

HAYWARD CITY COUNCIL

RESOLUTION NO. 20-_____

Introduced by Council Member _____

RESOLUTION ADOPTING FINDINGS TO SUPPORT AMENDING THE GREENHOUSE GAS EMISSION REDUCTION GOALS IN THE HAYWARD 2040 GENERAL PLAN

WHEREAS, on September 27, 2006, the California Governor Arnold Schwarzenegger signed into law Assembly Bill 32 (AB 32), the Global warming Solutions Act of 2006, committing California to reducing statewide greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions to 2000 levels by 2010, to 1990 levels by 2020, and to a level 80 percent below 1990 levels by 2050; and

WHEREAS, in 2009, the City of Hayward adopted a Climate Action Plan including goals for reducing GHG emissions by 12.5% below 2005 levels by 2020 and 82.5% by 2050; and

WHEREAS, in 2014, the City of Hayward adopted the Hayward 2040 General Plan including policies to reduce both community and municipal operational emissions by 20% below 2005 baseline levels by 2020, and strive to reduce emissions by 61.7 percent and 82.5 percent by 2040 and 2050, respectively; and

WHEREAS, on December 12, 2015, the Paris Agreement was adopted by the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC) 21st Conference of Parties (COP21), setting a goal of keeping global mean surface temperature (GMST) rise in this century well below 2 degrees Celsius (3.6 degrees Fahrenheit) above pre-industrial levels to pursue efforts to limit the temperature increase even further to 1.5 degrees Celsius (2.7 degrees Fahrenheit); and

WHEREAS, on April 22, 2016, the United States signed onto the Paris Agreement, which obtained enough parties to enter into force on November 4, 2016; and

WHEREAS, on June 1, 2017, President Donald Trump announced his intent to withdraw the United States from the Paris Agreement, and subsequently the United States left the Paris Agreement; and

WHEREAS, on June 9, 2017, Hayward Mayor Halliday signed on to the “We Are Still In” domestic and international coalition statement speaking to the urgency of staving off climate change and demonstrating continued support for the Paris Agreement; and

WHEREAS, the California Air Resources Board released California’s 2017 Climate Change Scoping Plan in November 2017, which included a strategy for achieving California’s 2030 greenhouse gas (GHG) targets. The Scoping Plan states, “climate change is contributing to an escalation of serious problems, including raging wildfires, coastal erosion, disruption of

water supply, threats to agriculture, spread of insect-borne diseases, and continuing health threats from air pollution...Climate change impacts all Californians, and the impacts are often disproportionately borne by the state's most vulnerable and disadvantaged populations.”; and

WHEREAS, on September 18, 2018, California Governor Jerry Brown signed Executive Order B-55-18, committing California to achieving carbon neutrality no later than 2045, and achieving and maintaining net negative emissions thereafter; and

WHEREAS, on October 7, 2018 the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC) released the Special Report on Global Warming of 1.5 degrees Celsius to the UNFCCC stating the current rate of global warming (approximately +0.2 degrees Celsius/decade) is expected to increase global mean surface temperature (GMST) to 1.5 degrees Celsius above pre-industrial levels between the years of 2030 and 2052. The IPCC Special Report recommends “deep emissions reductions” and “rapid, far-reaching and unprecedented changes in all aspects of society” in order to stay within 1.5 degrees Celsius of GMST rise and avoid the worst impacts of climate change; and

WHEREAS, on January 15, 2019, the Hayward City Council unanimously approved a resolution endorsing the declaration of a climate emergency. The Declaration states that climate change threatens our community, as well as cities across the globe, and requests regional collaboration in restoring a safe concentration of GHG in our atmosphere; and

WHEREAS, on October 30, 2019, Hayward's City Council Sustainability Committee recommended the following GHG reduction goals:

- 30% below 2005 levels by 2025
- 50% below 2005 levels by 2030
- 100% below 2005 levels by 2045; and

WHEREAS, on December 12, 2019, at a duly noticed public hearing, the Planning Commission recommended the following GHG reduction goals:

- 30% below 2005 levels by 2025
- 55% below 2005 levels by 2030
- Work with the community to develop a plan that may result in the reduction of community-based GHG emissions to achieve carbon neutrality by 2045; and

WHEREAS, on March 9, 2020, Hayward's City Council Sustainability Committee agreed with the Planning Commission and recommended the following GHG reduction goals:

- 30% below 2005 levels by 2025
- 55% below 2005 levels by 2030
- Work with the community to develop a plan that may result in the reduction of community-based GHG emissions to achieve carbon neutrality by 2045; and

WHEREAS, notice of the hearing was published in the manner required by law and the hearing was duly held by the City Council on June 5, 2020.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the City Council hereby finds and determines as follows:

CALIFORNIA ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY ACT

- A. In accordance with the California Environmental Quality Act (“CEQA”), the City Council has been determined that the adoption proposed General Plan Amendment is categorically exempt from the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) pursuant to Section 15308 of the CEQA Guidelines, Actions by Regulatory Agencies for the Protection of the Environment.

FINDINGS FOR GENERAL PLAN AMENDMENT

1. Substantial proof exists that the proposed change will promote the public health, safety, convenience, and general welfare of the residents of Hayward.

The California Air Resources Board released California’s 2017 Climate Change Scoping Plan in November 2017, which was a strategy for achieving California’s 2030 greenhouse gas (GHG) targets. The Scoping Plan¹ states, “climate change is contributing to an escalation of serious problems, including raging wildfires, coastal erosion, disruption of water supply, threats to agriculture, spread of insect-borne diseases, and continuing health threats from air pollution...Climate change impacts all Californians, and the impacts are often disproportionately borne by the state’s most vulnerable and disadvantaged populations.”

On October 7, 2018 the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC) released the Special Report² on Global Warming of 1.5 degrees Celsius to the UNFCCC stating the current rate of global warming (approximately +0.2 degrees Celsius/decade) is expected to increase global mean surface temperature (GMST) to 1.5 degrees Celsius above pre-industrial levels between the years of 2030 and 2052. The IPCC Special Report recommends “deep emissions reductions” and “rapid, far-reaching and unprecedented changes in all aspects of society” in order to stay within 1.5 degrees Celsius of GMST rise and avoid the worst impacts of climate change.

Meeting the proposed GHG emission reduction goals will promote the public health, safety, convenience and general welfare of the residents of Hayward in that the effects of global climate change will be reduced and the Hayward community will be more resilient to the already present impacts of climate change.

2. The proposed change is in conformance with the purposes of the Zoning Ordinance and all applicable, officially adopted policies and plans.

The current GHG emission reduction goals were established to mirror those identified in the California Global Warming Solutions Act of 2006 (AB 32), which set a statewide GHG emissions limit equivalent to the statewide GHG emissions level in 1990 to be achieved by 2020 and the Governor's Executive Order # S-03-05, which set a target of 80% reduction by 2050. The City's goals were adjusted due to the use of a different baseline year.

The proposed GHG emission reduction goals are in conformance with Governor Brown's Executive Order #B-55-18, signed in September 2018, committing California to economy-wide carbon neutrality by 2045.

3. Streets and public facilities existing or proposed are adequate to serve all uses permitted when the property is reclassified; and

The proposed General Plan Amendment would not reclassify property or change land use designations.

4. All uses permitted when property is reclassified will be compatible with present and potential future uses, and, further, a beneficial effect will be achieved which is not obtainable under existing regulations.

The proposed General Plan Amendment would not reclassify property or change land use designations.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the following policies be amended as follows in the Hayward 2040 General Plan:

NR-2.4 Community Greenhouse Gas Reduction

The City shall work with the community to reduce community-based GHG emissions by 20 percent below 2005 baseline levels by 2020, 30% below 2005 levels by 2025, and 55% below 2005 levels by 2030. In addition, the City shall work with the community to develop a plan that may result in the reduction of community-based GHG emissions to achieve carbon neutrality by 2045.

NR-2.5 Municipal Greenhouse Gas Reduction

The City shall reduce municipal greenhouse gas emissions by 20 percent below 2005 baseline levels by 2020, 30% below 2005 levels by 2025, and 55% below 2005 levels by 2030. In addition, the City shall develop a plan that may result in the reduction of municipal GHG emissions to achieve carbon neutrality by 2045.

BE IT RESOLVED that this resolution shall become effective on the date that the companion Ordinance (Ordinance No. 20-__) becomes effective.

IN COUNCIL, HAYWARD, CALIFORNIA _____, 2020

ADOPTED BY THE FOLLOWING VOTE:

AYES: COUNCIL MEMBERS:
 MAYOR:

NOES: COUNCIL MEMBERS:

ABSTAIN: COUNCIL MEMBERS:

ABSENT: COUNCIL MEMBERS:

ATTEST: _____
 City Clerk of the City of Hayward

APPROVED AS TO FORM:

City Attorney of the City of Hayward