



VILLAGE OF HASTINGS-ON-HUDSON

Municipal Building
7 Maple Avenue
Hastings-on-Hudson, New York 10706

RESOLUTION

On motion of Trustee Lopez, seconded by Trustee Lambert the following Resolution was duly adopted as amended:

53:22 REVISED VILLAGE OF HASTINGS-ON-HUDSON CLIMATE EMERGENCY DECLARATION

- WHEREAS,** on 12th December 2015, at the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change's (UNFCCC) 21st Conference of the Parties (COP 21), 196 countries, including the United States, adopted the "Paris Agreement", recognizing the threat of climate change and agreeing to pursue efforts to limit the global temperature increase to 1.5 degrees Celsius; and
- WHEREAS,** on June 1st 2017, the United States Government announced its intent to withdraw from the Paris Agreement, thereby abandoning global leadership on addressing climate change; and
- WHEREAS,** on June 6th 2017, the Village of Hastings-on-Hudson joined with over 240 Climate Mayors and their municipalities representing 56 million Americans in adopting, honoring and upholding the goals enshrined in the Paris Agreement by declaring "We Are Still In" and pledging to do our share to meet the Paris emission reduction targets; and
- WHEREAS,** limiting the global temperature increase to 1.5 degrees Celsius will require unprecedented transitions in all aspects of society over the next decade; and
- WHEREAS,** global annual averaged surface air temperature has increased by about 1.8°F (1.0°C) over the last 115 years (1901 to 2016) as cited in the U.S. Global Change Research Program's 2017 Climate Science Special Report; and
- WHEREAS,** the past five years are collectively the warmest in modern history, with increasing and intensifying extreme weather events and rising sea levels, and the total cost of extreme weather events for the United States from 2010 to 2019 has been calculated to be \$802 billion dollars by the National Oceanic Atmospheric Administration (NOAA); and
- WHEREAS,** extreme weather events, including extremes of temperature as well as increasingly devastating storms, flooding and wildfires are causing severe harm to America's agriculture, forestry, and tourism industries and Hastings-on-Hudson like other municipalities in Westchester County, was recently ravaged by Hurricane Ida, causing devastating flash flooding and property damage; and

- WHEREAS,** the construction of new fossil fuel infrastructure and expanded reliance on fossil fuels exposes communities to public health and safety risks at the local and global levels; and
- WHEREAS,** climate change has and continues to cause adverse impacts on human health, as well as the introduction of new vectors for infectious disease, and species extinctions and related threats to biodiversity, with accompanying grave impacts on food and water security, economic security, and social-emotional wellbeing; and
- WHEREAS,** the COVID-19 global pandemic has highlighted and exacerbated existing health inequalities that have resulted from climate change, such as neighborhoods with poorer air quality being disproportionately affected by the disease; and
- WHEREAS,** marginalized populations worldwide, including people of color, immigrants, Indigenous communities, low-income individuals, people with disabilities, outdoor laborers, and the unhoused, especially women and children, are already disproportionately affected by the effects of climate change, and will continue to bear an excess burden as temperatures increase, and disasters worsen; and
- WHEREAS,** the massive scope and scale of action necessary to stabilize the climate and biosphere will require unprecedented levels of public awareness, engagement, and deliberation to develop and implement effective, just, and equitable policies to address the climate emergency; and
- WHEREAS,** on July 18th, 2019, the Governor of New York signed into law the Climate Leadership and Community Protection Act (Climate Act), which is among the most ambitious climate laws in the world and requires our State to: reduce statewide greenhouse gas emissions 40 percent by 2030 and no less than 85 percent by 2050 from 1990 levels; achieve 100% zero-emission electricity by 2040 and statewide carbon neutrality by 2050; and
- WHEREAS,** the Village of Hastings-on-Hudson embraces the mandates of the Climate Act, has been at the forefront of sustainability and environmental policy and aims to continue serving as a leader in climate action by building a climate-resilient and adaptive community for all residents and by meeting its Paris Agreement commitments; and
- WHEREAS,** the Village of Hastings-on-Hudson is a Silver Certified Climate Smart Community as designated by New York State and is currently the highest-ranking Clean Energy Community in the State; and

- WHEREAS,** the Village achieved this status through a range of actions including upgrading light fixtures with energy efficient LED technology; adopting an Anti-idling Local Law and Resolution (2019); installing an electric vehicle (EV) charging station (2019); purchasing EVs for the municipal fleet; adopting a Green Fleet Policy (2021) and a Biking and Walking Master Plan (2021).
- WHEREAS,** since 2015, the Village of Hastings-on-Hudson has participated in Community Choice Aggregation (CCA), which ensures that 100% of residential energy comes from renewable sources, as well as Community Solar, and was an early adopter of the New York Stretch Energy Code (2020), Property Assessed Clean Energy (C-PACE) Financing (2020), and Uniform Solar Permitting (2017), thereby facilitating the move to clean energy for local residents and businesses; and
- WHEREAS,** the Village has adopted an Energy Benchmarking Policy (2016), commissioned a Government Building Energy Audit (2019), adopted a Heat Emergency Plan (2020), a Natural Resources Inventory (2020) and a Climate Vulnerability Assessment (2020), each of which identified existing vulnerabilities and key actions the municipality can take to address climate change; and
- WHEREAS,** the Village has made efforts to reduce waste by promoting recycling, food waste reduction and composting as well as other strategies laid out in its Organics Management Plan (2021); and
- WHEREAS,** in 2021, the Village dedicated 112 acres of open space as parkland, which brings the total dedicated parkland to 156 acres, representing about 84% of the open space owned by the Village, and has engaged in multiple Village-wide tree planting campaigns, thereby contributing to carbon sequestration; and
- WHEREAS,** the Village of Hastings-on-Hudson has drafted a Government and Community Green House Gas (GHG) Inventory which sets emission targets, and is in the process of drafting a Climate Action Plan and updating its Comprehensive Plan with specific action steps to address the climate crisis; and
- WHEREAS,** the Board of Trustees of the Village of Hastings-on-Hudson intends to implement policies limiting fossil fuel expansion and promoting electrification as part of the SAFE Cities movement because of the inherent dangers to the public's health and safety in extraction, transport, storage, and combustion of fossil fuels; and

WHEREAS, as part of the Race to Zero advocated by Climate Mayors and ICLEI-Local Governments for Sustainability, the Mayor of Hastings-on-Hudson committed to a “fair share” science-based target of 62.8% per capita reduction in GHG emissions by 2030 (substantially more than the US commitment); and

WHEREAS, the Westchester County Board of Legislators has adopted a Climate Emergency Declaration and has urged local governments to do the same; and

WHEREAS, world leaders met the week of October 31, 2021, at the UNFCCC’s 26th Conference of the Parties (COP 26) in Glasgow, Scotland to renew and report on their Paris Agreement commitments;

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Mayor and Board of Trustees of Village of Hastings-on-Hudson declares a climate emergency and urges sister municipalities to do the same; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Board of Trustees of the Village of Hastings-on-Hudson will develop recommendations that limit fossil fuel infrastructure expansion and promote electrification and a clean energy future in order to protect public health and safety.

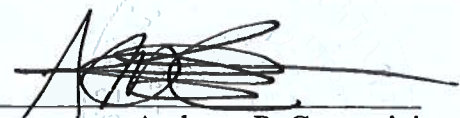
Note: The original version of the Climate Emergency Declaration was forwarded to State and local officials.

ROLL CALL VOTE	AYE	NAY
Trustee Georgia Lopez	X	
Trustee Mary Lambert	X	
Trustee Thomas Drake	X	
Trustee Morgen Fleisig	X	
Mayor Nicola Armacost	X	

CERTIFICATION

I, Anthony P. Costantini, Village Clerk of Hastings-on-Hudson, do hereby certify that I have compared the foregoing copy of the Resolution adopted at the Regular Meeting of the Board of Trustees on April 19, 2022, with the original now remaining on file at this office and that the same is a correct transcript therefrom and of the whole of said original.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand and the official seal of the Village of Hastings-on-Hudson this 20th day of April, 2022.



Anthony P. Costantini
Village Clerk