

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

**RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR TO SUBMIT A
SUSTAINABLE COMMUNITIES REGIONAL PLANNING GRANT APPLICATION**

WHEREAS, in 2009 Congress authorized a multi-agency Sustainable Communities Initiative between the U.S. Departments of Housing and Urban Development (HUD), Transportation (DOT) and the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) to improve regional planning efforts that integrate housing and transportation decisions, and increase the capacity to improve land use and zoning; and

WHEREAS, in June 2010, HUD published the first Notice of Funding Availability (NOFA) for the FY2010 Sustainable Communities Planning Grants totaling up to \$100 million in grant awards nationally to regions and local governments; and

WHEREAS, on June 21, 2011, HUD published the Advanced Notice of Funding Availability for FY2011 which states that, as in calendar year 2010, HUD will make available up to \$5 million for large metropolitan areas, like the National Capital Region, to help complete a Regional Plan for Sustainable Development; and

WHEREAS, the application again requires the formation of a multi-jurisdictional consortium including the regional planning organization, metropolitan planning organization, local jurisdictions representing at least 50 percent of the metropolitan area population, and at least one non-profit or educational institution to administer the Regional Plan for Sustainable Development. The consortium must also provide a 20 percent in leveraged resources; and

WHEREAS, in July 2010, the COG Board adopted Resolution R41-10 authorizing staff to prepare and submit a Sustainable Communities Regional Planning Grant Application, and adopted Resolution R41-10a confirming the support and participation of each COG member jurisdiction in the in consortium grant application; and

WHEREAS, COG is well positioned to compete for the grant funding, having received Preferred Sustainability Status following the submittal of the application in 2010 and the establishment in 2011 of the Region Forward Coalition (the Coalition); and

WHEREAS, with funds from the Sustainable Communities program, COG and the Coalition would create a Regional Plan for implementing *Region Forward* focused on balanced growth and neighborhood preservation and revitalization linked with existing and future transit investments, including work to:

- Complete a baseline analysis to identify specific data and programmatic gaps needed to implement the goals of *Region Forward*
- Develop and implement an extensive public engagement program through Coalition partners
- Develop an action plan for implementation including several pilot projects to be identified throughout the region

WHEREAS, the Plan, as administered by COG and the Coalition, will enable the National Capital Region to be a stronger competitor for limited infrastructure funds, create efficiency gains by breaking down administrative silos, and address regional equity and environmental concerns related to growth.

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

1. The Executive Director, or his designee, is authorized to submit an application, on behalf of the consortium, to HUD for the Sustainable Communities Planning Grant in an amount not to exceed \$ 5 million.
2. The grant requires applicants to provide a minimum of 20 percent in leveraged resources, including cash and in-kind support from COG and consortium participants. COG shall provide up to \$100,000 in FY 2012 Contingency Reserve revenue should it be necessary to meet the leveraged resources minimum and support a competitive grant application.
3. The grant will be in the form of a cooperative agreement and the period of performance shall not exceed 36 months.
4. If approved, the cooperative agreement will require amendment to COG's FY 2012 work program and budget and be incorporated into COG's FY 2013 and 2014 proposed budgets.

Resolution R36-2011
July 13, 2011

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

**RESOLUTION APPROVING COG STATEMENT OF INTENT TO PARTICIPATE IN HUD'S
SUSTAINABLE COMMUNITIES REGIONAL PLANNING GRANT**

WHEREAS, the Metropolitan Washington Council of Governments (COG) is an independent, nonprofit association comprised of the local governments of the National Capital Region, and COG also acts as the administrative agent of the National Capital Region Transportation Planning Board, the metropolitan planning organization (MPO) of the National Capital Region; and

WHEREAS, in January 2008, COG established the Greater Washington 2050 Coalition, a public private advisory panel, consisting of local government officials, representatives of the Region's business and environmental sectors, and members of the public representing numerous and diverse civic interests, to help shape the Region, and the Coalition sought to leverage existing regional and local vision plans and reach regional agreement on local actions that can help achieve common regional goals; and

WHEREAS, in January 2010, the COG Board approved the Coalition's final report, *Region Forward – A Comprehensive Guide for Regional Planning and Measuring Progress in the 21st Century*, which includes nine regional goals in four themes of accessibility, sustainability, prosperity, and livability; and establishes regional performance targets and indicators to measure required progress toward goals; and

WHEREAS, in 2010 the COG Board recommended that its member local governments execute a voluntary regional compact incorporating these regional goals, and commit to consider regional implications in their local decisions and actions; and every local government member has endorsed the voluntary Greater Washington 2050 Compact and, within the jurisdiction's legal, financial, and political limitations, committed to follow the principles and goals therein in its decisions and actions; and

WHEREAS, in January 2011, the COG Board established the Region Forward Coalition to oversee implementation of the *Region Forward* goals, targets and indicators; and

WHEREAS, COG desires to apply for the HUD Fiscal Year 2012 Sustainable Communities Regional Planning Grant Program to support implementation of the *Region Forward* report and take other actions required by the program and the Livability Principles set forth in the HUD Docket No. FR-5559-N-01 Advanced Notice of Funding Availability in order to achieve sustainable outcomes for the National Capital Region.

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

1. Local governments, through participation and membership in COG, pledge our intent to participate in the Sustainable Communities Regional Planning Grant Program and will work with COG to secure individually signed memorandum of understanding agreements, or the like, within 120 days should grant funding be awarded.

2. The COG Board commits COG to be lead applicant for purposes of the HUD Fiscal Year 2011 Sustainable Communities Regional Planning Grant Program on behalf of its local government members.
3. As lead applicant, COG will have the administrative responsibility for ensuring that the COG consortium's program is carried out in compliance with all HUD requirements.
4. COG will execute a formal consortium agreement no later than 120 days after the effective start date of the grant agreement, which agreement shall describe each member's specific activities under the Program, including timetables for completion.
5. As lead applicant, COG will enter into memoranda of understanding with any partners receiving funding from the grant to ensure delivery of the required activities.
6. The Executive Director is hereby authorized to sign the grant and other documents required by HUD in furtherance of this statement of intent.