

RESOLUTION NO. 18-

A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF CUPERTINO URGING THE UNITED STATES CONGRESS TO ENACT , WITHOUT DELAY, LEGISLATION THAT IMPACTFULLY ADDRESSES CLIMATE CHANGE THROUGH NON-MARKET BASED AND MARKET BASED SOLUTIONS, INCLUDING CONSIDERATION OF REVENUE-NEUTRAL CARBON FEES ON CARBON-BASED FOSSIL FUELS

WHEREAS, greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions from human activities, including the burning of fossil fuels are causing climate change, including rising global temperatures, which is leading to large-scale problems including ocean acidification and rising sea levels; more frequent, extreme, and damaging weather events such as heat waves, storms, heavy rainfall and flooding and droughts; more frequent and intense wildfires; disrupted ecosystems affecting biodiversity and food production; and an increase in heat-related deaths ;

WHEREAS, the Paris Agreement, under the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change, calls for the nations of the world to work diligently to prevent average global temperatures from rising more than 2 degrees Celsius above pre-industrial levels and to pursue efforts to keep warming below 1.5 degrees Celsius;

WHEREAS, the Global Warming Solutions Act of 2006 (AB 32) commits the State of California to reduce GHG emissions to 1990 levels by 2020, and the state has further established goals to reduce GHG emission by 40 percent below 1990 levels by 2030 (SB 32) and to 80 percent below 1990 levels by 2050 (Executive Order S-3-05);

WHEREAS, on September 10, 2018 a new California statewide goal was established to achieve carbon neutrality by no later than the year 2045 (Executive Order B-55-18), acknowledging that to do so will require both significant reductions in carbon polluting and removal of carbon dioxide from the atmosphere, including sequestration in forests, soils and other natural landscapes;

WHEREAS, on September 18, 2018, the Cupertino City Council adopted Resolution No. XXXX, declaring a climate emergency calling 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.

WHEREAS, the environmental, health and social costs of CO2 emissions are not currently included in the price paid for fossil fuels, and these negative externalities are borne by all global inhabitants, particularly those in disadvantaged communities;

WHEREAS, there is an immediate need to consider legislative solutions that are innovative and impactful so that reductions in CO2 emission are realized, including, but not limited to, market-based solutions such as a national carbon fee on fossil fuel production which serves as a good example of efforts to capture the environmental, health and social costs of CO2 emission not currently included in the price paid for fossil fuels;

WHEREAS, any solution considered should (1) benefit the economy, human health, the environment, and national security by correcting market distortions, reducing toxic pollutants, and increasing the energy independence of the United States; (2) be efficient, transparent, and enforceable to drive an effective and fair transition to a renewable energy economy; (3) include measures to mitigate any adverse economic consequence of a climate-energy solution especially upon low income populations; (4) incentivize manufacturers, businesses, and consumers throughout the economy to produce and use less fossil fuel; and, (5) stimulate investment in alternative-energy;

WHEREAS, any solution considered should aim to secure the United States as a leader in mitigating climate change in the clean energy technologies and should incentivize other countries to act similar in reducing global GHG emissions and;

WHEREAS, continued widespread use of fossil fuels and impacts due to climate change pose a risk to the residents of Cupertino and nationwide market-based solutions, along with other innovative solutions, need to be immediately considered and where feasible, implemented to help significantly mitigate the impacts of climate change;

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, the Cupertino City Council urges Congress of the United States to enact, without delay legislation that impactfully addresses climate change through non-market based and market based solutions, including, consideration of revenue-neutral carbon fees on carbon-based fossil fuels;

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, the Cupertino City Clerk is directed to transmit copies of this resolution to the President of the United States, to the Speaker of the House of Representatives, to the Senate Majority Leader, and to the 55 members of the California Congressional Delegation;

PASSED AND ADOPTED at a regular meeting of the City Council of the City of Cupertino this XX day of XXXXXX, by the following vote:

Vote

Members of the City Council

AYES:

NOES:

ABSENT:
ABSTAIN:

ATTEST:

APPROVED:

Grace Schmidt, City Clerk

XXXX, Mayor,
City of Cupertino

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