

**RESOLUTION**  
**OF THE COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF BOWIE, MARYLAND**  
**APPROVING A CLIMATE ACTION PLAN AND SETTING**  
**A GREENHOUSE GAS EMISSIONS REDUCTION TARGET**  
**FOR THE CITY**

**WHEREAS**, climate change has triggered increasingly destructive natural events such as sea-level rise, wildfire, and extreme weather that pose a global threat to worldwide infrastructure, economic stability, and human wellbeing; and,

**WHEREAS**, the consensus of the scientific community is that global warming must be limited to 1.5° C above pre-industrial levels to avoid catastrophic consequences to our planet and way of life; current projections by regional and international experts conclude that greenhouse gas emissions must be rapidly curtailed in the next three decades to achieve this limit on global warming; and,

**WHEREAS**, the City must take full advantage of all available technologies and have the necessary plans and targets in place to achieve rapid reductions in greenhouse gas emissions; and

**WHEREAS**, a work group consisting of members of the Environmental Advisory Committee (EAC), Green Team Executive Committee and City staff drafted an update to the Climate Action Plan and, at their respective meetings in February, both Committees unanimously approved the final draft of the Climate Action Plan; and

**WHEREAS**, on June 15, 2020, after a public hearing, the City Council unanimously approved the Draft Climate Action Plan recommended by the Committees; and,

**WHEREAS**, the City Council desires to establish a specific reduction target to serve as guidance and direction for the City's future efforts to reduce its own Greenhouse Gas Emissions and to encourage City residents and businesses to cooperate in the actions necessary to help the City achieve its reduction target; and

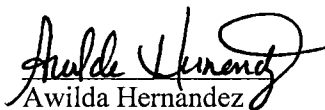
**WHEREAS**, the Draft Climate Action Plan's recommended target reduction of 50% reduction in Greenhouse Gas Emissions from 2015 levels by 2030 was derived after study of many possible actions and a determination of which actions would be most appropriate and viable to implement in the City in order to achieve reductions in Greenhouse Gas Emissions;

**NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED**, that the City Council hereby approves the recommended Climate Action Plan dated July 6, 2020 and sets a Citywide Greenhouse Gas Emissions Reduction Target of 50% reduction in Greenhouse Gas Emissions from 2015 levels by 2030.

**INTRODUCED AND PASSED** on this Sixth day of July 2020, by the City Council of the City of Bowie.



\_\_\_\_\_  
Timothy J. Adams  
Mayor



Awilda Hernandez  
City Clerk



# City of Bowie

15901 Excalibur Road  
Bowie, Maryland 20716

## MEMORANDUM

TO: City Council

FROM: Alfred D. Lott, ICMA-CM, CPM **DJM**  
City Manager

SUBJECT: Resolution R-47-20  
Climate Action Plan and Greenhouse Gas Emissions Reduction Target

DATE: July 2, 2020

---

On June 15<sup>th</sup>, City Council held a public hearing on the Draft Climate Action Plan and voted unanimously to approve the Draft Climate Action Plan (CAP). Attached is the final, edited version of the CAP. The edited version has numerous phrasing edits, none of which changed or added to the number of lines or affected the layout in any way. In addition, one sentence was added to the City Government Resilience section:

4. Identify and address the needs of the most vulnerable populations in the City. Ensure the adoption of a climate equity policy.

This change is consistent with the Sustainability Plan's definition of sustainable development, which includes social equity as one of three main conceptual pillars. One of the residents who commented on the Draft CAP pointed out that the draft did not address the topic of climate justice. Identifying opportunities to implement climate justice solutions is a key part of resiliency planning. This planning involves providing resources for addressing climate threats equitably, and it is an important component of growing sustainably.

R-47-20 will approve the revised CAP and specifically endorse the Plan's recommended Greenhouse Gas Emissions Reduction target of 50% reduction in greenhouse gas emissions from 2015 levels by 2030 as City Council policy.

### Recommendation

It is recommended that Council APPROVE Resolution R-47-20.