



Resolution

GREENHOUSE GAS REDUCTION TARGET RESOLUTION Resolution 08-22

WHEREAS, leading climate scientists agree that climate disruption is a reality and that human activities are largely responsible for increasing concentrations of gases which warm the atmosphere;

WHEREAS, recent well-documented impacts of climate disruption include increasing global sea levels, a significant decrease in Arctic sea ice thickness and major changes to weather patterns around the world;

WHEREAS, climate disruption of the magnitude now predicted by the scientific community is likely to have costly impacts on human and natural systems throughout the world including increased risk of floods or droughts, sea level rises that interact with coastal storms that erode beaches, inundate land and damage structures, and a reduction in water supplies stored in glaciers and snow cover;

WHEREAS, on July 16, 2007, the County Commissioners passed a resolution resolving to participate in the Cities for Climate Protection Campaign sponsored by ICLEI – Local Governments for Sustainability, and participation in this campaign requires implementation of the Five Milestones Model to reduce greenhouse gas and air pollution emissions throughout the community;

WHEREAS, Queen Anne's County was recognized for completion of Milestone 1 at the ICLEI-USA Conference in Albuquerque, New Mexico in May of 2008; and,

WHEREAS, measures to reduce greenhouse gas emissions in the community and within county operations have the potential to also reduce costs through energy savings and to increase the quality of life through improved air quality.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE COUNTY COMMISSIONERS OF QUEEN ANNE'S COUNTY, MARYLAND this 9th day of December, 2008 that:

A. Commission hereby establishes a goal, as required by Milestone 2, to reduce greenhouse gas emissions from county government operations by a total of 20 per cent over a five-year period and reduce community-wide greenhouse gas emissions by 10 per cent over the same five-year period, beginning January 1, 2009 and ending December 31, 2014, with a goal to stop increasing emissions by January 1, 2010. Further, we resolve to achieve a 10 per cent reduction every five years thereafter through 2050 whereby we will have accomplished a total 80 per cent reduction.

B. County staff, working with a Sustainable Communities Council, designated by the County Administrator, will be responsible for producing a Climate Action Plan and implementing the programs and projects detailed therein to the greatest extent practicable and achievable within available funding and resource allocations.

AS WITNESS the hands and seals of the County Commissioners of Queen Anne's County, Maryland the day and year above written

ATTEST:

Mary Houch

THE COUNTY COMMISSIONERS OF
QUEEN ANNE'S COUNTY

Gene M. Ransom III
Gene Ransom III, President

Eric S. Wargatz, M.D.
Eric S. Wargatz, M.D.

Courtesy M. Billups
Courtesy M. Billups

Paul L. Gunther
Paul L. Gunther

Carol R. Fordonski
Carol R. Fordonski