

RESOLUTION NO. \_\_\_\_ – \_\_\_\_ A RESOLUTION OF CLEARWATER, FLORIDA, TARGETING A TRANSITION TO 100% RENEWABLE, ZERO-EMISSION, CLEAN ENERGY FOR CITY OPERATIONS BY 2040 AND CITYWIDE BY 2050; DECLARING AN INTENTION TO FORM PARTNERSHIPS TO REACH THESE CLEAN ENERGY GOALS; DIRECTING CITY STAFF TO TAKE MEASURES TO REACH THESE CLEAN ENERGY GOALS; AND PROVIDING FOR AN EFFECTIVE DATE.

WHEREAS, the Federal Government's 2018 Fourth National Climate Assessment issued dire warnings of the threat of climate change to infrastructure, ecosystems, economies, and social systems that provide essential benefits to communities;

WHEREAS, the United Nations' Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (UN IPCC), the international community's most respected assemblage of scientists, has concluded that human-induced climate change is affecting life-sustaining systems across the globe, leading to accelerating sea-level rise, with cascading effects for ecosystems and human security;

WHEREAS, in a 2018 Special Report, the UN IPCC specified global goals of reducing greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions by 45% by 2030 and to net zero emissions by 2050 in order to prevent the growing threat of abrupt and irreversible climate change;

WHEREAS, Clearwater is a coastal community on the front lines of the environmental, economic, and public health impacts of climate change, as seen in the form of sea-level rise, storm surge, and rising temperatures;

WHEREAS, the cost of renewable, zero-emission, "clean" energy ("Clean Energy"), including but not limited to energy derived from wind, solar, geothermal, and wave technology sources, has fallen dramatically over the past decade-plus and is now less than that for fossil fuels;

WHEREAS, the transition to Clean Energy represents an enormous economic opportunity for Clearwater to save taxpayers money, create jobs in emerging industries, and expand prosperity for residents, as well as provide actions to improve air and water quality and protect public health;

WHEREAS, Clearwater's Greenprint Plan creates a vision to make the city of Clearwater a vibrant community for current residents and future generations;

WHEREAS, Clearwater's Greenprint Plan calls for implementing strategies to reduce the amount of energy used through efficiency improvements to existing buildings and the development of new buildings to high-performance standards, coupled with shifting to renewable energy sources;

WHEREAS, Clearwater's Greenprint Plan calls for implementing strategies to conserve water, create waterwise landscapes and low impact development;

WHEREAS, Clearwater has already demonstrated its support for renewable, zero emission energy sources by the development of Greenprint 2.0;

WHEREAS, in 2015, the Sierra Club launched the "Ready for 100" Program, which promotes 100% Clean Energy in the United States by 2050;

WHEREAS, nine states, fourteen counties, and 180 cities, including Dunedin, Largo, Safety Harbor, and St. Petersburg, have joined the Ready for 100 Program;

WHEREAS, five counties and forty-six cities have already achieved the (100% Clean Energy) goals of the Ready for 100 Program; and

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE CITY CLEARWATER, FLORIDA, THAT:

It is the goal and policy of the City that 100% of all electricity consumed in city operations be Clean Energy by 2040, and that at least 50% of such electricity be Clean Energy by 2030.

It is further the goal and policy of the City that 100% of all electricity consumed citywide be Clean Energy by 2050.

It is further the goal and policy of the City to partner with other local governments, private organizations, and individuals to reach the Clean Energy targets

The City directs all departments to incorporate the Clean Energy Targets into their respective planning processes. To that end, departments must update any policy or processes necessary to meet the Clean Energy Targets.

The City directs all departments to work with residents, businesses, utility partners, and community stakeholders to identify a collaborative approach for achieving the Clean Energy Targets and set meaningful benchmarks and milestones between the Clean Energy Target Years (2030, 2040, 2050).

The City directs the Sustainability and Resiliency Coordinator to implement the Clean Energy Targets with the Greenprint 2.0 Plan. The City further directs the Sustainability and Resiliency Coordinator to update the City every two years on progress towards achieving the Clean Energy Targets, beginning in Fiscal Year 2022.

The City recognizes that the health and wellbeing of frontline communities have suffered disproportionately from pollution resulting from fossil fuel generation and distribution. Accordingly, the City directs all departments to build inclusive community leadership and policy engagement; promote equity in accessing energy efficiency improvements; generate sustainable economic opportunities and mitigate related losses; and provide regional leadership to address equity in climate, energy, and related public health issues.

This Resolution is effective immediately upon adoption.