

METROPOLITAN WASHINGTON COUNCIL OF GOVERNMENTS
777 North Capitol Street, N.E.
Washington, D.C. 20002-4239

**RESOLUTION ENDORSING MORE ACCURATE, THOROUGH COLLECTION OF ALCOHOL
RELATED YOUTH DATA**

WHEREAS, the Metropolitan Washington Council of Governments (COG) and the Transportation Planning Board (TPB) have a long history of supporting region-wide policies to improve traffic safety; and

WHEREAS, COG efforts have included regular reports on highway safety, impaired driving, young drivers and collaboration with the Washington Regional Alcohol Program (WRAP) and other traffic education groups in support of the region's traffic safety enforcement and public awareness campaigns to reduce traffic crashes; and

WHEREAS, in April of 2008 the COG Board endorsed recommendations from the TPB sponsored Pedestrian Safety Workshop which included the continuation and enhancement of transportation safety education efforts, enforcement and strengthening of pedestrian safety laws- specifically urging the Commonwealth of Virginia to require motorists to stop, not yield, to pedestrians; and creating more walkable communities through better engineering practices; and

WHEREAS, after a series of fatal car crashes in the fall of 2007, the COG Board encouraged the District of Columbia, the State of Maryland and the Commonwealth of Virginia to adopt minimum standard requirements for graduated licensing, an effective strategy in reducing crashes involving young drivers; and

WHEREAS, due to the startling results of WRAP's annual "How Safe are our Roads" report in 2004 the COG Board endorsed the enactment of laws, like vehicle and license confiscation for those who drive under the influence, that have been proven measures in reducing impaired driving; and

WHEREAS, the District of Columbia, the state of Maryland, and the Commonwealth of Virginia and have each enacted some, but not all, of the suggested provisions; and

WHEREAS, there is a consistent need amongst all the jurisdictions to keep a detailed account of drunk driving statistics for people under the age of 21.

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

1. The District of Columbia, State of Maryland and Commonwealth of Virginia are each urged to revise and update their methods for retaining statistics for drunk drivers under the age of 21.
2. The Board requests that the District of Columbia revisit legislation prohibiting possession or consumption of alcohol by persons under age 21 to ensure such legislation adequately addresses the issue in an enforceable manner.
3. The Board further directs the HSPSPC, and others, to provide an annual update on regional highway-safety issues and legislation.

COPY TESTE:

Nicole Hange, Board Clerk