

**Adopted Resolution R36-05
October 12, 2005**

**METROPOLITAN WASHINGTON COUNCIL OF GOVERNMENTS
777 North Capitol Street, NE
Washington, D.C. 20002-4239**

RESOLUTION IN SUPPORT OF SISTER CITIES INTERNATIONAL

WHEREAS, the 50th Anniversary Conference of Sister Cities International and the National Summit on Citizen Diplomacy will be held in Washington, DC July 12-15, 2006; and

WHEREAS, local governments are increasingly involved in global relationships and members of the Washington Council of Governments participate in Sister Cities International and other global educational, business, and cultural exchange programs; and

WHEREAS, Sister Cities International and the Coalition for Citizen Diplomacy are spearheading grass roots community summits throughout the United States on the future of citizen diplomacy; and

WHEREAS, President Dwight D. Eisenhower in his address to the 1956 White House Summit on Citizen Diplomacy described how citizen efforts could help bring peace in the second half of the 20th century; and

WHEREAS, 21st century world political and economic conditions demand new thinking and new concepts aimed at greater international commitment and involvement by citizens and local governments; and

WHEREAS, the 50th Anniversary Sister Cities International Conference and the National Summit on Citizen Diplomacy process provide a unique, grass roots platform to think and act on new initiatives to promote peace through mutual respect, understanding and cooperation; and

WHEREAS, members of the Washington Area Council of Governments have been asked to serve on the Honorary Host Committee for the Conference and Summit;

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

The Metropolitan Washington Council of Governments endorses the 2006 Sister Cities International Conference and National Summit on Citizen Diplomacy, encourages all jurisdictions in the metropolitan area to hold community summits on the future of citizen diplomacy, and will partner with Sister Cities International to promote wide participation in all 50th Anniversary activities.