



## Takoma Park City Council Meeting – May 15, 2019 Agenda Item 4

### **Voting Session**

Resolution Supporting Regionalism in the Washington Metropolitan Area

### **Recommended Council Action**

Adopt resolution

### **Context with Key Issues**

The City of Alexandria, Virginia recently adopted a resolution supporting regionalism in the Washington, D.C. area and is urging other area jurisdictions to do the same. With two states, the District of Columbia, the seat of the U.S. government and many counties and municipalities in the National Capital region, cooperative efforts are needed to address regional issues.

The Takoma Park City Council and staff actively work with the Metropolitan Washington Council of Governments and individual jurisdictions on the day to day work of the City. However, there has not been an affirmative statement made in recent years of the value to the City of Takoma Park and community of a regional approach. As a small community, Takoma Park receives great value from regional public safety, transportation, environmental and other regional initiatives. And, the region has benefited from the innovations and approaches Takoma Park has championed.

### **Council Priority**

A Livable Community for All; Fiscally Sustainable Government; Environmentally Sustainable Community; Engaged, Responsive & Service-oriented Government; Community Development for an Improved and Equitable Quality of Life.

### **Environmental Considerations**

Clean air, water and other aspects of the environment cross jurisdictional boundaries and affect the entire region.

### **Fiscal Considerations**

Many improvements that are made at regional levels can be less expensive through economies of scale and more effective than can be done within just one small jurisdiction.

### **Racial Equity Considerations**

Regional approaches are needed when looking at race equity, as housing cost and housing patterns, transportation accessibility, environmental contamination, public safety and public health matters all have differing impacts related to race. City staff will be participating in a regional racial equity training cohort being conducted through a partnership between the Metropolitan Washington Council of Governments and the Governmental Alliance on Race and Equity this fall.

### **Attachments and Links**

- Draft resolution

Introduced by:

**CITY OF TAKOMA PARK, MARYLAND**

**RESOLUTION 2019-**

**SUPPORTING REGIONALISM IN THE WASHINGTON METROPOLITAN AREA**

**WHEREAS,** the City of Takoma Park, Maryland recognizes and values its role as an integral part of the economically vibrant and socially diverse National Capital Region; and

**WHEREAS,** the National Capital Region functions most effectively to enhance the social and economic well-being of its residents, businesses and visitors, and to ensure a growing economy when its jurisdictions collaborate to address regional challenges and design and implement regional policies and plans; and

**WHEREAS,** for the natural environment of the National Capital Region to be protected, regional cooperation is necessary to improve air quality, water quality and ecology; and

**WHEREAS,** the National Capital Region is comprised of 14 cities, eight counties, and many towns in Maryland, Virginia, and the District of Columbia; and

**WHEREAS,** the National Capital Region is home to approximately 5.5 million residents and is projected to have 6.9 million residents by the year 2045; and

**WHEREAS,** the National Capital Region is comprised of interconnected and often interdependent networks of streets, roads, bridges, sidewalks, bicycle paths, and transit systems, as well as sanitary sewer, stormwater and water infrastructure; and

**WHEREAS,** National Capital Region jurisdictions support each other's police, fire services, and emergency medical services on a daily basis by responding to requests for service across jurisdictional boundaries through automatic aid and mutual aid agreements; and

**WHEREAS,** because the National Capital Region includes the seat of the government of the United States, a coordinated metropolitan homeland security plan is in the interest of national and regional security; and

**WHEREAS,** effective regionalism means prioritizing the interests of the region as a whole over local jurisdictional self-interests.

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF TAKOMA PARK THAT:**

1. The City of Takoma Park, Maryland recognizes the benefits of regionalism for the Takoma Park community and the entire National Capital Region;
2. The City of Takoma Park, Maryland recognizes the interests for the good of the region are often paramount compared to the interests of an individual jurisdiction;
3. The Takoma Park City Council pledges its best efforts and faithful cooperation in working with other jurisdictions and regional bodies within the National Capital Region, as well as working with the State of Maryland, the Commonwealth of Virginia, the District of Columbia, and the United States Government in addressing regional issues, and designing and implementing regional policies and plans;
4. The Takoma Park City Council pledges the continued exercise of leadership on regional matters by its members and City staff through active participation on regional boards, commissions and committees; and
5. The Takoma Park City Council urges other jurisdictions within the National Capital Region to adopt similar resolutions and take actions showing their support for regionalism.

Adopted this \_\_\_\_ day of May, 2019.

ATTEST:

Jessie Carpenter, CMC  
City Clerk