

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

RESOLUTION RECOGNIZING SEPTEMBER AS NATIONAL PREPAREDNESS MONTH

WHEREAS, the Board of Directors of the Metropolitan Washington Council of Governments (COG), established the Task Force on Homeland Security and Emergency Preparedness for the National Capital Region (Task Force) on October 24, 2001 to guide COG's emergency planning and coordination efforts following the attacks of September 11, 2001 on the Pentagon and the World Trade Center; and

WHEREAS, on September 11, 2002, the Board of Directors of the Metropolitan Washington Council of Governments (COG) adopted the recommendation of its Task Force on Homeland Security and Emergency Preparedness for the National Capital Region (Task Force) and created the Regional Emergency Coordination Plan (RECP or Plan); and

WHEREAS, on August 22, 2002, the Task Force endorsed the Regional Emergency Coordination Plan for COG Board action on September 11, 2002, the one-year observance of the attacks on the Pentagon and the World Trade Center; and

WHEREAS, a significant element of the RECP is the creation, utilization, and maintenance of a Regional Incident Communications and Coordination System (RICCSSM), a 24-hour, seven days-a-week communications capability that allows rapid contact between regional officials during an emergency; and

WHEREAS, the U.S. Department of Homeland Security, all 56 state and territorial governors and a coalition of more than 50 organizations have joined to engage Americans in emergency preparedness by launching National Preparedness Month on September 9; and

WHEREAS, COG and the Emergency Preparedness Council, the permanent successor body of the Task Force, have continued to stress the importance of clear and consistent communication to the public in ways they can be partners in preparedness.

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

Authorized to recognize September as National Preparedness Month in the National Capital Region. Local governments, state and federal agencies and private sector organizations are marking the observance with special programs or events to promote greater public awareness of the importance of emergency preparedness.
