

**RESOLUTION OF THE BOARD OF SUPERVISORS OF THE COUNTY OF ALAMEDA  
ESTABLISHING COUNTY CLIMATE CHANGE LEADERSHIP STRATEGY**

**BE IT RESOLVED** by the Board of Supervisors of the County of Alameda:

**Whereas**, the County recognizes that climate change is one of the most critical sustainability issues threatening the long-term human and environmental health, social well-being, and economic vitality of the community; and

**Whereas**, scientific consensus established by the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change, the United Nations assessment panel of hundreds of the world's climate experts, and the National Science Academies of the G8 nations and Brazil, China, and India, has determined that the continued buildup of greenhouse gases released into the atmosphere as a result of human activities threatens the stability of the Earth's climate; and

**Whereas**, the physical consequences of climate change are already evident, including rising sea levels, increased hurricane intensity, and species migration, and the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change has determined that stabilizing concentrations of climate-altering gases in the atmosphere will require significant reductions in greenhouse gas emissions; and

**Whereas**, 162 countries, including the U.S., pledged under the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change to reduce greenhouse gas emissions and seek the stabilization of greenhouse gas reductions in the atmosphere; and

**Whereas**, the State of California Executive Order S-3-05 establishes greenhouse gas reduction targets for California including reducing emissions to 1990 levels by 2020 and to 80 percent below 1990 levels by 2050; and

**Whereas**, the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency predicts severe impacts from climate change in the State of California, which will affect Alameda County on the local scale: increased temperatures threaten to impair County air quality and adversely impact human health; increased temperatures threaten to greatly reduce the Sierra snow pack, one of the County's primary sources of water; rising sea levels threaten Alameda County's valuable coastal real estate and natural habitats; and

**Whereas**, economic impacts of climate change such as higher prices for food, water, and energy as well as health care costs threaten to disproportionately burden low-income households; and

**Whereas**, the productivity of Alameda County businesses would be undermined by global warming effects such as damage to public infrastructure, higher operating costs, and reduced production in the County's agricultural sector; and

**Whereas**, many of the practices and technologies that reduce greenhouse gas emissions, some of which have been successfully implemented by the County, also generate cost savings, and mitigation actions are an investment in reducing future costs of adapting to global warming effects; and

**Whereas**, local governments can lead by example in the operation of governmental facilities, through guidelines and requirements in community planning and services, and by supporting climate change mitigation strategies which enhance the community's quality of life; and

**Whereas**, by choosing to join over 670 local governments around the world in the Cities for Climate Protection Campaign (CCP), we capitalize on the experience and knowledge of other government entities through the network coordinated by ICLEI - Local Governments for Sustainability; and

**Whereas**, participating in the five milestones of the CCP will provide a means of identifying and acting on opportunities to improve community livability, sustainability, and enhance quality of life;

**NOW, THEREFORE BE IT:**

**Resolved**, that as a tangible first step toward addressing the broader tenets of sustainability, the County of Alameda commits to progress through the CCP's five milestones, specifically:

1. conduct a greenhouse gas emissions inventory and forecast;
2. establish County greenhouse gas emissions reduction targets;
3. develop an implementation plan to meet the County greenhouse gas reduction targets;
4. implement the plan;
5. monitor and review progress; and

Further **Resolved**, that County agencies and associated entities will use a collaborative cross-agency approach to develop and implement plans to contribute to the successful achievement of County greenhouse gas reduction targets and to prepare for future effects of global warming; and

Further **Resolved**, that the County Administrator's Office will provide administrative oversight for this effort and will establish the cross-agency Sustainability Executive Committee herein after referred to as the Executive Committee and the cross-agency Climate Action Team herein after referred to as the Team; and

Further **Resolved**, that the Executive Committee shall be chaired by a designee of the County Administrator and composed of Agency Directors and Department Heads, shall provide strategic direction for the Team, shall approve the greenhouse gas reduction targets and implementation plan, shall commit necessary resources to achieve the goals of the implementation plan, shall eliminate barriers to implementation, shall set intervals to repeat the emissions inventory, and shall report to the Board of Supervisors annually on the status of County climate change protection and adaptation; and

Further **Resolved**, that the Team shall consist of designees from County agencies and associated entities, shall convene within 6 months of the signing of this Resolution, shall meet at regularly scheduled intervals as needed to progress through the milestones expeditiously, shall recommend reduction targets and agency progress reporting deadlines to the Executive Committee, shall develop guidelines and necessary policies to support agencies and associated entities in meeting the County targets, shall facilitate cross-agency coordination, and shall seek the participation as appropriate of internal and external stakeholder groups; and

Further **Resolved**, that agencies and associated entities should actively participate in meeting the County reduction targets; and

Further **Resolved**, that global warming mitigation and adaptation strategies will be integrated into key County processes and planning such as General Plans, agency strategic plans or the equivalent, capital planning, budgeting, and training when possible or appropriate; and

Further **Resolved**, that global warming will be an on-going focus of the County of Alameda, who will be sharing urgent concerns and key learnings with businesses, the public, and other government agencies; and

Finally **Resolved**, that the County of Alameda forwards this Resolution, and encourages other local governments throughout the United States to adopt a similar resolution.

**PASSED AND ADOPTED** by the Board of Supervisors of the County of Alameda, State of California this sixth day of June, Two Thousand and Six.