

**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.