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RESOLUTION NO. 2024-28

**A RESOLUTION OF THE ALBANY CITY COUNCIL DECLARING
A CLIMATE EMERGENCY AND CALLING FOR URGENT ACTION
TO SECURE A STABLE CLIMATE**

WHEREAS, the greenhouse effect is well-understood: carbon dioxide and other gasses in the atmosphere absorb infrared radiation and trap it as heat, like glass in a greenhouse; and

WHEREAS, concentrations of atmospheric carbon dioxide have increased from less than 320 parts per million in 1958 to almost 420 parts per million in 2023, and no plausible cause for this increase is known other than human activity; and

WHEREAS, the last ten years have had the hottest global-average temperatures since pre-industrial times; and

WHEREAS, there is broad scientific consensus that climate change has already impacted human societies and our land, water, and ocean ecosystems, and that there is a rapidly closing window of opportunity to secure a livable and sustainable future for all; and

WHEREAS, the Secretary-General of the United Nations recently urged nations to reduce emissions “to avoid the worst of climate chaos”; and

WHEREAS, the City of Albany is specifically threatened by increased risks of extreme heat, drought, vector-borne diseases, and hazardous air quality brought on by climate change; and

1 **WHEREAS**, the City of Albany has pledged to advance climate action and adaptation
2 through its City Council Strategic Plan and its Climate Action and Adaptation Plan,
3 committing to 70% emission reductions by 2035 and net zero emissions by 2045; and
4

5 **WHEREAS**, the City of Albany is required by Policy CON-3.2 and 3.3 of its General
6 Plan to prioritize climate concerns in its planning decisions and resident outreach efforts; and
7

8 **WHEREAS**, the City of Albany has encouraged its residents to reduce carbon dioxide
9 emissions associated with their use of electricity by making, as the default option, a zero-
10 emission supply offered by Ava Community Energy; and
11

12 **WHEREAS**, the City of Albany requests immediate action by residents to transition
13 away from natural gas heating and fossil-fueled transportation as quickly as possible, and the
14 City will support this transition by all means available; and
15

16 **WHEREAS**, the City of Albany recognizes the need for community-led climate action,
17 prioritizing broad community engagement in shaping a sustainable future; and
18

19 **WHEREAS**, the youth of Albany, inheriting a changing climate, play a vital role in
20 climate advocacy, emphasizing the need for intergenerational leadership in climate action.
21

22 **NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED**, the City Council of the City of Albany,
23 California, hereby declares that a climate emergency threatens our City, region, state, nation,
24 humanity, and the natural world; and
25

26 **BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED**, that the Albany City Council endorses and commits
27 to participating in climate action and adaptation efforts at the local, regional, state, national,
28 and global levels, focusing on emission reduction and the widespread elimination of fossil
29 fuels; and

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BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Albany City Council will set policy and assign resources through the lens of climate action, coordinating across departments and functions to ensure an effective, timely transition off of fossil fuels in keeping with our Climate Action Plan; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, Albany will continue to foster community collaboration in climate initiatives, prioritizing inclusive, equitable, resilient, and sustainable solutions for all residents.



JOHN MIKI, MAYOR



City of Albany

1000 San Pablo Avenue • Albany, California 94706
(510) 528-5710 • www.albanyca.org

RESOLUTION NO. 2024-28

PASSED AND APPROVED BY THE COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF ALBANY,

The 6th day of May, 2024, by the following votes:

AYES: Council Members Hansen-Romero, Jordan, López, Tiedemann and

Mayor Miki

NOES: none

ABSENT: none

ABSTAINED: none

RECUSED: none

WITNESS MY HAND AND THE SEAL OF THE CITY OF ALBANY, this 7th
day of May, 2024.

Anne Hsu
CITY CLERK