

**CHESAPEAKE BAY COMMISSION**  
**RESOLUTION #10-1**  
**May 7, 2010**

*In Recognition and Support of Federal Action to Further Land Conservation, Public Access and Tourism Initiatives in the Chesapeake Bay Watershed*

WHEREAS, the Captain John Smith Chesapeake National Historic Trail (the Trail) is creating a lasting legacy for the Chesapeake by expanding access, conserving treasured landscapes, and educating the public in the conservation of the Bay and its great rivers; and

WHEREAS, the Chesapeake Bay Commission's early, unwavering support and leadership has served as a driving force and inspiration behind the effort to establish the Trail— America's first National Water Trail; and

WHEREAS, the Chesapeake Bay Commission is providing substantial intellectual capital to plan and begin implementation of the Trail; and

WHEREAS, the Chesapeake Bay Commission was a founding partner of the Friends of the John Smith Chesapeake Trail (FJSWT); and

WHEREAS, based upon an extensive study on the 17<sup>th</sup> century history and environment of six rivers or river segments , the Chesapeake Bay Commission has provided advice and guidance in exploring the feasibility of designating these rivers as "connecting trails" to the Captain John Smith Chesapeake National Historic Water Trail; and

WHEREAS, the Chesapeake Bay Commission has worked with United States Congress, the United States Department of Interior (DOI) and the Chesapeake Bay Program partners to advance public access and Treasured Landscape priorities in the strategy prepared in response to President Barack Obama's May 12, 2009 *Chesapeake Executive Order*; and

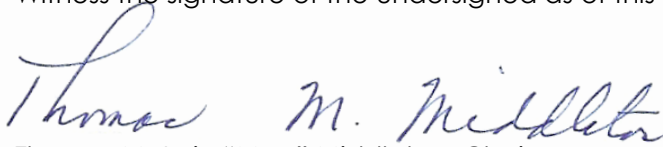
WHEREAS, the Chesapeake Bay Commission recognized the April 15, 2010 Presidential memorandum on *America's Great Outdoors* to be complementary to our work in advancing conservation public access and sustainable use of land in the watershed, and

WHEREAS, the Chesapeake Bay Commission believes that the implementation of the Trail, the America's Great Outdoors initiative and the conservation of Treasured Landscapes— lands of cultural, historic and ecological significance—are centrally important components that can support state and local efforts to restore and protect the Chesapeake.

THEREFORE, NOW BE IT RESOLVED that the members of the Chesapeake Bay Commission hereby authorize the Chairman and Executive Director or their designated representatives to:

1. Urge the United States Congress and the Department of Interior to advance the implementation of the Trail at the state and local levels to fulfill its promise as a tool to celebrate our history and heritage, expand heritage tourism, and conserve treasured landscapes evocative of the 17<sup>th</sup> Century.
2. Encourage the United States Congress and the Department of Interior to designate, as and when appropriate, "connector trails" to the Captain John Smith Chesapeake National Historic Trail to expand the economic, educational and conservation benefits of the Trail to more of the Chesapeake's Great Rivers.
3. Recommend that the United States Congress fund the Land and Water Conservation Fund and set aside a portion of those funds to support a Chesapeake Bay Treasured Landscapes Fund that provides additional federal funding, including a reasonable share to the states, to expand public access and to conserve lands of cultural, historic and ecological significance throughout the Chesapeake watershed.
4. Urge and support the Department of Interior to develop a collaborative conservation strategy in response to the President's America's Great Outdoors Initiative that is driven by collective goals of 1) Being science based; 2) Preserving and restoring important and iconic landscapes and open spaces; 3) Reconnecting the American youth to their public lands and special places; and 4) Recognizing and leveraging the multiple benefits inherent to and economic capacities generated by protected areas, tourism and outdoor recreation.
5. Revise and update, in partnership with the FJSWT and the Commission member states, the 2001 report *Keeping Our Commitment: Preserving Land in the Chesapeake Watershed* in order to identify the most effective and targeted public policy options to meet the public access and land conservation goals of the states and the Chesapeake region as a whole.

Witness the signature of the undersigned as of this 7<sup>th</sup> day of May, 2010.



Thomas McLain "Mac" Middleton, Chairman  
Senate of Maryland



Michael W. Brubaker, Vice-Chairman  
Senate of Pennsylvania



Mary Margaret Whipple, Vice-Chairman  
Senate of Virginia