METROPOLITAN WASHINGTON COUNCIL OF GOVERNMENTS 777 North Capitol Street, N.E. Washington, D.C. 20002-4290

RESOLUTION SUPPORTING A REQUEST TO CONGRESS TO FUND THE COPS PROGRAM AT ITS AUTHORIZED LEVEL OF \$1.04 BILLION

WHEREAS, the Metropolitan Washington Council of Governments (COG) has sought methods to protect the safety of the residents of the Washington metropolitan region; and

WHEREAS, COG has worked to address the problems of crime throughout the Washington metropolitan region; and

WHEREAS, during the past five years the population has increased by more than 312,000 people in the Washington metropolitan region; and

WHEREAS, the COG Police Chiefs Committee has identified the Community Oriented Policing Services (COPS) Program as an important law enforcement initiative to add community policing officers with enhanced skills to the nation's streets and schools, deploy cutting-edge crime-fighting technologies, support crime prevention initiatives, and provide training and technical assistance to advance community policing in the Washington metropolitan region; and

WHEREAS, COPS has funded more than 118,000 positions nationwide, including positions throughout the Washington metropolitan region; and

WHEREAS, COPS funding has been significantly cut, from \$542 million in FY07 to \$32 million in the proposed FY08 budget, resulting in diminished resources available to local law enforcement efforts to reduce crime throughout the Washington metropolitan region.

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

- 1. The Metropolitan Washington Council of Governments Board of Directors supports the restoration of funding to the COPS Program at its fully authorized level of \$1.04 billion.
- 2. The Metropolitan Washington Council of Governments Board of Directors supports requesting action from its Congressional Delegation to encourage Congress to restore COPS funding to its fully authorized level of \$1.04 billion.
