

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

ENVISION GREATER WASHINGTON RECOMMENDATIONS

WHEREAS, in February 2005 the Metropolitan Washington Council of Governments (COG) participated in the Urban Land Institute sponsored *Reality Check on Growth*, a regional exercise to examine an alternative growth vision for the National Capital Region, and in February 2006 participated in the Greater Washington Board of Trade sponsored *Potomac Conference* to consider a multi-sector, multi-year regional visioning campaign; and

WHEREAS, COG, the Board of Trade and the Community Foundation for the National Capital Region convened an organizing committee of approximately 50 public, private and civic sector leaders to explore a regional visioning campaign in the National Capital Region, known as Envision Greater Washington; and

WHEREAS, the Envision Greater Washington organizing committee completed its report to the three co-convening sponsors, *Envision Greater Washington: Moving Our Region Forward. Together. Now.* in July 2006; and

WHEREAS, in addition to the July 2006 report, senior staff from COG, the Board of Trade and the Community Foundation prepared a companion business plan on the Envision Greater Washington campaign proposal; and

WHEREAS, two COG panels, an Envision Greater Washington work group and the Metropolitan Development Policy Committee (MDPC), reviewed the Envision Greater Washington campaign proposal beginning with the July 2006 COG retreat and concluding in March 2007; and

WHEREAS, the MDPC recommended in March 2007 that COG not endorse nor support the Envision Greater Washington campaign proposal as outlined in the July 2006 report and business plan, and further; and

WHEREAS, the Envision Greater Washington joint work group comprised of public, private and civic sector representatives recommended in March 2007 that many Envision Greater Washington goals and efforts could be accomplished through an expansion of work plans to incorporate these activities by existing organizations, networks and relationships, rather than building and investing resources in a new regional structure at this time; and

WHEREAS, senior staff from COG, the Board of Trade and the Community Foundation jointly prepared the *Report to the Organizing Committee by Co-Convening Sponsors* (attached) in March 2007, outlining Envision Greater Washington work group's recent actions, recommendations and proposed next steps.

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

1. COG conveys its appreciation to the Envision Greater Washington organizing committee, the Metropolitan Development Policy Committee, the Board of Trade and the Community Foundation for their sustained engagement on this important regional issue.
2. COG has a responsibility to provide leadership on matters of sustainable growth, transportation, economic development and environmental stewardship, consistent with the COG adopted strategic plan.
3. The Metropolitan Development Policy Committee, as the COG Board's principal policy advisor on growth and development issues, is charged with reviewing the July 2006 Envision Greater Washington report and other supporting information and identifying specific actions that can be quickly implemented by COG or proposed for the work program and budget to advance the principles of:
 - Stronger multi-sector, multi-jurisdictional and citizen engagement.
 - Leveraging existing plans and visions.
 - Public choice through deeper understanding of the impact and consequences of alternative growth and investment scenarios.
 - A commitment to action and outcomes.
4. The Metropolitan Development Policy Committee will identify tasks appropriate for immediate, short-term, or longer term action for discussion at the COG retreat in July 2007.
