

CITY COUNCIL RESOLUTION NO. 21-50

A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF
IRVINE, CALIFORNIA, ADDRESSING CLIMATE CHANGE
IN IRVINE'S ENVIRONMENT, VALUES, AND ENERGY
SOURCES

WHEREAS, the City of Irvine is a national leader in sustainability and environmental protection; and

WHEREAS, climate change is a growing threat to the environment and human well-being, including future generations and Irvine residents; and

WHEREAS, the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Changeⁱ reported in 2018 that the remaining carbon budget into the atmosphere is 420 gigatonnes of CO₂ to have a 66 percent chance of staying below the 1.5°C increase in global temperature goal of the Paris Climate Agreement, in order to avoid the worst effects of global climate change; and

WHEREAS, climate experts currently recommendⁱⁱ that the State of California achieve carbon neutrality and cut greenhouse gas emissions 80 percent below 1990 levels by the year 2030ⁱⁱⁱ; and

WHEREAS, starting in 2021, Irvine will develop a Climate Action and Adaptation Plan (CAAP) that helps the City and California achieve their climate goals; and

WHEREAS, Irvine is well-positioned to develop a strong CAAP due to its 1) economic and fiscal strength, 2) comprehensive Strategic Energy Plan^{iv}, and 3) availability of local expertise from residents, universities, businesses, and nonprofits; and

WHEREAS, well-crafted action to mitigate climate change not only reduces costs but provides economic benefits, such as energy cost savings, green jobs, technology development, and infrastructure improvements; and

WHEREAS, a well-designed CAAP will generate health and other benefits from better air quality, water quality, transportation, and quality of life; and

WHEREAS, the City of Irvine values equity and justice for all residents such that the costs and benefits for climate action are distributed fairly across demographic groups; and

WHEREAS, the City of Irvine is a founding member of the Orange County Power Authority, a joint powers authority to promote energy choice and clean energy sources in electricity procurement; and

WHEREAS, according to the City's Strategic Energy Plan, buildings, transportation, and waste currently account for 56 percent, 33 percent, and 11 percent, respectively, of Irvine's city-wide greenhouse gas emissions; and

WHEREAS, the United States Environmental Protection Agency emphasizes^v waste source reduction, product reuse, and recycling to achieve zero waste and reduce greenhouse gas emissions derived from waste.

NOW, THEREFORE, the City Council of the City of Irvine, California DOES HEREBY RESOLVE as follows:

SECTION 1. The City of Irvine will endeavor to achieve a zero-carbon local economy consistent with 2030 targets based on the most recent climate science.

SECTION 2. The City of Irvine sets as a goal the development of a CEQA-qualified CAAP and detailed deadlines for feasible science-based greenhouse gas reductions.

SECTION 3. The City of Irvine strives to ensure environmental, economic, and social justice in its climate actions by actively seeking input from community stakeholders; protecting communities that are vulnerable to environmental damage.

SECTION 4. The City of Irvine will consider developing and/or implementing new codes, standards, and incentives with a goal that all new and existing buildings in its jurisdiction, both City and privately-owned, become energy efficient and zero-carbon.

SECTION 5. The City of Irvine aims to set ambitious targets for the percentage of commute trips that will be made by biking, walking, and transit (known as mode share targets) while identifying strategies to meet those targets consistent with California Senate Bill 743 (2013). In addition, the City shall strive to continue to plan, permit, and invest in transportation measures that reduce vehicle miles traveled and greenhouse gas emissions, including expanded protected bikeways; pedestrian corridors; zero-emission vehicles; accessible public transit; and land-use practices.

SECTION 6. The City of Irvine will strive to use 100 percent renewable energy in its operations and to offer 100 percent renewable electricity to its residents and businesses through the Orange County Power Authority's Community Choice Energy service.

SECTION 7. The City of Irvine will strive to plan, permit, and build critical energy infrastructure, including electric vehicle charging networks, distribution grid upgrades to enable electrification of heating and transport, microgrids, and/or renewable fuel (e.g., hydrogen) transport and storage systems, each to the extent practicable.

SECTION 8. The City of Irvine will develop an innovation toolkit for carbon-free energy technologies by supporting research, design, development, and early market deployment of new carbon-free energy sources, batteries, and other energy storage technologies.

SECTION 9. The City Council of the City of Irvine will consider adoption of a resolution that integrates updated guidance from the Zero Waste International Alliance as applicable to all municipal operations, outreach, programs, and actions within the community; the Zero Waste International Alliance defines "Zero Waste" as "[t]he conservation of all resources by means of responsible production, consumption, reuse,

and recovery of products, packaging, and materials without burning and with no discharges to land, water, or air that threaten the environment or human health.”

SECTION 10. The City of Irvine is dedicated to protecting and promoting the health and safety of its residents through climate adaptation. The City will work toward implementation of actions that prepare residents for a changing climate and build resilience among populations at greatest risk from climate hazards. The City will work toward integration of climate change preparedness planning across its operations to enhance readiness and monitoring of climate impacts; ensure that the community will be prepared for gradual changes and climate-related shocks, such as wildfires, droughts, and extreme heat events; use data to assess and monitor climate hazards and the implementation of adaptation projects; and design capital projects to reduce vulnerability to climate-related events and disasters.

SECTION 11. The City of Irvine desires to support local businesses in addressing climate change and building a sustainable innovation economy that provides the goods and services necessary for achieving climate goals.

PASSED AND ADOPTED by the City Council of the City of Irvine at a regular meeting held on the 10th day of August, 2021.



MAYOR OF THE CITY OF IRVINE

ATTEST:



CITY CLERK OF THE CITY OF IRVINE

STATE OF CALIFORNIA)
COUNTY OF ORANGE) SS
CITY OF IRVINE)

I, CARL PETERSEN, City Clerk of the City of Irvine, HEREBY DO CERTIFY that the foregoing resolution was duly adopted at a regular meeting of the City Council of the City of Irvine, held on the 10th day of August, 2021.

AYES: 5 COUNCILMEMBERS: Agran, Carroll, Kim, Kuo, and Khan

NOES: 0 COUNCILMEMBERS: None

ABSENT: 0 COUNCILMEMBERS: None

ABSTAIN: 0 COUNCILMEMBERS: None



CITY CLERK OF THE CITY OF IRVINE

ⁱ Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change Special Report on Global Warming of 1.5 °C: www.ipcc.ch/sr15

ⁱⁱ Governor Newsom Holds Virtual Discussion with Leading Climate Scientists on State's Progress Toward Carbon Neutrality: www.gov.ca.gov/2021/07/09/governor-newsom-holds-virtual-discussion-with-leading-climate-scientists-on-states-progress-toward-carbon-neutrality

ⁱⁱⁱ Accelerating the Timeline for Climate Action in California, Dr. Daniel Kammen, et.al.: <https://nature.berkeley.edu/news/2021/04/accelerating-california-s-climate-action>

^{iv} City of Irvine Strategic Energy Plan: www.cityofirvine.org/energy/strategic-energy-plan

^v U.S. EPA Opportunities to Reduce Greenhouse Gas Emissions through Materials and Land Management Practices: <https://www.epa.gov/sites/default/files/documents/ghg-land-materials-management.pdf>