

WAMU 88.5

QUARTERLY LISTING

COMMUNITY ISSUES AND PROGRAMS

January 1, 2015 through March 31, 2015

Issue: Dealing with the Washington Region's Aging Infrastructure
Topic: "Breaking Down Local Infrastructure Breakdowns"
Program: *The Kojo Nnamdi Show*
Host: Kojo Nnamdi
Date: Monday, January 5, 2015
Length: 00:52:00

Last month, a water main breaks at Metro Center closed three train lines during morning rush hour. In Alexandria, a series of ruptured water pipes have shut down major thoroughfares. And in the District, a mysterious fuel leak contaminated drinking water for 350 households in the Shaw neighborhood. We get a report card on the region's aging infrastructure.

Guests:

Chuck Bean,
Executive Director, Metropolitan Washington Council of Governments

Phil Mendelson,
Chairman, D.C. Council

Robert Puentes,
Director, Metropolitan Infrastructure Initiative, Brookings Institution

Issue: Technology

Topic: “On the Coast: NASA Officials Still Seeking Cause of Wallops Explosion”

Program: *Metro Connection*

Host: Rebecca Sheir

Date: Friday, January 16, 2015

Time: 1:00 to 2:00 p.m.

Length: 00:05:47

NASA and its private-sector partners are continuing to investigate the cause of October's rocket explosion at the Wallops Flight Facility. It's the possibility that keeps rocket scientists up at night: You spend months or years preparing for a launch, and then, at the crucial moment, something goes horribly wrong. That scenario became reality when a rocket exploded during lift-off at NASA's Wallops Flight Facility on the Eastern Shore of Virginia.

Guests:

Brian Russo

WAMU's Eastern Shore Reporter

Bruce Underwood

Deputy Director of Wallops Flight Facility.

Issue: Providing Safe Transportation for Area Residents
Topic: “Renewed Questions about Safety and Accountability on Metro”
Program: *The Kojo Nnamdi Show*
Host: Kojo Nnamdi
Date: Tuesday, January 13, 2015
Time: 12 noon to 2 p.m.
Length: 00:09:00

One woman died and more than 80 people were hospitalized Monday after smoke engulfed a Yellow Line train and filled Metro tunnels near the L'Enfant Plaza station. A day later, officials are scrambling to find the cause of the incident. And Metro riders are asking whether the system they rely on every day is really safe. We get the latest updates and hear from listeners.

Guests:

Martin Di Caro

Transportation Reporter, WAMU 88.5

Chris Zimmerman

Vice President for Economic Development, Smart Growth America

Former board member, Washington Metropolitan Area Transit Authority

Issue: Priorities for Minority Communities in Education and Economic Development

Topic: “New Hispanic Voices in Local Government”

Program: *The Kojo Nnamdi Show* · January 22, 2015

Host: Kojo Nnamdi

Date: Thursday, January 22, 2015

Time: 12 noon to 2:00 p.m.

Length: 00:24:00

In Prince George's County — where 17 percent of residents and 25 percent of public school students are Hispanic — voters have elected the first Latina women to the county council and the school board. We speak with two of them about representing Latinos and all county residents, and about their priorities for education and economic development in the suburban Maryland county.

Deni Taveras

Prince George's County Council Member

Dinora Hernandez

Prince George's County Public Schools Board of Education Member; Latino Liaison for Prince George's County Executive

Issue: Lingerin*g* Impact of the Housing Crisis in the Washington Suburbs

Topic: “Underwater Mortgages and Vanishing Wealth in Prince George's County”

Program: *The Kojo Nnamdi Show*

Host: Kojo Nnamdi

Date: Tuesday, January 27, 2015

Time: 12 noon to 2:00 p.m.

Length: 00:52:00

From the outside, the Fairwood subdivision near Bowie, Maryland appears to be an African-American success story. This decade-old neighborhood is 73 percent black, with a median income of \$170,000. But many of the people who live there are deep underwater on their mortgages, part of a legacy of plunging home values and predatory loans that dates back to before the housing bubble popped. Kojo talks with one of the reporters behind a recent Washington Post series on black wealth in Prince George's County and examines the lingering impact of the housing crisis in the Washington suburbs.

Michael Fletcher

Reporter, Washington Post

Mary Hunter

Director, Housing Counseling Program, Housing Initiative Partnership, Inc.

Thomas Shapiro

Director, Institute on Assets and Social Policy and Professor of Law and Social Policy, Brandeis University

Dorothy Brown Vice Provost for Academic Affairs and Professor of Law, Emory University

Issue: Impact of Proposed Federal Budget on the Washington Region

Topic: “Budget Day: What's At Stake for the D.C. Region”

Program: *The Kojo Nnamdi Show*

Host: Kojo Nnamdi

Date: Monday, February 2, 2015

Time: 12 noon to 2:00 p.m.

Length: 00:23:30

President Obama released a budget proposal today with broad implications for the Washington region. U.S. Rep. Gerald Connolly represents a district close enough to D.C. that he could take Metro to work if he wanted to — a district that's also home to thousands of federal workers. Kojo chats with Connolly about what he sees at stake for his constituents and the D.C. region in the year ahead, and in the upcoming debate over the president's budget plan.

Guest:

The Honorable Gerald Connolly

Member, U.S. House of Representatives (D-VA, 11th District)

Issue: Over Crowding and other problems in U.S. Jails
Topic: “New Calls for Reform of our Local Criminal Justice Systems”
Program: *The Diane Rehm Show*
Host: Diane Rehm
Date: Thursday, February 12, 2015
Time: 10 a.m. to 12 noon
Length: 00:52:00

While convicted criminals are usually sent to do their time in prisons, U.S. jails are typically for those awaiting trial, and those who have been deemed dangerous or a flight risk. But according to a new report, U.S. jails have today become overcrowded warehouses for vulnerable members of society. Many are too poor to post bail, or are suffering from mental illness or addiction. Nearly 75 percent of those in jail are there for non-violent crimes, some as minor as traffic violations. Now there are new calls to re-think who we put in our jails, and how long we keep them there. Diane hosts a conversation about reforming our local criminal justice systems.

Guests:

Bill Keller

Editor-in-chief, The Marshall Project.
Former Executive Editor of The New York Times

Laurie Garduque

Director of Justice Reform, The MacArthur Foundation.
Member, Federal Coordinating Council on Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention.

Cliff Keenan

Director, Pretrial Services Agency for the District of Columbia.

Issue: Caring for the Homeless in the District of Columbia
Topic: “Homeless Residents Advocate Their Agenda”
Program: *Metro Connection*
Host: Rebecca Sheir
Date: Friday, February 15, 2015
Time: 1:00 to 2:00 p.m.
Length: 00:05:56

“It would make sense that if the District’s lawmakers are writing policy that would impact the lives of the city’s homeless residents, they might consider consulting with people who had actually experienced homelessness before. But that doesn’t often happen, says Robert Warren, the director of the People for Fairness Coalition, an advocacy group made up of homeless and formerly homeless people in D.C.”

Guests:

Lauren Ober
WAMU 88.5 Reporter

Robert Warren
Director of the People for Fairness Coalition.

Issue: Maintaining a Public Health Focus on the Problem of HIV/AIDS

Topic: “The Future of HIV/AIDS: Treatment and Services in the DC Area”

Program: *The Kojo Nnamdi Show*

Host: Kojo Nnamdi

Date: Monday, February 16, 2015

Time: 12 noon to 2:00 p.m.

Length: 00:34:19

HIV and AIDS in the District of Columbia remain at epidemic levels: 2.5 percent of the population in 2012. As treatment and survival rates have progressed, it's brought new challenges, including educating a younger generation and maintaining a public health focus on the problem. We consider the current landscape and gain insight into what activists, researchers and clinicians see as the way forward.

Guests:

Adam Tenner

Executive Director, Metro TeenAIDS

Walter Smith

Executive Director, D.C. Appleseed Center for Law and Justice

Amanda Castel, M.D., M.P.H

Assistant Professor in the Department of Epidemiology and Biostatistics, The George Washington University Milken Institute for Public Health

Issue: Impact of Immigration Policies on our Region

Topic: “Executive Action in Limbo? Local Impacts of a Legal Immigration Showdown”

Program: *The Kojo Nnamdi Show*

Date: Wednesday, February 18, 2015

Time: 12 noon to 2 p.m.

Length: 00:21:55

A federal judge in Texas this week halted the Obama administration's executive actions on immigration — just days before their intended implementation. The policies included deferred deportation and work permits for some undocumented immigrants. Opponents call the policies a power grab by the executive branch. Supporters, including the Attorneys General of Maryland and the District of Columbia, say they'll bring millions of people out of the shadows, creating broad economic benefits. We explore how the court ruling will impact the local and national immigration debate.

Guest:

Julia Preston
National Immigration Reporter, The New York Times

Issue: How will Legalizing Marijuana in the District of Columbia Affect our Region?

Topic: “12:01 a.m., Thursday: DC's Marijuana Legalization Enters a New Phase”

Program: *The Kojo Nnamdi Show*

Host: Kojo Nnamdi

Date: Wednesday, February 25, 2015

Time: 12 noon to 2 p.m.

Length: 00:23:30

When the clock strikes 12:01 a.m. Thursday, possessing up to two ounces of marijuana will be legal in the District of Columbia. But the marijuana issue remains mired in a thicket of complex, yet hugely consequential legal questions: By defying skeptics in Congress, is the District overstepping its Home Rule charter? What will happen if, as seems likely, the District does not immediately establish rules to regulate and tax sales? How will local police react if a tourist lights up in the street? Kojo examines what comes next and takes your calls.

Guests:

Adam Eidinger,

Chairman, D.C. Cannabis Campaign; Founder and Partner, Mintwood Media Collective; Co-founder Capitol Hemp

Martin Austermuhle :

Producer / Reporter, WAMU.org,
Senior editor, DCist.com

Issue: What will be the Effect of Senator Mikulski's Retirement on our Region?

Topic: "Maryland's Mikulski Won't Seek another Senate Term"

Program: *The Kojo Nnamdi Show*

Host: Kojo Nnamdi

Date: Monday, March 2, 2015

Time: 12 noon to 2 p.m.

Length: 00:15:30

U.S. Senator. Barbara Mikulski (D-Md.), the longest-serving woman in Congressional history, will not seek re-election to the U.S. Senate in 2016. Her announcement has massive political implications for her home state of Maryland and for the Washington region as a whole. We explore both her legacy and the political fallout of her announcement.

Guests:

Mileah Kromer

Director, Sarah T. Hughes Field Politics Center and Assistant Professor of Political Science, Goucher College

Matt Bush

Maryland Reporter, WAMU 88.5

Issue: Homelessness in the District of Columbia
Topic: “Audit: D.C. Overbilled on Services for the Homeless”
Program: *The Kojo Nnamdi Show*
Host: Kojo Nnamdi
Date: Monday, March 9, 2015
Time: 12 noon to 2 p.m.
Length: 00:13:30

According to a new report, the contractor managing the District's shelter for homeless families overbilled the city for millions of dollars last year. A report released late last week by the D.C. Auditor found the nonprofit Community Partnership for the Prevention of Homelessness not only overcharged the city but also may have violated local and federal laws, all at a time the city's facing a spike in homelessness. Kojo chats with D.C. Auditor Kathleen Patterson about the report's findings.

Guest:

Kathleen Patterson

Auditor, District of Columbia
Former D.C. Councilmember (D-Ward 3)
Federal Policy Director, Pre-K Now

Issue: Energy Initiatives in the Washington Area

Topic: “Pepco-Exelon Merger Proposal”

Program: *The Koyo Nnamdi Show*

Date: Wednesday, March 18, 2015

Time: 12 noon to 2 p.m.

Length: 00:52:00

Pepco customers want more reliable electric service, but they're not all convinced the company's proposed merger with Chicago-based Exelon is the best way to get it. Pepco says the merger will result in fewer and shorter power outages in the Washington region. But critics say a merger could lead to higher rates and undercut local renewable energy efforts. We examine the energy industry at large and explore how this merger would affect local customers.

Guests:

Wendy Stark

Deputy General Counsel, Pepco Holdings Inc.

Tyson Slocum

Director, Public Citizen Energy Program

Abbe Milstein

Founder, Power Up, Montgomery County, MD

Jim Dinegar

President and CEO, Greater Washington Board of Trade

Issue: How the Federal Visa Program for Seasonal Workers Affects Industries on the Eastern Shore.

Topic: “Seasonal Labor and the U.S. Seafood Industry”

Program: *The Kojo Nnamdi Show*

Host: Kojo Nnamdi

Date: Wednesday, March 25, 2015

Time: 12 noon to 2 p.m.

Length: 00:26:00

A recent court decision allowed federal officials to resume processing visas offered to the many seasonal workers providing the labor behind the U.S. seafood industry. The prospect of a visa stoppage sent a panic through many seafood businesses in the mid-Atlantic region, who've come to depend on the visa program to fill manual labor jobs like picking crabs and shucking oysters. We explore why the visa program was caught in limbo and what's at stake for the seafood industry as things move forward.

Guests:

Jason Ruth

Owner Harris Seafood Company, Graysonville, Maryland

John Fritze

Reporter, The Baltimore Sun

A.J. Erskine

Aquaculture Manager & Field Scientist, Bevans Oyster Co., Cowart Seafood Corporation,
Lottsburg, Virginia
