

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

RECOMMENDATIONS TO ENHANCE COG'S AVIATION POLICY PROGRAM

WHEREAS, the Metropolitan Washington Council of Governments has conducted an aviation policy program for more than three decades that has effectively addressed a wide range of aircraft noise abatement and aviation policy issues; and

WHEREAS, there has been an evolution in COG's aviation policy committee structure, reflecting the nature of the aviation policy issues, as well as the needs of COG's members; and

WHEREAS, in the fall of 2008, the Board requested the Chair of the Aviation Policy Committee to recommend enhancements to the program that would strike a balance between maintaining an appropriate regional presence on aviation policy issues, while recognizing changed conditions in recent years, as well as the challenging budget period facing COG's members; and

WHEREAS, COG's adopted FY 2010 work program and budget anticipated the aviation policy program scope and funding would be considered prior to the outset of FY 2010 and might necessitate a budget reallocation; and

WHEREAS, the Aviation Policy Committee conducted a membership survey and identified options for enhancing COG's aviation policy program; and

WHEREAS, the results of the survey, as well as deliberations members and stakeholders including the Metropolitan Washington Airports Authority indicate that refocusing COG's aviation policy program on a vibrant exchange of information with the regional community, represents the best use of limited resources and will effectively maintain the values of the Aviation Policy Committee; and

WHEREAS, the Aviation Policy Committee and its stakeholders have endorsed the enhancements documented in the Aviation Policy Committee Chair's recommendation memorandum of July 8, 2009.

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

1. The Aviation Policy Committee shall remain a standing policy advisory committee to the COG Board of Directors through the end of calendar year 2009;
2. Beginning in January, 2010, to the extent that aviation policy matters may require action by the Board, these shall be advanced by COG staff or Board members for consideration by the Board as appropriate;
3. COG's aviation policy program will focus on the vibrant exchange of information with the regional community, through conduct of regular forums and dialogues, as well as through enhancements to COG's aviation policy website, in cooperation with the Metropolitan Washington Airports Authority;
4. Funding to support the aviation policy program shall be at one-half of the FY 2009 level, or \$43,368, which shall be provided through transfer of this amount of funding from the COG membership dues identified to support Program Area 8.50 to Program Area 8.40 in the approved FY 2010 COG work program and budget.

5. The current Chair of the Aviation Policy Committee shall oversee implementation of the recommended enhancements and lead the planning effort for the community forums and dialogues.
6. COG's Executive Director shall evaluate the effectiveness of the new approach in approximately one year and report to the Board on appropriate refinements or other modifications that may be necessary to insure an effective aviation policy program at COG.
