Renewed Declaration of Cooperation
Between the Northern Virginia Regional Commission
and the Verband Region Stuttgart

Signed in Stuttgart, Germany
December 1, 2009

REALIZING that since 1999, and reaffirmed in 2004, the Northern Virginia Regional Commission (NVRC) and the Verband Region Stuttgart (VRS) inaugurated the first region-to-region partnership between councils in Europe and North America;

APPRECIATING that the core of this unique and special partnership is the long-term exchange of mutually beneficial lessons, policies and information concerning sustainable metropolitan regions;

RECOGNIZING the common environmental, economic development, equity and social inclusion challenges that both metropolitan regions confront and the powerful innovative solutions that each region offers to address these challenges;

NOTING the strong mutual interest in sustaining and strengthening cooperation between the NVRC and the VRS and their local authorities in the exchange of information, best practices and policies;

We agree to:

1. Exchange information and joint projects of our associations on a regional level, in particular in the fields of Regional Planning, Climate Change Mitigation and Adaptation, Energy Management, Transportation Planning, Environmental Planning, Landscape Preservation, Demographic Analysis, Economic and Economic Development, Social Inclusion and Human Services.

2. Foster contacts, information exchange and cooperation between commercial, governmental, academic and non-governmental sectors.

3. Support further contacts and exchanges, established by the citizens and associations of our respective communities, which contribute to the mutual benefit and strengthening of this partnership.

4. This Partnership Agreement shall be renewed and valid for five (5) years, starting at the time of signature by both partners of a mutually acceptable and translated agreement in English and German.

5. Support the development of the Bernd Steinacher Fellowship that will include the participation of METREX, the Northern Virginia Regional Commission and the Verband Region Stuttgart.

Stuttgart, den 1. Dezember 2009

Thomass Bopp
Vorsitzender
Verband Region Stuttgart

Jeannette Wopperer
Regional Direktorin
Verband Region Stuttgart

Stuttgart, 1 December 2009

Hon. Harry J. Parrish II
Chairman
Northern Virginia Regional Commission

G. Mark Gibb
Executive Director
Northern Virginia District Commission