

**METROPOLITAN WASHINGTON COUNCIL OF GOVERNMENTS  
777 North Capitol Street, NE  
Washington, DC 20002-4239**

**RESOLUTION TO SUPPORT THE PARTNERSHIP WITH THE ALICE FERGUSON  
FOUNDATION TO PURSUE THE GOAL OF A TRASH-FREE POTOMAC RIVER BY 2013**

**WHEREAS**, the Potomac River and its many tributaries are a vital recreational resource for the region and a key contributor to the region's quality of life; and

**WHEREAS**, this resource is severely degraded by the many forms of trash that float on the surface and collect on the shorelines of these rivers and streams; and

**WHEREAS**, the Alice Ferguson Foundation (Foundation) has taken a leadership role in by sponsoring watershed cleanups throughout the Potomac watershed for 17 years; and

**WHEREAS**, the Foundation sponsored the signing of the "Potomac River Watershed Trash Treaty" on March 28, 2005, by elected officials of six jurisdictions in the Potomac watershed with a goal of a "Trash Free Potomac by 2013;" and

**WHEREAS**, the COG Board of Directors of the Metropolitan Washington Council of Government (COG), at its meeting of May 11, 2005 adopted Resolution R16-05 which endorsed the goal of the Trash Treaty and directed the COG staff to collaborate with the Foundation to achieve that goal; and

**WHEREAS**, two additional COG-member jurisdictions have either signed on to the Treaty or expressed their intent to do so; and

**WHEREAS**, the Foundation has convened a high-level Advisory Council and a series of Action Teams, both of which have substantial representation from COG staff and COG-member jurisdictions; and

**WHEREAS**, planning is underway to develop a regional Trash-Free Potomac Strategy culminating in a Trash-Free Potomac Summit to be held in spring 2006; and

**WHEREAS**, COG has received a grant from the Summit Fund of Washington to assist the Foundation in the development of the Trash Strategy and the Trash Summit;

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

1. The Board reaffirms its support for the goal of achieving a Trash-Free Potomac River by 2013.
2. The Board endorses the Foundation's plan to convene a Trash Summit proposed for spring 2006 as well as an effective Trash-Free Potomac Strategy and will encourage members to actively participate in these events and provide support to the public education campaign for the Trash-Free Potomac initiative.
3. COG staff will set aside a portion of the COG web site to report on the progress toward development of the Strategy and the Summit.
4. COG staff will work with each of the COG jurisdictions to encourage participation in the development and implementation of the regional Trash Strategy and the Trash Summit.
5. COG staff will request that each of the COG jurisdictions publicize, via the COG web site, its respective programs and policies aimed a reducing trash that would otherwise end up in local streams and the Potomac River.