



Baltimore
Metropolitan
Council

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
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**BALTIMORE METROPOLITAN COUNCIL
EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR LARRY KLIMOVITZ RETIRES;
ATTORNEY MICHAEL KELLY TO SERVE AS SUCCESSOR**

BALTIMORE, MD (February 18, 2015) – The Baltimore Metropolitan Council (BMC) announces the retirement of Larry Klimovitz, who served as executive director for the last 10 years. BMC’s Board of Directors selected Michael Kelly, who serves as BMC’s general counsel, as Klimovitz’s successor.

“I would like to thank Larry for his decades of dedication to improving the quality of life through local planning for those living in the Baltimore region,” said Baltimore County Executive Kevin Kamenetz, chairman of the BMC Board of Directors. “His leadership and commitment to fiscally responsible regional planning helped to guide BMC through the Recession, save millions of dollars in energy procurement cost avoidance, and work with the Board to create sustainable solutions to address the ever-increasing needs of a region with limited resources.”

Klimovitz’s career spans 47 years. He joined BMC in 2001, first as the director of finance and human resources, then the organization’s deputy director, and finally as the executive director for the last 10 years. He previously served as the director of administration for Harford County, director of the Division of Capital Budgeting for the Maryland Department of Budget and Fiscal Planning, and as an engineering aide for the Maryland Department of Transportation.

Baltimore Mayor Stephanie Rawlings-Blake, also a member of the BMC’s Board of Directors, said she looks forward to Kelly continuing and expanding on the BMC’s level of regional coordination.

“BMC serves a critical role in our region, helping to coordinate the work of our local governments and serving as a direct conduit of federal transportation funds,” said Rawlings-Blake. “Mike’s knowledge of both BMC and our local governments is an invaluable asset to the region, and his track record of coordinating challenging regional efforts made him the perfect choice.”

Kelly joined BMC in 2008, serving as the organization's general counsel, and coordinator of governmental affairs. He also serves as the in-house staff coordinator of the Opportunity Collaborative, the consortium charged with developing the Regional Plan for Sustainable Development (RPSD) for the Baltimore region. In 2011, BMC received a \$3.5 million Sustainable Communities Regional Planning grant through the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) to create the RPSD. The plan is scheduled for completion in 2015.

"I am honored to accept this new role and look forward to continuing my work with talented colleagues here at BMC and throughout the region," Kelly said. "BMC has a long tradition of supporting the work of our local governments and I am excited by the opportunities that lie ahead."

Kelly also represents BMC on the board of the Baltimore Integration Partnership, which focuses on establishing economic inclusion throughout the region, and the core committee of Baltimore's Global Cities Initiative, a five-year joint project of the Brookings Institute and JPMorgan Chase.

"Mike's leadership in coordinating the Regional Plan for Sustainable Development has helped to present local government, nonprofits, the business community, academics and other key stakeholders in the Baltimore region with informed decisions, so that we can all work together better," said Donald C. Fry, President and CEO of the Greater Baltimore Committee. "I am thrilled to see him in a position where he can apply that regional thinking to more initiatives to not only improve quality of life, but also to help the Baltimore region to compete on a global scale."

Previously, Kelly practiced law in Towson, Maryland, and served as an aide to retired Maryland State Delegate Carolyn J. Krysiak. Kelly obtained his undergraduate degree at Loyola University Maryland and law degree from the University of Baltimore.

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The Baltimore Metropolitan Council (BMC) works collaboratively with the chief elected officials in the region to create initiatives to improve the quality of life and economic vitality. BMC, as the Baltimore region's council of governments (COG), hosts the Baltimore Regional Transportation Board (BRTB), the federal metropolitan planning organization (MPO), and supports local government by coordinating efforts in a range of policy areas including emergency preparedness, housing, cooperative purchasing, environmental planning and workforce development.

BMC's Board of Directors includes the Baltimore City mayor, Anne Arundel, Baltimore, Carroll, Harford and Howard county executives, a member of the Maryland State Senate, a member of the Maryland House of Delegates and a gubernatorial appointee from the private sector.