

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

RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING CLIMATE SHOWCASE COMMUNITIES GRANT PROPOSAL

WHEREAS, in November 2008, 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 recommends designing and implementing a regional outreach program to reduce energy consumption and emissions of greenhouse gases; and

WHEREAS, the Climate, Energy, Environment Policy Committee appointed an Ad Hoc work group in March 2010 to develop such a program; and

WHEREAS, the U.S. EPA 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, COG would like to submit an application to create "Innovative tools and incentives to reduce residential electricity and gas consumption in the Washington region" and will utilize a regional energy outreach program to motivate residents to reduce electricity and gas consumption; and

WHEREAS, the proposed project will result in measurable energy savings and greenhouse gas emissions reduction, as well as multiple benefits such as: raising awareness in the community about energy consumption and climate protection, lower energy bills, and improved air quality; and

WHEREAS, a pilot energy outreach campaign will be launched by COG in October 2010 in three communities: Brookland DC; Greenbelt MD and the Cascades neighborhood in Loudoun County VA; and

WHEREAS, EPA assistance will allow COG to expand this campaign to a larger part of the metropolitan Washington region; and

WHEREAS, the proposed project was endorsed by the Climate, Energy, Environment Policy Committee on July 21, 2010.

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 develop a marketing campaign to promote innovative tools and incentives to reduce residential electricity and gas consumption in the Washington region. The federal grant fund request will not exceed \$460,000, with \$230,000 in matching funds provided through in-kind contributions and private sponsorships.