

**METROPOLITAN WASHINGTON COUNCIL OF GOVERNMENTS
777 NORTH CAPITOL STREET, N.E.
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20002**

**RESOLUTION SUPPORTING AN INCREASE OF THE FEE CAP ON THE FEDERAL AVIATION
ADMINISTRATION (FAA) PASSENGER FACILITY CHARGE PROGRAM FROM \$4.50 PER PASSENGER TO
\$8.50 PER PASSENGER WITH AN INFLATION INDEX AS PART OF FAA REAUTHORIZATION**

WHEREAS, the Metropolitan Washington Council of Governments (COG) is recognized by the FAA as the air systems planning agency for the Metropolitan Washington region; and

WHEREAS, COG is involved in a continuing planning process for addressing the issues concerning the future development and impact of the region's major commercial airports, as they relate to metropolitan and local community development goals and policies; and

WHEREAS, the growth of commercial aviation activity in the Washington-Baltimore region requires that long-term planning and investment in airport infrastructure proceed to best accommodate that growth; and

WHEREAS, the FAA administers the Passenger Facility Charge program as a primary means of allowing airports to fund their own infrastructure maintenance and improvements; and

WHEREAS, the three regional commercial service airports collectively have funded nearly five billion dollars of existing and planned infrastructure under the Passenger Facility Charge program since 2001; and

WHEREAS, the COG 2015 State of the Region: Infrastructure report identified a twenty-four and half billion dollar current infrastructure funding gap for transportation; and

WHEREAS, the current per passenger fee cap on the Passenger Facility Charge of four dollars and fifty cents was set in the year 2000 and has not kept pace with inflation; and

WHEREAS, as a result the purchasing power of the Passenger Facility Charge has sharply eroded over the past fifteen years, so that our region's airports cannot adequately invest in vital airport infrastructure; and

WHEREAS, a national coalition of more than 125 airports, as well as infrastructure groups, and local elected officials have endorsed a proposal to restore the purchasing power of the Passenger Facility Charge and guard against future diminution by raising the fee cap and indexing the cap to inflation.

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

1. The COG Board of Directors supports efforts to increase the fee cap on the Passenger Facility Charge from \$4.50 per passenger to \$8.50 per passenger with an inflation index as part of FAA reauthorization.

2. The Chair of the COG Board shall communicate this position to: the Chief Elected Officials of all COG member jurisdictions; all members of the regional delegation of the United States Congress; the Chair and ranking members of the appropriate congressional committees; and the President of the United States.

I HEREBY CERTIFY THAT the foregoing resolution was approved and adopted by the COG Board of Directors at its regular meeting held on May 13, 2015.

***Monica Beyrouti
Clerk to the Board of Directors***