



Bruce Williams

Chair, Local Government Advisory Committee

Bruce R Williams served as an elected official in Takoma Park, MD for twenty-two years—the last eight as mayor. He was very active with the Metropolitan Washington Council of Governments, serving nineteen years on the board of directors including a term as chair. He served on many of the COG policy committees and chaired three of them, including the Chesapeake Bay and Water Resources Policy Committee which he served on for thirteen years. He also served on and chaired the National Capital Region Emergency Preparedness Council, and was the founding board chair of the Institute for Regional Excellence—the only regional executive development program awarding certified public manager degrees (in partnership with George Washington University), in the country. He received the Elizabeth and David Scull Metropolitan Public Service Award in 2004—awarded to the outstanding public servant in the Washington metropolitan area. He was also nominated for the Tom Bradley National Leadership Award of the National Association of Regional Councils in 2003.

Mayor Williams was also active in the Maryland Municipal League, serving on the board of directors for many years. He also served on the MML Legislative Committee and was one of the few people asked to chair it twice. He was President of the Maryland Mayors Association, and a member of the Maryland Sustainable Growth Commission.

He has been active on Chesapeake Bay issues since 2003, and was appointed to the Bay Program's Local Government Advisory Committee in 2009. He was elected to his second term as Chair of LGAC in March, 2018.

Mayor Williams was the first openly gay elected official in the mid-Atlantic region, and lives with his husband, Geoffrey Burkhart, in Takoma Park. They enjoy spending time with their two children, two grandchildren, and one great-grandchild.