

RESOLUTION NO. 3548-19

**A RESOLUTION OF THE TOWN COUNCIL OF THE TOWN OF WINDSOR
DECLARING A CLIMATE EMERGENCY AND DIRECTING STAFF TO UPDATE
AND PRIORITIZE IMPLEMENTATION OF THE TOWN'S 2040 GENERAL PLAN
AND GHG EMISSIONS REDUCTION ACTION PLAN TO ATTAIN
GREENHOUSE GAS REDUCTIONS TOWARD ACHIEVING ZERO NET
CARBON EMISSIONS BY 2030**

WHEREAS, human activities have warmed the Earth to a point that threatens climate stability, and climate change has already set in motion catastrophic changes to the Earth's systems, including fresh water scarcity and droughts, floods, extreme weather events and increased heat, wildfires, accelerating ice mass loss that will result in sea-level rise, and species extinction; and

WHEREAS, as of May 2019, 194 United Nations member governments have recognized the threat of climate change and the urgent need to combat it by signing the 2015 Paris Agreement, agreeing to limit warming this century "well below 2°C above pre-industrial levels" and to "pursue efforts to limit the temperature increase even further to 1.5°C"; and

WHEREAS, the 2018 Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC) Special Report on Global Warming of 1.5°C estimates that humans have already caused about 1.0°C of global warming above pre-industrial levels; and

WHEREAS, the 2018 IPCC Special Report estimates that to have a 66 percent chance of limiting global warming to 1.5°C, we cannot exceed our remaining "carbon budget" which is equal to about ten years of current-level greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions; and

WHEREAS, current global warming is already contributing locally to the increased frequency and intensity of wildfires, floods, droughts, heat waves, and other extreme weather, including the Northern California wildfires in 2017 and 2018 that destroyed at least 38,333 structures, killed 118, displaced thousands, and caused serious reductions in air quality; and

WHEREAS, restoring a safe and stable climate requires an emergency mobilization to reach zero greenhouse gas emissions across all sectors, to rapidly and safely draw down or remove excess carbon from the atmosphere, and to implement measures to protect people and species from the inevitable consequences of a rapidly warming climate; and

WHEREAS, marginalized communities worldwide-including people of color, immigrants, indigenous communities, low-income people, those with disabilities, and the unhoused-are already disproportionately affected by climate change and must benefit first from a just transition to a sustainable and equitable economy; and

WHEREAS, efforts to control climate change will have many other beneficial effects, such as cleaner air and water, employment closer to home, cost savings for households and the Town, and enhanced community connection; and

WHEREAS, on June 1, 2005, Governor Schwarzenegger signed Executive Order S-3-05 establishing statewide targets for reducing GHG emissions, including reducing GHG emissions to 1990 levels by 2020, and 80 percent below 1990 levels by 2050; and

WHEREAS, the State of California through adoption of AB32 and SB32 has set targets for reducing GHG emissions below 1990 levels by the year 2020 and 40 percent below 1990 levels by 2030; and

WHEREAS, on September 10, 2018, Governor Brown signed Executive Order B-55-18 establishing a new statewide GHG emissions reduction goal to achieve carbon neutrality as soon as possible, and no later than 2045; and

WHEREAS, on September 10, 2018, Governor Brown signed SB100 requiring that all retail electricity in California be carbon-free by 2045; and

WHEREAS, on December 6, 2017, the Town passed Resolution 3415-17 reaffirming its intent to reduce GHG emissions through implementation of measures identified in a coordinated effort led by the Sonoma County Regional Climate Protection Authority (RCPA), including ambitiously reducing its GHG emissions by 25 percent below 1990 levels by 2020; and

WHEREAS, efforts to improve the sustainability and resiliency of Windsor through actions that aim to reduce GHG emissions is consistent with and advances Goal ER-5 in the Environmental Resources Element of the Town's adopted General Plan (Town of Windsor 2040 General Plan, adopted April 4, 2018); and

WHEREAS, the Town of Windsor continues to be a leader by taking steps to address and mitigate the effects of climate change as demonstrated through implementation of the ICLEI program to reduce operational GHG emissions, including calculating a baseline GHG inventory, adopting a GHG emissions reduction action plan (GHG Plan) and corresponding reduction target of over 26 percent by 2020, and implementing the GHG Plan adaptively by monitoring results; and

WHEREAS, Town staff currently provides a GHG Update Report to the Town Council bi-annually to report on progress made toward meeting the reduction goal and to detail projects and efforts completed, in progress, or newly planned.

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Town Council of the Town of Windsor, declares that a climate emergency threatens our town, region, state, nation, civilization, humanity and the natural world; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that, notwithstanding previously adopted targets, the scientific evidence indicates that an urgent global climate mobilization effort to reverse global warming is needed as quickly as possible towards zero net emissions by 2030, and no later than 2045, and that the Town of Windsor should actively participate in an effort to safely draw down carbon from the atmosphere, and accelerate adaptation and resilience strategies in preparation for intensifying climate impacts; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Town of Windsor commits to town wide action that is rooted in equity, self-determination, culture, tradition, democracy, and the belief that people locally and around the world have a right to clean, healthy and adequate air, water, land, food, education, and shelter; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Town of Windsor commits to educating our residents about the climate emergency and working to catalyze a just transition and urgent climate mobilization effort at the local, state, national, and global levels to provide maximum protection for our residents to include Windsor's unhoused population, indigenous, low-income, and/or communities of color specifically, as well as all the people and species of the world; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Town of Windsor underscores the need for full community participation, inclusion, and support, and recognizes that all people living in Windsor, community organizations, faith, youth, labor, business, homeowners' associations, and environmental, economic, science-based, racial, gender, family and disability justice and indigenous, immigrant and women's rights organizations and other such allies will be integral to the leadership of the mobilization effort; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Town of Windsor acknowledges that there is still time to act and that as a town, known to come together in support of overcoming challenges and committed to addressing this crisis, we can work together to make the necessary change in order to do so; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Town of Windsor joins a nationwide call for a regional just transition away from fossil fuels and urgent climate mobilization through a collaborative effort focused on transforming our region, enacting policies that dramatically reduce GHG emissions, and rapidly catalyzing a mobilization at all levels of government to restore a safe climate; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Town Council will advocate for state and federal action for a managed decline in the use of fossil fuels, the prohibition on new oil and gas drilling permits, a shift to carbon-free green energy, and new infrastructure investments that reduce vehicle miles traveled as elements of the Council's legislative policy guidelines; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Town Council supports the Town's ongoing adaptive implementation of its GHG Plan with further support for regional development and implementation of a countywide 2030 Climate Emergency Mobilization Strategy in partnership with the RCPA and other Sonoma County jurisdictions; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, the Town Council of the Town of Windsor recognizes that in order to meet these goals, the Town must rapidly formulate and implement subsequent phases of mitigation and resiliency plans as soon as practicable, with priority programs and projects implemented locally and with regional partners to secure a sustainable environment, infrastructure, commerce and living conditions for all residents, including the unhoused; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Town Council of the Town of Windsor directs the Town Manager to work with the Town's Sustainability Coordinator and other staff to develop an internal structure to support ongoing climate action and accountability and identify a reporting timeline and process for charting progress in meeting the Town's plans, goals and policies addressing the reduction of GHG emissions, including; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, the Town Council of the Town of Windsor establishes the development and implementation of the 2030 Climate Emergency Mobilization Strategy as Council priority, in alignment with statewide climate goals, and directs staff to work with the RCPA and coalition members to integrate climate change considerations into all policies; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Town has identified an initial list of actions toward achieving zero net emissions by 2030 as detailed in Exhibit A; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that these actions are consistent with General Plan 2040 and the Town Council certified EIR, dated April 4, 2018.

PASSED, APPROVED AND ADOPTED this 4th day of September 2019, by the following vote:

AYES:	COUNCILMEMBERS LEMUS, OKREPKIE, SALMON, VICE MAYOR FUDGE AND MAYOR FOPPOLI
NOES:	NONE
ABSTAIN:	NONE
ABSENT:	NONE


DOMINIC FOPPOLI, MAYOR

ATTEST:


MARIA DE LA O, TOWN CLERK

Attachment:

- **Exhibit A – Town Actions Toward Achieving Zero Net Emissions**

Town of Windsor Actions Toward Achieving Zero Net Emissions Consistent with the 2040 General Plan

Community Engagement

- **Develop a Web Page with Informational and Educational Resources.** Create a web page identifying all the resources now available to Town of Windsor residents through PGE, Sonoma Clean Power (SCP), the County's Energy and Sustainability Division, and other entities including: home energy audits, tool lending library, Property Assessed Clean Energy (PACE) tax bill financing for energy efficiency improvements, rebates, and incentives. Also include information on residential and commercial best practices (including all- electric), home performance best practices, green building best practices, and more.
- **Promote Climate Matters on Town Web Site/Social Media.** Actively promote the Town's goals, efforts and initiatives related to climate on the Town's website and social media accounts.
- **Hire a Sustainability Coordinator.** Hire or designate a sustainability coordinator or other responsible individual to coordinate the Town of Windsor's climate-related efforts. **[COMPLETED]**
- **Form a Citizen Climate Group.** Consider forming a Citizen Climate Group with a Council member acting as Town liaison to assist with engaging and educating the community on climate issues.

Land Use

- **Update Zoning Ordinance.** As part of the upcoming comprehensive update to the Town's Zoning Ordinance, look for opportunities that promote and/or incorporate best practices to remove barriers to development of the dense, compact, fiscally-stable, pedestrian- and bicycle- friendly, zero-emission development as envisioned in the Town's 2040 General Plan. This could include reduction of parking standards, provision of density bonuses, and/or incentivizing best practices by offering streamlined/priority/"by-right review" for projects that meet Zero Net Energy objectives.

Building Energy

- **Commit to 100% clean electricity in Town buildings and facilities.** Purchase Sonoma Clean Power's Evergreen 100% clean and renewable electricity for all Town-owned and -leased facilities. **[INITIATED. Town Hall, Huerta Gymnasium, Community Center and Senior Center now utilizing Sonoma Clean Power Evergreen].**

- **Install Energy Efficient Outdoor Lighting.** Replace all streetlights and lighting in public facilities (parking lots, field lights, etc.) with smart-control LED's. Avoid over-lighting in exterior areas. **[INITIATED]**
- **Encourage 100% Clean Electricity in Private Buildings and Facilities.** Encourage wide use of Sonoma Clean Power's Evergreen 100% clean and renewable electricity among local households and businesses.
- **Decarbonize the Existing Building Stock.** Work with local utilities and the State to provide incentives for electrification of existing housing and other building stock -- both appliance-by-appliance and as whole-building retrofits.
- **Adopt an All-Electric "Reach Code."** Include an all-electric code as part of the Town's 2019 California Building Code Update that would apply to new low-rise residential development (single-family homes, detached accessory dwelling units, and multi-family buildings up to three-stories) starting on January 1, 2020. **[INITIATED]**
- **Attain Zero Net Energy in All New Development by 2030.** The Town shall strive to implement the State goal of zero net energy (ZNE) in all new residential construction by 2020 and ZNE in all new commercial construction by 2030.

Solid Waste

- **Adopt a Zero-Waste Ordinance.** Adopt a zero-waste ordinance as recommended by Zero Waste Sonoma, the joint powers authority formerly known as Sonoma County Waste Management Agency, or SCWMA. **[INITIATED]**
- **Adopt a Compostable Foodware Ordinance.** Adopt an ordinance requiring compostable food service containers as recommended by Zero Waste Sonoma. **[INITIATED]**
- **Make it Easy to Recycle.** Install recycling containers for metal, paper, and plastics at all trash container locations in the jurisdiction. **[INITIATED]**

Transportation

- **Windsor READI Plan.** The Resiliency for Emergencies and Disasters Initiative is a transportation plan to address climate change adaptation. The Town will collaborate with key stakeholders including: public safety officials, transit and transportation agencies, and under-represented populations. The effort will build upon the California and Sonoma County Climate Action plans as well as the Windsor General Plan and Local Hazard Mitigation Plan. **[INITIATED]**

- **Electrify the Fleet.** Replace Town pool vehicles, light- and heavy-duty trucks, and other mobile equipment with models that run fully on electricity. Heavy-duty truck and equipment replacement are dependent on availability of models to meet operational duty cycles. **[INITIATED]**
- **Encourage the Switch to Clean Vehicles.** Continue to expand the number of electric vehicle charging stations in Windsor through direct installation of public charging stations and through public/private partnerships.
- **Implementation of Class 1 Bike & Pedestrian Trails Study.** Secure funding for work on off-roadway bike and pedestrian trails as identified in the Town's recently completed Class 1 Bike and Pedestrian Trails Study. Awaiting results of Faught Creek Trail grant funding, with additional projects to follow. **[INITIATED]**
- **Update Bike and Pedestrian Master Plan.** Update the Town's Plan to maintain alignment with the SCTA Countywide Bicycle and Pedestrian Master Plan and to ensure consistency with updated priorities and goals of the Town's 2040 General Plan to encourage more people to walk and bicycle.
- **Employee Commute Survey.** The information will inform further development/improvement of the Town of Windsor commute program tailored to the needs of the Town staff. Methods and success can be provided as resources and inspiration for the businesses in Windsor to enact their own commute programs.

Water Delivery and Treatment

- **Waste Water Pond Floating PV Solar Energy System.** Finish construction and implementation of large scale (1.7 MW) solar photovoltaic system at the Town's wastewater treatment plant. **[INITIATED]**
- **Carbon-Free Water System.** The Town shall commit to the goal of operating a carbon free water system by 2030 and shall achieve this goal by implementing a work plan to diversify its energy portfolio and reduce its energy and fuel needs through efficiency and renewable energy production.