

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

**RESOLUTION REQUESTING THE PUBLIC SAFETY POLICY COMMITTEE TO CONVENE A
TASKFORCE ON REGIONAL ACTIVITIES TO REDUCE IMPAIRED DRIVING**

WHEREAS, Metropolitan Washington Council of Governments (hereinafter called the Council) has long supported a diverse and engaged program to address a wide range of public safety issues and challenges, and

WHEREAS, substance abuse issues, including alcohol and driving, have long been a point of concern, and

WHEREAS, the Council and the Washington Regional Alcohol Program have collaborated on a number of actions to combat drunken driving, including the Sober Ride Program, law enforcement awards, highway safety reports, and youth alcohol reports, and

WHEREAS, the Washington Regional Alcohol Program's latest report shows that the region continues to experience alcohol related deaths and injuries in increasing numbers, with 2001 bringing alcohol- and drug-related automobile accidents to their highest level in four years, which increase merits a renewal of regional efforts to combat drunken driving, and

WHEREAS, the Washington Regional Alcohol Program presented the most recent *How Safe are our Roads?* Report to the Council's Board of Directors on February 12, 2003.

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

1. The Board of Directors remains concerned over the high and unacceptable rate of alcohol-related automobile accidents and wishes to foster greater regional collaboration in addressing this issue.
2. The Public Safety Policy Committee is asked to take up this issue at the next meeting. The Board recommends establishing a task force of law enforcement and substance abuse officials in the region to develop recommendations on data collection, legislative, judicial enforcement, and public education and outreach measures to combat alcohol and drug related automobile accidents.
3. The Public Safety Policy Committee is requested to present findings and recommendations to the Board no later than September 2003.