

**METROPOLITAN WASHINGTON COUNCIL OF GOVERNMENTS
777 North Capitol St., N.E.
Washington, DC 20002**

**RESOLUTION SUPPORTING THE DEVELOPMENT OF A REGIONAL GREEN BUILDING
PROGRAM AND ADOPTION OF EXISTING INTERGOVERNMENTAL GREEN BUILDING
GROUP (IGBG) AS A TECHNICAL COMMITTEE UNDER COG'S COMMITTEE
STRUCTURE**

WHEREAS, the Metropolitan Washington Council of Governments (COG) Round 7.0 cooperative forecasts project that the Washington metropolitan statistical area will experience an increase of approximately 1.6 million persons and approximately 1.2 million jobs by 2030; and

WHEREAS, integrating sustainable design practices into this regional growth can reduce the impact of development relating to air and water quality, energy use, stormwater management, climate change, material use, natural resource preservation, and other health and environmental issues, while supporting economic growth and community health; and

WHEREAS, the COG Strategic Plan promotes balanced, sustainable growth and livable communities; and

WHEREAS, the Metropolitan Washington Region is comprised of 21 local governments, all having the ability to incorporate Green Building practices into public facilities and to impact private sector development through buildings codes, regulation and/or policy, thus providing national leadership on Green Building issues; and

WHEREAS, staff from local governments have coordinated with COG under the title of Intergovernmental Green Building Group (IGBG) to share knowledge and discuss Green Building policies and programs in support of individual jurisdictional Green Building programs, and to explore avenues for further interjurisdictional coordination; and

WHEREAS, coordinated Green Building programs and guidelines in the Metropolitan Washington Region could provide a consistent interjurisdictional approach to the application of Green Building principles, leading to regulatory predictability, greater markets for Green Building materials and services in the region, greater Green Building efficiencies, and cost reductions.

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

1. COG supports the application of coordinated Green Building practices throughout the Metropolitan Washington Region, and encourages each member jurisdiction to incorporate Green Building practices into the planning, design, construction, and operation of public sector development projects, to develop incentives, policies and/or regulatory approaches supporting the application of Green Building practices in private sector development projects, and to provide public education and staff training promoting Green Building practices;

2. COG supports the efforts of the IGBG and adopts this group as a standing technical committee that will report to the Chief Administrative Officers Committee of COG with staff resources that will enable the committee to recommend regional Green Building policies and guidelines, identify opportunities, and encourage coordination and leveraging of resources;

3. The COG Board Chair will appoint an ad hoc elected official committee to advise on regional green building policy development. This special ad hoc committee shall have tenure for 12 months from passage of this resolution; and

4. The IGBG Technical Committee will prepare a report on the following items for transmittal to the Chief Administrative Officers Committee and, ultimately, the COG Board of Directors:

- Options and recommendations to develop and adopt regional Green Building guidelines and implementation strategies that consider use of existing standards (such as LEED[®], Energy Star[®], or other nationally recognized Green Building programs), and which address issues of particular regional importance and interest;
- Options and recommendations for approaches to measure regional progress in the application of Green Building practices.
