



MEMORANDUM

**TO:** Mayor Diane Wolfe Marlin and City Council Members  
**FROM:** Scott R. Tess, Environmental Sustainability Manager  
**DATE:** February 12, 2018  
**RE:** Sustainability Advisory Commission Actions on Pledges and Resolutions

**Introduction**

Attached to this memo is a Climate Inheritance Resolution proposed by the iMatter Youth Movement. On December 5, 2017 the Urbana Sustainability Advisory Commission unanimously voted to encourage the Mayor and City Council to support this resolution and work toward developing the goals provided within. Subsequent to the Sustainability Advisory Commission's approval, a definition of "carbon neutrality" was added to the resolution with the consent of local iMatter representatives.

Also attached to this memo is the Sierra Club Mayors for 100% Clean Energy Endorsement, also known as the Ready for 100 campaign. On January 9, 2018 the Urbana Sustainability Advisory Commission unanimously voted to recommend the Mayor join the Ready for 100 campaign by signing the Endorsement and to include our sustainability commitments in the next iteration of City Council and Mayor Goals. On January 11, 2018 Mayor Marlin signed this endorsement.

**Background**

The Urbana Climate Inheritance Resolution, proposed by the iMatter Youth Movement, would set a goal to achieve net carbon neutrality community-wide by 2040, actively work toward generating 100 percent of the community's electricity from renewable resources by 2025. It would also oblige the City to create a mechanism for the inclusion of members of the youth community in the formulation and implementation of climate-related policies and goals.

The Sierra Club Mayors for 100% Clean Energy Endorsement, also known as the Ready for 100 campaign sets a goal of 100% renewable energy community wide.

**RESOLUTION NO. 2018-02-005R**

**URBANA CLIMATE INHERITANCE RESOLUTION**

WHEREAS, we are already witnessing the deadly effects of climate change around the world, notably through recent tropical storms, raging wildfires, dangerous heat waves, unprecedented droughts and flooding, and resulting famine,

WHEREAS, the global scientific community warns that immediate action is necessary to prevent the increasingly disastrous repercussions of climate change and the impending humanitarian crisis,

WHEREAS, young people and future generations will be forced to shoulder the burden of an inadequate response to this crisis for the entirety of their lives, threatening their inalienable right to life, liberty, and the pursuit of happiness,

WHEREAS, Mayor Marlin signed the US Climate Mayors' letter to President Trump following his decision to withdraw the United States from the Paris Climate Agreement, stating that:

“Climate change is both the greatest single threat we face, and our greatest economic opportunity for our nation. That is why we affirm our cities' commitments to taking every action possible to achieve the principles and goals of the Paris Climate Agreement, and to engage states, businesses and other sectors to join us.”,

WHEREAS, the recent Future Energy Jobs Act (SB 2814) has made renewable energy in Illinois more economically efficient than ever before and demonstrated the powerful potential of a just transition to a green energy economy in terms of jobs and economic growth,

WHEREAS, other cities across the nation have taken bold, effective action to address this issue, and Urbana has established itself as a leader in sustainability and a community dedicated to fostering a safe, equitable, and prosperous future for all people,

WHEREAS, youth of Urbana have brought this Council a Youth Climate Report Card highlighting the gap between what we are doing today and actions that would be necessary to protect their future;

WHEREAS, net carbon neutrality means any combination of carbon emissions reductions through efficiency or renewable energy, purchase of renewable energy credits, or purchase of carbon offsets which brings a carbon budget to zero;

WHEREAS, youth of Urbana have indicated a willingness to work with this Council on such actions, we, therefore, declare it:

BE IT RESOLVED, that Urbana City Council commits to working constructively, using ingenuity, innovation, and courageous determination to achieve net carbon neutrality community-wide by 2040;

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the City of Urbana actively work toward generating 100 percent of the community's electricity from renewable sources by 2025;

BE IT FINALLY RESOLVED, that a mechanism will be created for the ongoing inclusion of young people in the process of creating and executing climate-related policies and actions.

PASSED by the City of Council this \_\_\_\_ day of \_\_\_\_\_, 2018.

AYES: \_\_\_\_\_

NAYS: \_\_\_\_\_

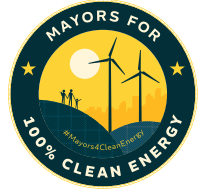
ABSTAINS: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_  
Charles A Smyth, City Clerk.

Approved by the Mayor this \_\_\_\_\_ Day of \_\_\_\_\_, 2018.

\_\_\_\_\_  
Diane Wolfe Marlin, Mayor.

# MAYORS *for* 100% CLEAN ENERGY ENDORSEMENT



I, Mayor \_\_\_\_\_ of \_\_\_\_\_ support a goal of 100 percent clean, renewable energy in my city and across the United States.

I believe that a transition to 100 percent clean energy is good for my community: It will make us stronger, healthier, and more resilient; it will create jobs and new business opportunities; and it will allow us to become a more equitable society where everyone has opportunity in a thriving local economy.

Nearly 200 nations have agreed, for the first time in history, that the world must achieve 100 percent renewable energy by the end of this century. In the United States, action by local government is already

a significant driver of renewable energy growth because cities know firsthand that steps to reduce carbon emissions, clean the air, strengthen the economy, and improve lives.

Positive, bipartisan, community-driven solutions are possible and already happening in our community. I will continue to work with all stakeholders to transition away from dirty energy and implement local, affordable solutions like energy efficiency, solar, wind, and pollution-free electric transportation.

To join Mayors For 100% Clean Energy, please print and sign the statement below, and send a scanned copy to [mayors4cleanenergy@sierraclub.org](mailto:mayors4cleanenergy@sierraclub.org).

I hereby pledge to work with my community to realize a vision of 100 percent renewable energy in \_\_\_\_\_.

MAYOR'S SIGNATURE \_\_\_\_\_ DATE \_\_\_\_\_

MAYOR'S NAME \_\_\_\_\_ MAYOR'S MUNICIPALITY \_\_\_\_\_

MAYOR'S OFFICE ADDRESS \_\_\_\_\_ CITY, STATE, ZIP \_\_\_\_\_

MAYOR'S PHONE \_\_\_\_\_ MAYOR'S EMAIL \_\_\_\_\_

STAFF MEMBER'S NAME \_\_\_\_\_ STAFF MEMBER'S TITLE \_\_\_\_\_

STAFF MEMBER'S PHONE \_\_\_\_\_ STAFF MEMBER'S EMAIL \_\_\_\_\_

MAYORAL TERM \_\_\_\_\_ ELECTED AS \_\_\_\_\_

(MM/DD/YYYY to MM/DD/YYYY)

e.g. Rep., Dem., Ind., non-partisan

QUESTIONS: contact [mayors4cleanenergy@sierraclub.org](mailto:mayors4cleanenergy@sierraclub.org) / 415-977-5606