

METROPOLITAN WASHINGTON COUNCIL OF GOVERNMENTS
777 North Capitol St., N.E.
Washington, DC 20002-4290

RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING CLIMATE SHOWCASE COMMUNITIES GRANT PROPOSAL

WHEREAS, the Metropolitan Washington Council of Governments adopted a Climate Change Report that includes a series of goals to reduce emissions of greenhouse gases in the region for 2012, 2020, and 2050; and

WHEREAS, the Climate Change Report recommended evaluating and implementing a regional carbon offset fund to help finance local projects and programs to reduce emissions of greenhouse gases; and

WHEREAS, the Climate Change Report provides many opportunities for business and local government in the Washington region to reduce emissions of greenhouse gases, such as green building opportunities, alternative-fueled vehicles, tree canopy preservation and training for green jobs; and

WHEREAS, a carbon offset fund offers the potential to finance carbon reduction projects in the Washington region, keeping funding in the region to benefit the region's economy and the region's environment; and

WHEREAS, the U.S. EPA has announced a national grant program entitled "Climate Showcase Communities" to assist local governments and regional agencies with implementing projects that reduce greenhouse gas emissions while achieving additional environmental, economic, public health and/or community benefits; and

WHEREAS, The proposed project, "National Capital Region Carbon Offset Fund" will evaluate options for establishing a carbon offset fund, identify and establish climate protection partnerships, identify opportunities to leverage new and existing sources of funds, establish eligibility criteria for carbon offset funding, and to directly finance projects in the region that reduce greenhouse gas emissions;

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

The Board authorizes the Executive Director or his designee to submit a grant application to the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency Region for a Climate Showcase Communities grant to evaluate and implement a "National Capital Region Carbon Offset Fund." The federal grant fund request will not exceed \$60,000, with \$60,000 in matching funds provided through in-kind contributions and funding identified in COG's adopted FY 2010 work program and budget for the regional climate change program.