

A TRUE COPY OF A RESOLUTION ADOPTED BY
THE COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF HOBOKEN, N.J.

AT A MEETING HELD ON:

NOV 01 2017

SPONSORED BY:
SECONDED BY:

Bhalla
Giattino

Giattino
Bhalla
Lawrence
A1

James J. Sarena

CITY OF HOBOKEN
RESOLUTION NO.:

~~RESOLUTION~~ ENDORSING THE MOBILIZATION OF HOBOKEN TO
RESTORE A SAFE CLIMATE AND CREATE A GREEN TEAM SUB-
COMMITTEE DEDICATED TO ADEQUATELY ADDRESSING
CLIMATE CHANGE

WHEREAS, the present level of global warming has triggered catastrophic changes to the earth system, including the acceleration of ice mass loss from the Greenland Ice Sheet, threatening to raise sea levels 23 feet according to NASA; and,

WHEREAS, as sea levels rise, coastal citizens will be forced to move inland, creating a national refugee crisis which would be especially devastating to the greater New York City area; and,

WHEREAS, sea level changes also increase the vulnerability to flooding in Hoboken; and,

WHEREAS, continued global warming would further intensify droughts, heat waves, hurricanes, nor'easters, super storms, flash flooding, the migration of mosquito-borne diseases, the melting of glaciers, polar ice sheet collapse, accelerating sea level rise, water and food shortages, and civil unrest; and,

WHEREAS, humanity can no longer safely emit greenhouse gases if we wish to avoid reaching irreversible climate tipping points; and,

WHEREAS, virtually all sectors of our economy, including energy, industry, food, transportation, buildings, and land use produce greenhouse gas emissions; and,

WHEREAS, the planet must be, on average, cooled in order to restore climate stability; and,

WHEREAS, restoring a safe climate will require, at a minimum, the elimination of global net greenhouse gas emissions within a decade and a simultaneous effort to remove tremendous quantities of carbon from the atmosphere; and,

WHEREAS, in present day Hoboken, we can employ local workers in a climate mobilization by building and installing renewable energy infrastructure, insulating homes, growing local food, expanding our parks, and upgrading our electric grid and transportation systems; and,

WHEREAS, approximately 70% of the entire city is located within the FEMA designated Special Flood Hazard Area (SFHA) and is susceptible to local (rain events) and coastal flooding (Hurricanes & Nor'easters); and,

WHEREAS, the destruction wrought by Hurricane Sandy should have served as a rallying point in the fight against runaway climate change, the city of Hoboken sustained over \$100 million worth of damage to private property, greater than \$25 million in public property, more than 1,750 flooded homes and businesses, and more than 1,000 destroyed cars; and,

WHEREAS, 53% of Hoboken's population, including 57% of all residents of color, live in areas of the city less than 5 ft above the average sea level and 66% of Hoboken's first responder stations, libraries, community centers, transit hubs, sewage plants, and major hazardous waste sites are also located less than 5 ft above average sea level; and,

WHEREAS, the people of Hoboken cannot wait for another devastating superstorm to begin a climate mobilization; and,

WHEREAS, the threat of heat waves, rising sea levels, the spread of vector-borne diseases such as Zika, increased frequency and severity of superstorms, and the long-term inundation of our city should motivate an immediate, community-wide climate mobilization effort; and,

WHEREAS, by denying, downplaying, and failing to respond robustly to the global climate emergency, our federal and state government officials have placed the people of Hoboken in danger; and,

WHEREAS, the City of Hoboken, along with 362 US mayors, have joined the Climate Mayors and agreed to honor and uphold the goals of the Paris Agreement to meet the 2.7°F (1.5°C) reduction target; and,

WHEREAS, the UNFCCC Paris climate agreement, as currently framed, allows for national emissions reduction pledges that would raise global temperatures a devastating 6.3° F (3.5° C) by 2100, not the 2.7°F (1.5°C) to 3.6°F (2°C) pledged in the agreement; and,

WHEREAS, Hoboken must be a leader in the fight to protect our country by embarking on a climate mobilization.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the City of Hoboken will officially endorse a citywide mobilization to attempt carbon-neutrality by 2027 and initiate an effort to reduce and remove greenhouse gas emissions;

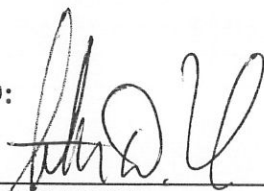
BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the City of Hoboken will conduct a community-wide greenhouse gas emissions inventory to be initiated in 2017, the results of which will be open to the public; and,

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Green Team shall form a sub-committee including representatives of The Climate Mobilization, with the purpose of using the data from the greenhouse gas emissions inventory to devise and propose a path forward to achieving community-wide carbon-neutrality by Dec. 31, 2027.

Meeting Date: November 1, 2017

Councilperson	Yea	Nay	Abstain/Present	Absent
Ravinder Bhalla	✓			
Peter Cunningham	✓			
Michael DeFusco	✓			
James Doyle	✓			
Tiffanie Fisher	✓			
David Mello	✓			
Ruben Ramos, Jr.				✓
Michael Russo	✓			
President Jennifer Giattino	✓			

APPROVED:



STEPHEN D. MARKS
BUSINESS ADMINISTRATOR

APPROVED AS TO FORM:



BRIAN ALOIA, ESQ.
CORPORATION COUNSEL