

METROPOLITAN WASHINGTON COUNCIL OF GOVERNMENTS
777 North Capitol Street, N.E.
Washington, D.C. 20002-4239

RESOLUTION RECOMMENDING APPROVAL OF THE “SMART GROWTH BEGINS AT THE LOCAL LEVEL” MULTI-MEDIA CD-ROM AND IMPLEMENTATION KIT

WHEREAS, the Metropolitan Washington Council of Governments (COG) is the association of local governments in the Washington metropolitan region and is comprised of federal, state and local elected officials representing 19 local governments in the region; and

WHEREAS, among its diverse responsibilities, COG is responsible for assisting local governments in the Washington metropolitan region with the identification, analysis and resolution of problems and issues related to metropolitan growth and development; and

WHEREAS, the Metropolitan Development Policy Committee (MDPC) is the principal policy advisor to the Board of Directors on all planning, land use, forecasting, and economic development issues; and

WHEREAS, during calendar year 2000, the MDPC approved an initiative for a regional/local “Planning Dialogue Series”, the purpose of which was to encourage information sharing among area local officials and to provide a better understanding of the regional context and impact of local planning policies and actions; and

WHEREAS, in 2001, a working group comprised of members of the MDPC and the Metropolitan Development Citizens Advisory Committee (MDCAC) met to discuss how to best package and distribute the results of the “Planning Dialogue” series and recommended the development of a multi-media (video and Website) product to be used as a tool to showcase local best practices; and

WHEREAS, in May 2002, the COG Board approved Resolution R21-02 which authorized staff to seek funding for the effort and in October 2002, COG staff received a grant award of \$50,000 from the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) to support development of the project; and

WHEREAS, in July 2003, the COG Board approved the final video script for the project, to be entitled “Smart Growth Begins at the Local Level”; and

WHEREAS, in February 2004, the MDPC approved the final edit of the “Smart Growth Begins at the Local Level” video and COG Board viewed the final video and draft implementation plan.

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

1. The Board approves the final “Smart Growth Begins at the Local Level” multi-media CD-ROM project and Implementation Plan.
2. The Board recommends that COG members use and disseminate the video as a tool to educate residents, local officials and other community stakeholders about the importance of employing “Smart Growth” policies and techniques in metropolitan Washington.