




City of Rockville

## MEMORANDUM

April 16, 2010

TO: Chairman Hill and Members of the Planning Commission

FROM: Susan Swift, CPDS Director 

SUBJECT: Recommendation of "Region Forward" Plan

At your last meeting, April 14<sup>th</sup>, COG Director Dave Robertson made a presentation on the *Region Forward, Greater Washington 2050: COG's Vision for the National Capital Region in the Twenty-First Century*. The COG Board approved this plan in January and is now requesting that all member jurisdictions voluntarily adopt the tenets of the vision by signing on to a regional compact. On May 3<sup>rd</sup>, the Mayor and Council will consider a resolution to adopt the Greater Washington 2050 Compact in support of this regional vision.

The Planning Commission has the opportunity to forward comments and/or a recommendation to the Mayor and Council for their consideration of the compact. This is on your agenda for discussion and a motion, if you so desire.

Attached is the sample resolution that COG is asking jurisdictions to sign.

Attachment.  
Ss/PC.COG.letter2

**PROPOSED [JURISDICTION] RESOLUTION ADOPTING  
GREATER WASHINGTON 2050 COMPACT**

**WHEREAS**, [Jurisdiction] recognizes and values its status as part of the economically vibrant and socially diverse National Capital Region; and

**WHEREAS**, [Jurisdiction] takes part in regional planning and activities through its participation in the Metropolitan Washington Council of Governments; and

**WHEREAS**, in January 2008, COG established the Greater Washington 2050 Coalition, a public-private advisory panel, consisting of local government officials, representatives of the Region's business and environmental sectors, and members of the public representing numerous and diverse civic interests, to help shape the Region; and

**WHEREAS**, the Coalition sought to leverage existing regional and local vision plans and reach regional agreement on local actions that can help achieve common regional goals; and

**WHEREAS**, the Coalition examined how other regions have approached similar efforts, sponsored a workshop on future economic, environmental, and demographic trends and changes that could affect the National Capital Region, and commissioned and published a survey of public opinion on regional matters in 2008 and 2009; and

**WHEREAS**, after almost two years of work, the Coalition unanimously approved its final report, *Region Forward – A Comprehensive Guide for Regional Planning and Measuring Progress in the 21<sup>st</sup> Century*, which includes nine regional goals in four themes of accessibility, sustainability, prosperity, and livability; and establishes regional performance targets and indicators to measure required progress toward goals; and

**WHEREAS**, the COG Board approved the *Region Forward* report in January 2010, and recommended that local governments execute a voluntary regional compact incorporating these regional goals, and commit to consider regional implications in their local decisions and actions; and

**WHEREAS**, the [Jurisdiction's policy body], after review and consideration of these goals and their potential benefit to the Region and to the residents and businesses of [Jurisdiction], believes that adoption of the voluntary *Greater Washington 2050 Compact* to be in the public interest of [Jurisdiction].

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, BY THE [JURISDICTION'S POLICY BODY] THAT**

1. [Jurisdiction] hereby endorses the voluntary *Greater Washington 2050 Compact* and, within {Jurisdiction's} legal, financial, and political limitations, commits to follow the principles and goals therein in its decisions and actions.
2. [Appropriate official] is hereby authorized to sign the voluntary *Greater Washington 2050 Compact* on behalf of [the Jurisdiction].
3. Staff of [Jurisdiction] is hereby directed to familiarize itself with the voluntary *Greater Washington 2050 Compact* and to alert [executive and policy officials of Jurisdiction] on significant regional implications of proposed decisions or actions.