

**METROPOLITAN WASHINGTON COUNCIL OF GOVERNMENTS
777 N. CAPITOL ST., N.E.
WASHINGTON, DC 20002**

**RESOLUTION SUPPORTING INCLUSION OF GREEN INFRASTRUCTURE IN THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA
WATER AND SEWER AUTHORITY'S (DC WATER'S) LONG TERM CONTROL PLAN FOR COMBINED SEWER
OVERFLOW ABATEMENT**

WHEREAS, the COG Board of Directors adopted *Region Forward* in January 2010 as a guide for development in the metropolitan Washington region that encourages the use of green infrastructure as one of many tools to help the region achieve its sustainability goals; and

WHEREAS, green infrastructure, also known as Low Impact Development (LID), uses plants, trees and other measures to mimic natural processes to control stormwater, and promote rainwater detention and infiltration into the soil, and include techniques such as rain gardens, porous pavements, green roofs and other technologies; and

WHEREAS, green infrastructure projects are being implemented throughout the region and have the potential to provide a wide range of environmental, social and economic benefits, such as better water and air quality, improved livability, enhanced green spaces, expanded wildlife habitat, as well as sustainable green jobs; and

WHEREAS, the District of Columbia's Water and Sewer Authority (DC Water) is implementing a \$2.6 billion Clean Rivers Project to reduce combined sewer overflows into the Anacostia, Potomac and Rock Creek waterways; and

WHEREAS, DC Water has also released a \$100 million proposal for public comment that would modify the Clean Rivers Project to incorporate green infrastructure as an innovative new element of the plan to address combined sewer overflows to the Potomac River and Rock Creek; and

WHEREAS, the proposed green infrastructure proposal would provide a unique opportunity for the implementation, demonstration and assessment of large-scale green infrastructure projects in the COG region, as well as provide meaningful and important information to local, regional and national efforts to effectively implement such projects; and

WHEREAS, the DC Water's Clean Rivers Project and new green infrastructure element have the potential to benefit not only the waterways of the District of Columbia and the Potomac River but also to provide broader regional environmental benefits; and

WHEREAS, the COG Board of Directors has long supported the use of innovative technologies to achieve environment objectives in the region; and

WHEREAS, COG's Chesapeake Bay and Water Resources Policy Committee has considered this proposal and are recommending that the COG Board of Directors endorse it.

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

1. COG endorses inclusion of green infrastructure in DC Water's long-term control plan for combined sewer overflow abatement provided that there is assurance of it achieving the same or greater CSO reduction.
2. The Chairman of the Board shall transmit a letter and this resolution conveying COG's endorsement to the District of Columbia Water and Sewer Authority (DC Water). Copies of the letter shall be provided to the Mayors and Chairs of COG member jurisdictions and the COG Chief Administrative Officers Committee.

I HEREBY CERTIFY THAT the foregoing resolution was approved and adopted by the COG Board of Directors at its regular meeting held on April 9, 2014.

***Monica Beyrouti
Clerk to the Board of Directors***