

**METROPOLITAN WASHINGTON COUNCIL OF GOVERNMENTS
777 NORTH CAPITOL STREET NE
WASHINGTON, DC 20002-4239**

**RESOLUTION TO SUBMIT GRANT APPLICATION TO THE WALMART FOUNDATION
TO SUPPORT REGIONAL SUSTAINABILITY INTERNSHIP PROGRAM**

WHEREAS, in 2011 COG surveyed local governments to determine progress towards achieving the sustainability measures recommended in COG's Climate and Energy Action Plan and *Region Forward*; and

WHEREAS, COG learned that limited staff is an impediment for some local governments to implementing and documenting sustainability measures; and

WHEREAS, COG's environmental sustainability activities seek to spur growth of the region's economy and reduce energy use and greenhouse gas emissions across the region; and

WHEREAS, *Region Forward* and the National Capital Region Climate Change Program, create an excellent framework for regional collaboration on sustainability, economic opportunities, and workforce development; and

WHEREAS, MobilizeGreen is a DC-based nonprofit that helps local governments and communities advance sustainability priorities, while helping minority college students secure hands-on job training through internships that will have measurable impacts; and

WHEREAS, Minority college students currently face a 19.1 percent unemployment rate and are unprepared for or are unaware of sustainability career options; and

WHEREAS, ICLEI-Local Governments for Sustainability USA is a 501(c)(3) nonprofit membership organization of U.S. cities, towns, and counties working to address climate change, clean energy, and local sustainability; and

WHEREAS, it is recommended that COG, in partnership with MobilizeGreen and ICLEI USA – Local Governments for Sustainability (ICLEI), propose an innovative, regional sustainability and workforce development initiative;

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

1. COG will partner with MobilizeGreen and ICLEI to recruit, train, and place ten (10) interns in host local governments to work on projects that advance COG's Region Forward and advance regional sustainability goals.
2. COG members will be encouraged to host student interns.

3. COG, on behalf of its partners MobilizeGreen and ICLEI, shall submit a grant proposal to the Walmart Foundation in an amount not to exceed \$150,000 for program development, intern stipends, and project evaluation of a sustainability internship program. No COG match is required.