

**METROPOLITAN WASHINGTON COUNCIL OF GOVERNMENTS
777 North Capitol Street, NE
Washington, DC 20002-4290**

**ADOPTION OF GREATER WASHINGTON 2050 COALITION REPORT AND
VOLUNTARY, REGIONAL COMPACT**

WHEREAS, the Metropolitan Washington Council of Governments (COG) established the Greater Washington 2050 Coalition, a public-private advisory panel, in January 2008 to help shape the region and improve the quality of life in the decades ahead; and

WHEREAS, the Coalition was, in part, an outcome from COG's 50th anniversary which sought to leverage renewed interest in building on existing regional and local vision plans and opportunities for greater regional agreement on local actions that can help achieve common regional goals; and

WHEREAS, the Coalition examined how other regions have approached similar efforts, sponsored a scenario workshop on future trends or changes that could affect the National Capital Region, and commissioned and published a survey of public opinion on regional matters in 2008 and 2009; and

WHEREAS, the Coalition sought active engagement with COG member governments and other stakeholders throughout this two-year process, including two presentations at the COG annual leadership retreat, numerous presentations to most COG member local governments, outreach to business, community and civic organizations, and frequent media articles and appearances; and

WHEREAS, the Coalition approved a draft report for public release and comment in October 2009 which generated more than 400 comments from public officials and local governments, many business, community and civic organizations, and members of advocacy organizations and the public; and

WHEREAS, the Coalition examined and made several revisions to accommodate these comments and approved a final report in December 2009 for action by the COG Board in January 2010; and

WHEREAS, the Coalition report includes nine regional goals organized under four themes of accessibility, sustainability, prosperity, and livability, establishes regional performance targets and indicators to measure progress toward goals, and recommends that local governments and other stakeholders endorse a voluntary regional compact to oversee this work by COG; and

WHEREAS, after almost two years of work, the Coalition unanimously approved the final report, *Region Forward – COG's Comprehensive Guide for Regional Planning and Measuring Progress in the 21st Century*, for action by the COG Board in January 2010.

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

1. The COG Board adopts the Coalition's report, *Region Forward – COG's Comprehensive Guide for Regional Planning and Measuring Progress in the 21st Century*.
2. COG shall forward the report and voluntary regional compact to COG member local governments, requesting that each local government take appropriate action to endorse the voluntary regional

compact that will guide future COG work. Local government action is requested by March 2010 prior to a planned recognition event and press conference.

3. COG shall forward the report to business, community and civic organizations in the National Capital Region also requesting endorsement of the voluntary regional compact. COG will revamp its website to enable stakeholders to review the report and voluntary regional compact and be identified as endorsing or supporting organizations.
4. Implementation of the voluntary regional compact and associated work by COG is incorporated into the current FY 2010 work program budget and the proposed FY 2011 work program budget. Chief activities in calendar year 2010 will be outreach to COG member governments and stakeholders, preparation of a baseline report for regional performance targets and indicators, and adoption of COG's Round 8 cooperative forecasts in preparation for an update of the regional activity centers maps.
5. Region Forward implementation will be coordinated with the National Capital Region Transportation Planning Board, other COG policy boards and committees, and the state and federal governments so that regional goals and targets can be efficiently and effectively achieved.
6. The COG Board tasks the Metropolitan Development Policy Committee, in its role as the COG Board's policy advisory committee for growth and associated issues, with oversight of the implementation of *Region Forward* and the voluntary regional compact. Staff shall recommend any modification to MDPC's bylaws or membership necessary to perform this role in support of the COG Board.
7. The COG Board commends the Coalition for its exceptional work and asks that the COG Board Chairman transmit a letter of appreciation to Coalition members.

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Nicole Hange, Board Clerk