

RESOLUTION NO. 18-

A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF CUPERTINO DECLARING A CLIMATE EMERGENCY

WHEREAS, in April 2016 world leaders from 175 countries 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”;

WHEREAS, the death and destruction already wrought by global warming of approximately 1°C demonstrate that the Earth is already too hot for safety as attested by increased and intensifying wildfires, floods, rising seas, diseases, droughts and extreme weather;

WHEREAS, the United States of America has disproportionately contributed to the climate and ecological crises and has repeatedly obstructed global efforts to transition toward a sustainable economy, and thus bears an extraordinary responsibility to rapidly solve these crises. (Gillis, Justin and Popovich, Nadja. “The U.S. Is the Biggest Carbon Polluter in History. It just Walked Away from the Paris Climate Deal” *New York Times*, 1 June 2017.)

WHEREAS, justice requires that frontline communities, which have historically borne the brunt of the extractive fossil-fuel economy, participate actively in the planning and implementation of this mobilization effort at all levels of government and that they benefit first from the transition to a renewable energy economy;

WHEREAS, the City of Cupertino strives to be a leader in combatting climate change, and together with our regional bay area communities, we have the insight, drive, capacity and capital to take a moral stand and do all we can to restore a safe climate within our own boundaries and on behalf of our plenary community;

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the Council of the City of Cupertino recognizes and declares that we face a Climate Emergency that threatens our city, region, state, nation, civilization, humanity and the natural world;

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, the Cupertino City Council calls for an emergency mobilization effort to end citywide greenhouse gas emissions as quickly as possible, educate residents about climate change, and work to advocate for a mass mobilization at the local, state, national, and global levels; and

