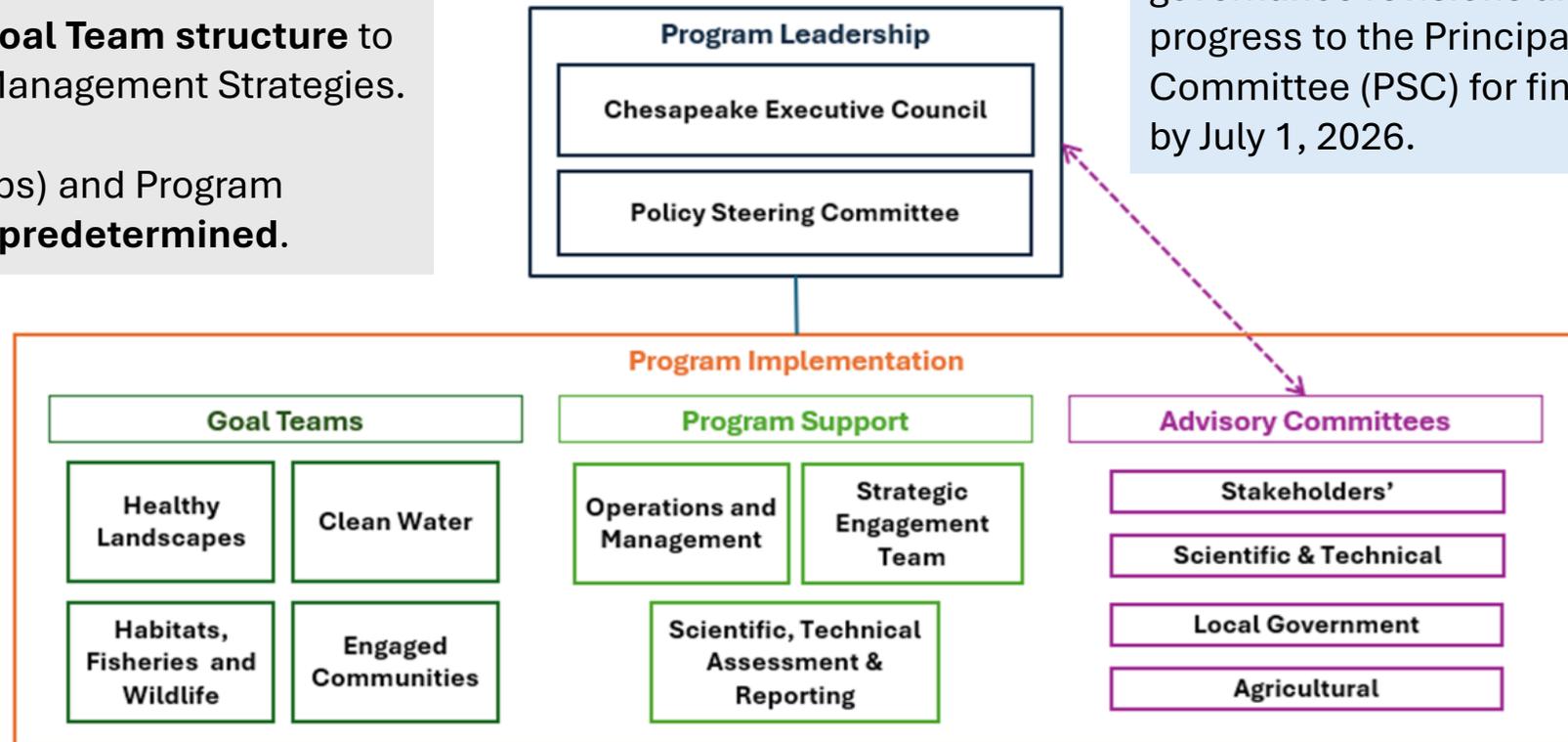Quarterly Meeting
March 19, 2026

Overview of Proposed Changes to the CBP Governance and Structure

Presentation prepared and given by:
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Structure: Key Concepts accepted by the Executive Council

- Identified two primary structural elements:
  - **Leadership**: Set strategic direction & priorities
  - **Implementation**: Inform, coordinate, & drive

- Framework **sunsets Management Board** (MB)

- Transition to a **new four-Goal Team structure** to ensure timely delivery of Management Strategies.

- Goal Team (e.g., workgroups) and Program Support elements are **not predetermined**.

Team of Signatory representatives (MB members or designees) will implement the structure and governance revisions and report progress to the Principals' Staff Committee (PSC) for final approval by July 1, 2026.

Program Leadership

- Chesapeake Executive Council
- Policy Steering Committee

Program Implementation

Goal Teams	Program Support	Advisory Committees
Healthy Landscapes	Operations and Management	Stakeholders'
Clean Water	Strategic Engagement Team	Scientific & Technical
Habitats, Fisheries and Wildlife	Scientific, Technical Assessment & Reporting	Local Government
Engaged Communities		Agricultural

Revisions to the Governance and Management Framework

Governance and Management Framework
for the
Chesapeake Bay Program

Table of Contents

Element	Task-specific
1 - Introduction	
2 - Ethics	
3 - Leadership	Partnership (i)
	Federal (ii)
4 - Implementation	MB Transfer (i)
	Goal Teams (ii)
	Support Teams (iii)
	Advisory (iv)
5 - Public Meeting Procedures	Decision Making (i)
	Participation (ii)
6 - Operations & Accountability	Prioirty Setting (i)
	Mgmt Strategies (ii)

2026 Year-at-a-glance

Meetings

PSC	
Management Board	
[Sig] Implementation Team	
Federal Office Directors	
Federal Holiday	

Showing these meetings to conceptualize periods for partner coordination

April MB will be moved to the 16th to prepare for the revision process following April 7th PSC meeting.

January '26

S	M	T	W	T	F	S
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4	5	6	7	8	9	10
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25	26	27	28	29	30	31

February '26

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March '26

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TODAY

April '26

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May '26

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June '26

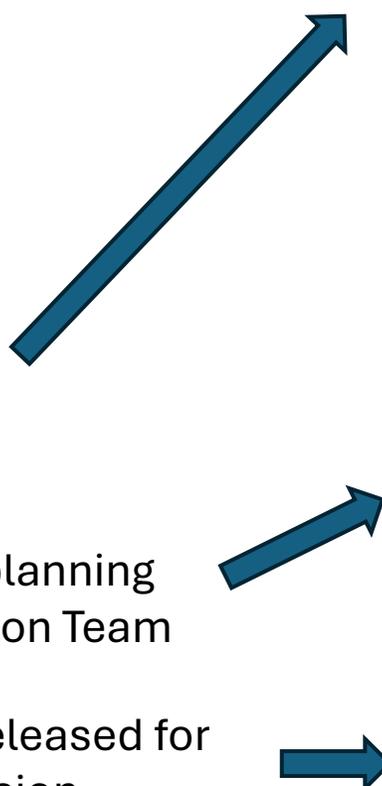| S	M	T	W	T	F	S
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Tracking the Process

SCAN ME

Summary of charge and programmatic references

Background materials and planning documents of Implementation Team

Draft revisions as they are released for public meetings and discussion

Description

In response to the recommendations from the 2025 ERG report A Critical Path Forward for the Chesapeake Bay Program 2025, and pursuant with the 2025 revisions to the *Chesapeake Bay Watershed Agreement*, the Chesapeake Executive Council tasked the Principals' Staff Committee with recommending a simplified and streamlined partnership, structure and processes for the Chesapeake Bay Program.

At the direction of the PSC, an Implementation Team of signatory partners was formed to prepare revisions to the Chesapeake Bay Program's Governance and Management Framework (2022), as well as updates to the program's organizational structure. The Implementation Team will advance recommendations accepted by the Executive Council on governance and structure, and will consult with members of Goal Implementation Teams, Workgroups, Advisory Committees and Program Support Teams to inform the revision process.

The PSC will receive a complete draft of the proposed revisions on March 24, 2026, for discussion at the April 7, 2026, PSC Meeting. The PSC will finalize revisions by June 30, 2026.

For more information about the revision process for both the 2022 Chesapeake Bay Program Governance and Management Framework and the existing Chesapeake Bay Program Organizational Structure, please see the links below.

Resources

Implementation Team Materials

- One-pager from 2025 EC Meeting: Governance
- One-pager from 2025 EC Meeting: Structure
- Presentation to PSC (January 2026)
- Writing Plan (January 2026)
- Drafting Roles (January 2026) (.xlsx)
- Schedule (January 2026)

Governance and Management Framework Drafts

- March 12th MB - CLEAN Version (posted March 10, 2026)
- March 12th MB - TRACKED CHANGES Version (Posted March 10, 2026)

Reframing the the Principal's Steering Committee as the Policy Steering Committee.

1. Increased specificity of Roles and Responsibilities aimed at translating strategic direction from the Executive Council to strategic, actionable, and **time-bound priorities**, assignments, and deliverables.

2. Operational consistency. Intending for quarterly meetings agreed upon at the beginning of each year. Establishing space on the agenda for Goal Team updates and Advisory Committee input. Aligning quarterly meetings with annual planning flow.

Reframing Goal Team leadership and responsibilities

1. Goal Teams Co-Chairs. Desired to hold subject matter expertise and authority within their respective agencies to direct policy, budgetary, and/or resource decision-making to support implementation of the Goals and Outcomes under the Agreement.

2. Development and coordination of Management Strategies and Workplans, and oversight of their implementation. Establish direct coordination with PSC. Increased specificity on identifying opportunities and gaps to address.

SUMMARIES REFLECT A DRAFT VERSION OF CBP'S GOVERNANCE AND MANAGEMENT FRAMEWORK

Updates to Advisory Committees

1. Updates have been coordinated with the current PSC Chair, the Advisory Committee's Implementation Team representative, and several AC coordinators.

2. Ensure primary function as program advisors. Non-voting advisory role within Goal Teams.

3. Cross-Advisory Committee convening. Once annually. Coordinate and prioritize together.

4. Added language on how engagement across the program occurs.

Updates to Decision-Making and general Participation

1. Fine tuning terminology and appropriateness for each program entity. Striving for consensus where all agree, but using consent which allows decision makers to stand aside or partially support a decision without standing in the way of adoption or implementation.

2. New subsection specifically on public meeting procedures. Instituting consistency in public participation and meeting products (e.g., summary of actions). Acknowledge programmatic need for closed meetings and that decision-making occurs during public meetings.

Accountability and Adaptive Management Framework

Plan
a) Set or revise goals and outcomes
b) Conduct situation analysis
c) Prioritize
d) Develop or revise strategy

Act
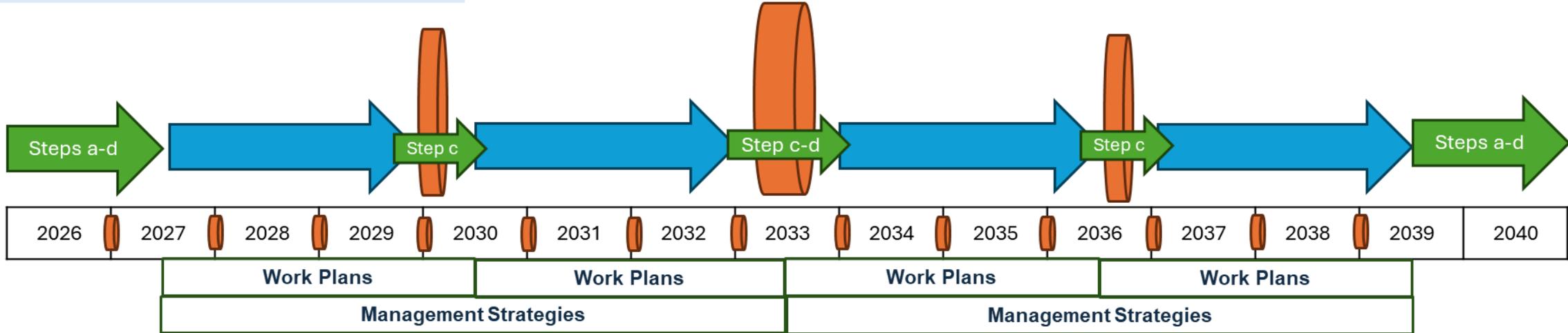Coordinate & implement workplans
Monitor progress

Evaluate & Adjust
Assess performance
Communicate findings

Annual Review – Where are we? **Prioritize needs.**
Workplan Review* – Did we get there? **Reconfigure and/or develop plans.**
Strategy Review – Are we headed in the right direction? **Reconfigure strategies.**

*CBP Symposium every 3 years

| Steps a-d | | Step c | | Step c-d | | Step c | | Steps a-d |

| 2026 | 2027 | 2028 | 2029 | 2030 | 2031 | 2032 | 2033 | 2034 | 2035 | 2036 | 2037 | 2038 | 2039 | 2040 |

Work Plans / Work Plans / Work Plans / Work Plans

Management Strategies / Management Strategies

SUMMARIES REFLECT A DRAFT VERSION OF CBP'S GOVERNANCE AND MANAGEMENT FRAMEWORK

How does this impact Advisory Committees?

1. Overall, clearer language on how Advisory Committee's engage.

2. Intent to enhance collective advisory impact.

    a) Coordination amongst advisory committees so focused expertise is directed appropriately, to the degree of capacity, and/or reframed as cross-advisory counsel.

    b) Flexible and forward looking in advising capacity, but also structured opportunities during program reviews and evaluations.