

CITY OF ALAMEDA RESOLUTION NO. _____

ENDORSE DECLARATION OF A CLIMATE EMERGENCY AND
REQUEST REGIONAL COLLABORATION ON AN IMMEDIATE JUST
TRANSITION AND EMERGENCY MOBILIZATION EFFORT TO
RESTORE A SAFE CLIMATE

WHEREAS, as of February 2019, 194 United Nations member governments recognized the threat of climate change and the urgent need to combat it by signing the Paris Agreement, agreeing to keep warming "well below 2°C above pre-industrial levels" and to "pursue efforts to limit the temperature increase to 1.5°C"; and

WHEREAS, the death and destruction already caused by global warming of approximately 1°C has increased and intensified wildfires, floods, rising seas, diseases, droughts, and extreme weather, and

WHEREAS, national and international security experts have identified climate change as a significant threat to the security of the United States and the stability of the international community, and

WHEREAS, the State of California Ocean Protection Council, in its 2018 Rising Seas in California report, projects an increase between a medium-high risk aversion scenario of 6.9 feet of sea level rise in the San Francisco Bay by 2100 and an extreme risk aversion scenario of 10 feet; and

WHEREAS, restoring a safe and stable climate requires an emergency mobilization to reach zero greenhouse gas emissions across all sectors, to rapidly and safely draw down or remove all the excess carbon from the atmosphere, and to implement measures to protect all people and species from the consequences of current facts and projections of additional, abrupt climate change; and

WHEREAS, core to a socially just response is ensuring equity is centered in climate actions in a framework that ensures sustainability for present and future generations and supports self-determination and the maintenance of culture, tradition, and deep democracy, while supporting the belief that people around the world have a right to clean, healthy and adequate air, water, land, food, education, and shelter, as well as living wages and the attainment of basic human needs for all; and

WHEREAS, the City of Alameda and community members including Community Action for a Sustainable Alameda (CASA) have begun a robust process to create a newly revised and expanded Climate Action and Resiliency Plan (Plan) that identifies Greenhouse Gas (GHG) emissions reduction targets for 2030 and 2050 that meet or exceed legislated federal and California objectives and targets; and

WHEREAS, the City of Alameda, as the Bay Area's largest island city, faces an existential crisis from sea-level rise and must act as a global and regional leader by

transitioning to an ecologically, socially, and economically regenerative economy and by acting at emergency speed in a unified regional climate adaptation and mobilization effort.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the City of Alameda declares that a climate emergency threatens our city, region, state, nation, civilization, humanity and the natural world; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the City of Alameda commits to citywide action that is rooted in equity, self-determination, culture, tradition, deep democracy, and the belief that people locally and around the world have right to clean, healthy and adequate air, water, land, food, education and shelter; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that an urgent global climate mobilization effort to reverse global warming is needed as quickly as possible towards zero net emissions no later than 2030, and that the City of Alameda should actively participate in an effort to safely draw down carbon from the atmosphere, and accelerate adaptation and resilience strategies in preparation for intensifying climate impacts; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the City of Alameda commits to educating our residents about the climate emergency and working to catalyze a just transition and urgent climate mobilization effort at the local, state, national, and global levels to provide maximum protection for our residents to include Alameda's unhoused population, indigenous, low-income, and/or communities of color specifically, as well as all the people and species of the world; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the City of Alameda underscores the need for full community participation, inclusion, and support, and recognizes that the residents of Alameda, community organizations (including CASA), faith, youth, labor, business, academic institutions, homeowners' associations, and environmental, economic, science-based, racial, gender, family and disability justice and indigenous, immigrant and women's rights organizations and other such allies will be integral to the leadership of the mobilization effort; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the City of Alameda acknowledges that there is still time to act and that as a city, known to come together in support of large efforts and committed to addressing this crisis, we can work together to make the necessary change in order to do so; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the City of Alameda joins a nationwide call for a regional just transition away from fossil fuels and urgent climate mobilization collaborative effort focused on transforming our region, enacting policies that dramatically reduce heat-trapping emissions, and rapidly catalyzing a mobilization at all levels of government to restore a safe climate; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Alameda City Council supports the City's ongoing development of a Climate Action and Resiliency Plan, including the development of measurable climate-related goals for 2030 and 2050;

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Alameda City Council recognizes that in order to meet these goals, the City must continue to formulate and implement subsequent phases of mitigation and resiliency plans as soon as practicable, along with priority programs and projects both locally and with regional partners to secure a sustainable environment, infrastructure, commerce and living conditions for all residents; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Alameda City Council directs the Interim City Manager to work with the Department of Public Works to identify, within the Climate Action and Resiliency Plan, a Climate point person and appropriate internal structure to support ongoing climate action and accountability and identify a reporting timeline and process for identifying progress in meeting the plan's goals, including adding a Climate Impacts section to all council staff reports that provides meaningful information on how proposed actions will impact GHG reduction efforts.

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I, the undersigned, hereby certify that the foregoing Resolution was duly and regularly adopted and passed by the Council of the City of Alameda in regular meeting assembled on the 19th day of March, 2019, by the following vote to wit:

AYES:

NOES:

ABSENT:

ABSTENTIONS:

IN WITNESS, WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand and affixed the official seal of said City this 20th day of March, 2019.

Lara Weisiger, City Clerk
City of Alameda

APPROVED AS TO FORM:

Michael H. Roush, Interim City Attorney
City of Alameda