

EC Charge

“Thus, this Executive Council charges the Principals’ Staff Committee (PSC) in recommending a critical path forward that prioritizes and outlines the next steps for meeting the goals and outcomes of the *Watershed Agreement* leading up to and beyond 2025. The PSC is to report back to the Executive Council at our 2023 annual meeting with recommendations on how to best address and integrate new science and restoration strategies leading up to 2025. At our 2024 annual meeting, the PSC is to prepare recommendations that continue to address new advances in science and restoration, along with a focus on our partnership for going beyond 2025.

Goal

We will provide a path for the Chesapeake Bay Program that assesses where we are and identifies potential changes to what we do and how we work that will get us closer to where we want to be in reaching our shared vision for the Bay and its watershed.

A **path** that assesses

What is our plan for change, who will be part of executing the plan, and what direction will we give them?

where we are and identifies

What have we, as a partnership, accomplished so far through our current theory of change, beginning with the Reaching 2025 report and ERG evaluation?

potential changes to

What type and degree of change is needed to the foundational guides of our program, like the Watershed Agreement and Governance/Management framework, to make further progress?

what we do and

What is our approach to the goals and outcomes we have achieved and those we have yet to meet; and to the monitoring and modeling we do to set strategies and measure progress?

how we work that will get us closer

How do we improve our Partnership, Governance, Adaptive Management, Time and Resource Allocation, Public Engagement, Communication to do better, faster?

to where we want to be.

How do we define a healthy, sustainable, productive Chesapeake Bay and watershed, responding to climate change and community needs?

Steering Committee Deliverables by EC2024

- Assessment of where we are with the 2014 Watershed Agreement

where we are

- Reaching 2025 Report
- ERG Evaluation

- Value assessment of the 2014 Chesapeake Bay Watershed Agreement

what we do

- What is the ability of our Partnership to positively impact each goal and outcome?
- Do we have the right outcomes for our goals and the right goals for our vision?

- Recommendation on what to do with the Watershed Agreement post-2025

potential
changes

- Amend and extend?
- Reform and rewrite?

- Assessment of and recommendations for our overall partnership

how we work

- Partnership Structure
- Governance and Adaptive Management

Discussion

What high-level topics should we discuss to help us identify changes to **what we do**, **how we work**, and our understanding of **where we want to be**?

- Climate Change
- Shallow Waters
- Diversity, Equity, Inclusion and Justice
- Non-Point Sources of Pollution
- Land Conservation
- Habitat
- Water Quality
- Public Engagement and Participation
- Silo-breaking, co-outcome achievement

Proposal for each topic

- Form small group to guide full committee discussion
 - Small group considers guiding questions provided by Chairs
 - Small group/Chairs identify speakers, presentations, questions, and/or resources to guide full committee discussion of topic
- Full committee discussion on topic
 - Led by small group with help of Chairs
- Provisional recommendations on what changes are needed to the Program
 - Drafted by small group based on full committee discussion and guiding questions
 - Shared with full committee for consideration and feedback
 - Edited by small group/Chairs based on feedback received
- Final recommendations
 - Reviewed by full committee and offered for consensus
 - Organized by deliverable.

Guiding Questions

- VISION: Where Do We Want To Be – What do you want to hand to the next generation on this topic? What does success for the Bay and the watershed look like?
- VALUE: What We Do and How We Work – What is the partnership doing that currently works? How could that be enhanced? What changes would help us attain our vision?
- VANGUARD – What idea would be transformational for the future of the Bay and its watershed, and what would it take to implement that idea?

First two groups

- Climate Change
 - Small group:

- Shallow Waters
 - Small group: