

**RESOLUTION OF THE BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS (“BOCC”) OF
PITKIN COUNTY, COLORADO, ENDORSING THE DECLARATION OF A
CLIMATE EMERGENCY AND REQUESTING REGIONAL COLLABORATION
TO COUNTER CLIMATE CHANGE AND PRESERVE A FLOURISHING
ENVIRONMENT**

RESOLUTION NO. 042-2021

RECITALS

WHEREAS, Pursuant to Section 2.8.4 (Actions) of the Pitkin County Home Rule Charter (“HRC”), all matters not required to be acted upon by ordinance or formal resolution may be acted upon by informal resolution, and

WHEREAS, In April 2016 world leaders from 175 countries recognized the threat of climate change and the urgent need to combat it by signing the Paris Agreement, agreeing to keep warming “well below 2°C above pre-industrial levels” and to “pursue efforts to limit the temperature increase to 1.5°C”; and

WHEREAS, The current warming of the planet by 1°C due to greenhouse gases correlates with the increase and intensification of wildfires, floods, rising seas, diseases, droughts and extreme weather that compromise humanity’s safety and the economic well-being of the county and nation; and

WHEREAS, Pitkin County has long been committed to sustainability and to preserve natural resources for current and future generations, and endeavors to be a leader in responsible stewardship of the environment; and

WHEREAS, Pitkin County’s Strategic Plan establishes the need to preserve and develop a “flourishing natural and built environment,” a “supportive and livable community,” and a “prosperous economy”; and

WHEREAS, The impacts of Climate Change affect everyone regardless of age, gender or socioeconomic background; and

WHEREAS, Pitkin County strives to be cognizant of its most vulnerable populations that are disproportionately impacted by Climate Change; and

WHEREAS, Pitkin County has committed to taking steps to reduce its own contributions to climate change by adopting the following climate-related resolutions:

- Resolution of the Board of County Commissioners of Pitkin County, Colorado, adopting the 2017 Pitkin County Climate Action Plan (Resolution No. 074-2017);
- Resolution of the Board of County Commissioners of Pitkin County, Colorado, Approving the Pitkin County Energy Action Plan (Resolution No. 046-2008);
- Resolution of the Board of County Commissioners of Pitkin County, Colorado, Endorsing Climate Protection (Resolution No. 034-2012); and

WHEREAS, Addressing the repercussions and causes of climate change will require regional collaboration and immediate action; and

WHEREAS, The imminent impacts of already occurring Climate Change requires increased resiliency measures to provide for, and mitigate negative effects on, Public Health; and

WHEREAS, The implementation of the Pitkin County Climate Action Plan is occurring on a daily basis, with some of the significant actions being:

- The revision of the Building Code to work towards net-zero energy use;
- The revision of the Land-Use Code to encourage installation of renewable energy technologies;
- The installation of solar energy systems on new County buildings and the retrofitting of existing County buildings;
- The emphasis on energy conservation in all Pitkin County facilities;
- Working towards the diversion of construction and demolition waste and debris from the Pitkin County Solid Waste Center;
- The continual support and development of regional mass transit efforts and transportation solutions;
- The electrification of Pitkin County's vehicle fleet; and

WHEREAS, Restoring a safe and stable climate requires emergency mobilization across all sectors to rapidly drawdown or remove greenhouse gases from the atmosphere and to implement measures that will reach zero greenhouse gas emissions. The BOCC finds that it is in the best interests of the citizens of Pitkin County to approve this Resolution.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Board of County Commissioners of Pitkin County, Colorado that it hereby adopts an Endorsement of the Declaration of a Climate Emergency and the Request for Regional Collaboration to Counter Climate Change and Preserve a Flourishing Environment and authorizes the Chair to sign the Resolution and upon the satisfaction of the County Attorney as to form, execute any other associated documents necessary to complete this matter.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that we adopt the following Climate Action Goals for Pitkin County:

1. **To reduce annual greenhouse gas emissions by 90% from 2020 levels by 2050** through the measurable implementation of policies that preserve community character and equitably distribute policy impacts among those of different socio-economic and racial backgrounds.
2. Through cooperation with other jurisdictions, special districts, utilities and organizations, **adapt** infrastructure, land-use, and regional and environmental resources for the impacts of Climate Change.
3. To equitably involve citizens and stakeholders of all socio-economic and racial backgrounds in outreach and education programs to determine and provide best practices for Climate Change adaptation and mitigation.

INTRODUCED, READ AND ADOPTED ON THE 9TH DAY OF JUNE 2021.

ATTEST:

BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS

By Jeanette Jones
Jeanette Jones
Deputy County Clerk

By: Kelly McNicholas Kury
Kelly McNicholas Kury, Chair

Date: Jun-23-2021

By Patti Clapper
Patti Clapper, Commissioner

By: Steven F. Child
Steve Child, Commissioner

By Greg Poschman
Greg Poschman, Commissioner

By: Francie Jacober
Francie Jacober, Commissioner

APPROVED AS TO FORM:

MANAGER APPROVAL

John Ely
John Ely, County Attorney

Phylis Mattice
Phylis Mattice for Jon Peacock, County
Manager