

CLIMATE ACTION & RESILIENCY IMPLEMENTATION RESOLUTION

A resolution of the Missoula City Council establishing the City's continued commitment to Climate Action and Resiliency Goals and directing the implementation of those goals throughout City operations.

WHEREAS, the climate crisis is human induced; and

WHEREAS, the climate crisis is adversely impacting an overwhelming majority of human and natural systems locally and across the globe; and

WHEREAS, the most vulnerable people and systems are disproportionately affected by the climate crisis; and

WHEREAS, continued greenhouse gas emissions will cause further warming and unavoidable long-lasting changes and increase the likelihood for severe and irreversible impacts to human and natural systems in every region of the world; and

WHEREAS, substantial greenhouse gas emissions reductions over the coming decades can reduce climate risks in the 21st century and beyond; and

WHEREAS, the economic impacts of City initiatives have immediate and long-term climate impacts that should be considered as implementation of these initiatives occurs; and

WHEREAS, near-term action to address the climate crisis can bring social, ecological, and economic co-benefits; and

WHEREAS, Missoula is located on the ancestral land of the Séliš (Salish or "Flathead") and Qlispé (Kalispel or "Pend d'Oreille") Nations, and was and is a place also utilized by other Indigenous peoples, who for generations have demonstrated caring for the environment and people; and

WHEREAS, the City of Missoula has been engaged in energy conservation and climate action-related commitments, projects, work, and planning for many years as part of municipal operations, and each step has been an important building block in a solid foundation of reducing energy consumption, saving money, sequestering carbon and contributing to a healthy, clean environment; and

WHEREAS, climate actions taken should consider the City's other goals including equity and inclusion, and new policies should not negatively impact vulnerable populations; and

WHEREAS, the effective implementation of climate action depends on planning, policies, and cooperation at all levels; and

WHEREAS, the City has adopted the following Climate Action Plans:

- Missoula Conservation and Climate Action Plan
- ZERO by FIFTY zero waste plan
- 100% Clean Electricity Resolution in partnership with Missoula County
- Climate Ready Missoula community resiliency plan; and

WHEREAS, The City of Missoula has established goals related to clean electricity, carbon neutrality, climate action and climate resiliency and has other plans and resolutions that support these goals. And

this resolution directs us to take climate impacts into consideration when evaluating new and existing programs, services, and projects; and

WHEREAS, the implementation of the goals in these plans will require fundamental changes in the way the City operates and makes decisions; and

WHEREAS, strategies that become part of the City's directive and a basis for moving forward on climate action and climate resiliency will include measures and considerations related to all public infrastructure, human actions and conduct, education, outreach, and policy development; and

WHEREAS, our community must be prepared to ensure we are resilient to climate change impacts, which will affect our natural and built environments as well as human health and wellbeing, such as increased frequency and severity of wildfire smoke days, flooding events, drought, and changes in population; and

WHEREAS, it is the responsibility of City Council, Mayor, City departments, and all City employees to implement the goals of this resolution; and

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the City Council remains committed to achieving the goals of the adopted climate action plans.

NOW THEREFORE BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Council prioritizes and advances climate and sustainability efforts by directing the Mayor and department heads to develop policies and procedures to implement the goals of the already adopted plans that will include:

- A climate and sustainability framework that prioritizes greenhouse gas emissions reduction and resiliency, and serves to aid the Mayor, City Council, City departments, and City employees in considering climate, sustainability, and resilience in all decision-making.
- Development of climate change and resiliency lens evaluation tools that each department can use in their planning, budgeting, and program implementation.
- Incorporation of climate change and climate resiliency considerations across the City's plans and programs, and in connection with other City goals such as equity and inclusion.
- Development of tools to measure not only initial cost of any project or initiative but that also measures long term impacts to people, sustainability, and resilience.
- Preparation and implementation of actions to ensure the City is ready and resilient as climate change impacts the community.
- Develop readily useable tools and accountability mechanisms for measuring progress in greenhouse gas emissions reduction and resiliency goals.
- Communicate outcomes, provide accountability, and celebrate successes.
- Continue to collaborate with public and private partners to achieve shared climate action and climate resiliency goals.
- Provide periodic reporting to City Council and to the public.

Passed and adopted this _____ day of _____, 2022.

ATTEST:

Martha L. Rehbein, CMC

APPROVED:

Jordan Hess
Mayor