

The Power of Regionalism

2013 Annual Report

Oct. 1, 2012-Sept. 30, 2013



About CAPCOG



W

hether helping transform motivated cadets into peace officers ready for public service, providing crucial economic data to help communities plan a more sustainable future or helping the metropolitan area stay in step with federal ozone standards, the Capital Area Council of Governments makes the most of the region's resources.

Curbing illegal dumping. Keeping up with 9-1-1 communications technology. Getting crucial mapping data without breaking the bank. It's all so much more efficient, effective and possible when working across multiple jurisdictions and maximizing opportunities for collaboration. That's CAPCOG. For more than 40 years, CAPCOG has served as an advocate, planner and coordinator on important regional issues in the 10-county Austin metropolitan area.



Cadets from CAPCOG's Regional Law Enforcement Academy Class 66 prepare to graduate on March 22, 2013, in Austin, Texas.

Serving an area that spans Bastrop, Blanco, Burnet, Caldwell, Fayette, Hays, Lee, Llano, Travis and Williamson counties, CAPCOG counts a constituency of more than 90 member governments and organizations including cities, counties, school and appraisal districts, utilities, chambers of commerce and others. Services and programs range from

economic development, emergency communications and elderly assistance to law enforcement training, criminal justice planning, solid waste reduction and homeland security planning. Take a look at some of CAPCOG's 2013 achievements — with an eye on innovations to come — fueled by the power of regionalism.

2013 Executive Committee

Officers

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From the Board Chair and the Executive Director



Mayor Alan McGraw
City of Round Rock
2013 CAPCOG Chair

During my year as Chair of the Executive Committee, I have developed a deeper appreciation for the collaborative,

regional, focused work of CAPCOG. Our Executive Committee, other COG committees and staff are dedicated to working together for the benefit of our region.

As we discuss the exponential growth of our region, it's important to focus on proper planning. We can't ignore it. The numerous CAPCOG programs help reiterate and sustain this important goal.

Our Executive Committee represents all 10 counties in our region. Regionalism is not a "one size fits all" approach, and respecting each jurisdiction and

their individual personalities is vital as regional decisions are made.

I am enthusiastic about the progress made this year but, more importantly, for the groundwork that is being laid for the future of our region.

We have many issues that cannot be ignored. If we do not address them now, they will still be here for generations to come. CAPCOG is a vital part of these discussions, and the collaboration of our diverse elected officials is an encouraging commentary on our willingness to work together for the betterment of our region.



Betty Voights, Executive Director
CAPCOG

In the years with a legislative session, our work becomes dominated by pre-session planning, responding to bills being introduced by providing outreach and testimony and then following up to implement any new programs or requirements.

Fiscal 2012-2013 was no different.

Fortunately for CAPCOG, we cover a 10-county area served by a group of state legislators who are good to work

with; the onus is on us to make sure we get them good information before and during the session.

We are also extremely fortunate to have CAPCOG Executive Committee members who — because they have taken time to learn our programs and issues — are prepared to assist us with visits to legislative staff and to testify at hearings.

Two key areas we worked on with our legislators involved reinstating some of our air quality planning funds and passing a bill to designate CAPCOG as an emergency communications district, effectively moving our 9-1-1 program out of state agency oversight.

We were also fortunate to get full funding from the state Criminal Justice Division for our law enforcement academy and an increase for criminal justice planning.

As a result of bills passed, our academy will be adding school marshal training to its roster and will be working with our 9-1-1 staff to expand call-taker training to include licensing.

Unfortunately we have not been so lucky with federal funding; we're facing reductions in our aging program funding, which will affect meals, transportation and in-home services.

We have watched the region's homeland security allocation slowly decrease and continue to be judicious about stretching those funds into future years.

Being an agency dependent on grant funding is a challenge, but it reminds us that a primary focus must continue to be on the diversification of funding sources and generating fees for services, particularly related to economic development, mapping and direct services to local governments.

This past year, we provided mapping services to the Central Texas Council of Governments and law enforcement training to Brazos Valley COG.

We'll next launch the Prosperous Places Program, an economic development strategy for community placemaking that will be available throughout our region.

Area Agency on Aging

Jennifer Scott, Director

- Benefits Counseling
- Health and Wellness
- Information, Referral and Assistance
- Long-Term Care Ombudsman Program
- Nutritional Programs
- Elder Abuse Prevention

The Area Agency on Aging of the Capital Area (AAACAP), funded in part by the Texas Department of Aging and Disability Services, provides quality services to support and advocate for the health, safety and well-being of the region's older adults and their family caregivers.

Some accomplishments in fiscal 2013, during which AAACAP served nearly 20,000 consumers across the region:

- Hosted a successful Striking a Balance caregiver education conference in November 2012 with long-term partner AGE of Central Texas, drawing more than 160 family caregivers and teaming with the University of Texas at Austin LBJ School of Public Affairs to survey caregivers for the Mayor's Task Force on Aging.
- Undertook more than 1,200 facility visits and fully or partially resolved more than 93 percent of the 148 complaints handled through AAACAP's Long-Term Care Ombudsman Program, part of a statewide initiative to improve the quality of life and care for nursing home and assisted-living residents.
- Through the Benefits Counseling Program, helped more than 653 consumers with Medicare applications or selection of appropriate Medicare Part D prescription drug plans and provided Medicare information to another 7,667 people by conducting individual phone consultations and outreach at health fairs and other events.

- Continued efforts to prevent falls among seniors, including partnering with the City of Austin Parks

“Sequestration or the ‘fiscal cliff’ has impacted and will increasingly affect the Area Agency on Aging, including reducing funding.”

and Recreation Department to host A Matter of Balance classes at seven of its senior centers and expand the six-year-old program into Caldwell County.

- Expanded the Stress Busting Program for Family Caregivers into Williamson County. The program, partially funded by a generous grant from the WellMed Foundation, hosted three nine-week classes in the region and added four new master trainers and a lay leader.
- Worked with selected area pharmacists and new grant partner St. David's Healthcare Foundation to conduct medication screenings for more than 138 consumers ages 60 and older, helping prevent the risk

of falls and adverse drug interactions, improve overall health and increase participant's health literacy regarding their medications.

- Developed new partnerships with the Bastrop Emergency Food Pantry and Senior Brown Bag Lunch Program, AGE of Central Texas and the City of Round Rock. Through these collaborations, AAACAP now offers monthly health screenings and health education sessions at the pantry, including providing transportation for participants; AGE is hosting family education sessions four times yearly; and Round Rock transports seniors to selected nutritional centers for daily meals.

Sequestration or the “fiscal cliff” has impacted and will increasingly affect the Area Agency on Aging, reducing funding and, therefore, reducing services such as congregate and home-delivered meals, caregiver respite and senior transportation.

AAACAP is dedicated to continuing to serve as many consumers as possible within funding limitations. We will continue to seek additional funding partners and rely on community-organization partnerships to meet the needs of low-income, hard-to-reach, vulnerable seniors in the capital area.



Various CAPCOG employees showed their support for Alzheimer's Action Day with purple clothing on Sept. 20, 2013. CAPCOG's Area Agency on Aging facilitates respite services, educational presentations and other support for family caregivers of patients living with the disease.

Emergency Communications

CAPCOG's Emergency Communications Division provides planning, technical, implementation, training and public education assistance to public safety agencies throughout the 10-county region, helping them deliver high quality 9-1-1 service to their communities. The division also works with local telephone companies, Voice over Internet Protocol providers, county 9-1-1 addressing coordinators and others to



ensure each 9-1-1 call reaches the correct public safety answering point (PSAP) with accurate location and telephone number information.

The number of 9-1-1 calls in the district increased this fiscal year. The percentage of calls originating from wireless devices and VoIP, however, remained steady at 75 percent and 4 percent of all calls respectively.

The year also saw a robust increase in the number of students attending telecommunicator training: 1,470 students received instruction at 85 classes covering 13 unique training topics.

Education included community outreach, too. Public safety agencies sponsored or participated in 64 events, providing information to more 53,606 individuals, including more than 22,537 children. CAPCOG's all-ages educational materials, available in various languages, helped enhance understanding of the 9-1-1 program.

Gregg Obuch, Director

CAPCOG also helped move the region a couple steps closer to Next Generation 9-1-1 — an eventual nationwide system with capacity to take on text, video and other communications beyond voice-only calls — with updates such as a new mapping system planned for the region's PSAPs.

CAPCOG's efforts during the state's 83rd Legislative Session led to passage of a bill creating the nation's first COG-managed 9-1-1 district.

The new Capital Area Emergency Communications District, officially formed Sept. 1, 2013, will receive 9-1-1 service fees directly. It also will have more flexibility on deploying services and equipment along with the ability to integrate other related functions like Reverse 911 and radio interoperability.

CAPCOG's Homeland Security Division supports local jurisdictions and first responders in building regional strategies for response to natural and man-made disasters, including prioritizing federal homeland security funding, facilitating training and coordinating long-term communications planning.

Since the federal Homeland Security Grant Program's (HSGP) start in 2003, CAPCOG and its member jurisdictions have received more than \$33.3 million from this source. CAPCOG has taken a regional approach to allocating the funding, ensuring both local needs and regional priorities are met.

A significant portion of the telecommunications infrastructure that supports local governments — especially public safety personnel — has been funded by CAPCOG-administered HSGP funding. As the funding has decreased, regional priorities have shifted from developing new capabilities

ties to sustaining previously developed ones.

Some fiscal 2013 highlights:

- CAPCOG began upgrading the regional emergency notification system, which has been used effectively to warn of area threats posed by wildfires, floods, chemical releases and criminal activity. The upgraded system will allow participating local governments and organizations a wider variety of notification options while maintaining the lowest possible cost.
- Local governments, school districts and hospitals and various state-affiliated emergency management and response personnel continued to rely on the CAPCOG-implemented WebEOC crisis management information system to share time-sensitive, mission-critical information. WebEOC held a key role in managing events surrounding the Formula One U.S.

Homeland Security

Ed Schaefer, Director

- Emergency Notification System (ENS)
- WebEOC
- Regional Training and Exercises
- Regional Communications Interoperability
- Criminal Justice

Grand Prix's 2013 Central Texas debut at the new Circuit of the Americas track in Travis County.

- CAPCOG's ongoing training and exercise collaborations with local emergency management and public safety personnel yielded successes such as the regional Chemical, Biological, Radiological, Nuclear and Explosive Strike teams' continued readiness for major incidents

Regional Law Enforcement Academy

Mike Jennings, Director

- Basic Peace Officer Course
- Basic Corrections Officer Course
- State-Mandated Training and Continuing Education for Law Enforcement Officers
- Administrative Sponsorship

CAPCOG's academy completed its 18th year of serving the region with needed law enforcement training, providing classes for basic peace officer certification and basic jailer's certification as well as Texas Commission on Law Enforcement (TCOLE) mandated training and continuing education.

Basic Peace Officer Course The basic peace officer courses comprise 780 hours of classroom and field instruction in law enforcement.

In 2013, the academy held five BPOC classes, trained 123 students and again

maintained a 100 percent first-attempt pass rate among cadets taking the state-mandated TCOLE test for new peace officers.

The RLEA for the first time conducted a BPOC outside of its region, partnering with the Brazos Valley Council of Governments, a neighboring COG that

“RLEA again maintained a 100 percent first-attempt pass rate among cadets taking the state test for new peace officers.”

does not have its own academy.

Basic County Corrections Officer Course

RLEA's Basic Jailers course in 2013 included 96 hours of corrections officer training with subjects ranging from Inmates with Mental Disabilities to Inmate Correspondence. Seven new correction officers passed the course, along with a 100 percent pass rate on the state exam. This course, conducted

in Bastrop County, reflected CAPCOG's ongoing effort to take training out to jurisdictions when they need it.

In-Service Training The RLEA held 40 separate in-service classes with more than 800 law enforcement officers attending. Classes spanned mandated subjects and other offerings such as Firearms Instructor, Basic Instructor, New Supervisor, Legislative Updates, Patrol Rifle, Use of Force, Human Trafficking and more.

Administrative Sponsorship The academy also supported other area agencies' in-house training efforts, whether approving lesson plans, reporting TCOLE credit or archiving training documents. Sponsored classes spanned agencies such as Round Rock Police Department, Austin Independent School District Police Department, Bastrop and Lee County Sheriff's departments and more, with 60 sponsored classes and more than 500 participants.

Regional Services

Mark Sweeney, Director

- Air Quality Planning
- Geographic Information System (GIS) Services
- Regional Planning, Transportation and Sustainability
- Solid Waste Management and Environmental Enforcement

The Regional Services Division focuses on initiatives and programs related to mapping, air quality planning and monitoring, solid waste planning and rural transportation.

The division also includes CAPCOG's Community & Economic Development Program, working closely with cities, counties, chambers of commerce and economic development corporations and managing the U.S. Economic Development Administration-funded

Capital Area Economic Development District, which establishes regional economic development priorities.

Some of the division's 2013 accomplishments:

- Through the Solid Waste Grants Program, provided more than \$100,000 in grants to seven local governments for activities such as recycling, litter and illegal dumping cleanup, local enforcement, household hazardous waste management and scrap tire management.
- In partnership with the Regional Environmental Task Force, conducted four environmental law training sessions; processed more than 100 calls to 1-877-NO-DUMPS, the illegal dumping hotline; and funded analysis of samples collected during illegal dumping investigations.

Sustainable Places Project

What a year for CAPCOG's Sustainable Places Project, a regional collaboration to help cities connect housing and economic development with transportation planning.

The project includes demonstration sites in Austin, Dripping Springs, Elgin, Hutto and Lockhart.

A study of the City of Austin's demonstration site found that investing in urban rail infrastructure could significantly reduce daily vehicle commutes, save \$296 million in vehicle expenses and attract economically beneficial development along the transit corridor.

With the SPP's final suite of analytics tools expected to debut in 2014, CAPCOG will open a new round of community planning for other Central Texas communities.

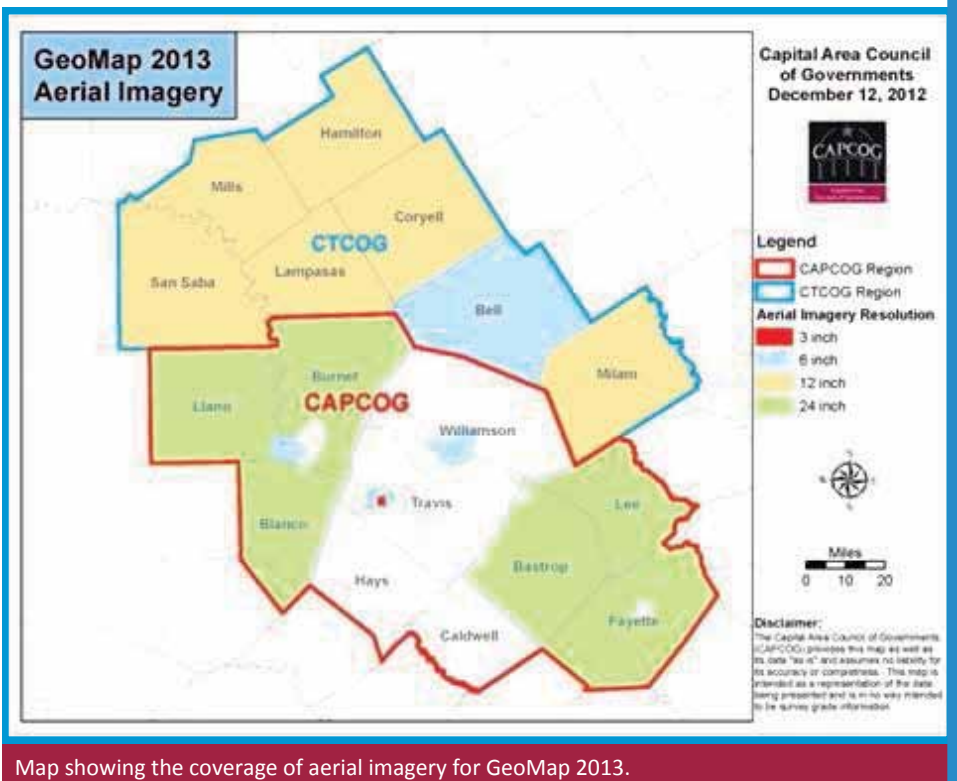
Regional Services — cont'd

- Mapped the locations within the CAPCOG region where illegal dumping has been reported, so RETF members can better target areas for education and outreach and for additional illegal dumping prevention enforcement.
- Continued rollout of MyPermitNow — a customizable Web-based application for land-use permitting, planning, addressing and code enforcement — throughout the capital area and to adjacent councils of government. Also initiated GPS tracking and monitoring services under the program.
- Achieved a near-perfect hit rate on nearly 1 million landlines in GIS address-mapping for 9-1-1 call takers and dispatchers.
- Garnered a National Association of Development Organizations Innovation Award for GeoMap, a cost-sharing initiative to produce and maintain current geospatial map data for local jurisdictions, developers and others.
- Coordinated the purchase of GeoMap products for local govern-

ments and other participants, including more than 11,000 miles of aerial images for the Central Texas Council of Governments .

- Led development of the Blanco County Transportation and Economic Development Plan, which represented the first combined major thoroughfare plan and economic development strategy for a rural county.
- Coordinated a call for rural county roadway projects with the Capital Area Regional Transportation Planning Organization (CARTPO), which in turn provided prioritized recommendations to the Texas Department of Transportation for potential future funding.
- Secured continuous funding from TxDOT to benefit Rural Transportation Planning Support for the Austin District. The funds will help address rural and regional transportation planning issues and activities and support CAPCOG's leadership role in coordinating the Lee County Transportation and Economic Development Plan.

- Helped the region remain in step with federal ozone regulations, avoiding the costly consequences that can accompany a "nonattainment" designation.
- In partnership with the Central Texas Clean Air Coalition, led regionwide outreach to develop a new air quality plan, Ozone Advance, for continued compliance with federal pollution standards.
- Added two temporary air quality monitoring stations in Lockhart and southwest Austin while continuing to operate six permanent ozone monitors in the region.
- Issued the Central Texas Benchmarking Analysis, for which the Capital Area Economic Development District selected nine additional metro regions — Orlando, Denver, Nashville, Portland, Charlotte, Raleigh, San Jose, Columbus and Salt Lake City — for comparison.
- Updated the 2010-2015 Comprehensive Economic Development Strategy, including adding a goal to provide analytical and technical support for developing economically sustainable communities — a first step in transitioning the Sustainable Places Project to the Economic Development Division.
- Presented the annual State of the Region report, with information on the area's economic performance and emerging trends.
- Provided analysis and recommendations for the Blanco County Transportation and Economic Development Plan.
- Launched a redesigned Data Points newsletter, a monthly look at area economic trends.
- Forged a Partnership with the National Association of Development Organizations for an Innovation Clusters Life Cycle Study.



Map showing the coverage of aerial imagery for GeoMap 2013.

2013 Membership

City and County Members

Bastrop County

City of Bastrop
City of Elgin
City of Smithville

Blanco County

City of Blanco
City of Johnson City
City of Round Mountain

Burnet County

City of Bertram
City of Burnet
City of Cottonwood Shores
City of Granite Shoals
City of Highland Haven
City of Marble Falls
City of Meadowlakes

Caldwell County

City of Lockhart
City of Luling
City of Martindale

Fayette County

City of Carmine
City of Fayetteville
City of Flatonia
City of La Grange
City of Round Top
City of Schulenburg

Hays County

City of Buda
City of Dripping Springs
City of Kyle
City of Mountain City
City of Niederwald
City of San Marcos
City of Uhland
City of Wimberley
City of Woodcreek

Lee County

City of Giddings
City of Lexington

Llano County

City of Horseshoe Bay
City of Llano
City of Sunrise Beach Village

Travis County

City of Austin
City of Bee Cave
City of Creedmoor
City of Jonestown
City of Lago Vista
City of Lakeway
City of Manor
City of Mustang Ridge
City of Pflugerville
City of Rollingwood
City of Sunset Valley
City of West Lake Hills
Village of Point Venture
Village of San Leanna
Village of The Hills
Village of Volente
Village of Webberville

Williamson County

City of Bartlett
City of Cedar Park
City of Florence
City of Georgetown
City of Granger
City of Hutto
City of Jarrell
City of Leander
City of Liberty Hill
City of Round Rock
City of Taylor
City of Thrall
City of Weir

Associate Members

Austin Independent School District
Barton Springs/Edwards Aquifer
Conservation District
Bastrop County Emergency Services District 2
Bluebonnet Electric Cooperative Inc.
Buda Economic Development Corp.
Capital Area Metropolitan Planning Organization
Central Health
Del Valle Independent School District
Dripping Springs Independent School District
Eanes Independent School District
Fayette County Central Appraisal District
Georgetown Chamber of Commerce
Georgetown Economic Development Department
Giddings Independent School District
Guadalupe-Blanco River Authority
Hays Central Appraisal District
Hutto Independent School District
La Grange Independent School District
Lower Colorado River Authority
Pedernales Electric Co-op
Round Rock Chamber of Commerce
Round Rock Independent School District
Travis County Emergency Services District 2
Travis County Emergency Services District 4



Regional Committees

Capital Area Economic Development District (CAEDD)

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Vic Villarreal
Susan Wendel



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Council Member Willie "Bill" Peterson
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Commissioner John Wood
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Commissioner Joe Don Dockery
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Frank Estrada	John Trube

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Ann Berghammer-Miller
Dixie Myers
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Phill Parmer
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Charles Knuth
Ross Clark
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Mayor Pro Tem
Samantha LeMense*

*Executive Committee liaison

Advisory Committees

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Law Enforcement Education Committee (LEEC)

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Warren Zerr
Constable Vern Surman
Russell "Rusty" Pancoast
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Charles Hooker
Chris Bratton
Scott Woodward
Willie Richards
David Bertling
Judge Bert Cobb*

9-1-1 Task Force

Julie Sommerfeld
Kathy Strickland
Vickie Seiley
Jaclyn Archer
Dawn Moore
Rosanna Wisener
Erica Carpenter
David Smith
Cindy Heuermann
Melissa Cavness
Chris Wallace
Stacy Pyle
Brad Bearden
Jasper Brown
Marcia Brooks
William Brooks
Teresa Baker
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Leigh Carrico
Kelli Merriweather
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Solid Waste Advisory Committee (SWAC)

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David Case
Ron Wilson
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Melinda Mallia
Gerard Acuna
Richard McHale
Dr. Orlynn Evans
Pete Correa
Jack Ranney
Adam Mathews
Kyle Hahn
Steve Jacobs
Lee Kuhn
Cheryl Untermeyer
Yessenia Pena
Joey Crumley
Dr. Tina Marie Cade
Commissioner Maurice Pitts*



*Executive Committee liaison



Capital Area Council of Governments staff, ready to help. Some staff members not pictured.

Questions? Feedback?

Share your comments about CAPCOG's 2013 annual report or anything else on your mind.

→ 512-916-6163

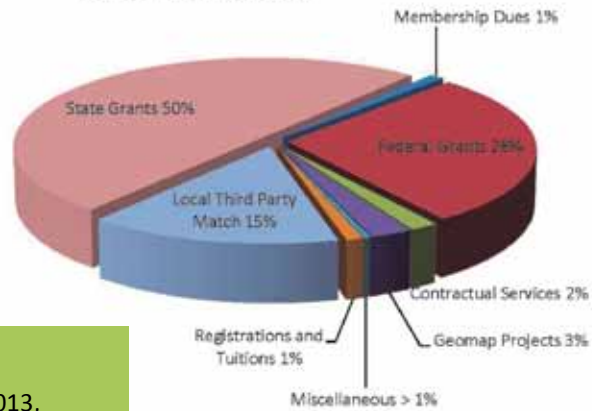
→ newsletter@capcog.org

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Fiscal 2013 Financial Summary (unaudited)

Did you
know?

2013 Revenues

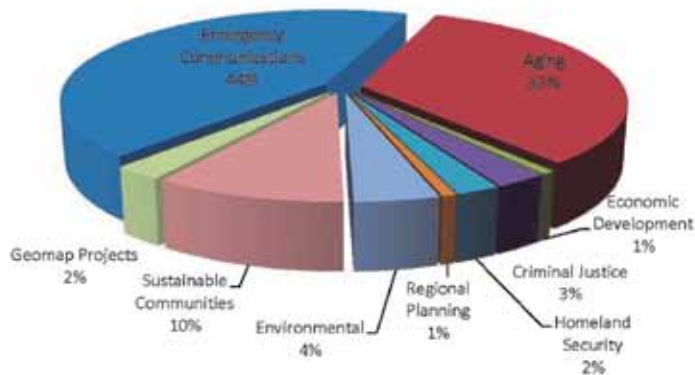


Making the Most of Your Dollars

Of the \$235,392 in membership dues received in fiscal 2013, CAPCOG used nearly \$170,000 as match to draw down federal and state dollars for the region.

These local dollars helped provide a 1-to-4 match for Aging Services for the elderly, a 1-to-2 match for Economic Development programs in our communities and funding for limited regional services not otherwise supported by a grant or contract.

2013 Expenditures



CAPCOG 2013 Annual Report



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