

IN THE COUNCIL FOR THE CITY OF ROANOKE, VIRGINIA

The 2nd day of September, 2008.

No. 38211-090208.

A RESOLUTION adopting greenhouse gas reduction targets.

WHEREAS, leading climate scientists agree that climate disruption is a reality and that human activities are largely responsible for increasing concentrations of gases which warm the atmosphere;

WHEREAS, recent well-documented impacts of climate disruption include increasing global sea levels, a significant decrease in Arctic sea ice thickness and major changes to weather patterns around the world;

WHEREAS, climate disruption of the magnitude now predicted by the scientific community is likely to have costly impacts on human and natural systems throughout the world including increased risk of floods or droughts, sea level rises that interact with coastal storms that erode beaches, inundate land and damage structures, and a reduction in water supplies stored in glaciers and snow cover;

WHEREAS, on September 18, 2006, City Council passed a resolution to participate in the Cities for Climate Protection Campaign sponsored by ICLEI-Local Governments for Sustainability, and participation in this Campaign requires implementation of the Five Milestones Model to reduce greenhouse gas and air pollution emissions throughout the community;

WHEREAS the City of Roanoke reduced greenhouse gas emissions from municipal operations by 1.5 per cent between 2005 and 2007 by initiating a number of projects, which include, but are not limited to: replacement of inefficient heating and air conditioning systems, use of B20 biodiesel and E10 ethanol in the City fleet, replacement of more than 700 incandescent lights with

compact fluorescent lights or T-8 fluorescent lights, and installing LED traffic lights at more than sixty intersections;

WHEREAS, the City of Roanoke was recognized for completion of the first milestone at the ICLEI-USA Conference in Albuquerque, New Mexico; and


WHEREAS, measures to reduce greenhouse gas emissions in the community and within the municipal operations have the potential to also reduce costs through energy savings and to increase the quality of life through improved air quality.

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED by the Council of the City of Roanoke that:

1. Council hereby establishes a goal, as required by Milestone 2, to reduce greenhouse gas emissions from municipal operations by a total of 12.5 per cent over a five-year period and reduce community-wide greenhouse gas emissions by 10 per cent over the same five-year period, beginning January 1, 2009, and ending December 31, 2014.

2. City staff, working with a Climate Action Committee, designated by the City Manager, will be responsible for producing a Climate Action Plan and implementing the programs and projects described in the Action Plan to the greatest extent practicable and achievable within available funding and resources.

ATTEST:



City Clerk.