

RESOLUTION NO. _____

**A RESOLUTION CONCERNING CLIMATE ACTION GOALS AND A PROCESS AND
TIMELINE FOR A BUDGET PROCESS AND ADOPTING AND IMPLEMENTING
CLIMATE ACTION PLAN(S) AND STAFFING**

FINDINGS

A. As climate change occurs due to human-caused greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions, the Pacific Northwest will experience a considerable amount of variation in temperature and precipitation.¹ This will impact our local environment, economy, and community while affecting all sectors including water and other natural resources, agriculture, and recreation/tourism.

B. On July 18, 2007, the Bend City Council adopted a Resolution 2651, endorsing the U.S. Mayors Climate Protection Agreement, as amended by the 73rd annual U.S. Conference of Mayors meeting and urged mayors from around the nation to join this effort. Many of the mentioned measures (e.g., promotion of the US Green Building LEED program, retrofitting city facilities with energy efficient lighting, an employee transportation incentive program, and purchase of Energy Star equipment for city use) have been accomplished. However, while laudable, the Resolution lacked timetables, benchmarks or funding strategies, and Council desires to establish a commitment to more specific actions.

¹ Current sources for the science of climate change and its likely impacts on the Pacific Northwest include:

IPCC, 2014: Climate Change 2014: Synthesis Report. Contribution of Working Groups I, II and III to the Fifth Assessment Report of the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change [Core Writing Team, R.K. Pachauri and L.A. Meyer (eds.)]. IPCC, Geneva, Switzerland, 151 pp.

Melillo, Jerry M., Terese (T.C.) Richmond, and Gary W. Yohe, Eds., 2014: Climate Change Impacts in the United States: The Third National Climate Assessment. U.S. Global Change Research Program, 841 pp. doi:10.7930/J0Z31WJ2

Dalton, M.M., P.W. Mote, and A.K. Snover [Eds.]. 2013. Climate Change in the Northwest: Implications for Our Landscapes, Waters, and Communities. Washington, DC: Island Press.

Abatzoglou, J. T., D. E. Rupp, P. W. Mote. 2014. Seasonal climate variability and change in the Pacific Northwest of the United States. Journal of Climate, 27, 2125-2142, doi: 10.1175/JCLI-D-13-00218.1.

Vano, J. A., B. Nijssen, and D. P. Lettenmaier. 2015. Seasonal hydrologic responses to climate change in the Pacific Northwest. Water Resources Research, 51, 1959-1976, doi:10.1002/2014WR01590

C. This Resolution is based on the best available science of climate change and its present and future impact on the environment and on human economies across the globe and here in Oregon. It is a direct effort to contribute to climate stabilization and recovery and to respond directly to the present and future adverse impacts climate change poses to our health and safety, our environment, and our local and global economies.

D. The City Council believes that meaningful action is needed at all levels of government to mitigate and adapt to climate change, protect the public trust, effectuate climate stabilization and recovery, ensure a resilient community, and leave a healthy environment and atmosphere for future generations. The City of Bend is ready to do its part, and will engage its residents, visitors, businesses and organizations, as well as all other levels of government, to do the same.

E. This Resolution establishes climate action goals consistent with the best available science which seeks to reduce atmospheric greenhouse gas (GHG) concentrations to levels that will hold the global average temperature rise to well below two degrees Celsius above pre-industrial levels and, to the extent possible, limit the temperature increase to 1.5°C above pre-industrial levels.² The City recognizes that the goals established in this Resolution may need to be adjusted in the future.

F. GHG reductions will be derived from a baseline starting point against which the City can measure its progress towards achieving the reduction goals set forth in this Resolution.

G. The City desires to ensure that sustainability moves from a “good idea” to a “standard operating procedure” at all levels of city government decision-making, while at the same time facilitating decisions that are balanced in achieving what’s best for the environment, economy, and community.

² Sources for science-based goals for greenhouse gas reductions include:

IPCC, 2014: Summary for Policymakers. In: Climate Change 2014: Mitigation of Climate Change. Contribution of Working Group III to the Fifth Assessment Report of the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change [Edenhofer, O., R. Pichs-Madruga, Y. Sokona, E. Farahani, S. Kadner, K. Seyboth, A. Adler, I. Baum, S. Brunner, P. Eickemeier, B. Kriemann, J. Savolainen, S. Schlömer, C. von Stechow, T. Zwickel and J.C. Minx (eds.)]. Cambridge University Press, Cambridge, United Kingdom and New York, NY, USA.

UN Framework Convention on Climate Change, 2015: Paris Climate Agreement, Draft Decision, Page 2, lines 7-12.

Hansen J, Kharecha P, Sato M, Masson-Delmotte V, Ackerman F, et al. (2013) Assessing “Dangerous Climate Change”: Required Reduction of Carbon Emissions to Protect Young People, Future Generations and Nature. PLoS ONE 8(12): e81648. doi:10.1371/journal.pone.0081648

H. By this Resolution, the City of Bend commits itself to achieving specific carbon and fossil fuel reduction targets for City operations and City-owned facilities.

I. The City also seeks to be proactive and a leader in community and business discussions and education on these goals, learning from other cities, and respecting financial implications without diminishing the sense of urgency to achieve a better path forward.

J. Especially as a mountain-based town, dependent on snow and recreational opportunities, the City is committed to a science-based and educational approach to climate action that engages the community locally in solving this national and international problem.

K. To achieve the goals set forth in this Resolution, the City will:

1. Be guided and directed by Climate Action Plan(s), which will be created and developed collaboratively by the City of Bend and Bend residents. The City will regularly monitor and report on progress toward meeting the prescribed reductions and adaptations; mid-course corrections can and should be made, as needed.

2. Establish partnerships with other local governments, educational institutions, businesses, charitable and nonprofit organizations as needed to fund, implement and achieve the long-term goals of this Resolution.

Based on these findings, THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF BEND RESOLVES AS FOLLOWS:

SECTION 1. CLIMATE ACTION GOALS.

The City shall carry out the responsibilities of Sections 2 to 5 below to achieve the following goals:

A. City-Owned Facilities and City Operations. After considering a cost benefit analysis, baseline data and the budgetary process, and the recommendation of the Climate Action Steering Committee, as further set forth in Sections 2 to 5 below, by the year 2030 the City will make all City of Bend owned facilities and city operations Carbon Neutral, defined as zero net emissions of greenhouse gases (GHGs) and measured by metric tons of carbon dioxide equivalent (MTCO₂E)³. The City will achieve this objective by directly reducing City GHG emissions to zero, by incentivizing verifiable local GHG reduction projects and programs, or, if necessary, by using verifiable GHG offsets for any remaining emissions, with first priority for offsets going to projects in Central Oregon, the state of Oregon, or the Pacific Northwest states.

³ A carbon dioxide equivalent (CO₂E) is the unit used to report greenhouse gas emissions or reductions. GHG emissions are converted to CO₂E by multiplying emissions by their respective global warming potential. The CO₂E provides a standardized value for reporting and comparing GHG emissions.

B. City Organization. After considering a cost benefit analysis, baseline data and the budgetary process, and the recommendation of the Climate Action Steering Committee, as further set forth in Sections 2 to 5 below, by 2030 the City of Bend organization will reduce its fossil fuel use by 40% and by 2050 reduce its fossil fuel use by 70%. Fossil fuel usage from 2010, or more recent years, will be used to establish a baseline for both of these targets.

C. Community Targets-Process. Community wide (including businesses, governmental and non-governmental organizations, and individuals that live and/or work in Bend) fossil fuel use reduction targets will be set through a collaborative process led by the Climate Action Steering Committee, as further set forth in Sections 2 to 5 below. Fossil fuel usage from 2010, or more recent years, will be used to establish a baseline for setting of community wide targets. Timelines for achieving community wide targets will mirror City organization targets.

SECTION 2. DEVELOPMENT OF RESOURCES TO REACH GOALS.

A. Budget. The City, through its City Manager, commits to bringing forward for consideration and adoption by the City Council a proposed budget in the biennial budget period beginning July 1, 2017, with the investments for: (1) an assessment of city operations/facilities (and whether to include the entire city in the assessment) as a baseline starting point for measuring GHG emissions; (2) funding options and strategies for a sustainability (or similar) position; (3) grant opportunities for the Climate Action Program; and (4) additional direct or indirect costs in formulating a Climate Action Plan.

B. Transition Process. The City will further refine this process by creating an advisory group made up representative(s) from The Environmental Center, OSU Cascades and other partners as opportunities present themselves, to co-pursue further funding and help the City refine the process of establishing the Climate Action Steering Committee and formulate the Climate Action Plan as set forth below. The advisory group provides advice to the City Manager (i.e., it is a city manager committee) and is intended to facilitate and streamline these processes and leverage community resources.

SECTION 3. CLIMATE ACTION – CLIMATE ACTION STEERING COMMITTEE.

A. After the budget process in Section 2, and the staffing anticipated in Section 5, the City will form a Climate Action Steering Committee (CASC), to:

1. Inform ongoing budgetary recommendations to the City Manager's Office for implementing climate action goals and Plan(s).
2. Help the City establish a process for adoption of a City Climate Action Plan for City Operations and Facilities (CAP-CO), develop the Plan and adhere

to the timetables for creating the Plan, as set forth in Section 4 below.

3. Help the City develop ordinances to implement the CAP-CO, as necessary, for adoption by the City Council.

4. Eventually provide the City with guidance and advice on whether to establish and adopt community and business targets for reduction of fossil fuels and if so, what those targets should be and how they should be implemented, and on the adoption of a Community Climate Action Plan (CAP-C).

B. The CASC will be composed of eleven members: 2 business representatives (one small and one large with at least one position represented by the Bend Economic Development Advisory Board), 2 environmental community representatives, 2 local government or institutional representatives (parks, schools, county, COIC, OSU), 2 at-large individuals, two subject matter experts (science community, energy utilities, etc.). The Committee will have 1-2 council liaisons as non-voting members. At least one member will be 18 years old or younger at the time of initial appointment. The CASC shall elect a chair and a vice-chair from among its members.

C. The CASC will be staffed by a person from the City Manager's office. The City's goal is to fund or co-fund a person in the role of a Sustainability (or similar) position. City staff will bring other members of the City (transportation, planning, legal, economic development, affordable housing, engineering, etc.) to meetings on an as-needed basis.

D. The CASC has the following responsibilities:

1. Use its expertise and experience to make recommendations based on the best available science on climate change and science-based emission reduction strategies, as well as the community values represented, to (1) inform the budgetary recommendations set forth in Section 2, and (2) formulate and recommend the Climate Action Plan for adoption, containing both short and long term projects and recommended adaptations or changes to operations.

2. Help the City verify that the goals continue to be supported by the community and city are based on the best available current science, and that the metrics being used provide the best value for carbon based reductions to the community, including environmental, social and economic impacts, with taxpayer resources.

3. Be respectful of a range of opinions, while striving for consensus and acknowledging points of mutual agreement. If consensus cannot be reached, make recommendations to Council based on majority positions.

4. If it is determined that subgroups are needed in development of specific areas of action, the CASC will recommend forming Technical Advisory Committees (TACs) and provide direction.

5. The CASC will reflect the diverse views of the community. CASC membership will reflect a degree of technical expertise or background in related subjects, and can also include highly involved or interested persons who may not be technical experts. Ideal CASC members will have credibility and trust with members of their respective interest groups.

6. CASC members are in an advisory role and will make recommendations to City Staff and the City Council. The CASC is one element of public involvement and a way for the Council to hear from an important group on technical and policy matters. There are other avenues of public involvement and Council must ultimately retain decision making authority over City policy.

7. Once established, the CASC may adopt further implementing rules of procedures for its meeting and reporting to the City Council.

SECTION 4. CLIMATE ACTION – CLIMATE ACTION PLANS.

A. The Council's intent is to have the CASC develop Climate Action Plan(s) for recommendation to the City Council for formal adoption, and then help implement the Plan(s), under the following schedule:

1. Within approximately two years of adoption of this Resolution, a Climate Action Plan for City Operations (CAP-CO), which will include specific and measurable 5-year objectives to guide and direct the City in achieving the reduction goals referenced in this Resolution.

2. Within approximately three years of adoption of this Resolution, a recommendation to the City Council on a community (business, institutional, citizen and city collectively) climate action plan, what entity should be responsible for creating and implementing the community action plan, and what targets (goals on carbon emission, sustainability, adaption) should be set for the community.

B. A CAP-CO will include benchmarks, targets, policies, and actions consistent with the best available science and designed to achieve the reduction goals set forth in Section 1 above. It will also include a cost benefit analysis of achieving the reduction goals for consideration as part of implementation, and short and long term objectives/projects/adaptions.

C. A CAP-CO will include specific and measurable objectives for each five-year period that will ensure achievement of the Climate Action Goals.

D. A CAP-CO must be approved by the Steering Committee before being recommended to the City Council for formal adoption. Once a recommendation is made to the City Council for formal adoption of a Climate Action Plan, the City Council will

timely act on such adoption (the objective being within 90 days), unless there is a financial or logistical reason it cannot do so within this commitment. The City expressly recognizes the community urgency of the Climate Action Plan(s) and is committed to acting timely and without unreasonable delay.

E. Once a CAP-CO is adopted, the City Manager will take the necessary steps to integrate the Plan and its components into city government operations, projects, operating plans, procedures and other decision-making processes.

SECTION 5. CLIMATE ACTION – PROGRAM AND STAFFING DEVELOPMENT.

A. Through decisions to be made during the next biennial budget process, the City intends to establish a Climate Action Program, under the City Manager, with adequate and dedicated staffing to manage the baseline assessment, seeking of grant funding, staffing of the CASC, and developing and implementing of a Climate Action Plan.

B. Further duties of such staff could include the following:

1. Monitor and report internally on the CAP-CO including making recommendations for changes to the Plans as needed and based on the best available science to ensure the goals of this Resolution are met.
2. Track and report progress on any adopted Plan toward achieving the Climate Action Goals in this Resolution publically and on a definite schedule.
3. Work to integrate the CAP-CO into all city operations, projects and operating plans, and coordinate and interface with other City staff and departments to ensure integration.
4. Evaluate all future City policies including proposing any implementing ordinances to ensure they are compatible with achieving the goals of this Resolution and the Climate Action Plan; provide input to City staff and Council on such compatibility.
5. Assist in developing and maintaining key partnerships that support achievement of the goals in this Resolution.

C. The City has committed to the following ongoing and/or future actions that have positive and beneficial outcomes with respect to climate change:

1. Assessments: Such as the OSU Cascades GHG Emission Inventory, Parking Inventory and review and implementation of mitigation measures, etc.;
2. Projects: Such as solar, in-conduit hydropower, and lighting retrofits;

3. Programs: Such as the Strategic Energy Management Program and Commute Options TDM; and

4. Planning: Such as Land Use and Transportation Planning for GHG emission reduction.

Adoption By Roll Call Vote: _____, 2016

YES:

NO:

Jim Clinton, Mayor

Attest:

Robyn Christie, City Recorder

Approved as to form:

Mary A. Winters, City Attorney