

## **RESOLUTION IN SUPPORT OF CLIMATE RESILIENCY**

**WHEREAS**, the nation's mayors are committed to addressing the threats climate change poses to their communities; and

**WHEREAS**, the recently released National Climate Assessment shows that cities will continue to bear the brunt of environmental impacts going forward; and

**WHEREAS**, the frequency of billion-dollar extreme weather events – from hurricanes, flooding, and rising sea levels to droughts, heat waves, and wildfires – has increased dramatically in recent years, trending from an average of less than two per year in the 1980s to an annual average of more than nine events from 2010 to 2012; and

**WHEREAS**, resiliency efforts, especially those regarding water and wastewater, not only save lives and taxpayer dollars but also play a key role in preparing cities for the challenges they face from these events; and

**WHEREAS**, a recent report by the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) estimates that every \$1 invested in community resilience will reduce disaster damages by \$4, and a recent report by the Center for American Progress (CAP) found that in FYs 2011-2013, federal taxpayers spent \$6 dollars on disaster cleanup for every \$1 spent on community resilience; and

**WHEREAS**, cities currently face several barriers to properly planning and implementing resiliency efforts, including funding and financing challenges, insufficient permitting and regulatory flexibility, a shortage of data and modeling information, and a lack of communication and partnership among communities,

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED**, that The U.S. Conference of Mayors fully supports President Obama's Climate Action Plan and endorses the creation of a \$1 billion Climate Resilience Fund; and

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED**, that The U.S. Conference of Mayors urges Congress and the Administration to develop a national strategy, in cooperation with local and state governments, that will aid communities in becoming more resilient and enable data sharing across all levels of government in order to strengthen the response to climate change across the nation.

Projected Cost: \$1 billion