

METROPOLITAN WASHINGTON COUNCIL OF GOVERNMENTS
777 N. CAPITOL ST., N.E.
WASHINGTON, DC 20002

RESOLUTION TO ESTABLISH A METROPOLITAN BUSINESS PLAN TASK FORCE.

WHEREAS, the Metropolitan Washington Council of Governments (COG) strategic plan vision adopted in January 2011 calls for the National Capital Region to become a resilient economy and a pre-eminent knowledge hub; and

WHEREAS, the strategic plan vision further seeks a diversified, stable and competitive economy; and

WHEREAS, the COG Board of Directors 2011 policy focus and priorities adopted in February 2011 called for COG to focus on policies and programs that stimulate the economy, promote job growth and retention and strengthen the workforce to compete for jobs and careers of the future; and

WHEREAS, the COG annual leadership retreat in July 2011 included a presentation on the Brookings-sponsored Metropolitan Business Plan program, which to date has included three pilot regions, Cleveland, Minneapolis-St. Paul, and Seattle;

WHEREAS, COG officials concluded that possible future reductions in federal employment and spending in the National Capital Region, coupled with a period of continued economic instability at the national and regional levels warrants a more pro-active regional approach to build on the region's economic and job strengths, address areas of weakness, and identify new or emerging opportunities; and

WHEREAS, the Metropolitan Business Plan initiative seeks to highlight the emergence of metropolitan areas as the source of economic prosperity, leverage regional partners' current efforts, and establish an integrated, public-private regional agenda for job creation and enhanced innovation and entrepreneurship; and

WHEREAS, the COG Board of Directors endorsed the staff recommendation in the leadership retreat summary report in September 2011 to examine COG member and area partner organization support for launching a Metropolitan Business Plan initiative in the National Capital Region.

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

1. The COG Board of Directors shall establish a Metropolitan Business Plan Task Force to identify the partnerships, roles, resources and benefits required to successful launch a Metropolitan Business Plan initiative in the National Capital Region in 2012.
2. The Task Force will review the experience to date of other Metropolitan Business Plan pilot sites, assess the interest and commitment of area local governments for what is likely to be a multi-year Metropolitan Business Plan commitment, identify likely Brookings support and involvement, identify potential business, federal, state and other sector partners, identify existing work that can support a Metropolitan Business Plan initiative and avoid competition and redundancy, and the identify the level of effort and likely funding and in-kind resources necessary for a successful Metropolitan Business Plan effort.

3. The Task Force shall be appointed by the COG Board Chairman, shall not exceed eight members (three from Maryland, three from Virginia, and two from the District of Columbia) and shall be comprised of members of the COG Board of Directors or other COG members who have an interest or expertise in economic development, job creation and retention, public-private partnerships or related policy and planning activities.
4. COG Board members who wish to volunteer for the Task Force or suggest a colleague shall notify the executive director of their interest by October 21. The COG Board Chairman shall announce appointments by October 28. The Task Force shall hold its first meeting in November and provide the COG Board with an initial report on its findings and recommendations on proposed action by COG in February 2012 as part of the COG Board's action on its policy focus and priorities for 2012.

COPY TESTE:

Diane Humke, Board Clerk