

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

**RESOLUTION IN SUPPORT OF AUTHORIZING COG TO ENTER INTO A COOPERATIVE  
AGREEMENT WITH THE NATIONAL PARK SERVICE TO MAP FOREST COVER AND  
PROMOTE GREEN INFRASTRUCTURE PLANNING IN THE  
WASHINGTON METROPOLITAN REGION**

**WHEREAS**, the Metropolitan Washington Council of Governments (COG) has a continuing interest in the management and protection of the region's green infrastructure; and

**WHEREAS**, "green infrastructure" refers to an interconnected network of waterways, wetlands, woodlands, wildlife habitats, and other natural areas; greenways, parks and other conservation lands; working farms, ranches, and forests of conservation value; and

**WHEREAS**, public and private leaders are also beginning to view state and local government and private investment in community parks, recreation areas, riparian buffers, and other green space as investments in the community's "green infrastructure"; and

**WHEREAS**, a partnership between the National Park Service and COG will complement COG's efforts to enhance knowledge of forested lands within the metropolitan region in order to gain a better understanding of how forest cover is affecting regional water quality, air quality and its importance for the restoration of the Chesapeake Bay; and

**WHEREAS**, the Board recognizes that this effort is part of a greater national and international effort to find more systematic approaches to the planning and management of park, recreation, forest, agricultural and "other" green infrastructure lands; and

**WHEREAS**, the National Park Service owns and manages substantial parkland within the Washington metropolitan region, and administers park, open space and recreation programs; and

**WHEREAS**, the Commonwealth of Virginia, the State of Maryland and the District of Columbia have recognized that the region's forested lands play a vital role in the ecological health of the region and have a vested interest in the maintaining a healthy urban forest; and

**WHEREAS**, COG and the National Park Service have demonstrated a commitment to work on a national demonstration project to implement the green infrastructure approach through a collaborative partnership within the Washington metropolitan area;

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

The Executive Director or his designee is authorized to enter into a cooperative agreement with the National Park Service to map forest cover and to promote green infrastructure planning in the region. This cooperative agreement provides COG with \$100,000 starting in FY 2004 and extending into FY 2005. Funding is provided by the National Park Service. This funding represents the second of a two-year green infrastructure demonstration project with NPS. There is no local match required.