

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

**RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING COG TO ENTER INTO A MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING WITH THE
GREATER WASHINGTON BOARD OF TRADE TO ESTABLISH A SMART REGION MOVEMENT**

WHEREAS, the Metropolitan Washington Council of Governments (COG) is comprised of the 24 jurisdictions of the National Capital Region's local governments and their governing officials, plus area members of the Maryland and Virginia legislatures and the U.S. Senate and House of Representatives, and COG provides a focus for action on issues of regional concern; and

WHEREAS, the Greater Washington Board of Trade (BOT), representing all industry sectors in metropolitan Washington, has been a long-standing partner in improving the region; and

WHEREAS, the BOT and its members have launched a cross-sector Greater Washington Smart Region Movement (GWSRM) to advance innovative, technology-driven solutions for economic growth and improved livability in the region; and

WHEREAS, COG has fostered and supported the *Region Forward Vision* to create a more prosperous, accessible, livable, and sustainable region; and

WHEREAS, the need for a long-term and robust mechanism to deliver a smart, digitally integrated, infrastructure system at scale to maximize regional integration and efficiency, is essential for the region to become a global hub for business, technology, and policy innovation; and

WHEREAS, a strong collaborative partnership between BOT and COG will strengthen both organizations and help to shape Greater Washington into the leading smart region in North America and beyond; and

WHEREAS, BOT, as strategic host, will endeavor to formalize collaboration between BOT, COG, and the Consortium of Universities, enabling a broad-scale integrated collaboration with the mission to define and deliver GWSRM; and

WHEREAS, the proposed Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) establishes an exclusive partnership between COG and the BOT to promote cooperation between participants to accelerate inclusive economic growth, improve livability, and increase the competitiveness by encouraging joint implementation of activities to establish the environment for public-private partnerships to build a cross-jurisdictional digital infrastructure and deliver smart projects across the region.

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

The COG Board of Directors supports the BOT's initiative to launch a cross-sector Greater Washington Smart Region Movement and directs the following:

- 1) The Executive Director, or his designee, is authorized to enter into a MOU with the BOT agreeing to exclusive partnership in establishing a Smart Region Operating Environment in the Greater Washington Metropolitan region. The MOU can be terminated at any time and will not include any financial commitment from COG.

- 2) The creation of a Smart Region Movement work group, composed of COG Board members appointed by the Board Chair, to work with COG staff and the Board of Trade on advancing the Smart Region Movement.

I HEREBY CERTIFY THAT the foregoing resolution was adopted by the COG Board of Directors on March 13, 2019.

Laura Ambrosio, COG Communications Specialist