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# Spotlight on Public Policy Committee Member George Clark

October 10, 2017

George Clark is TDM/Employer Outreach Specialist at Tri-County Council for Southern Maryland. He has unusually wide interests and is a firm believer in the importance of public policy.

## 1. How did you get involved in public policy? What connection does it have to your job?

I became involved with ACT Public Policy through being a member of ACT's

Telework Council Committee. They did not have a voting member on the Public Policy Committee so my peers nominated me for the committee. This is a great fit for me based on my professional position.

I work for the Tri-County Council for Southern Maryland, so I am very used to working with Policy makers in all levels of government from the three different counties.

In carrying out these responsibilities, the TCCSMD serves as an information and data source, engages in regional planning, serves as an advocate for the region's interests and priorities at the federal and state levels, qualifies the region for federal and State assistance, and develops programs to meet region-wide needs and

## 2. What do you see as posing the most significant opportunity or challenge to TDM on a federal (or state or local) level?

Change in new leadership! New leaders have their own agenda when they come into office and they need to get informed of local needs right off the bat! This give us TDM specialists the opportunity to get in front of them and gain their trust and become the go-to people for them when transportation issues arise.

#### 3. What do you see as the future of public policy?

If ACT's public policy involvement continues to move forward the way it has the past few years, it will only grow in membership and become a louder voice to be recognized.

#### 4. What is your take on the role of ACT in public policy?

I think it's not only great but necessary to have a voice from a transportation association speaking on our behalf. We all have different needs and wants but need to maintain current benefits, such as the \$255.00 transit benefit, while advocating for additional incentives.

#### 5. Why should ACT members get involved in public policy?

Why not?! It's the one way to drive change in their region. TDM specialists are the soldiers of transportation and should be out and about advocating for their regions' needs.

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6. What outside interests do you have?		
Fishing Bass Tournaments, my pug (Buster), and drawing.		
Are there any details about you that might surprise ACT members?		
That I was in a Heavy Metal Hair Band back in the 80's	;	
public policy TDM		
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