

## MODEL ATLANTA REGIONAL COMMISSION

**Subject:** Resolution by the Model Atlanta Regional Commission concerning the need to involve people of different cultures and ethnicities in topics discussed by the Commission, overall promoting diversity.

**Introduced by:** Communications Committee

**WHEREAS,** The Model Atlanta Regional Commission desires to increase the involvement of other cultures in the environment and other regional problems we try to solve through these programs; and

**WHEREAS,** Approximately, 108,703 people in Georgia do not speak English well, which makes up 2.5% of its total population; and

**WHEREAS,** The amount of people categorized this way has increased 272% from 1990-2000; and

**WHEREAS,** By appealing to all different people by speaking in their native language they will be more motivated to help participate and put in their two cents about issues our region is faced with which may give a new perspective on a situation; and

**WHEREAS,** Specifically, Hispanics, which make up the largest minority group in the United States, will increase to one-fourth of the population in about 2050, so if they are included more in regional issues our world in the future will be more successful.

**NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED** that the Model Atlanta Regional Commission, in order to improve the future promotes more diversity throughout our region by hosting meetings spoken in multiple languages, posts flyers in multiple languages, and also prints information in ethnic newspapers to help promote the support of other cultures on important regional issues.

**AND, THEREFORE BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED** that the involvement of different ethnic groups will increase when discussing or being educated on our regional issues.

**MODEL ATLANTA REGIONAL COMMISSION**

**Subject: Resolution by the Model Atlanta Regional Commission concerning MARTA's poor reputation.**

**Introduced by: Communications Committee**

**WHEREAS,** The Model Atlanta Regional Commission desires to improve MARTA's poor reputation by ensuring the safety of its riders and by convincing the riders of the high safety levels put into action; and

**WHEREAS,** The crime rate per 1,000 people in 2008 was only 2.61% while around 459,000 passengers utilize the transportation method each day; and

**WHEREAS,** The majority of the crime is larceny; rather than the assumed homicides which have only occurred twice in the past four years; and

**WHEREAS,** MARTA also has won national and international awards for its safety and shows pride in the fact that it has accreditation by the state of Georgia and the Commission of Accreditation for Law Enforcement Agencies (CALEA); and

**WHEREAS,** In addition to a list of safety precautions, it is run by one of the finest police departments in the United States;

**NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED** that the Model Atlanta Regional Commission, in order to satisfy the safety levels for riders and promote safety, supports providing statistics to riders through YouTube videos or other methods of publicity. Additionally, this issue must be addressed on our MARC Facebook group which MARC could periodically use to update teens on relevant issues in their communities;

**AND, THEREFORE BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED** that MARTA safety will become increasingly better and less terrifying for those who utilize the transportation.

## MODEL ATLANTA REGIONAL COMMISSION

**Subject:** Resolution by the Model Atlanta Regional Commission concerning the inadequate supply of healthcare to metro Atlanta residents.

**Introduced by:** Community Services Committee

**Whereas:** The Model Atlanta Regional Commission desires to improve the health and overall quality of life for the residents of the Atlanta metro area who are unable to afford healthcare; and

**Whereas:** Many basic immunizations needed by every person have not been given to many citizens of the Metro Atlanta region; and

**Whereas:** Many students of the region have not had the required vaccinations needed to enroll in public schools; and

**Whereas:** Georgia is ranked 6<sup>th</sup> in number of citizens without health care insurance; and

**Whereas:** The State of Georgia is ranked 34<sup>th</sup> in the United States in most children without health insurance; and

**Whereas:** Overall, 12% of Georgia children lack healthcare, including 12 percent of children 0-5 and 12 percent of children 6-17; and

**Whereas:** 1,560,347 uninsured people reside in the State of Georgia. 30 percent of these uninsured people live in the Metro Atlanta Region. So, roughly there are 468,100 people without health insurance;

**NOW, THEREFORE LET IT BE RESOLVED** that the Model Atlanta Regional Commission, in order to meet the needs of Metro Atlanta citizens without healthcare coverage, proposes a series of “Metro Health Care” days where needy metro residents can receive basic immunizations and screening at little or no cost. These bimonthly events shall be placed in central public locations around the Metro area. Also, these events shall be put on by local medical companies, hospitals and physicians.

**NOW, THEREFORE LET IT FURTHER BE RESOLVED** that all who participate in the events will be able to not only receive normal tax benefits for their involvement in free community enrichment projects, but will be able to use these events for free advertisement opportunities and free product demonstration.

## MODEL ATLANTA REGIONAL COMMISSION

**Subject:** Resolution by the Model Atlanta Regional Commission concerning the enriching environment for children in performing an after school program.

**Introduced By:** Community Services Committee

**Whereas,** The Model Atlanta Regional Commission desires to improve the lives of children so that they can have a better future, by presenting an After School program to provide a safer environment for them; and

**Whereas,** According to the Centers for Disease Control, in 2005 nationally, 5,686 young people ages 10 to 24 were murdered – an average of 16 each day; and

**Whereas,** The U.S. Department of Justice’s Office of Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention, the FBI, and youth advocacy groups warn that unsupervised hours can be a dangerous period for children. From 3:00 pm to 6:00 pm, youth are more likely to commit crimes, be victims of crimes or experiment with alcohol or drugs; and

**Whereas,** Many after school programs are expensive, not community based, do not offer physical activities, do not offer services to all age groups, and are under-funded; and

**Whereas,** Education needs to be safe and easily accessible to all children to allow them freedom, independence, and the ability to have fun;

**Now Therefore Be It Resolved** that the Model Atlanta Regional Commission, in order to improve the lives of children with an after school program, proposes a Bright Kids, Bright Futures after school program which will provide physical and educational activities. This program will be free to all families and will partner with churches and schools to provide facilities all over the Metro Atlanta region;

**And, Therefore let it be further Resolved** that Bright Kids, Bright Futures will be fully funded by the Metro Atlanta Region and other corporations in the Metro area. All schools who help volunteer will receive benefits, and corporations that help sponsor the program will get a tax credit.

## MODEL ATLANTA REGIONAL COMMISSION

**Subject:** Resolution by the Model Atlanta Regional Commission concerning the destruction of valuable, historic buildings in the Atlanta area, as well as the hazards and costs that occur as a result of this demolition.

**Introduced by:** Environment and Land Use Committee

**WHEREAS,** The Model Atlanta Regional Commission desires to save historical buildings and restore them to their original state in order to retain an important cultural background and maintain historic integrity; and

**WHEREAS,** The health and budgets of construction crews and members need to be protected and renovated as opposed to demolished in order to save time, money and lives; and

**WHEREAS,** The construction crews involved in mentioned renovation are susceptible to asbestos, which has been found at 83 sites on the *National Priorities List* sites (out of 1,585), which have been identified by the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) when these buildings are torn down;

**WHEREAS,** Everyday, old homes and buildings are being torn down to make room for uncontrolled growth known as urban sprawl; and

**WHEREAS,** Older homes and buildings hold significant historical and cultural value that is vital to metro Atlanta. The destruction of these buildings demolishes any historical integrity that existed within its borders; and

**WHEREAS,** Metro Atlanta needs to keep in mind the fiscal budget so as not to exceed the amount specified by the Georgia Trust for Historic Preservation; and

**WHEREAS,** Older buildings in the metro Atlanta region are more aptly equipped to withstand natural disasters and harsh than those most recently constructed, and add to the appeal of houses in particular; and

**WHEREAS,** The economic crisis overwhelming our region as well as our country decreases the appeal of newly constructed buildings, so there is a need (financially) to restore existing buildings and reduce construction costs;

**NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED** that the Model Atlanta Regional Commission, in order to conserve resources, retain the historical and architectural integrity of existing structures should emphasize the utilization of existing construction materials and rapidly renewable resources that would aid in renovation of said buildings along with first obtaining a building permit from the local municipal building department. Furthermore, in order to notify the people of the region of the opportunities they have (no matter how minute a contribution) to support the preservation of historical landmarks, the Model

Atlanta Regional Commission proposes that a list of sites in need of renovation be circulated among a majority of the community.

**AND, THEREFORE LET IT BE FURTHER RESOLVED** that an impact fee to pay for any infrastructure needed to support the public strain of new development is to be formally established upon any planned construction project before the construction is to begin. Consequently, any violation or refusal to pay mentioned tax will result in a moratorium and automatic revocation/suspension of building license and working permit for a time period dependent upon the severity of the violation.

## MODEL ATLANTA REGIONAL COMMISSION

**Subject:** Resolution by the Model Atlanta Regional Commission concerning the installation of green roofs on all commercial and public buildings under five stories high.

**Introduced by:** Environment and Land Use Committee

**WHEREAS,** The Model Atlanta Regional Commission wishes to have a green roof system installed on every new public and commercial building; and

**WHEREAS,** The average runoff absorption rates for a green roof are 50 to 60 percent, conserving water to help in the drastic drought that Metro Atlanta counties see each year; and

**WHEREAS,** A green roof can reduce the heating and cooling bills of a building by 25 percent and reduce the water bills, allowing companies to put the saved money towards bigger and better things; and

**WHEREAS,** Metro Atlanta is losing 50 acres of trees per day and the Model Atlanta Regional Commission wishes to replicate these habitats and their beneficial effects; and

**WHEREAS,** The carbon dioxide levels in Atlanta are second in the nation only behind Texas; and

**WHEREAS,** The temperatures of Metro Atlanta are much higher than the surrounding area due to the urban heat island effect caused by the reflective nature of the asphalt and other materials in sidewalks and roads;

**NOW, THEREFORE LET IT BE RESOLVED** that the Model Atlanta Regional Commission proposes to have a green roof installed (or they will receive a fine, amount to be determined), on every new building under five stories in order to conserve water, to cut down on energy bills, to reduce the heat urban island effect and to decrease carbon dioxide levels;

**AND, THEREFORE LET IT FURTHER BE RESOLVED** the major governments in the Atlanta region should appoint specific green roof experts whose specific job will be to supervise the construction of green roofs and check on the condition of previously built green roofs every five years.

**Model Atlanta Regional Commission**

**Subject: Resolution by the Model Atlanta Regional Commission**

**Introduced by: Transportation and Air Quality Committee concerning the use of fossil fuels in buses in the school systems of the Metro Atlanta area.**

**WHEREAS,** Natural gas is cleaner burning gas with a higher octane (120-130) than that of gasoline/diesel/petrol burning vehicles (80-95); and

**WHEREAS,** A normal gasoline engine converted to run on natural gas has a lower compression rate, causing it to be less efficient, and

**WHEREAS,** The loss of efficiency reduces the power of the converted engine to below that of a conventional diesel engine; and

**WHEREAS,** Natural gas is the cleanest of all fossil fuels; and

**WHEREAS,** The switch to natural gas powered engines would be less drastic than a switch to a completely different type of fuel; and

**WHEREAS,** This switch is the first logical step towards completely revamping the entire U.S. transportation system.

**NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED** that the Model Atlanta Regional Commission, in order to substantially reduce the pollutants, beginning at the local level, will begin the change from gasoline/diesel fuels to the cleaner burning fuel of natural gas to school buses in the Atlanta region.

**AND, THEREFORE BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED** that over the next five (5) years, school buses in the Atlanta region be refitted with new natural gas burning engines specifically designed for the new fuel, thus allowing natural gas to be used even more efficiently by an engine made specifically for it.

**MODEL ATLANTA REGIONAL COMMISSION**

**Subject: Resolution by the Model Atlanta Regional Commission concerning the escalating amount of traffic and congestion in the Atlanta Region.**

**Introduced by: Transportation and Air Quality Committee**

**WHEREAS,** MARC wishes to reduce the amount of pollutants being generated in the Atlanta area; and

**WHEREAS,** MARC wishes to reduce the amount of vehicle traffic around metro Atlanta every morning; and

**WHEREAS,** MARC intends to reduce the number of traffic related deaths among the citizens of the Metro Atlanta area; and

**WHEREAS,** Because between 2005-2006 there were nearly 67,000 new jobs created (<http://www.atlantaregional.com/html/205.aspx>) in the Metro Atlanta area; and

**WHEREAS,** The United States is attempting to become less dependent upon foreign oil; and

**WHEREAS,** Better modes of transportation are being made available to the public; and

**WHEREAS,** There is a need for an efficient, safe and cheap mass public transportation system in the Metro Atlanta area to connect the every growing population and workforce;

**NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED** that the Model Atlanta Regional Commission, in order to reduce traffic congestion and traffic related deaths, increase the ease of travel and reduce the cost of transportation for the workforce, encourages leaders to break ground on a new system of train, bus and high speed rail car routes that will more effectively promote the safe and timely travel of the Metro Atlanta workforce.

**AND, THEREFORE BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED** that this new program would work in conjunction with the MARTA in order to affect the timely increase in routes and number of passenger carrying vehicles (be it by rail or wheel) in use in the first quarter of 2009.