

RESOLUTION 21-08

ACCEPTING THE CITY OF BLOOMINGTON CLIMATE ACTION PLAN

WHEREAS, in January 2018, the Bloomington Common Council passed Resolution 18-01, adopting the City's *Comprehensive Plan*; and

WHEREAS, the *Comprehensive Plan* is the City's long-range vision for the community, upon which future policy decisions are predicated; and

WHEREAS, the *Comprehensive Plan* outlines broad goals, policies, and programs to strengthen the environment, social, and economic well-being of the community and its residents; and

WHEREAS, the *Comprehensive Plan* states, "Developing a long-term environmental plan, as part of a larger sustainability plan, is a priority that recognizes that environmental protections and enhancements are critical parts of our urban infrastructure;" and

WHEREAS, the *Comprehensive Plan* sets the following goals for creating an environmentally sustainable community in the categories of energy, the built environment, water, urban ecology, waste, air quality, and food and agriculture:

- Goal 3.1 Increase renewable energy sources and reduce community-wide fossil fuel consumption; and
- Goal 3.2 Drive increased efficiency and reduced environmental impacts in the built environment; and
- Goal 3.3 Conserve water resources and protect water quality to support our natural environment, public health and safety, plant and animal life, and our urban activities; and
- Goal 3.4 Increase the areas of native shrubs, trees, and herbaceous plants to increase ecosystem services associated with green infrastructure, including improved soil, air, and water quality and increased carrying capacity of pollinators, birds, and other wildlife; and
- Goal 3.5 Increase the amount of solid waste diverted from landfills; and
- Goal 3.6 Protect local air quality from pollutants; and
- Goal 3.7 Reduce greenhouse gas emissions; and
- Goal 3.8 Promote and protect local food culture and Bloomington's food system; and

WHEREAS, the United Nations Environment Program Emissions Gap Report published in November 2019 asserts that by 2030, global emissions will need to be 25% lower than 2018 emissions levels to put the world on the least-cost pathway to limiting global warming to below 2°C, the level required to meet Paris Agreement goals; and

WHEREAS, the Purdue Climate Change Research Center has determined that under a continued "business-as-usual" greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions scenario, the Midwest will encounter increased risks to public health, infrastructure and agriculture, including, but not limited to, increased heat wave intensity and frequency, more extreme droughts, increased heavy rain events and flooding, decreased agricultural yield, and degraded air and water quality; and

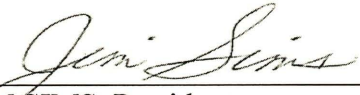
- WHEREAS, these and other impacts will not be equally distributed; communities that already face socioeconomic and health inequities will be most severely impacted; and
- WHEREAS, city services, infrastructure, our local economy, the natural environment, public health, and homes and businesses are endangered by climate change; and cities have a responsibility to ensure the public health, safety, and welfare of its residents; and
- WHEREAS, cities are uniquely empowered to take proactive, resolute, and prompt measures to directly influence policies and activities that can reduce greenhouse gas emissions, such as encouraging energy efficiency in homes and buildings, decarbonizing transportation, and promoting sustainable development; and
- WHEREAS, in October 2018, the Bloomington Common Council passed Resolution 18-19, accepting the City's *Sustainability Action Plan* as an advisory document; and
- WHEREAS, the *Sustainability Action Plan*, outlined actions the City is taking to reduce community environmental impact between 2018 and 2023, including committing to minimizing greenhouse gas emissions generation from all sources, working toward carbon neutrality, and preparing for climate change; and
- WHEREAS, in 2019, to fulfill the objectives of the *Sustainability Action Plan*, the City published a 2018 Greenhouse Gas (GHG) Inventory report, which documented the sources of both community and municipal government greenhouse gas emissions; and
- WHEREAS, the *City of Bloomington Climate Action Plan* specifically aims to reduce community-wide GHG emissions in line with the Paris Climate Agreement, with intermediate reduction goals based on the latest scientific recommendations of the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change; and
- WHEREAS, the *City of Bloomington Climate Action Plan* utilizes the community's greenhouse inventory as a baseline to set Bloomington's emissions reduction goals to further reduce community greenhouse gas emissions 25% below 2018 emissions levels by 2030 and achieve carbon neutrality by 2050; and
- WHEREAS, the *City of Bloomington Climate Action Plan* will provide opportunities for Bloomington to improve air quality, mobility, public health, equity, energy independence and security, and environmental quality, attract jobs and increase long-term resiliency, as well as support the development of a livable, sustainable City with a strong economy and high quality of life; and
- WHEREAS, Bloomington has already pursued various commitments and actions to reduce emissions in coordination with IPCC recommendations and lead as a signatory of the U.S. Mayors Climate Protection Agreement (2006), the Mayors National Climate Action Agenda (2017), the We Are Still In Letter (2017), and as a member of the Global Covenant of Mayors (2019); and
- WHEREAS, the City administration and Common Council will continue to demonstrate its joint commitment to reducing greenhouse emissions in accordance with the nationally determined contributions under the Paris Climate Agreement; and

WHEREAS, despite the City's goals and progress to date, the global climate is changing at a rate that requires bold climate action, including working across various sectors to reduce community emissions toward net zero by 2050;

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE COMMON COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF BLOOMINGTON, MONROE COUNTY, INDIANA, THAT:

SECTION 1. The *City of Bloomington Climate Action Plan (2021)* is hereby accepted as an advisory document.

PASSED by the Common Council of the City of Bloomington, Monroe County, Indiana, upon this 21 day of April, 2021.



JIM SIMS, President
Bloomington Common Council

ATTEST:



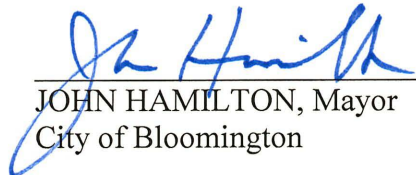
NICOLE BOLDEN, Clerk
City of Bloomington

PRESENTED by me to the Mayor of the City of Bloomington, Monroe County, Indiana, upon this 22 day of April, 2021.



NICOLE BOLDEN, Clerk
City of Bloomington

SIGNED and APPROVED by me upon this 23rd day of April, 2021.



JOHN HAMILTON, Mayor
City of Bloomington

SYNOPSIS

This resolution accepts the *City of Bloomington Climate Action Plan (2021)* as an advisory document, which is intended to guide City activities and funding priorities.

Note: This resolution was revised after distribution in the Legislative Packet but before being introduced for first reading at the April 21, 2021 Regular Session. The revision corrected a typographical error in the second Whereas clause.

Clerk's Note: The number of the resolution was corrected (from 20-08 to 21-08) to reflect the Council's actions at the April 21, 2021 Regular Session, wherein the Council approved of a motion to adopt Resolution 21-08.

Distributed to: Clerk, Council Attorney, Mayor, Legal, Economic & Sustainable Development