

**METROPOLITAN WASHINGTON COUNCIL OF GOVERNMENTS
777 NORTH CAPITOL STREET, NE
WASHINGTON, DC 20002-4239**

**RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING COG TO ENTER INTO A CONTRACT WITH MZ STRATEGIES, LLC TO
PREPARE A STRATEGIC ASSESSMENT REPORT OF THE GREATER WASHINGTON REGION'S ECONOMIC
COMPETITIVENESS**

WHEREAS, the Metropolitan Washington Council of Governments (COG) is comprised of the 22 jurisdictions of the National Capital Region's local governments and their governing officials, plus area members of the Maryland and Virginia legislatures and the U.S. Senate and House of Representatives, and COG provides a focus for action on issues of regional concern; and

WHEREAS, in 2015 the COG Board of Directors and Region Forward coalition have adopted a focus on Economic Competitiveness for policy makers, planners and business leaders to collectively address; and

WHEREAS, during this time MZ Strategies, LLC (MZ Strategies) has supported COG staff and the Region Forward coalition in identifying themes, reports and speakers that can help educate regional leaders on the various elements of competitiveness; and

WHEREAS, as an outgrowth of this collective work and in keeping with the Chairman's focus in 2015 on regional economic competitiveness, COG's Executive Director has identified the value in producing a "Strategic Assessment of the Greater Washington Region's Economic Competitiveness" report in early 2016.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS OF THE METROPOLITAN WASHINGTON COUNCIL OF GOVERNMENTS THAT:

The Executive Director, or his designee, is authorized to enter into a contract not to exceed \$25,000 with MZ Strategies, LLC to prepare a Strategic Assessment Report of the Greater Washington Region's Economic Competitiveness. MZ Strategies, LLC will work with COG staff to produce this Strategic Assessment to present the region's performance across a set of key competitiveness indicators, and summarize key findings from work this year by COG and regional partners, with a planned dissemination in early 2016 through the COG Board. Funding is from existing FY2016 COG Work Program and Budget.

I HEREBY CERTIFY THAT the foregoing resolution was adopted by the COG Board of Directors on October 14, 2015.

**Monica Beyrouti
Clerk to the Board of Directors**