

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

**RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE CHESAPEAKE BAY POLICY COMMITTEE TO PURSUE
VARIOUS INITIATIVES REGARDING NEW STATE AND FEDERAL FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE TO
LOCAL GOVERNMENTS FOR IMPLEMENTING CHESAPEAKE BAY RESTORATION ACTIONS**

WHEREAS, the Metropolitan Washington Council of Governments (COG) has supported the 1987 and 2000 Chesapeake Bay Agreements and through the actions of its members and affiliated wastewater utilities has demonstrated its commitment to the restoration and protection of the Chesapeake Bay and its tributaries; and

WHEREAS, the 1987 Bay Agreement created a voluntary goal to reduce the levels of phosphorus and nitrogen entering the Bay by 40 percent by the year 2000; and

WHEREAS, local governments and wastewater utilities in the region have spent millions of their own dollars, in cooperation with federal and state partners, to implement technological improvements and other measures to meet the 40-percent goal; and

WHEREAS, the Chesapeake Bay Program has established further reduction goals for nitrogen and phosphorus and set a new goal for a reduction in the amount of sediment reaching the Bay to meet the Chesapeake 2000 Agreement's goals and related State water quality standards in the Bay and its tidal tributaries; and

WHEREAS, the Chesapeake Bay Commission has estimated that meeting these goals will require \$12.8 billion in new expenditures above and beyond the money that federal, state and local governments are currently investing in restoration efforts.

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

COG's Chesapeake Bay Policy Committee (the Committee) is hereby authorized to:

1. Advocate full funding of the "Chesapeake Working Lands Nutrient Reduction Pilot Program" under the Partnerships and Cooperation section of the 2002 federal farm bill to assist the Chesapeake Bay restoration effort. The Committee shall develop a recommendation for how such funds could be used to help implement a nutrient trading program in the Potomac River basin.
2. Work with Chesapeake Bay Commission members and other Bay Program partners on the development of proposals for providing funds for stormwater management and urban stream restoration efforts under the reauthorization of the Transportation Equity Act for the 21st Century (TEA-21), with an emphasis on the importance of local decision making and flexibility. The Committee shall present any specific proposal that is developed to the Board of Directors for consideration prior to advocating any specific proposal.
3. Advocate federal and state financial assistance for those wastewater plants in the Washington region that seek to further increase their nutrient reduction efforts. The Committee shall work with representatives of local governments and wastewater utilities, as well as appropriate subcommittees, to propose a specific cost-share plan.
 - A. The Committee also shall explore other means of providing financial assistance to support local government programs and policies that implement watershed management measures to benefit the Bay and local water quality, including the development of a regional authority for the Chesapeake Bay region under federal law.