Resolution

R-0506-36

A RESOLUTION OF THE COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF NORMAN, OKLAHOMA, ENDORSING THE U.S. CONFERENCE OF MAYORS' CLIMATE PROTECTION AGREEMENT.

- § 1. WHEREAS, the U.S. Conference of Mayors has previously adopted strong policy resolutions calling for cities, communities, and the federal government to take actions to reduce global warming pollution; and
- § 2. 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
- § 3. WHEREAS, the central Oklahoma region experienced a record number of ozone alerts in June 2005 and the Association of Central Oklahoma Governments (ACOG) in which Norman participates is working on strategies to deal with traffic congestion and further erosion of the quality of our air quality and climate; and
- § 4. WHEREAS, climate disruption of the magnitude now predicted by the scientific community will cause 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
- § 5. WHEREAS, many leading U.S. companies gave adopted greenhouse gas reduction programs to demonstrate corporate social responsibility and have publicly called for the U.S. to adopt precise and mandatory emissions targets and timetables in order to remain competitive in the international marketplace, to mitigate financial risk, and to promote sound investment decisions; and
- § 6. WHEREAS, the City of Norman has also committed itself to goals in its 2025 Plan that promote climate protection and environmental sensitivity and through practices in various city programs such as green space preservation, improved transportation alternatives, tree preservation and planting, encouragement of recycling, water conservation efforts, and increased energy efficiency and conservation; and
- § 7. WHEREAS, mayors from around the nation including those from more than 140 diverse communities such as Austin, Texas; Burlington, Vermont; Topeka, Kansas; and Seattle, Washington, have signed the U.S. Conference of Mayors' Climate Protection Agreement.

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

§ 8. That the City Council of Norman, Oklahoma, endorses the U.S. Conference of Mayors' Climate Protection Agreement and commits itself to strive to take appropriate local actions in our own operations and community such as those identified in the Agreement.

PASSED AND ADOPTED this 9th day of August, 2005.

ATTEST:

City Clerk

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