

RESOLUTION NO. 2022-012

A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COMMISSION OF THE CITY OF COCONUT CREEK, FLORIDA, PLEDGING TO ACHIEVE NET ZERO GREENHOUSE GAS EMISSIONS BY 2050 AS PART OF CITY OPERATIONS AND COMMUNITY-WIDE INITIATIVES; ESTABLISHING A 2030 INTERIM TARGET SUPPORTING A 50 PERCENT REDUCTION IN GLOBAL EMISSIONS; COMMITTING TO UNDERTAKE PLANNING AND ANALYSES TO IDENTIFY PATHWAYS TO ACHIEVE THE NET ZERO GOAL; PLEDGING TO WORK WITH PARTNER JURISDICTIONS TO ACHIEVE THESE TARGETS; AND AUTHORIZING THE CITY MANAGER, OR DESIGNEE, TO ASSIGN STAFF AND RESOURCES NECESSARY TO ADVANCE THESE COMMITMENTS, SUBJECT TO AGENCY PROCESS; PROVIDING FOR SEVERABILITY; AND PROVIDING AN EFFECTIVE DATE.

WHEREAS, on August 9, 2021, the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change published the Working Group I contribution to the Sixth Assessment Report - *Climate Change 2021: The Physical Science Basis* ("AR6 Report"); and

WHEREAS, the AR6 Report outlined the dramatic climatic changes already underway, pointed to the rapid acceleration of climate change processes, and warned that the window to limit global warming to 1.5 degrees Celsius was rapidly closing, concluding that without drastic action, limiting global warming to 2 degrees Celsius might be impossible; and

WHEREAS, global warming of 1.5 or 2 degrees Celsius will cause untold damage to human societies, physical infrastructure, and the plants, animals, and ecosystems with which we share the planet, as this year's dramatic floods, droughts, heatwaves, and wildfires with only 1.1 degrees Celsius warming over late-19th-century levels have amply demonstrated; and

WHEREAS, humanity must take immediate, drastic action to reduce greenhouse gas ("GHG") emissions to the atmosphere consistent with the findings of the AR6 Report,

which United Nations Secretary-General António Guterres described as "code red for humanity;" and

WHEREAS, upon taking office, President Joseph R. Biden, Jr., rejoined the Paris Agreement on behalf of the United States of America, under which the nations of the world agreed to take action to limit global warming to 2 degrees Celsius and to make every effort to limit warming to 1.5 degrees, and pledged to reach net-zero economy-wide emissions in the United States by 2050; and

WHEREAS, in April 2021, the Biden Administration announced a revised Nationally Determined Contribution for the United States under the Paris Agreement of fifty to fifty-two percent (50-52%) reduction in greenhouse gas emissions below 2005 levels by 2030; and

WHEREAS, the City of Coconut Creek has been a leader in local climate change efforts for over a decade, including the City's Green Plan, Florida Green Building Coalition's Gold Certification for Local Government, and a Certified Sustainable Community from Audubon International; and

WHEREAS, the City of Coconut Creek's existing greenhouse gas emissions reduction goal of 20% by 2020 no longer accurately reflects the ambition necessary to prevent the worst effects of global warming, nor aligns with the federal government's goals; and

WHEREAS, the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change ("UNFCCC") and many other partners have established the Race to Zero initiative to rally local and regional governments, companies, and educational institutions, to cut GHG emissions in half by 2030 and to net zero by 2050 or sooner, which are the minimum reductions and timeframes required to limit global warming to 1.5 to 2 degrees Celsius, according to many scientists and experts; and

WHEREAS, many U.S. and Florida jurisdictions have pledged to reach net-zero emissions by 2050, including Broward County, Miami-Dade County, Hallandale Beach, West Palm Beach, Miami, Miami Beach, Boynton Beach, St. Petersburg, Tampa, Sarasota, Gainesville, Orlando, and Cape Canaveral in Florida, as well as New York City, Los Angeles, Chicago, Philadelphia, San Francisco, San Jose, Seattle, San Antonio, Houston, Boston, Honolulu, New Orleans, Washington DC, Montgomery County (MD), Travis County (TX), and the Prairie Island Indian Community (MN).

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE CITY COMMISSION OF THE CITY OF COCONUT CREEK, FLORIDA:

Section 1: That the foregoing “WHEREAS” clauses are hereby ratified and confirmed as being true and correct and are hereby made a specific part of this resolution.

Section 2: That the City of Coconut Creek hereby pledges to get to zero GHG emissions from City operations and community-wide initiatives as soon as possible, and by 2050 at the latest, and to set a 2030 interim target reflecting a maximum fair share effort to reach fifty percent (50%) global CO₂ reductions.

Section 3: That the City will undertake planning and analysis to identify pathways to achieve the net-zero goal, specific actions or activities to cut emissions, and funding opportunities to support such planning and action.

Section 4: That the City also pledges to work closely with partner jurisdictions in other communities within Broward County and the Compact region on achieving these targets, particularly on joint GHG assessment and modeling efforts, coordinated planning and actions, and pursuit of joint funding opportunities.

Section 5: That the City Manager, or designee, is authorized and directed to commit staff time and resources to advance progress towards the net-zero goal, subject to normal budgetary and administrative approval processes.

Section 6: That if any clause, section, other part or application of this resolution is held by any court of competent jurisdiction to be invalid in part or application, it shall not affect the validity of the remaining portion or applications of this resolution.

Section 7: That this resolution shall be in full force and effect immediately upon its adoption.

Adopted this 10th day of March, 2022.

Rebecca A. Tooley
Rebecca A. Tooley, Mayor



Attest:

Marianne Bowers
Marianne Bowers, Interim City Clerk

Tooley	<u>Aye</u>
Rydell	<u>Aye</u>
Sarbone	<u>Aye</u>
Welch	<u>Aye</u>
Railey	<u>Aye</u>