

ESTABLISHMENT OF THE NEW REGION FORWARD COALITION

Purpose

The purpose of the new Regional Forward Coalition is to oversee the next steps recommended in *Region Forward* and advise the COG Board on future regional planning and implementation activities.

The new Region Forward Implementation Coalition will provide new cross-cutting regional policy capacity when advising the COG Board on future *Region Forward* projects and initiatives. The Coalition will include members from public, private and nonprofit sectors which all have a role in helping the Region meet its goals outlined in *Region Forward*. Over the last two years COG has brought together several multijurisdictional and multi-sector coalitions to advise the COG Board on climate and energy policy and initiatives, develop *Region Forward* with goals and measurable targets, and prepare a regional application to HUD for prioritizing regional transportation, housing, and environmental infrastructure investments based on *Region Forward*. This new Coalition will build on existing public and private sector partnerships that created *Region Forward* and serve to unite disparate stakeholders needed to advance *Region Forward's* targets and goals. The Coalition's membership includes key government actors necessary to implement *Region Forward's* vision; and the inclusion of diverse stakeholder members is designed to build long-term capacity supporting *Region Forward* implementation projects and initiatives.

Creating this new Region Forward Coalition as a replacement for the Metropolitan Development Policy Committee (MDPC) is consistent with COG Board Resolution R9-10 that adopted *Region Forward* on January 13, 2010 and the COG Board *Region Forward* work plan adopted on November 19, 2010.

Primary Goal

- 1) **Develop a multi-jurisdictional and multi-sector coalition focused on building partnerships to implement *Region Forward* and transform Regional Activity Centers into Complete Communities. A primary mission of the new Coalition will be to improve regional coordination of land-use, housing, environmental, transportation planning and development decisions.**

This Coalition will oversee how *Region Forward* is implemented and provide long-range regional planning recommendations to the COG Board of Directors. Coalition members will have the opportunity to participate in a variety of ways, including technical assistance, financial and in-kind contributions, capacity building, community outreach and education. The Coalition will serve to unite disparate and allied regional initiatives to coordinate specific actions that can be undertaken to implement *Region Forward* in Complete Communities.

The Region Forward Coalition will include local elected officials, state and federal agency representative, business organizations, nonprofit groups, philanthropic organizations, advocacy and community-based representatives. The Coalition will be open to a wide variety of organizations and have broad-based membership. The Coalition's broad-based membership will provide an opportunity for improved capacity building and multi-sector partnerships supporting the implementation of *Region Forward*.

Primary Responsibilities

- 1) Oversee the *Region Forward* performance Baseline analysis and future regional progress reports
- 2) Create Complete Communities / Regional Activity Centers update
- 3) Create clear strategies and initiatives to support the transformation of regional centers into Complete Communities

- 4) Oversee public engagement activities such as scenario thinking workshops or a regional attitudinal survey in conjunction with regional progress reports
- 5) As appropriate, apply for regional funding opportunities to support the implementation of *Region Forward*
- 6) Provide comments to the COG Board regarding Cooperative Forecasts

Potential Membership Composition

