

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

RESOLUTION APPROVING THE COG SOLAR ENERGY GOALS

WHEREAS, in 2020, the Board of Directors adopted Resolution R45-2020 endorsing an interim climate mitigation goal of 50 percent greenhouse gas emissions reductions below 2005 levels by 2030; and

WHEREAS, COG's Region United Framework and the Region Forward Vision considers efforts to meet the 2030 regional climate goal as one of the region's four top priorities along with high-capacity transit, housing, and equity; and

WHEREAS, COG seeks to support integrated multi-sector approaches to accelerate action on climate change and recognizes that transitioning to renewable energy sources, including on-site solar photovoltaics is a cost-effective way to reduce greenhouse gas emissions; and

WHEREAS, COG and local governments in the region supported creation of strong solar markets through participation in the U.S. Department of Energy's Rooftop Solar Challenge, Solar Market Pathways, and SolSmart programs; and

WHEREAS, the region met its 2020 goals including a 20 percent reduction in emissions and deployment of more than 30,000 solar systems; and

WHEREAS, the Metropolitan Washington 2030 Climate and Energy Action Plan called for more than 200,000 additional solar energy systems to support meeting the 2030 goal (there were approximately 45,000 existing solar energy systems at the time of the Plan); and

WHEREAS, COG members desire to grow and maintain local and regional leadership on energy productivity and innovation, including use of batteries and solar storage, and use of solar for electric vehicle charging.

WHEREAS, it is the recommendation of the COG Climate, Energy and Environment Policy Committee to adopt the below solar energy goals to further help local governments work towards meeting the regional goals in the Metropolitan Washington 2030 Climate and Energy Action Plan.

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

- 1) The Board endorses a goal of 250,000 solar rooftops deployed in the region by 2030; and
- 2) The Board urges all COG members to install solar on government facilities, including public schools, government buildings, and carports; and
- 3) The Board urges all COG members to explore procuring 100 percent of electricity for government operations with renewable energy; and

- 4) The Board encourages all members to support community-wide efforts to deploy solar through programs for low-income residents; effective industry engagement; efficient zoning and permitting; provision of incentives, rebates, and grants; support for bulk purchasing and solar coops and community choice aggregation; and work force development.
- 5) The Board directs the COG Climate, Energy and Environment Policy Committee to support member governments in efforts to meet the solar energy goals and report back to the Board on progress of meeting the goals.

I HEREBY CERTIFY THAT Resolution R36-2023 was approved by the COG Board of Directors on November 8, 2023.

**Amanda Lau
COG Communications Specialist**