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

# RESOLUTION RECOGNIZING THE BLUE PLAINS INTERMUNICIPAL AGREEMENT OF 2012 AS A SIGNIFICANT REGIONAL ACHIEVEMENT

**WHEREAS,** in March, 2013, the District of Columbia, DC Water, Fairfax County, Montgomery County, Prince George's County and the Washington Suburban Sanitary Commission collaborated to adopt the Blue Plains Intermunicipal Agreement of 2012 (i.e., the Parties); and

**WHEREAS**, the 2012 IMA, succeeding the 1985 IMA, is a landmark cooperative agreement that equitably allocates wastewater treatment capacity, as well as shared capital and operating expenses of approximately \$822 million per year, at the Blue Plains advanced wastewater treatment facility in the District of Columbia - the largest such facility in the world; and

**WHEREAS,** Blue Plains provides 43% of the wastewater treatment capacity for the metropolitan Washington region and, therefore, plays an essential role in the protection of public health and water quality by accepting and treating wastewater for more than 2 million residents and 18 million annual visitors; and

**WHEREAS**, the region's significant, long-term financial investments in the infrastructure and operations at Blue Plains, as well as other wastewater treatment plants in the region, over the past three decades, have contributed significantly to improving water quality in the Potomac and Anacostia Rivers and the Chesapeake Bay - including the nationally recognized success story of the revitalization of the Potomac River; and

**WHEREAS,** the 2012 IMA provides the framework for the region to address anticipated growth over the next 40 years by ensuring reliable wastewater treatment at Blue Plains; and

**WHEREAS,** ensuring reliable wastewater treatment for the region and improving water quality are critical water resource infrastructure goals that support COG's Region Forward and Economy Forward initiatives; and

**WHEREAS,** COG staff provided technical, legal and facilitation services to support the development of the 2012 IMA and, pursuant to a Service Agreement to the 2012 IMA, is responsible for assisting the Parties with its ongoing implementation; and

**WHEREAS**, the 2012 IMA is a 'living document' that includes key principles that govern the overall agreement, outlines the rights and responsibilities of the Parties, and defines a process and structure for how the Parties will collaborate now and in the decades to come - and is, therefore, a sterling example of a mutually beneficial regional partnership;

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

The Board acknowledges the 2012 IMA as an outstanding example of regional cooperation and collaboration, and commends the Parties to the 2012 IMA for their ongoing commitment to protect public health and water quality, and to work together for the good of the region.

## RESOLUTION RECOGNIZING THE BLUE PLAINS INTERMUNICIPAL AGREEMENT OF 2012

#### AS A SIGNIFICANT REGIONAL ACHIEVEMENT

### WITNESSED before us this $8^{TH}$ day of May, 2013:

COG	Board	of Di	rectors:

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Karen Lewis Young
Chair, COG Board of Directors
President Pro Tem of the Board of Aldermen of the City of Frederick, Maryland
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Phil Mendelson
Vice Chair, COG Board of Directors
Chairman of the Council of the District of Columbia.
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Vice Chair, COG Board of Directors
Mayor of the City of Alexandria, Virginia
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