



Office of the City Manager

ACTION CALENDAR

May 14, 2019

To: Honorable Mayor and Members of the City Council  
From: Dee Williams-Ridley, City Manager  
Submitted by: Timothy Burroughs, Director, Planning and Development Department  
Subject: Companion Report: Recommendations for a Fossil Fuel Free Berkeley

RECOMMENDATION

Refer to the City Manager to continue to implement existing policies and programs that are consistent with the recommendations in the Berkeley Energy Commission's Fossil Fuel Free Berkeley Report, such as the Building Energy Saving Ordinance and development of new building codes that promote building electrification, and also to complete new evaluations and analyses of current and potential future greenhouse gas reduction programs and policies in order to inform next steps for accelerating progress to a Fossil Fuel Free Berkeley.

SUMMARY

This report is in response to the excellent "Fossil Fuel Free Berkeley Report" developed by the Berkeley Energy Commission. In response to City Council's Climate Emergency Declaration and "Fossil Fuel Free Berkeley" referral to the Energy and Transportation Commissions, the Energy Commission conducted research and developed a report that makes a range of recommendations for accelerating the community's progress toward becoming fossil fuel free. This item has not yet been reviewed and discussed by the Transportation Commission.

Staff fully agrees with the urgency of the climate crisis and with the intent of the Energy Commission's recommendations to accelerate GHG reductions. However, as always, the challenge with doing more, faster, is that it requires additional staff and other resources to do so.

The Energy Commission report identifies 22 recommendations, all of which require additional staff time to implement. Staff is already advancing several of the Energy Commission's recommendations, including development of new energy "reach" codes that would promote building electrification, evaluating and updating the Building Energy Saving Ordinance (BESO), and expanding clean transportation infrastructure. Further, staff also recently released a "Pathway to Clean Energy" RFP which is designed to dovetail with the Energy Commission report, and focuses on how to equitably transition the existing building stock in Berkeley from natural gas to 100% clean energy. Staff has

also begun work on an Electric Mobility Roadmap, which will include action-oriented next steps for transitioning our transportation sector to clean, active forms of mobility.

### FISCAL IMPACTS OF RECOMMENDATION

Staff is undertaking several concrete steps that are consistent with the Energy Commission's recommendation and that are designed to accelerate reductions in GHG emissions and create other co-benefits. Additional staff and other financial resources are required in order to implement new outreach and other programs that go beyond existing efforts. The City's recently released "Pathway to Clean Energy" RFP is designed to dovetail with the Energy Commission report and the work will provide a range of recommendations, including implementation costs and potential funding options, that are designed to accelerate GHG reductions in buildings. The Electric Mobility Roadmap, scheduled for completion in Fall 2019, will also provide action-oriented strategies to reduce transportation related GHG emissions and identify implementation timeline and resources.

### CURRENT SITUATION AND ITS EFFECTS

The Energy Commission's report was prepared in response to two referrals adopted by the City Council on June 12, 2018: The Fossil Fuel Free Berkeley referral and Council's Declaration of a Climate Emergency.

The Energy Commission's "Fossil Fuel Free Berkeley Report" is consistent with several actions already underway, including implementation and evaluation of the Building Energy Savings Ordinance (BESO), efforts to transition municipal buildings away from natural gas, education and outreach on electrification and clean electricity opportunities through East Bay Community Energy and other partners, and analysis of legal opportunities to ban natural gas in new construction. In addition, work is underway that is specifically designed to determine the timing, costs, and prioritization of further measures to transition both buildings and transportation away from fossil fuels. These efforts include the Electric Vehicle Roadmap, BESO Evaluation, the Pathway to Clean Energy Buildings study, and the Building Electrification Initiative. These studies will dovetail with the Energy Commission recommendation and identify the highest value policies and programs to achieve equity in the transition to clean energy in buildings and transportation. The resulting initiatives will provide research-based approaches that foster resilience and promote equity while minimizing unintended consequences.

### BACKGROUND

The City of Berkeley has a longstanding commitment to climate action and community resilience. In 2006, Berkeley voters overwhelmingly approved Measure G, which called for reducing the community's GHG emissions by 80% below year 2000 levels by 2050. As a result, the Berkeley Climate Action Plan (CAP) was developed through a community-wide process and adopted by the City Council in 2009. The City achieved 15% reductions in GHG emissions from 2000 to 2016.

On June 12, 2018, City Council referred “to the Energy Commission and Transportation Commission consideration of the proposed resolution or similar action to further implement the Climate Action Plan and establish the goal of becoming a Fossil Fuel Free Berkeley, and further consider:

Establishing a date by which we are committed to being a Fossil Fuel Free City;  
Opposing further transportation of oil, gas, and coal;

Fully implementing Berkeley Deep Green Building, raising the citywide LEED certification requirement above the current LEED Silver, and applying the same requirements to newly constructed city facilities, and major renovations;

Requiring all future City government procurements of vehicles to minimize emissions, and establishing a goal and plan for transitioning the city’s vehicle fleet to all electric vehicles;

Establishing a goal and plan for transitioning to 100% renewable energy for municipal operations and a community wide goal of 100% reductions by 2030;  
Formally opposing the recent expansion of offshore drilling by the Trump Administration; and

Calling for region-wide solutions to carbon emissions, including rapid adoption of renewable energy sources, affordable densification of cities and low-emissions public transportation infrastructure.”

On June 12, 2018 the City Council also adopted a “Declaration of a Climate Emergency” which referred “to the Energy Commission to study and report back to Council on a path for Berkeley to become a “Carbon Sink” as quickly as possible, and to propose a deadline for Berkeley to achieve this goal,” ideally by 2030.

The Energy Commission’s report was developed in response to those two Council referrals.

Both the Berkeley City Council and the Berkeley Energy Commission have demonstrated leadership and commitment to accelerating bold and transformative reductions in GHG emissions. In response to this urgent priority, staff is addressing many of the recommendations provided by the Energy Commission, and is committed to implementing existing and new ambitious programs and policies to help achieve these goals. Some programs that are currently being implemented to achieve these goals include:

Berkeley’s Building Energy Saving Ordinance: BESO became effective December 1, 2015 as part of the Berkeley Municipal Code chapter 19.81. BESO requires Berkeley building owners to complete energy efficiency opportunity assessments and publicly

report the building's energy efficiency information at time of sale, and on an on-going basis. The City is currently conducting an in-depth evaluation of the program to align it with new electrification priorities and integrate the transfer tax rebate incentives, as referred by Council on November 27, 2018.

Community Choice Energy: East Bay Community Energy (EBCE) is a community-governed, local power supplier that provides cleaner electricity to Alameda County residents and businesses, at rates that are lower or comparable to PG&E. Council approved joining EBCE on November 1, 2016. On April 24, 2018, Council voted to opt up its municipal accounts to EBCE's 100% carbon-free electricity service – Brilliant 100 – to help the city achieve its CAP goals. With Brilliant 100 the City reduced its municipal GHG emissions by more than 50%. Staff has been conducting education and outreach to discourage opt-outs and encourage opt-up to the emissions-free electricity product. This outreach is in collaboration with local community-based organizations and in partnership with the Berkeley Climate Action Coalition.

Building Electrification strategies: Staff is currently conducting outreach and education to support the electrification of buildings, consistent with the Deep Green Building referral put forth by Council on February 28, 2017. In addition, staff is collaborating with other cities and regional agencies to conduct research on regulatory pathways to encourage or mandate electrification in new construction, and on strategies to use the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA). In addition to the Electrification Expo, attended by over 300 people on February 7, 2019, staff is planning additional community engagement and education events, including technical trainings for building professionals.

Building Electrification Initiative (BEI): The City is currently receiving services through a grant from the Urban Sustainability Directors' Network to support the development of building electrification strategies in the low-rise residential sector through the Building Electrification Initiative. The BEI seeks to achieve large-scale market adoption of air source heat pumps and heat pump water heaters across North America within five years as a critical strategy to reducing GHG emissions from building heating, cooling, and hot water production.

Electric Vehicle (EV) Roadmap Strategic Plan: The City is currently developing a comprehensive action-based EV Roadmap to find opportunities to increase equitable access to EVs within Berkeley's diverse community. This project, to be completed in 2019, will identify specific EV goals and strategies to support Berkeley's climate, resilience, and equity goals with timelines, estimated costs, and opportunities for funding.

Pathway to Clean Energy Buildings RFP and Report: Staff is conducting a procurement process for national experts to conduct a high-level policy analysis and develop a detailed implementation plan for Berkeley to equitably transition existing buildings to be 100% fossil fuel free. This analysis will evaluate options, including those recommended

in the Energy Commission's report. This contract will utilize \$50,000 previously allocated by the City Council to identify and develop a set of high value, cost-effective programs and policies to incentivize residential energy efficiency and electrification investments. This work should be completed in 2020.

Equity: Equity is an essential consideration to determine the most valuable programs and policies to create an inclusive path to a clean energy future in Berkeley. Staff is incorporating an equity-centered approach to evaluate who benefits from City sustainability programs and how to eliminate structural inequality and racism. Engaging communities most impacted in defining the problems and finding the solutions is an essential part of the City's commitment to increasing inclusiveness, accessibility, and equity.

#### ENVIRONMENTAL SUSTAINABILITY

These recommendations would accelerate reductions in GHG emissions, consistent with Climate Action Plan goals.

#### RATIONALE FOR RECOMMENDATION

Staff is working at capacity on numerous existing projects and programs that are consistent with the goals and recommendations outlined in the Fossil Fuel Free Berkeley Report. Work is underway to identify and develop strategies that provide the highest value for the community, with multiple benefits in equity and resilience, all consistent with the Energy Commission's recommendations.

#### ALTERNATIVE ACTIONS CONSIDERED

Significant additional resources would be required to implement the 22 actions identified in the Energy Commission Fossil Fuel Free Berkeley Report. Staff is, however, currently at work on several of the Energy Commission's recommendations, and is also conducting several new analyses that are informed by the Energy Commission's recommendations.

#### CONTACT PERSON

Billi Romain, Manager, Office of Energy and Sustainable Development,  
Planning and Development Department, (510) 981-7432

#### Attachments:

- 1: "Fossil Fuel Berkeley" referral, June 12, 2018
- 2: "Declaration of a Climate Emergency" referral, June 12, 2018

**ANNOTATED AGENDA BERKELEY  
CITY COUNCIL MEETING**

**Tuesday, June 12, 2018**

**6:00 P.M.**

**COUNCIL CHAMBERS - 2134 MARTIN LUTHER KING JR. WAY**

JESSE ARREGUIN, MAYOR

Councilmembers:

DISTRICT 1 – LINDA MAIO  
DISTRICT 2 – CHERYL DAVILA  
DISTRICT 3 – BEN BARTLETT  
DISTRICT 4 – KATE HARRISON

DISTRICT 5 – SOPHIE HAHN  
DISTRICT 6 – SUSAN WENGRAF  
DISTRICT 7 – KRISS WORTHINGTON  
DISTRICT 8 – LORI DROSTE

Tuesday, June 12, 2018 ANNOTATED AGENDA Page 1

**Council Consent Items**

**30. Fossil Fuel Free Berkeley**

**From: Councilmember Davila, Mayor Arreguin, and Councilmember Harrison**

**Recommendation:** Refer to the Energy Commission and Transportation Commission the proposed resolution to further implementation of the Climate Action Plan and establish the goal of becoming a Fossil Fuel Free Berkeley: - Establish a date by which we are committed to being a Fossil Fuel Free City. - Oppose further transportation of oil, gas, and coal. - Strengthen green building requirements for newly constructed city facilities, and major renovations, including the potential for Zero Net Energy and further integration of considering climate impacts in capital planning projects. Current requirements are LEED Silver, which are far below what we require for new buildings in the Downtown. - All future City government procurements of vehicles should minimize emissions and set a goal of transitioning the city's vehicle fleet to all electric vehicles. - Establish a goal of transitioning to 100% renewable energy for municipal operations and community wide goal of 100% reductions by 2030. - Formally oppose recent expansion of offshore drilling by the Trump Administration. - Call for region-wide solutions to carbon emissions, including rapid adoption of renewable energy sources, affordable densification of cities and low-emissions public transportation infrastructure.

**Financial Implications:** Unknown

Contact: Cheryl Davila, Councilmember, District 2, 981-7120

**Action:** Moved to Action Calendar. 8 speakers. M/S/C (Harrison/Wengraf) to approve the recommendations in Item 30 and Item 49 as amended in the revised items submitted by Councilmember Hahn. Councilmembers Davila (Chair), Harrison, and Hahn appointed to Ad Hoc Committee.

Revised Recommendation for Item 30:

*Refer to the Energy Commission and Transportation Commission consideration of the proposed resolution or similar action to further implement the Climate Action Plan and establish the goal of becoming a Fossil Fuel Free Berkeley, and further consider:*

- *Establishing a date by which we are committed to being a Fossil Fuel Free City.*
- *Opposing further transportation of oil, gas, and coal.*
- *Fully implementing Berkeley Deep Green Building, raising the citywide LEED certification requirement above the current LEED Silver, and applying the same requirements to newly constructed city facilities, and major renovations.*
  
- *Requiring all future City government procurements of vehicles to minimize emissions, and establishing a goal and plan for transitioning the city's vehicle fleet to all electric vehicles*
- *Establishing a goal and plan for transitioning to 100% renewable energy for municipal operations and a community wide goal of 100% reductions by 2030.*
- *Formally opposing the recent expansion of offshore drilling by the Trump Administration.*
- *Calling for region-wide solutions to carbon emissions, including rapid adoption of renewable energy sources, affordable densification of cities and low-emissions public transportation infrastructure.*

**Vote:** Ayes – Maio, Davila, Harrison, Hahn, Wengraf, Worthington, Droste, Arreguin;  
Noes – None; Abstain – None; Absent – Bartlett.



Councilmember Cheryl Davila  
District 2

CONSENT CALENDAR  
June 12, 2018

**To:** Honorable Mayor and Members of the City Council  
**From:** Councilmember Cheryl Davila, Mayor Jesse Arreguin and Councilmember Kate Harrison  
**Subject:** Fossil Fuel Free Berkeley

RECOMMENDATION

Refer to the Energy Commission and Transportation Commission the proposed resolution to further implementation of the Climate Action Plan and establish the goal of becoming a Fossil Fuel Free Berkeley:

- Establish a date by which we are committed to being a Fossil Fuel Free City.
- Oppose further transportation of oil, gas, and coal.
- Strengthen green building requirements for newly constructed city facilities, and major renovations, including the potential for Zero Net Energy and further integration of considering climate impacts in capital planning projects. Current requirements are LEED Silver, which are far below what we require for new buildings in the Downtown.
- All future City government procurements of vehicles should minimize emissions and set a goal of transitioning the city’s vehicle fleet to all electric vehicles
- Establish a goal of transitioning to 100% renewable energy for municipal operations and community wide goal of 100% reductions by 2030.
- Formally oppose recent expansion of offshore drilling by the Trump Administration.
- Call for region-wide solutions to carbon emissions, including rapid adoption of renewable energy sources, affordable densification of cities and low-emissions public transportation infrastructure.

FISCAL IMPACTS OF RECOMMENDATION

Unknown

ENVIRONMENTAL SUSTAINABILITY

Establishing the goal of achieving a Fossil Free City, and strengthening green building, city vehicle procurement, and renewable energy initiatives will further implementation of the Climate Action Plan.



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BACKGROUND

On June 1, 2017, the 45th president and administration announced its intention to pull the United States out of the Paris Agreement, reached by 194 countries at the United Nations Conference of Parties 21 meeting in November, 2015. This action undercuts commitments the United States has made to our global partners and to United States citizens to combat climate change and reduce our GHG emissions. The 45th Administration has removed "global warming" and "climate change" content from many Federal agency websites and has proposed to cut funding for Federal research on clean energy, energy efficiency, clean fuels and clean transportation.

The Interior Department recently proposed opening Federal waters to new leases for oil and gas drilling, including off the coast of California. These and other reckless climate denial actions by the current federal Administration create tremendous risk and instability to the world's efforts to forestall climate catastrophe now and for future generations. It is now critical that cities double our climate commitments and actions. Cities must say no to new or expanded fossil fuel projects/use and move more rapidly to 100% clean energy. The City of Berkeley must accelerate and expand our leadership on issues laid out in our Climate Action Plan. This resolution is modeled after a resolution passed in Portland, Oregon and is part of the Fossil Fuel Free campaign by 350.org.

CONTACT PERSONS

Councilmember Cheryl Davila     510.981.7120

RESOLUTION NO. ##,###-N.S.

ESTABLISHING A GOAL OF ACHIEVING A FOSSIL FREE CITY

WHEREAS, the City of Berkeley Climate Action Plan has commendable goals of 33% reduction in greenhouse gases compared to 2000 by 2020 and 80% reduction by 2050; and

WHEREAS, the December 7, 2017 report from City staff shows only a 12% reduction as of 2015, indicating that the City is well behind in achieving both its 2020 and 2050 goals; and

WHEREAS, global temperatures are rising at an accelerating rate, averaging 0.9°C above 1950 - 1981 temperatures in 2017 [according to NASA](#), and could reach the UN limit of 1.5°C as early as 2032 at the current rate of increase; and

WHEREAS, the current warming is already leading to an increase in heat waves, wildfires, floods, droughts, stronger hurricanes, extreme weather, and rising oceans, climate refugees, and

WHEREAS, the State of California has a goal to reduce greenhouse gases by 40% by 2030 but is also making insufficient progress towards achieving that goal, and

WHEREAS, this resolution is intended to substantially further both the City of Berkeley and the State goals, and

WHEREAS most of the greenhouse gases that have accumulated in the atmosphere can be attributed to the consumption of fossil fuels that companies such as Chevron, Exxon, BP, Shell, ConocoPhillips extracted, refined, transported, and sold; and

WHEREAS the processes by which Chevron, Exxon, BP, Shell, ConocoPhillips extract, refine, transport, market and/or sell fossil fuels in California generally and in Berkeley specifically create pollution that causes severe environmental harms that also constitute grave environmental injustices, and threaten catastrophic harms in Berkeley such as sea level rise, drought, and wildfires; and

WHEREAS fossil fuel companies have systematically distorted climate science, lied about climate change, and misled the public about the dangers of fossil fuels in order to impede any transition from fossil fuels to clean energy in California generally and in Berkeley specifically; and

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WHEREAS, transportation of coal using open top rail cars results in significant volumes of materials escaping during transit, exposing local communities to toxic heavy metals in coal dust and particulates at levels potentially harmful to adjacent communities, workers, wildlife and nature; and

WHEREAS, investments in clean energy solutions create more jobs than fossil fuels and spur innovation and growth of the U.S. clean energy economy; and

WHEREAS, local, regional and global economies are transitioning to low-carbon energy sources, and businesses are leaders in providing renewable energy and energy efficiency; and

WHEREAS, dozens of American communities have passed resolutions addressing fossil fuel industry expansion, and hundreds of public officials, including governors, state and federal agencies, tribes, health organizations, religious leaders and other community leaders, have recognized the harms presented by fossil fuels to our environment and our communities; and

WHEREAS the Federal government is the nation's largest emitter of greenhouse gas and is currently governed by an administration committed both to fossil fuels and to climate denial; and

WHEREAS, Berkeley's first preference for meeting energy needs is energy efficiency, and the City remains committed to acquiring at a minimum all cost-effective energy efficiency available with a particular focus on achieving energy efficiency in low-income housing; and

WHEREAS, the transportation sector accounts for 56 percent of greenhouse gas emissions in the City of Berkeley, and significant reductions in emissions from transportation are essential to achieving our climate-protection goals; and

WHEREAS, electrifying car, truck, and bus fleets will bring environmental and economic benefits to local residents, including lower cost transportation options for low income households; and

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the City of Berkeley will actively oppose the expansion of fossil fuel infrastructure, including but not limited to those owned and/or operated by Chevron, Exxon, BP, Shell, ConocoPhillips, the primary purpose of which is to extract, refine, transport or store fossil fuels in or through city limits or adjacent waterways, including offshore drilling and;

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**NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED**, that the City of Berkeley shall commit to a goal of 100% clean, carbon-free energy and a 100% reduction in total greenhouse gas emissions, including from transportation and buildings, as soon as possible and no later than 2030.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, all future government procurements of vehicles should minimize emissions and phase-out the internal combustion engine as soon as possible; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, the City of Berkeley opposes the rollback of climate policy at the federal level and affirms its ongoing commitment to the goals of the Paris Climate Agreement and the City's responsibility to meet its proportionate greenhouse gas reductions for the United States under the Paris Climate Agreement; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, the City of Berkeley will establish a goal of supplying 100 percent of electricity for City operations from renewable energy by 2022 through a combination of on-site renewable electricity generation, utility-supplied renewables, dedicated off-site renewable resources, and renewable energy credit (REC) purchases; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, the City of Berkeley will prioritize renewable resources over the purchase of RECs with the intention of reducing reliance on RECs during the transition to 100% renewable resources over time; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, the City of Berkeley will prioritize community-based development of renewable energy infrastructure and should make investments in community based organizations to build capacity to lead such development to meet 100% renewable community-wide energy needs including transportation, heating, and electricity via such infrastructure; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, the City of Berkeley will partner with labor unions, and others to develop training and retraining programs to serve workers who would be displaced by this transition or workers who would otherwise be working in the energy field so that they are well-equipped for the "renewable energy" economy; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, a renewable energy transition is an opportunity to redress historical inequities in our community and must be just. This means, in part, prioritizing the resources to train and hire people from within communities of color and women that have traditionally been underrepresented in renewable energy, energy efficiency, and the workforce needed to implement a successful renewable energy transition; and

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BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, City projects and procurements under this proposal will use proven policies to ensure the jobs created are high-quality, family-wage jobs that meet our high standards of workforce inclusion for women and communities of color; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, the City of Berkeley will partner with energy providers and to accelerate the transition to renewable energy and minimize dependence on fossil fuels, expressing the City's preferences for resources consistent with its renewable energy goals and opposition to any new fossil fuel power project; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, the City of Berkeley urges utility companies to maximize energy efficiency, demand control technologies, energy storage, and renewable energy and avoid any new commitments to ownership of or long-term contracts from non-renewable sources; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, the City of Berkeley will partner with energy providers and community-based organizations to adopt policies that reduce the cost-burden for low-income customers, and make incentives available to foster equality in energy burdens as a percent of household incomes; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, the City of Berkeley urges the governor of California to adopt a 100% renewable energy goal that will continually update as new scientific findings are discovered that change our timeline and support SB 100.

**ANNOTATED AGENDA**  
**BERKELEY CITY COUNCIL MEETING**  
**Tuesday, June 12, 2018**  
**6:00 P.M.**

COUNCIL CHAMBERS - 2134 MARTIN LUTHER KING JR. WAY

JESSE ARREGUIN, MAYOR

Councilmembers:

DISTRICT 1 – LINDA MAIO  
DISTRICT 2 – CHERYL DAVILA  
DISTRICT 3 – BEN BARTLETT  
DISTRICT 4 – KATE HARRISON

DISTRICT 5 – SOPHIE HAHN  
DISTRICT 6 – SUSAN WENGRAF  
DISTRICT 7 – KRISS WORTHINGTON  
DISTRICT 8 – LORI DROSTE

**49. Declaration of Climate Emergency**

**From: Councilmembers Davila and Harrison**

**Recommendation:** Adopt a Resolution endorsing the declaration of a Climate Emergency and partner with institutions, organizations, community groups, businesses, neighboring city and county governments to plan and organize a regional Climate Emergency Town Hall.

**Financial Implications:** Unknown

Contact: Cheryl Davila, Councilmember, District 2, 981-7120

**Action:** 8 speakers. M/S/C (Harrison/Wengraf) to approve the recommendations in Item 30 and Item 49 as amended in the revised items submitted by Councilmember Hahn. Councilmembers Davila (Chair), Harrison, and Hahn appointed to Ad Hoc Committee.

Revised Recommendation for Item 49:

*Adopt Resolution No. 68,486–N.S., amended to change “citizens” to “residents,” endorsing the declaration of a Climate Emergency and commit the City Council to partner with institutions, organizations, community groups, businesses, and neighboring city and county governments to plan and organize a regional Climate Emergency Town Hall, and carry forward the Climate Action Resolutions.*

*Refer to the Energy Commission to study and report back to Council on a path for Berkeley to become a “Carbon Sink” as quickly as possible, and to propose a deadline for Berkeley to achieve this goal.*

*Establish a Council Ad Hoc Subcommittee to organize a Global Climate Action Summit and undertake other actions outlined in the Resolution, and appoint a Subcommittee Chair.*

**Vote:** Ayes – Maio, Davila, Harrison, Hahn, Wengraf, Worthington, Droste, Arreguin;  
Noes – None; Abstain – None; Absent – Bartlett.



Councilmember Cheryl Davila  
District 2

ACTION CALENDAR  
June 12, 2018

**To:** Honorable Mayor and Members of the City Council  
**From:** Councilmembers Cheryl Davila and Kate Harrison  
**Subject:** Declaration of Climate Emergency

RECOMMENDATION

Adopt a Resolution endorsing the declaration of a Climate Emergency and partner with institutions, organizations, community groups, businesses, neighboring city and county governments to plan and organize a regional Climate Emergency Town Hall.

FISCAL IMPACTS OF RECOMMENDATION

Unknown

ENVIRONMENTAL SUSTAINABILITY

Declaration of a Climate Emergency, and a regional Climate Emergency collaborative will further the City's environmental sustainability goals.

BACKGROUND

Human activities have warmed the Earth enough to end the 12,000-year period of climate stability that allowed agriculture and human civilization to develop. Global warming has already set in motion catastrophic changes to the Earth system, including accelerating ice mass loss from the Greenland and West Antarctic Ice Sheets and the thawing of the borders of the vast Arctic permafrost, which holds twice as much stored carbon as the entire atmosphere. NASA scientists have concluded that the complete collapse of the Greenland Ice Sheet alone could raise sea levels 23 feet, creating several billion climate refugees and a "global-scale catastrophe." The arctic ice sheet went above freezing in winter of 2017 indicating near term melt. With the Trump administration aggressively thwarting our ability to prevent climate catastrophe, our situation is dire. Over 19,000 scientists have signed a Second Warning to Humanity proclaiming that "a great change in our stewardship of the Earth and the life on it is required if vast human misery is to be avoided"; The global economy's overshoot of ecological limits and, increasingly climate change, are driving a global fresh water scarcity crisis and the sixth mass extinction of species, which could devastate much of life on earth for the next 10 million years. All this and more demonstrate we are in the midst of a climate emergency.

CONTACT PERSONS

Councilmember Cheryl Davila 510.981.7120

## RESOLUTION NO. ##,###–N.S.

**RESOLUTION ENDORSING THE DECLARATION OF A CLIMATE EMERGENCY**

**WHEREAS**, human activities have warmed the Earth enough to end the 12,000-year period of climate stability that allowed agriculture and human civilization to develop;

**WHEREAS**, the world came together in December 2015 to address the end to this period of climate stability due to global warming, agreeing to keep warming to “well below 2°C above pre-industrial levels” and to “pursue efforts to limit the temperature increase to 1.5°C”;

**WHEREAS**, in 2017 the global surface temperature was over 1°C warmer than the pre-industrial base period;<sup>1</sup>

**WHEREAS**, global warming has already set in motion catastrophic changes to the Earth system, including accelerating ice mass loss from the Greenland and West Antarctic Ice Sheets and the thawing of the borders of the vast Arctic permafrost, which holds twice as much stored carbon as the entire atmosphere;

**WHEREAS**, according to the latest climate projections, humanity is on track to warm the Earth a sustained average of 1.5°C above pre-industrial levels as soon as 2026;<sup>2</sup>

**WHEREAS**, the Greenland Ice Sheet, which is likely to completely collapse at 1.6°C warming, which NASA scientists have concluded would lead to 23 feet of sea-level rise, billions of climate refugees, and a “global-scale catastrophe”;

**WHEREAS**, it is estimated that sustained 1.5°C warming could cause a long-term, “continuous thaw” of the Arctic permafrost, which could turn the tundra from carbon sink into source in the 2020s;

**WHEREAS**, such tipping points must be avoided at all costs, as they will have positive feedback effects on the climate system, causing further and increasingly uncontrollable global warming;

**WHEREAS**, failure to uphold the Paris goal of keeping warming “well below 2°C” would lead to the disappearance of island nations and “certain death” for Africa, Chief Negotiator for the G77 Lumumba Stanislaus Di-Aping warned in 2009;

**WHEREAS**, over 19,000 scientists have signed a Second Warning to Humanity proclaiming that “a great change in our stewardship of the Earth and the life on it is required, if vast human misery is to be avoided”;

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<sup>1</sup> Hansen, James, et al., Global Temperature in 2017 (18 January 2018).

<sup>2</sup> See, *inter alia*, Henley, B. J., and A. D. King (2017), [Trajectories toward the 1.5°C Paris target: Modulation by the Interdecadal Pacific Oscillation](#), *Geophys. Res. Lett.*, 44, 4256–4262, doi:10.1002/2017GL073480; Jacob, D. , Kotova, L. , Teichmann, C. , Sobolowski, S. P., Vautard, R. , Donnelly, C. , Koutroulis, A. G., Grillakis, M. G., Tsanis, I. K., Damm, A. , Sakalli, A. and van Vliet, M. T. (2018), [Climate Impacts in Europe Under +1.5°C Global Warming](#). *Earth's Future*, 6: 264-285. doi:10.1002/2017EF000710



**WHEREAS**, it is estimated that humanity currently uses the equivalent of about 1.6 earths per year in resource consumption and waste disposal, a figure that is headed toward 3 earths per year in 2030;

**WHEREAS**, the global economy's overshoot of ecological limits and, increasingly, climate change are driving a global fresh water scarcity crisis and the sixth mass extinction of species, which could devastate much of life on Earth for the next 10 million years;

**WHEREAS**, England's chief scientific advisor has warned that humanity faces a "perfect storm of global events" by 2030 as climate change, population growth, and growing demand for food, energy and fresh water incites violent conflict over diminishing resources that are essential to human life and dignity;

**WHEREAS**, climate change has been called a "threat multiplier" that exacerbates pre-existing tensions and political instability in regions across the globe by both the United States Department of Defense and North Atlantic Treaty Organization, and has been linked to the Syrian war, the rise of Boko Haram in Nigeria, as well as the famines, water shortages, and resulting conflict in Yemen, Somalia, and South Sudan;

**WHEREAS**, climate-fueled droughts, famines, and diseases have already killed millions of people in the Global South, and displaced millions more;<sup>3</sup>

**WHEREAS**, indigenous and low-income communities and communities of color in the United States and abroad have suffered the gravest consequences of the extractive economy since its inception;

**WHEREAS**, according to the National Centers for Environmental Information (NCEI), in 2017, "the U.S. was impacted by 16 separate billion-dollar disaster events tying 2011 for the record number of billion-dollar disasters for an entire calendar year," with a cumulative cost of \$309.5 billion, shattering the previous U.S. annual record cost of

\$219.2 billion in 2005 due to Hurricanes Dennis, Katrina, Rita and Wilma;<sup>4</sup>

**WHEREAS**, the death and destruction already wrought by global warming of 1°C demonstrate that the earth is already too hot for safety and justice;

**WHEREAS**, it is an act of unspeakable injustice and cruelty to knowingly subject our fellow humans now and into the future to societal disintegration, food and clean water shortages, economic collapse, and early death on an increasingly uninhabitable planet;

**WHEREAS**, Pope Francis has declared that humanity is on the verge of a "global

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<sup>3</sup> A 2009 report estimated that "climate change causes 400,000 deaths on average each year today, mainly due to hunger and communicable diseases that affect above all children in developing countries." It further noted, "Our present carbon-intensive energy system and related activities cause an estimated 4.5 million deaths each year linked to air pollution, hazardous occupations and cancer." [A Guide to the Cold Calculus of a Hot Planet](#), Climate Vulnerability Monitor 2nd Edition.

<sup>4</sup> In fact, NCEI notes, "2017 arguably has more events than 2011 given that [its] analysis traditionally counts all U.S. billion-dollar wildfires, as regional-scale, seasonal events, not as multiple isolated events." NOAA [NCEI U.S. Billion-Dollar Weather and Climate Disasters](#) (2018).

suicide,” noting that we will destroy ourselves if we destroy God’s creation, and has called for a life-sustaining economy;

**WHEREAS**, common sense and morality indicate that humanity can no longer safely emit greenhouse gases and must seek to draw down the excess carbon from the atmosphere in order to restore a safe level of greenhouse gas concentrations and global average temperatures well below today’s levels and back to preindustrial levels as quickly as possible;

**WHEREAS**, reversing global warming and restoring a safe and stable climate requires an emergency mobilization to reach zero greenhouse gas emissions across all sectors at wartime speed, to rapidly and safely drawdown or remove all the excess carbon from the atmosphere, and to implement safe measures to protect all people and species from the consequences of abrupt warming in the near-term;

**WHEREAS**, reversing ecological overshoot and halting the sixth mass extinction requires an effort to preserve and restore half Earth’s biodiversity in interconnected wildlife corridors and to humanely stabilize population. as well as a shift toward a climate-resilient society and culture that prioritize conservation, community, and mutual aid over consumerism and narcissism;

**WHEREAS**, justice requires that those countries, classes, and industries that have contributed the most to this global climate and ecological cataclysm carry a commensurate burden in reversing it and protecting those most impacted from the lethal impacts already underway;

**WHEREAS**, justice also requires, in developing and carrying out the emergency mobilization to restore a safe climate, the active consultation, participation, and protection of communities that have historically borne the brunt of the extractive economy;

**WHEREAS**, the United States of America has disproportionately contributed to the climate and ecological crises and to preventing a transition away from fossil fuels, and Americans thus bear an extraordinary responsibility to solve the crises;

**WHEREAS**, as a part of the United States, the community of Berkeley and surrounding counties, despite well-meaning efforts, have disproportionately contributed to dangerous greenhouse gas emissions and thus must substantially curtail use of fossil fuels and greenhouse gas emissions on behalf of the larger planetary community to enable a rapid, just transition to a stable climate;

**WHEREAS**, severe rainfall in February 2017 across northern and central California resulted in at least five deaths and an estimated \$1.5 billion in damage, including to the Oroville Dam spillway, causing a multi-day evacuation of 188,000 residents, and to the city of San Jose, flooding neighborhoods and forcing 14,000 residents out of their homes.

**WHEREAS**, the October 2017 Northern California wildfires caused more than \$9.4 billion in damage, destroying over 8,900 structures, displacing many people, killing 44, and injuring another 192;

**WHEREAS**, we cannot wait for more devastating floods, heatwaves, fires, droughts, rising sea levels, and public health and humanitarian crises that threaten local residents, ecologies, businesses, and the broader Bay Area population to begin the necessary emergency response;

**WHEREAS**, during World War II, the Bay Area came together across race, age, class, gender and other differences in an extraordinary regional mobilization, building and repairing Liberty ships, converting car assembly plants into tank manufacturing facilities, rapidly switching to mass transit systems, and serving as the most important symbol of freedom in the Pacific Theater during the war as well as the site of the signing of the United Nations Charter at its conclusion;

**WHEREAS**, the following mayors in the greater Bay Area have committed to adopt, honor, and uphold the Paris agreement, noting, “We will intensify efforts to meet each of our cities’ current climate goals, push for new action to meet the 1.5 degrees Celsius target, and work together to create a 21st century clean energy economy . . . The world cannot wait—and neither will we”: Mayor Jesse Arreguin of Berkeley, Mayor Peggy McQuaid of Albany, Mayor Trish Herrera Spencer of Alameda, Mayor Charles Stone of Belmont, Mayor Lori S Liu of Brisbane, Mayor Ricardo Ortiz of Burlingame, Mayor Mark Landman of Cotati, Mayor Darcy Paul of Cupertino, Mayor Juslyn Manalo of Daly City, Mayor David Haubert of Dublin, Mayor Janet Abelson of El Cerrito, Mayor John J. Bauters of Emeryville, Mayor Lily Mei of Fremont, Mayor Debbie Ruddock of Half Moon Bay, Mayor Barbara Halliday of Hayward, Mayor Shaun McCaffery of Healdsburg, Mayor Mary Prochnow of Los Altos, Mayor Gary Waldeck of Los Altos Hills, Mayor Marico Sayoc of Los Gatos, Mayor Rob Schroder of Martinez, Mayor Kirsten Keith of Menlo Park, Mayor Reuben D. Holober of Millbrae, Mayor Ken Rosenberg of Mountain View, Mayor Jill Techel of Napa, Mayor Libby Schaaf of Oakland, Mayor Greg Scharff of Palo Alto, Mayor David Glass of Petaluma, Mayor John Seybert of Redwood City, Mayor Jake Mackenzie of Rohnert Park, Mayor Tom Butt of Richmond, Mayor Bob Grassilli of San Carlos, Mayor Mark Farrell of San Francisco, Mayor Sam Liccardo of

San Jose, Mayor Pauline Russo Cutter of San Leandro, Mayor Rick Bonilla of San Mateo, Mayor Lisa M. Gillmor of Santa Clara, Mayor Chris Coursey of Santa Rosa, Mayor Rachel Hundley of Sonoma, Mayor Glenn Hendricks of Sunnyvale, and Mayor Debora Fudge of Windsor;

**WHEREAS**, the Global Climate Action Summit, the purpose of which is to “bring people together from around the world to showcase climate action and inspire deeper commitments from national governments, and each other, in support of the Paris Agreement,” will be held in San Francisco in September 2018;

**WHEREAS**, the community of Berkeley and surrounding counties have the insight, drive, capacity and capital to take a moral stand and do all we can to restore a safe climate within our own boundaries and on behalf of our planetary community;

**WHEREAS**, in Berkeley and the broader Bay Area, we can rise to the challenge of the greatest crisis in history by organizing politically to catalyze a national and global climate emergency effort, employing local workers in a mobilization effort building and installing renewable energy infrastructure, growing healthy food that stays in the community, restoring ecosystems, and retrofitting and redesigning our built environment, electric grid, and transportation systems;

**WHEREAS**, the Global Climate Action Summit presents an unparalleled opportunity for the City of Berkeley and the greater Bay Area to inspire and influence summit attendees to end emissions from all sources at emergency speed through a just mobilization and, in so doing, to affect the course of human history;

**WHEREAS**, the Berkeley Climate Action Coalition has laid the foundation for a just emergency climate mobilization through its work, including raising the profile of and implementing key goals of the Berkeley Climate Action Plan, championing community choice energy for Alameda County, enhancing Berkeley's biking and pedestrian access by promoting complete streets projects, developing local guidelines and policy to promote vacant lot conversion to community gardens and sponsoring water saving projects and education during record-breaking drought;

**WHEREAS**, the City of Berkeley can act as a global leader by both converting to an ecologically, socially and economically restorative economy, and by catalyzing a unified regional climate emergency mobilization effort this year; and

**1000NOW BE IT THEREFORE RESOLVED**, the City of Berkeley declares that we face an existential Climate Emergency that threatens our city, region, state, nation, civilization, humanity and the natural world;

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED**, the City of Berkeley endorses a just citywide emergency mobilization effort to citywide greenhouse gas emissions as quickly as possible and immediately initiates an effort to safely draw down carbon from the atmosphere;

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED**, the City of Berkeley commits to becoming a carbon sink by 2030;

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED**, the City of Berkeley commits to educating our citizens about the climate emergency and working tirelessly to catalyze a just emergency climate mobilization at the local, state, national, and global local to protect our citizens as well as all the people and species of the world;

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED**, the City of Berkeley underscores the need for full community participation and support, and recognizes that the citizens of Berkeley, the Berkeley Climate Action Coalition, the Ecology Center, and other community organizations will be integral to the mobilization effort;

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED**, the City of Berkeley commits to keeping the considerations of disadvantaged communities central to all climate emergency mobilization planning processes and to inviting and encouraging such communities to actively participate in order to advocate directly for their needs;

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED**, the City of Berkeley, in order to ensure a just transition, will consult with environmental justice, economic justice, and racial justice organizations at every step of the climate emergency mobilization planning process;

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED**, the City of Berkeley calls for a Regional Just Transition and Climate Emergency Mobilization Collaborative Effort, inviting concerned citizens, youth, faith, labor, environmental, economic and social justice organizations as well as

other community groups, and all elected officials in and from Alameda, Contra Costa, Marin, Napa, San Francisco, San Mateo, Santa Clara, Solano, and Sonoma Counties, and especially all the mayors who have signed on to enact the Paris Agreement, to initiate a just local, state, national, and global climate emergency mobilization to restore a safe climate;

**BE IT THERE RESOLVED**, the City of Berkeley seeks to partner with local and regional agencies to participate in this regional emergency just mobilization effort and to intensify support of a comprehensive just transition to restore a safe climate;

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED**, the City of Berkeley will coordinate with other organizations and agencies to organize a regional emergency town hall in advance of the September 2018 Global Climate Action Summit to begin to envision the Regional Just Transition and Climate Emergency Mobilization Collaborative Effort;**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED**, the City of Berkeley calls on the State of California to initiate a just statewide emergency mobilization effort to reverse global warming, which, with appropriate financial and regulatory assistance from Federal authorities, ends statewide greenhouse gas emissions as quickly as possible and immediately initiates an effort to safely draw down carbon from the atmosphere;

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED**, the City of Berkeley calls on the United States of America to initiate a just national emergency mobilization effort to reverse global warming, which ends national greenhouse gas emissions as quickly as possible and immediately initiates an effort to safely draw down carbon from the atmosphere; and

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED**, the City of Berkeley calls on all governments and peoples worldwide to initiate a just global emergency mobilization effort to reverse global warming, which ends global greenhouse gas emissions as quickly as possible and immediately initiates an effort to safely draw down carbon from the atmosphere.

