

Sample Resolution

Participation in the Cities for Climate Protection Campaign

WHEREAS, a scientific consensus has developed that Carbon Dioxide (CO₂) and other greenhouse gases (ghg) released into the atmosphere have a profound effect on the Earth's climate; and

WHEREAS, scientific evidence including the Third Assessment Report from the International Panel on Climate Change (IPCC) and the U.S. Global Change Research Program's (USGCRP) First National Assessment indicate that global warming has begun, with the 1990's the hottest decade in recorded history; and

WHEREAS, more than 160 countries pledged under the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change to reduce its green-house gas emissions; and

WHEREAS, in 2001 at the request of the Administration, the National Academy of Sciences (NAS) reviewed and confirmed the concerns of the environment and public health community and declared global warming a real problem impacting key vulnerable populations. The NAS report also confirmed that global warming is caused, at least in part, by the actions of humankind.

WHEREAS, energy consumption, specifically the burning of fossil fuels, accounts for more than 80% of U.S. greenhouse gas emissions; and

WHEREAS, local governments greatly influence the community's energy usage by exercising key powers over land use, transportation, construction, waste management, and energy supply and management; and

WHEREAS, local government actions taken to reduce greenhouse gas emissions and increase energy efficiency provide multiple local benefits by decreasing air pollution, creating jobs, reducing energy expenditures, and saving money for the City government, its businesses and its residents; and

WHEREAS, the Cities for Climate Protection Campaign, sponsored by the International Council for Local Environmental Initiatives (ICLEI), has invited the City/County of _____ to become a partner in the Campaign;

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the City/County of _____ commits to participate in the Cities for Climate Protection Campaign and, as a participant pledges to:

1. Take a leadership role in promoting public awareness about the causes and impacts of climate change.
2. Undertake the Cities for Climate Protection program's 5 milestones to reduce both greenhouse gas and air pollution emissions throughout the community, specifically:
 - conduct a greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions inventory and forecast to determine the source and quantity of ghg emissions in the jurisdiction;
 - establish a greenhouse gas emissions reduction target;
 - develop an action plan with both existing and future actions which when implemented will meet the local greenhouse gas reduction target; and
 - implement the action plan and monitor to review progress