

RESOLUTION NO. 2007-10

A RESOLUTION ADOPTING GREENHOUSE GAS REDUCTION TARGETS, ADOPTING A LOCAL ACTION PLAN TO ACHIEVE THOSE TARGETS AND DIRECTING STAFF TO BEGIN IMPLEMENTING THE LOCAL ACTION PLAN.

WHEREAS, the Inter-Governmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC), the international community's most respected assemblage of scientists regarding climate change, is clear that there is no longer any credible doubt that climate disruption is a reality and that human activities are largely responsible for increasing concentrations of global warming pollution; and

WHEREAS, recent, well-documented impacts of climate disruption include average global sea level increases of four to eight inches during the 20th century; a 40% decline in Arctic sea-ice thickness; and nine of the ten hottest years on record occurring in the past decade; and

WHEREAS, climate disruption of the magnitude now predicted by the scientific community will cause extremely costly disruption of human and natural systems throughout the world including: increased risk of floods or droughts; sea-level rises that interact with coastal storms to erode beaches, inundate land, and damage structures; more frequent and extreme heat waves; and more frequent and greater concentrations of smog; and

WHEREAS, in 2005, the Bellingham City Council passed Resolution 2005-08, resolving to participate in the Cities for Climate Protection program that entails developing an action plan and implementing measures that have the effect of reducing emissions of greenhouse gases; and

WHEREAS, in 2005, Bellingham's Mayor signed the Mayor's Climate Protection Agreement which states that signatories will "strive to meet or exceed Kyoto Protocol targets for reducing global warming pollution by taking actions in our own operations and communities

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF BELLINGHAM:

SECTION 1. ADOPT GREENHOUSE GAS REDUCTION TARGETS

The City hereby adopts and expresses the goals of reducing the annual emissions of greenhouse gas pollution resulting from City of Bellingham municipal operations by 64% below 2000 levels by 2012 and by 70% below 2000 levels by 2020. The City also adopts and expresses the goals of reducing greenhouse gas pollution resulting from the activities of the entire Bellingham community by 7% below 2000 levels by 2012 and by 28% below 2000 levels by 2020.

City of Bellingham
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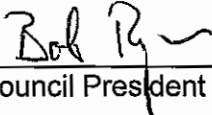
SECTION 2. ADOPT CLIMATE PROTECTION ACTION PLAN

The Bellingham Climate Protection Action Plan (Action Plan) presented to City Council on May 7, 2007 is hereby approved and adopted as the general basis for Bellingham's efforts to achieve the targets established in Section 1.

SECTION 3. DIRECT STAFF TO BEGIN IMPLEMENTING THE ACTION PLAN


The City Council directs Environmental Resources staff and other City staff identified in the Action Plan to begin implementing the programs and projects described in the Action Plan to the greatest extent practicable and achievable with available funding and resources.

PASSED by the Council this 7th day of May, 2007.



Council President

APPROVED by me this 9th day of May, 2007.

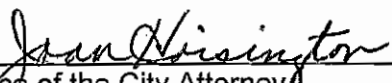


Mayor

ATTEST: 

Finance Director

APPROVED AS TO FORM:



Office of the City Attorney