



GREAT LAKES AND ST. LAWRENCE CITIES INITIATIVE

RESOLUTION 11-2006M

GREAT LAKES REGIONAL COLLABORATION

WHEREAS, the President of the United States issued an executive order on the Great Lakes on May 19, 2004 calling for a regional collaboration of national significance to develop a strategy and action plan for the Great Lakes and for the formation of a federal Inter Agency Task Force;

WHEREAS, the Great Lakes Regional Collaboration (GLRC) under the executive order consists of representatives from Congress, and federal, state, local, and tribal governments, as well as participants from the broader Great Lakes community;

WHEREAS, the Chairman of the Great Lakes and St. Lawrence Cities Initiative serves on the Executive Committee of the GLRC, along with other senior governmental officials, to guide and direct the work on the strategy and action plan;

WHEREAS, the GLRC convened a meeting of over four hundred people in Chicago, Illinois, on December 3, 2004, to initiate the work on the strategy and action plan;

WHEREAS, over 1500 people worked as part of the GLRC between December of 2004 and July 7, 2005 to develop a draft strategy and action plan, which was released on that date in Duluth, Minnesota, to the public for review and comment;

WHEREAS, among those participants were many representatives from cities in the Great Lakes and St. Lawrence Cities Initiative, including three people who served as co-chairs of strategy teams;

WHEREAS, during the sixty day public comment period, the GLRC held six public meetings across the basin at which over 750 attended and over 175 presented comments;

WHEREAS, nearly three thousand people and organizations provided comments on the draft strategy and action plan;



WHEREAS, the GLRC released the final strategy on December 12, 2005, and are continuing to work on identifying the most appropriate near term actions;

WHEREAS, the Great Lakes and St. Lawrence Cities Initiative has continued to work with the GLRC on an implementation framework and communications strategy;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Great Lakes and St. Lawrence Cities Initiative endorses the work of the GLRC and the strategy as a guide to future work on the Great Lakes and St. Lawrence;

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Great Lakes and St. Lawrence Cities Initiative will work under the framework of its Business and Operating Plan to advance protection and restoration of the resource through actions by cities and projects in cooperation with other partners in the GLRC;

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that although the GLRC was primarily a United States effort, there was Canadian participation, and there may be actions where Canadian cities may wish to proceed;

Signed this 23rd day of June, 2006

David Miller, Chair
Great Lakes and St. Lawrence Cities Initiative