

**METROPOLITAN WASHINGTON COUNCIL OF GOVERNMENTS**  
**777 North Capitol Street, N.E.**  
**Washington, D.C. 20002-4290**

**RESOLUTION ADOPTING THE REPORT AND RECOMMENDATIONS OF**  
**THE WORKFORCE COMPETITIVENESS TASK FORCE:**  
***CLOSING THE GAPS TO BUILD THE FUTURE***

**WHEREAS**, in 2009, the Metropolitan Washington Council of Governments (COG) Board of Directors (Board) approved its 2009 Policy Focus and Priorities which included a focus on regional workforce preparation; and

**WHEREAS**, the Board subsequently commissioned the Workforce Competitiveness Task Force (Task Force) to review the current state of the region's workforce development system and provide recommendations for enhanced coordination and integration of stakeholders, to ensure that the region is well positioned to emerge from the current economic crisis more resilient and competitive; and

**WHEREAS**, after nine months of work, the Task Force has completed its work and prepared a report entitled *Closing the Gaps to Build the Future* that examines the continuum of education and workforce preparation, from pre-school to retirement and identifies opportunities for enhanced collaboration and offers several best practices with the potential for successful replication in the National Capital Region; and

**WHEREAS**, the report makes clear the need for an integrated and coordinated regional approach to the region's workforce development and economic development needs and calls upon career development and preparation leaders to use it as a springboard for further dialogue and information sharing; and

**WHEREAS**, this report is the first step in engaging workforce leaders across sectors in a long overdue discussion on better preparing, retaining, and retraining the region's workforce; and

**WHEREAS**, COG is committed to being a partner in this effort and assisting in the facilitation of continued regional conversations and action.

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

1. The COG Board adopts the Task Force's report *Closing the Gaps to Build the Future*.
2. COG shall include the report's recommendations in its 2010 Policy Focus and Priorities.
3. The COG Board directs staff to plan a forum of employers, education, workforce development and economic development stakeholders in early spring to formally release *Closing the Gaps to Build the Future*.
4. The COG Board thanks the Task Force members for their hard work and support of this effort and asks that the COG Board Chairman transmit a letter of appreciation to Task Force members.

COPY TEST:

Nicole Hange, Board Clerk