

THE EFFECTIVE DATE OF THIS RESOLUTION IS July 21, 2020  
RESOLUTION NO. 20-22

RESOLUTION OF  
THE COUNTY COUNCIL  
OF FREDERICK COUNTY, MARYLAND

Re: Climate Emergency

**A RESOLUTION** establishing a Climate Emergency Mobilization Workgroup and committing the Frederick County Council to consider policy and legislative actions through the lens of climate change.

**WHEREAS**, our present climate crisis poses an immediate and long-term threat to the well-being of all communities, including Frederick County; and

**WHEREAS**, the adverse impacts of climate change test our infrastructure, emergency and social services; influence our access to food, water, and energy; disrupt commerce and our quality of life; and

**WHEREAS**, the harm already caused by climate change demonstrates the effect temperature changes have had on ecological stability and safety, as attested by increased wildfires, floods, rising seas, climate refugees, diseases, droughts, and the ongoing mass extinction of species due to these changes; and

**WHEREAS**, restoring a safer and more stable climate requires an emergency mobilization to reach net zero greenhouse gas emissions within a few decades, to improve carbon sequestration, and to implement measures to protect people and nature from the adverse consequences of abrupt climate change; and

**WHEREAS**, Section 203 of the Frederick County Charter allows the Council to appoint special ad hoc committees for inquiry and fact finding.

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED** by the County Council of Frederick County, Maryland, that climate change is threatening our county, state, nation and the world as we know it.

**AND BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED:**

- That the Frederick County Council commits to implementing policy and legislative actions through the lens of climate change.
- That the Frederick County Council commits to equitable climate emergency mobilization efforts to address global warming, reduce county-wide greenhouse gas emissions 50% from 2010 levels by 2030 and 100% no later than 2050, and employ efforts to safely drawdown carbon from the atmosphere.

- That the Frederick County Council establishes an ad-hoc Climate Emergency Mobilization Workgroup in coordination with the City of Frederick to make recommendations to the County Council to achieve these emission goals.
- That the Workgroup will be comprised of the two sponsors of this resolution or their designees and members of the community who may include, but are not limited to, representatives of the following groups:

Clean Water Action  
 Climate Change Working Group  
 Downtown Frederick Partnership  
 Electric Vehicle Association of Greater Washington, DC (EVADC)  
 Food Security Network  
 Frederick County Building Industry Association  
 Frederick County Chamber of Commerce  
 Frederick County Farm Bureau  
 Frederick County Food Council  
 Healthy Soils Frederick  
 Multifaith Alliance of Climate Stewards of Frederick County (MACS)  
 Sierra Club Catoctin Group  
 As well as representatives of public health, higher education, the scientific communities and other recognized and relevant stakeholders in the County.

- That the Workgroup will consider four main Climate Emergency concerns of specific relevance to Frederick County:
  - Energy, Transportation, and Buildings
  - Agriculture, Forestry, and Sequestration
  - Health and Extreme Weather Adaptation and Resilience
  - Public Engagement and Education
- That six months following the first meeting, the Climate Emergency Mobilization Workgroup will present a status report on the four main Climate Emergency concerns to the County Council on the progress of the Workgroup to date.
- That twelve months following the first meeting, the Climate Emergency Mobilization Workgroup will submit a final report to the County Council and to the public including legislative, administrative, and community recommendations to assist the County with meeting the goals of this resolution. Upon submission of this report, the County Council or their representatives, may submit questions/requests to the

workgroup for additional information. The workgroup will have eight weeks to respond to any requests after which time the workgroup will be dissolved.

- That the Frederick County Council will communicate with and educate the public about the climate emergency, including the efforts of the Climate Emergency Mobilization Workgroup.
- That this Resolution shall take effect on July 21, 2020.

The undersigned hereby certifies that this Resolution was approved and adopted on the 21st day of July, 2020.

COUNTY COUNCIL OF  
FREDERICK COUNTY, MARYLAND

By: M.C. Keegan-Ayer  
M.C. Keegan-Ayer, President *DTB*