

TPB R8-2021
October 21, 2020

NATIONAL CAPITAL REGION TRANSPORTATION PLANNING BOARD
777 North Capitol Street, N.E.
Washington, D.C. 20002

**RESOLUTION ON THE METROPOLITAN WASHINGTON COUNCIL OF
GOVERNMENTS' REGIONAL MULTI-SECTOR INTERIM GOALS FOR REDUCING
GREENHOUSE GASES**

WHEREAS, the National Capital Region Transportation Planning Board (TPB), the metropolitan planning organization (MPO) for the National Capital Region (Region), has the responsibility under the provisions of Fixing America's Surface Transportation (FAST) Act to carry out continuing, cooperative and comprehensive transportation planning for the Region; and

WHEREAS, the TPB is committed to preserving and enhancing the Region's environment through transportation plans focused on reducing congestion and emphasizing projects and programs that move more people and goods efficiently and reduce reliance on single-occupant vehicles; and

WHEREAS, the TPB is associated with the Metropolitan Washington Council of Governments (COG) and works closely with COG's Board of Directors ("COG Board") and its regional policy advisory committees, including the Climate, Energy and Environment Policy Committee (CEEPC), and the Region Forward Coalition, as well as the Metropolitan Washington Air Quality Committee (MWAQC) on matters of regional multi-sectoral planning; and

WHEREAS, in November 2008, the COG Board, through resolution R60-08, adopted the National Capital Region Climate Change Report that included voluntary goals to reduce greenhouse gases by 10 percent below business as usual projections by 2012, by 20 percent below 2005 levels by year 2020, and by 80 percent below 2005 levels by year 2050; and

WHEREAS, TPB recognizes achieving reductions in criteria pollutants and greenhouse gas emissions as a priority and has been reporting projected on-road greenhouse gas emissions in the Region's Long-Range Transportation Plan Performance Report since 2010; and

WHEREAS, TPB's "What Would it Take?" scenario analysis in 2010 quantified the effects of transportation sector specific actions for reducing greenhouse gas emissions; and

WHEREAS, in December 2014, the TPB, through Resolution R10-2015, affirmed the Region's greenhouse gas reduction goals adopted by the COG Board (COG Resolution R60-08) in November 2008, and undertook the Multi-Sector Working Group study jointly with COG and MWAQC; and

WHEREAS, COG's Multi-Sector Working Group study, completed in 2017, identified implementable and stretch local, regional, and state actions to reduce greenhouse gas emissions in all four sectors (Energy, Transportation, Land Use, Built Environment); and

WHEREAS, the Region has been able to reduce criteria pollutants such as ozone and fine particulate matter, and greenhouse gas emissions since 2010 due to federal, state, and local actions across sectors, including transportation and land use, even while accommodating considerable growth in population and employment; and

WHEREAS, while the Region did meet its greenhouse gas reduction goal for 2012, most recent data indicate that the Region is likely to miss its greenhouse gas reduction targets for 2020 and that achieving its 2050 goal will be challenging; and

WHEREAS, in 2019, the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC) updated its guidance to recognize that the world is already experiencing the impacts of global warming and identified 2030 as one of the earliest target years, and noting that to avoid most severe climate impacts, greenhouse gas emissions must be significantly reduced as expeditiously as possible; and

WHEREAS, a global alliance for city climate leadership, from six continents and 138 countries built upon the commitment of over 10,000 cities and local governments, called the Global Covenant of Mayors for Climate and Energy (GCoM), has endorsed IPCC's report and provided its members a framework of global best practices for climate planning; and

WHEREAS, COG and its members were recognized by the Global Covenant of Mayors for Climate and Energy in 2019 as a U.S. Metro-Scale Climate Leader with CEEPC as a GCoM Signatory; and

WHEREAS, CEEPC, making use of the GCoM framework and its technical assistance, has completed a detailed study of greenhouse gas emissions in the Region and the strategies available to reduce these emissions and recommended COG adopt greenhouse gas reduction goals for 2030 as an interim year target towards attaining the Region's 2050 greenhouse gas reduction goals; and

WHEREAS, TPB recognizes that the transportation sector will have to be an active partner with the other sectors in the Region's efforts to reduce greenhouse gas emissions and meet the Region's greenhouse gas reduction goals; and

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT THE NATIONAL CAPITAL REGION TRANSPORTATION PLANNING BOARD:

1. Affirms the Region's interim climate mitigation goal of 50 percent greenhouse gas emission reductions below 2005 levels by 2030, adopted by the COG Board on October 14, 2020 (COG Resolution R45-2020); and
2. Affirms the Region's climate resilience goals of becoming a Climate Ready Region and making significant progress to be a Climate Resilient Region by 2030, adopted by the COG Board on October 14, 2020 (COG Resolution R45-2020); and
3. Affirms the need to incorporate equity principles and expand education on climate change into CEEPC, TPB, and COG members' actions to reach the climate mitigation and resiliency goals, adopted by the COG Board on October 14, 2020 (COG Resolution R45-2020).

**Adopted by the Transportation Planning Board at its regular meeting on
October 21, 2021**