



# Coordinator's Report

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March 2024

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Laura Cattell Noll  
LGAC Coordinator

# LGAC 2023 Recommendations and CBP Response

**Recommendation #1:** LGAC recognizes program changes, innovation, and experimentation are needed based upon the reports cited above and urges jurisdictions to **create regulatory sandbox opportunities for testing** that is more straightforward and inclusive than established regulatory channels. Local governments are excellent partners for sandboxing.

**Response #1:** ...Management Board proposes that the **summer 2024 LGAC quarterly meeting be focused on this very issue** and that LGAC invite the jurisdictional and the EPA Management Board members to participate. This meeting can provide the opportunity to have further discussions with LGAC to better understand what regulatory sandbox examples exist that could perhaps serve as a model for potential replication in the Bay watershed jurisdictions.

# LGAC 2023 Recommendations and CBP Response

**Recommendation #2:** LGAC is a long-term advocate of the **Circuit Rider concept of facilitating implementation through the engagement of local governments and stakeholders**. Chesapeake watershed jurisdictions created their versions of circuit riders and LGAC requests that the Chesapeake Executive Council expand support for a number of current programs that meet the goals of Circuit Rider efforts. Local governments and LGAC encourage expanding the proven efforts listed below.

# LGAC 2023 Recommendations and CBP Response

**Response #2:** The Management Board commits to collaborating with the CBP's Local Leadership Workgroup, LGAC, Federal Agencies, and the seven Bay watershed jurisdictions to **identify and potentially expand upon local government assistance** in Fiscal Year 2024....subject to the availability of federal funding, the **EPA plans to continue local government assistance funding** through the jurisdictions' Most Effective Basin Funding, Chesapeake Bay Regulatory Program and Chesapeake Bay Implementation grants, and the Local Government Implementation Funding in Fiscal Year 2024, as well as to **explore the potential for increasing funding for capacity building and technical assistance** for local government assistance programs through these grants. Finally, the EPA commits to working with the Federal Office Directors and specifically with Maryland, Pennsylvania, and Virginia to determine if there are additional resources that could supplement the work and staffing for those local assistance programs.

# 2024 LGAC Meeting Dates and Proposed Themes

- June 6-7, 2024 (MD) : *Convening Local Officials and Local Governments around Beyond 2025 Draft Recommendations*
- September 26-27, 2024 (WV): *Sandboxing and Local Governments?*
- December 5-6, 2024 (100% virtual or jurisdiction breakouts): *Jurisdiction Meetings with Secretaries and Invited Guests*

# Recent and Upcoming

- Onboarded three new LGAC Members!
- Watershed Currents Newsletter
  - January 2024 - Prioritizing Green Growth
  - March 2024 - Green Infrastructure Maintenance
  - May 2024 - Federal funding (BIL, IRA etc) examples
  - Other topics?
- Peer to peer learning exchange tours
  - Wandering Delmarva's Waterways - April 4th - 5th
  - Wandering DC's Waterways - TBD
- Regional Roundtables - June/July

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**Thank You!**

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