

TOWN OF FALMOUTH – RESOLUTION

Greater Portland Economic Development Corporation

WHEREAS, the Metro Coalition, consisting of the communities of Cape Elizabeth, Falmouth, Portland, Scarborough, South Portland, and Westbrook, directed parties interested in the establishment of the Greater Portland Economic Development Corporation (“GPEDC”) to draft by-laws sufficient to enable the creation of the public corporation, the express purpose of which would be to further economic development opportunities for the six communities that comprise the Metro Coalition; and

WHEREAS, a Metro Coalition Subcommittee was established, with representatives of Falmouth, Portland, Scarborough, South Portland, Westbrook, the Portland Regional Chamber, the Greater Portland Alliance of Colleges and Universities, Cumberland County, and Greater Portland Council of Governments (“GPCOG”) worked together to draft by-laws and articles of incorporation to create the GPEDC; and

WHEREAS, the communities of Portland, Scarborough, South Portland, and Westbrook, together with representatives of Cumberland County and with assistance and input from the communities’ Legislative delegation, the Portland Regional Chamber and the towns of Falmouth and Cape Elizabeth resulted in a number of important initiatives and successes in establishing regional economic development opportunities; and

WHEREAS, one of those accomplishments was the communities’ success in initiating changes to the State’s Pine Tree Development Zone (“PTDZ”) enabling legislation to permit companies in Cumberland County, previously omitted, to be eligible for PTDZ economic and tax benefits available elsewhere in the State; and

WHEREAS, the members of the GPEDC from Portland, Scarborough, South Portland, and Westbrook have informally adopted business retention protocols that not only enhance the ability of companies to grow in the best circumstances and locations available regionally, but also ensure that the resources of the participating communities are used in a collaborative fashion, rather than a competitive manner; and

WHEREAS, the communities of Portland, Scarborough, South Portland, and Westbrook have worked jointly for several years to market the region both within Maine (e.g. Maine Real Estate Developers Association events) and outside Maine (e.g. bio-technology trade shows).

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the Falmouth Town Council authorizes the Town Manager to join in the further development and incorporation of the Greater Portland Economic Development Corporation in order to permit the Town of Falmouth to join in the activities of the GPEDC; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the mission of the GPEDC shall be to grow and develop a sustainable economy in the Greater Portland region through the establishment of a regional economic development corporation, which shall be organized and managed by incorporators and directors appointed by the communities of Cape Elizabeth, Falmouth, Portland, Scarborough, South Portland, and Westbrook (the “Participating Communities”), the Portland Regional Chamber, and the Greater Portland Alliance of Colleges and Universities; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, the purpose of the Corporation shall be to foster, encourage, and assist the physical location, settlement or resettlement of industrial, manufacturing, fishing, agricultural, recreational, and other business enterprises within the Participating Communities using a collaborative approach; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that a phased approach to the GPEDC workplan is envisioned to correspond with available funding and staff resources; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that Phase 1, occurring within the first year after GPEDC incorporation, is expected to include the establishment of the Board of Directors, development of a marketing plan that fully reflects the region, development of a phased budget, and attainment of grants and other funding that does not at this time require municipal investment; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that staffing of the GPEDC is expected to initially consist of the Economic Development Directors from each community as designees to the Corporation and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that Phase II, occurring in year 1 – 3, is expected to consist of implementation of the marketing plan, targeting critical industry sectors as represented by companies currently located out-of-state or overseas, and continuing to build a retinue of incentives that can be applied on a regional basis; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that one-time funding for GPEDC programs and projects, during the initial years, is expected to come from agencies and organizations such as the Economic Development Administration of the U.S. Department of Commerce, the Greater Portland Public Development Commission, and others to be determined; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Chair of the Board of Directors of the GPEDC or his/her designee shall prepare annual progress reports to be delivered to the Falmouth Town Council.

Approved this 25th day of October, 2010

Chairman, Falmouth Town Council