PROPOSED DRAFT

NATIONAL CAPITAL REGION TRANSPORTATION PLANNING BOARD 777 North Capitol Street, N.E. Washington, D.C. 20002

RESOLUTION TO CREATE A WORKING GROUP TO ADVANCE REGIONAL TRANSPORTATION AND CLIMATE GOALS

WHEREAS, the National Capital Region Transportation Planning Board (TPB), the metropolitan planning organization (MPO) for the National Capital Region (Region), has the responsibility under the provisions of Moving Ahead for Progress in the 21st Century (MAP-21) to carry out continuing, cooperative and comprehensive transportation planning for the Region; and

WHEREAS, the Region's Constrained Long Range Plan (CLRP) accomplishes federal requirements by tracking proposed transportation projects with a reasonable likelihood of funding, but does not track the impacts of individual component projects; and

WHEREAS, the TPB's Regional Transportation Priority Plan (RTPP), in association with the Metropolitan Washington Council of Governments' (COG) Region Forward plan, lays out a shared vision of the Region's future, and establishes Regional planning priorities that include, among others, environmental sustainability and clustering of future growth into transit-accessible activity centers; and

WHEREAS, the TPB, in association with the Metropolitan Washington Council of Governments (COG), has endorsed aggressive greenhouse gas reduction goals, including an 80 percent reduction below 2005 levels by 2050, via COG resolutions R60-08 and R9-10, and TPB resolution R10-2015; and

WHEREAS, the COG Multi-Sector Working Group on Greenhouse Gas Emissions (MSWG) has identified implementable local, regional and state actions to reduce greenhouse gas emissions in the hopes of achieving that 80 percent reduction goal; and

WHEREAS, failing to meet the Region's greenhouse gas reduction goals will have dire consequences to the Region's economic well-being and environmental quality; and

WHEREAS, other Regional entities such as the Virginia Department of Transportation (VDOT) and the Northern Virginia Transportation Authority (NVTA) have existing project analysis processes, which support goals related to but distinct from those within RTPP and Region Forward, which involve significant costs and time to produce, and which TPB has no need to duplicate;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED THAT THE NATIONAL CAPITAL REGION TRANSPORTATION PLANNING BOARD:

Establishes a working group composed of elected officials, TPB members, and technical staff, to begin meeting in January, 2016, to:

 Develop by autumn 2016 an action plan for implementing the near-term and stretch transportation and land use recommendations described in the MSWG report, as well as recommendations for establishing legally-permissible and binding greenhouse gas reduction targets; and

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- Develop a methodology to analyze major individual projects proposed during future CLRP updates, according to the goals embedded in the RTPP and Region Forward. Such methodology shall:
 - a. Result in a points-based score for major projects on an individual project-by-project basis; and
 - b. Be practical to implement as part of every CLRP update going forward, and therefore shall not require the use of comprehensive traffic modeling; and
 - c. Be for informational purposes only, and therefore shall not constitute a screen for determining inclusion of projects into the CLRP; and
 - d. Be finalized by summer 2016, in time to be implemented for major projects proposed within the 2016 update to the CLRP.

To the extent practical, such working group may coordinate with the COG greenhouse gas reduction working group created by COG resolution R59-2015.