

**METROPOLITAN WASHINGTON COUNCIL OF GOVERNMENTS**  
**777 NORTH CAPITOL STREET, N.E.**  
**WASHINGTON, DC 20002-4239**

**PROPOSED ADOPTION OF 2009 STATE-FOCUSED REGIONAL POLICY PLATFORM**

**WHEREAS**, during its 2008 annual retreat, the Metropolitan Washington Council of Governments leadership discussed the need to enhance legislative and policy priorities through greater coordination with state elected officials to strengthen and elevate our strategic plan for the region; and

**WHEREAS**, as a member association of close to 300 local, state and federal elected officials, it is imperative that COG have active involvement at all levels of government; and

**WHEREAS**, nearly one third of COG's membership consists of state elected officials; and

**WHEREAS**, as COG looks to planning for 2050 and the issues of sustainability, affordable housing, and integrating transportation and land use decisions, it is necessary to involve all members, including state officials, in shaping the region's future; and

**WHEREAS**, staff has developed a state-focused regional policy platform that will facilitate a more proactive role by COG in the legislative process and better position it as a policy leader in the National Capital Region; and

**WHEREAS**, the proposed 2009 platform, while intentionally broad in focus, allows for more specific positions to be taken in the future as appropriate; and

**WHEREAS**, staff has also identified communication and outreach several strategies to keep state officials engaged throughout the year.

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

1. The COG Board approves the 2009 Regional Policy Platform and directs COG staff to package the material for external communication to the Maryland and Virginia General Assemblies and the District of Columbia Council.
2. COG members and staff are authorized to support legislative initiatives in Maryland, Virginia, and the District of Columbia consistent with the 2009 Regional Policy Platform.