

WHEREAS, THE WOODROW WILSON MEMORIAL BRIDGE COORDINATION COMMITTEE IS UNDERTAKING PLANNING STUDIES PERTAINING TO THE BRIDGE, CONSISTENT WITH THE NATIONAL ENVIRONMENTAL POLICY ACT OF 1969 AND OTHER APPLICABLE FEDERAL LAWS; AND

WHEREAS, THE TRANSFER OF THE OWNERSHIP OF THE BRIDGE TO A REGIONAL AUTHORITY UNDER THE TERMS AND CONDITIONS OF THIS COMPACT WOULD FOSTER REGIONAL TRANSPORTATION PLANNING EFFORTS TO IDENTIFY SOLUTIONS TO THE GROWING PROBLEM OF TRAFFIC CONGESTION ON AND AROUND THE BRIDGE; AND

WHEREAS, THE AUTHORITY SHOULD MAXIMIZE THE USE OF EXISTING PUBLIC AND PRIVATE SECTOR ENTITIES TO PROVIDE NECESSARY PROJECT SERVICES, INCLUDING MANAGEMENT, CONSTRUCTION, LEGAL, ACCOUNTING, AND OPERATING SERVICES, AND NOT CREATE A NEW BUREAUCRACY OR ORGANIZATIONAL STRUCTURE; AND

WHEREAS, ANY MATERIAL CHANGE TO THE BRIDGE MUST TAKE INTO ACCOUNT THE INTERESTS OF NEARBY COMMUNITIES, THE COMMUTING PUBLIC, FEDERAL, STATE, AND LOCAL GOVERNMENT ORGANIZATIONS, AND OTHER AFFECTED GROUPS; AND

WHEREAS, A COMMISSION OF FEDERAL, STATE, AND LOCAL OFFICIALS AND TRANSPORTATION REPRESENTATIVES HAS RECOMMENDED TO THE SECRETARY OF THE U.S. DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION THAT THE BRIDGE BE TRANSFERRED TO AN INDEPENDENT AUTHORITY TO BE ESTABLISHED BY THE COMMONWEALTH OF VIRGINIA, THE STATE OF MARYLAND, AND THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA; now, therefore, the [states] STATE of Maryland [and], THE COMMONWEALTH of Virginia, AND THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA, hereafter referred to as the signatories, covenant and agree as follows:

Woodrow Wilson Bridge and Tunnel Compact

CHAPTER I

General Compact Provisions

Article I

DEFINITIONS

AS USED IN THIS COMPACT THE FOLLOWING WORDS SHALL HAVE THE FOLLOWING MEANINGS:

1. "BRIDGE" MEANS THE EXISTING WOODROW WILSON MEMORIAL BRIDGE.
2. "COST", AS APPLIED TO THE PROJECT, MEANS THE COST OF ACQUISITION OF ALL LANDS, STRUCTURES, RIGHTS-OF-WAY, FRANCHISES, EASEMENTS, AND OTHER PROPERTY RIGHTS AND INTERESTS; THE COST OF LEASE PAYMENTS; THE COST OF CONSTRUCTION; THE COST OF DEMOLISHING, REMOVING, OR RELOCATING ANY BUILDINGS OR STRUCTURES ON LANDS ACQUIRED, INCLUDING THE COST OF ACQUIRING ANY LANDS TO WHICH SUCH BUILDINGS OR STRUCTURES MAY BE