ITEM 8 - Action

November 15, 2006

Approval of Funding and Transmittal Letter for 2007 Membership in the Association of Metropolitan Planning Organizations (AMPO)

Staff Recommendation:	Approve funding of \$19,750 from the FY 2007 Unified Planning Work Program (UPWP) along with the transmittal letter for the Transportation Planning Board's (TPB) 2007 membership in AMPO.
Issues:	None
Background:	AMPO is a national organization that represents and provides assistance to metropolitan planning organizations (MPOs) like the TPB. Mr. Mendelson was recently elected president of AMPO for 2007.
	The \$19,750 will be provided from the TPB's current FY 2007 UPWP. Under work activity I K. DTP Management, funding is available for "department-wide management activities not attributable to specific project tasks in the program."

National Capital Region Transportation Planning Board

777 North Capitol Street, N.E., Suite 300, Washington, D.C. 20002-4290 (202) 962-3310 Fax: (202) 962-3202

November 15, 2006

Supervisor Steve Kinsey 2006 President Association of Metropolitan Planning Organizations Suite 608 1730 Rhode Island Avenue, NW Washington, DC 20036



Dear Supervisor Kinsey:

Thank you for your letter and invoice of November 9, 2006 requesting dues payment for the National Capital Region Transportation Planning Board's (TPB) 2007 membership in the Association of Metropolitan Planning Organizations (AMPO). As a long time member, the TPB greatly values AMPO's active representation of the nation's metropolitan planning organizations, and benefits greatly from the technical assistance it provides our planning staff.

I am pleased to inform you that at its November 15, 2006 meeting, the TPB approved a 2007 dues payment to AMPO in the amount of \$19,750. The payment is enclosed with this letter. The TPB anticipates working closely with AMPO in the coming year on key planning challenges facing MPOs.

Sincerely,

Michael Knapp Chairman National Capital Region Transportation Planning Board

Enclosure



Association of Metropolitan Planning Organizations November 9, 2006

Mr. Ron Kirby Metropolitan Washington COG 777 North Capitol St., NE Suite 300 Washington, DC 20002

Dear AMPO Member,

This year was an exciting one for AMPO. We saw the development of regulations stemming from the passage of the Safe, Accountable, Flexible, Efficient Transportation Equity Act – A Legacy for Users (SAFETEA-LU). AMPO staff worked tirelessly along with our outside counsel to construct strong comments in the best interest of the MPO community.

2007 promises to be another important year for the MPO community. Not only will AMPO continue to assist MPOs with SAFETEA-LU implementation, but we will also turn our attention to the next reauthorization and beyond. During 2007, we will develop our policy priorities and we will also take a hard look at the role, structure, function, and future of MPOs.

AMPO member Steve Heminger of the Metropolitan Transportation Commission was named to the National Surface Transportation Policy and Revenue Study Commission. The Highway Trust Fund's looming financial challenges will make the Commissions recommendations critical as we look to the future of the American transportation system. AMPO will be cohosting the Commission meeting in Chicago with some of the other major transportation associations.

We are pleased to announce that in early 2007, AMPO and AASHTO will partner to host the National Summit on Future Transportation Funding and Finance Strategies: States and Metropolitan Regions. The purpose of this Summit is to provide a forum for transportation officials to come together and feed into the Congressional efforts on the fate of the Trust Fund.

We continue to utilize our Federal grants to provide members with technical assistance. AMPO created a new workgroup this year focused on the Management and Operations requirements in SAFETEA-LU. We are currently working on two additional grant awards for emergency/disaster response planning at the regional level. We continue to work in a variety of areas to include land use and transportation, fiscal constraint, travel modeling and air guality.

If you have questions or concerns, please contact AMPO at 202-296-7051 or <u>dhardy@ampo.org</u>. Thank you for your continued support and we look forward to a successful 2007!

Sincerely,

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Supervisor Steve Kinsey 2006 AMPO President

Return section below with payment. Previous portion for your records.

AMPO Membership 2007 Annual Dues Payment Please indicate the portion (amount or percent) of your AMPO dues derived from federal funds: Amount due by December 31, 2006 \$ _____ Amount \$ Percent % Remit Payment with bottom portion of involce to: Remit Payment with bottom portion of involce to:

Association of Metropolitan Planning Organizations 1730 Rhode Island Ave., NW Suite 608 Washington, DC 20036 Thank you for your continued support of AMPO!

1730 RHODE ISLAND AVE. NW • SUITE 608 • WASHINGTON, DC • 20036-3118 • PHONE: 202-296-7051 FAX: 202-296-7054 • Web: WWW.AMPO.ORG

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1730 Rhode Island Avenue, NW Suite 608 Washington, DC 20036 202-296-7051

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Ron Kirby Metropolitan Washington COG 777 N. Capitol St., NE Suite 300 Washington, DC 20002

Invoice

Date		Invoice #	
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2	Description		Amount	
MPO Membership Dues- 2007		50 12	9	19,750.00
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