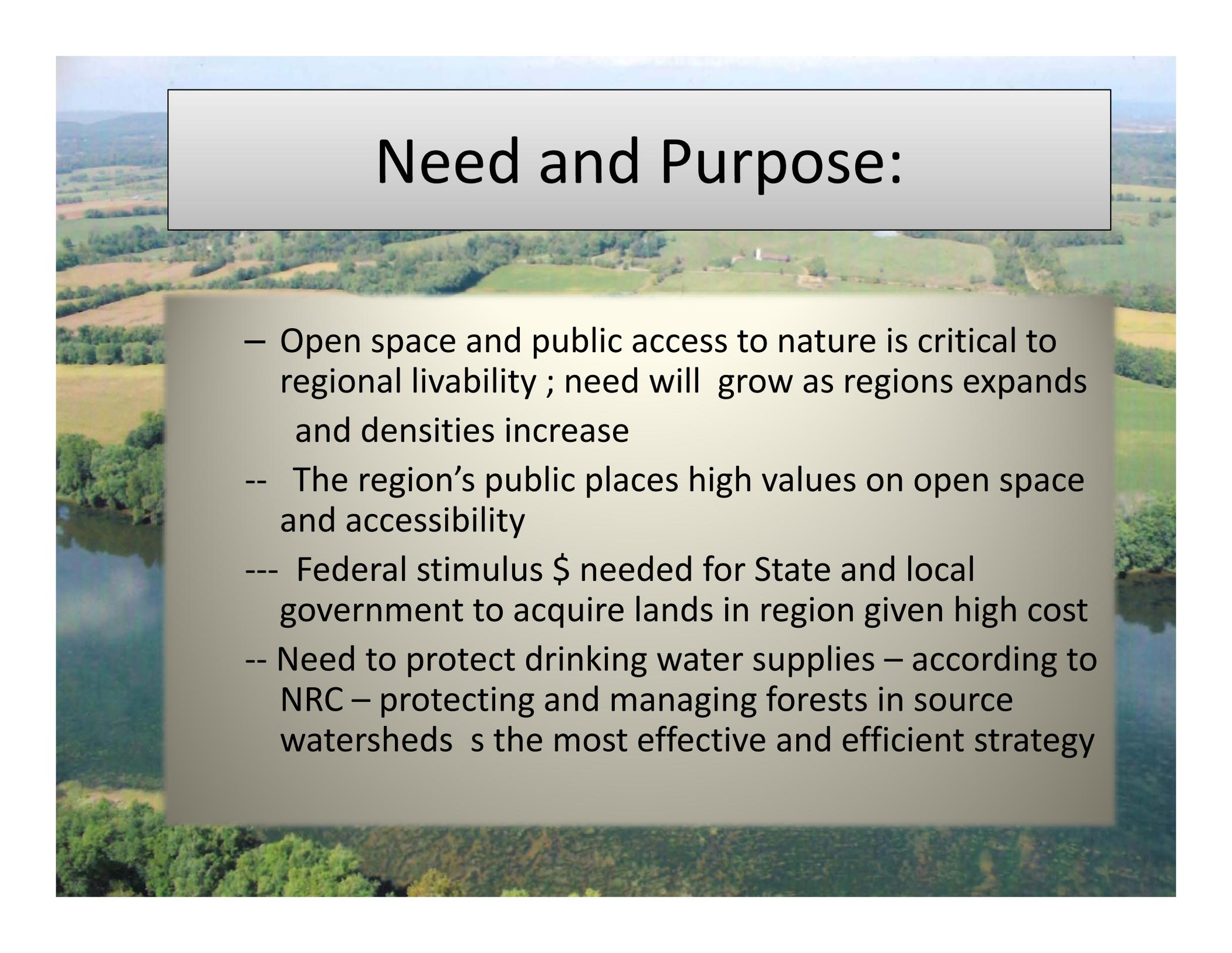


**National Capital Region Land Conservation Act  
Presentation to the  
Metropolitan Washington Council of Governments**

*“Washington must be the most beautiful city in the world ... it is now a beautiful city, but there are many other beautiful cities in the world. The most beautiful city will not be entirely man-made city. It must be favored with natural and scenic advantages in justifying the highest place. Parks must be provided where the people will have the opportunity for recreation and for contact with nature.”*

Editorial – 1930

**The New York Times**



# Need and Purpose:

- Open space and public access to nature is critical to regional livability ; need will grow as regions expands and densities increase
- The region's public places high values on open space and accessibility
- Federal stimulus \$ needed for State and local government to acquire lands in region given high cost
- Need to protect drinking water supplies – according to NRC – protecting and managing forests in source watersheds is the most effective and efficient strategy



## Elements of the Act:

- **Authorizes** appropriations of \$50M/yr. for 5 years
- Up to 50-50 cost share --- leverage to obtain \$'s from non federal sources
- Only for land acquisition and related costs
- Criteria for grant awards established in Act
- Eligibility – VA, MD, WVA and DC and local governments in Washington DC MSA as defined by Census – scope will grow as region expands
- Administered by USDI

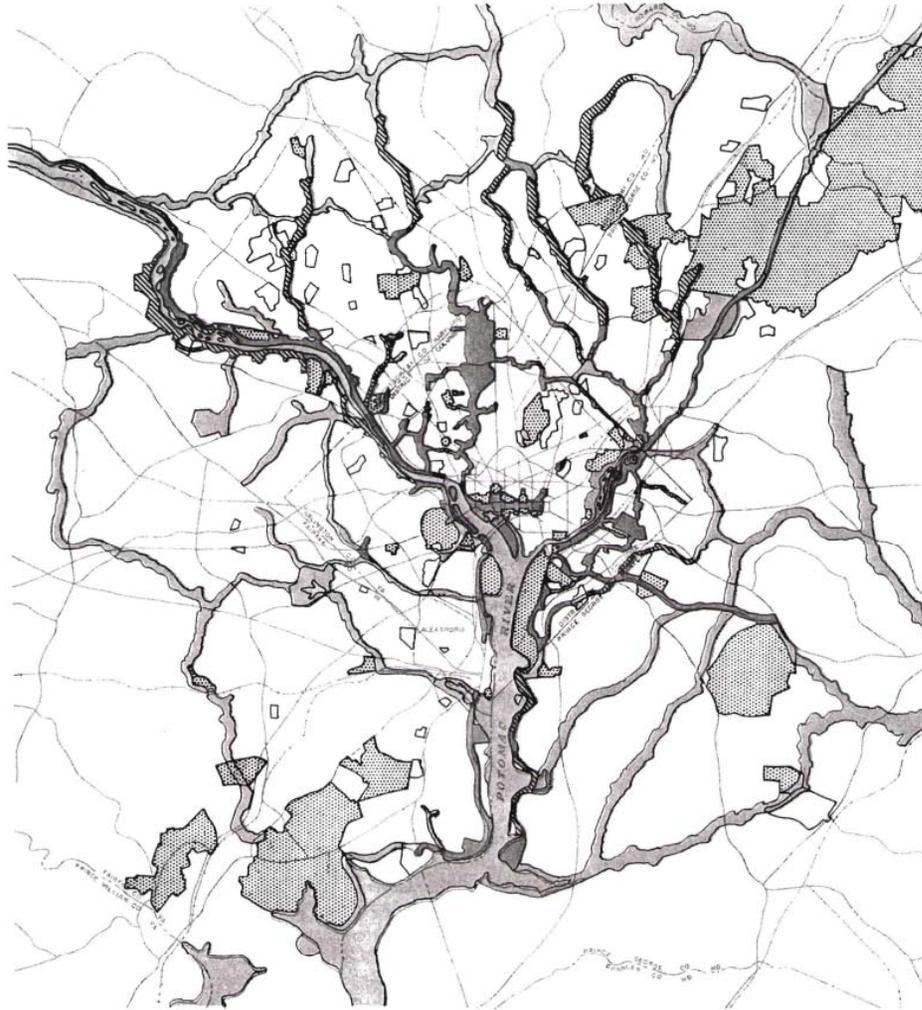
# Qualifying Lands:

- |                       |   |
|-----------------------|---|
| Recreational parks    | - Fish and wildlife habitats                            |
| Open Space            | - Watershed protection                                  |
| Green space corridors | - Historic preservation                                 |
| Agriculture           | - Sensitive environments                                |
| Forests               | - Public recreation (e.g. trails, boat launching sites) |

# Why Capper Cramton?

- Federal commitment to providing parkland and other public lands in Washington DC and environs from the early 1900's established in law and Federal policy
- Act developed from 1925 to 1930. National model of enlightened land use planning, environmental protection, parkland and parkway development.
- Used to define the character of DC and region
- Created an effective device by which to implement regional plans under NCPC leadership
- US, MD and - to lesser extent VA - made good use of the authority through the 1960's
- Statute is still in place





NATIONAL CAPITAL REGION  
REGIONAL PARK PLAN

PARKS AND PARKWAYS—EXISTING  PROPOSED   
 PARKS AND PARKWAYS AUTHORIZED BY CAPPER-CRAMTON ACT   
 OTHER PUBLIC PROPERTY  SEMI-PUBLIC PROPERTY 



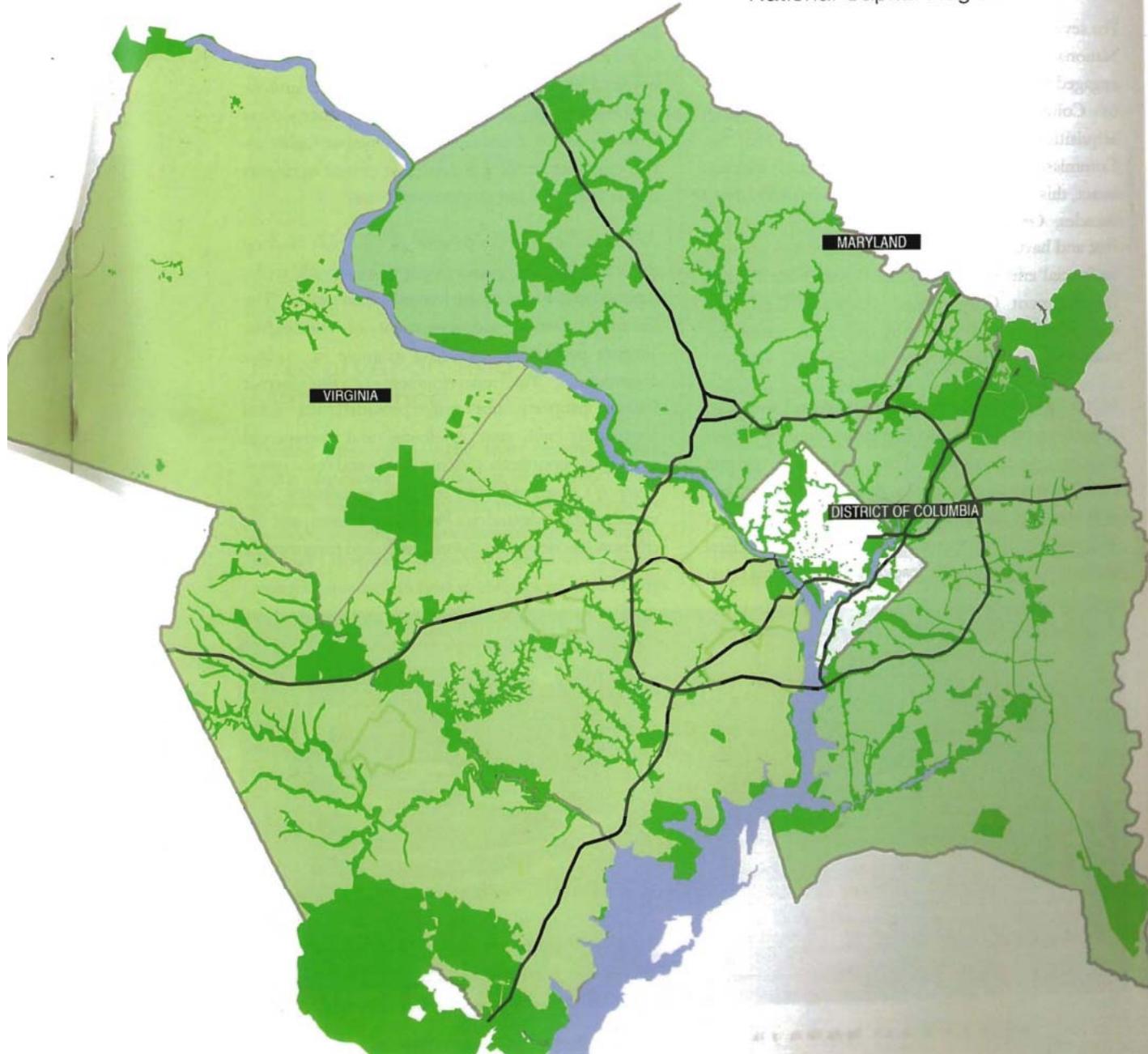
BASE PREPARED 1946



NATIONAL CAPITAL PARK AND PLANNING COMMISSION



■ Parks and Open Spaces in the National Capital Region



# HR 2986 – Authored and Introduced by Rep. Moran - VA

Co – sponsors:

- Norton -- DC
- Wolf, Wittman, Connolly -- VA
- Hoyer, Van Hollen, Edwards -- MD

S 1525 – Introduced by Sen. Ben Cardin – MD

Co-sponsors:

- Webb, Warner – VA
- Milkulski - MD

## Relationship to other National, Regional and Local Priorities

- Land conservation goals in President Obama's Executive Order # 13508
- Land conservation goals agreed to by the Chesapeake Bay signatory states (2009)
- Implementation of ***Greater Washington 2050 Coalition*** Goals (2009)
- Elements of ***National Capital Planning Commission's Comprehensive Plan*** (2004)
- Assistance to municipalities and regional agencies in implementing their respective open space plans (e.g. Alexandria, NVRPA)

# Supporters

Diversity of National, Regional and Local groups

- Environmental, conservation, and historical
- Business (e.g. Washington Board of Trade)
- Governors of VA and MD
- Northern Virginia Regional Commission
- Several Virginia municipalities (e.g. Arlington, Alexandria, Falls Church, Fauquier)