

**Resolution R37-2017
June 14, 2017**

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

RESOLUTION ADOPTING THE COG BOARD OF DIRECTORS STATEMENT OF PRINCIPLES ON METRO

WHEREAS, the Metropolitan Washington Council of Governments (COG) is comprised of 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 COG Board of Directors has identified restoring Metro as its top priority reflecting the critical role Metro plays in the success of region's economy, transportation mobility, and overall quality of life; and

WHEREAS, the board established a Metro Strategy Group to assist with developing a regional strategy to facilitate achievement of the region's goals for Metro of a fully restored, world class system that is safe, efficiently managed, and maintained in a state of good repair; and

WHEREAS, the Metro Strategy Group recommends the board adopt a series of principles to provide a focus for the regional actions needed to achieve these goals; and

WHEREAS, the recommended principles emphasize the urgent need for local and state governments, the business community and other stakeholders to take unified actions to ensure that funding solutions and associated supporting actions are in place by July, 2018; and

WHEREAS, the principles further emphasize the critical role of the federal government to support America's transit system.

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

The board adopts the following *Statement of Principles on Metro* to guide the path forward throughout 2017.

I HEREBY CERTIFY THAT the foregoing resolution was adopted by the COG Board of Directors on June 14, 2017.

**Laura Ambrosio
COG Communications Specialist**



**COG Board of Directors
Statement of Principles on Metro
June 14, 2017**

1. The region adopts the goal of a fully restored, world class Metro system that is safe, efficiently managed in a fiscally responsible manner, and maintained in a state of good repair.
2. Bridging the gap in WMATA's long-term capital needs is the funding priority.
3. The optimal way to address WMATA's capital funding gap for state of good repair and critical capital needs is through a dedicated funding source or sources that are earmarked to WMATA, fully bondable at the highest possible financial rating, and enhances WMATA's overall financial standing.
4. WMATA's operating and maintenance funding needs should be addressed through application of management best practices and reforms, as well as funds derived from increased ridership, before determining if there is a need for additional funding to fill any remaining gap in operating and maintenance funding needs.
5. Local and state contributions for capital subsidies, as well as operating and maintenance subsidies, should be predictable with an annual growth rate of not more than three percent.
6. The local jurisdictions, the states, the business community and additional stakeholders will collaborate to accomplish these goals by the start of WMATA's Fiscal Year 2019.
7. Enhancement and reform of WMATA's governance and operations may be accomplished through agreements, policies, and legislative actions that optimally would be accomplished without reopening the WMATA compact at this time.
8. We call on the federal government to recognize its fiscal responsibility to America's transit system and the federal workforce utilizing the Metrorail system.