

**METROPOLITAN WASHINGTON AIR QUALITY COMMITTEE
777 NORTH CAPITAL STREET, NE
WASHINGTON, DC 20002**

RESOLUTION COMMITTING TO MEETING THE 2015 OZONE STANDARD WITHOUT DELAY

WHEREAS, the Metropolitan Washington Air Quality Committee (MWAQC) is charged with developing regional air quality plans, as well as regulatory and non-regulatory controls and initiatives to improve air quality and protect public health and welfare; and

WHEREAS, the region has benefited from federal, state and local actions across sectors that, even while accommodating considerable growth, have achieved significant reductions in levels of air pollutants and has attained the National Ambient Air Quality Standard (NAAQS) for five out of six criteria pollutants; and

WHEREAS, although the region has made significant progress improving air quality in recent years, monitors within the region show that citizens living in the Washington area continue to breathe unhealthy air on high ozone days; and

WHEREAS, unhealthy levels of ozone pollution pose risks to all exposed populations, with sensitive groups such as children, older adults, and people with respiratory conditions being most vulnerable; and

WHEREAS, the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) revised the ozone NAAQS in 2015 to be more protective of public health and welfare, and provided an implementation schedule that set a deadline of October 2017 for nonattainment designations; and

WHEREAS, ozone monitoring data provided by the District of Columbia, Maryland and Virginia show the region is not in attainment of the 2015 ozone NAAQS and should be designated as a marginal nonattainment area, requiring the region to reach attainment 3 years following designation; and

WHEREAS, in June 2017 the EPA extended the deadline for promulgating area designations by one year, and in August 2017 EPA withdrew its designation extension; however, a delay in the EPA designation is still expected; and

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED THAT BY THE METROPOLITAN WASHINGTON AIR QUALITY COMMITTEE THAT IT:

1. Commits to meeting the 2015 ozone NAAQS in a timely manner and not delay reaching attainment even if EPA delays the official process; and
2. Supports implementation of region wide and local actions to address the current and the future ozone NAAQS and to better protect public health and welfare; and
3. Is committed to achieving reductions in air pollutant emissions through a broad range of cost-effective control measures across multiple sectors.