

City of Racine

Legislative Report

City Hall 730 Washington Ave. Racine, WI 53403 www.cityofracine.org

File Number: Res. 0407-21

Agenda Date: 06/01/2021

File Type: Resolution

Joining the Wisconsin Local Government Climate Coalition (WLGCC).

Resolved, that this resolution approves of the City of Racine officially joining the Wisconsin Local Government Climate Coalition (WLGCC).

WHEREAS, The City of Racine has cause for concern regarding the negative impacts of climate change on greater society and within the local community insofar as climate change increases the risk of flooding, extreme weather, public infrastructure damage, and economic loss, and exacerbates racial inequities associated with environmental injustices; and

WHEREAS, Addressing and mitigating the major contributing factors, such as the burning of fossil fuels, is imperative to slow climate change and protect public welfare; and

WHEREAS, On April 16th, 2018, the City of Racine Common Council passed Res.0122-18 declaring its commitment to reducing its carbon footprint and supporting the goals of the Paris Climate Accord adopted on December 12, 2015; and

WHEREAS, The Biden-Harris Administration recently announced a federal goal of 50% reduction in economy-wide net greenhouse gas pollution by 2030; and

WHEREAS, The State of Wisconsin has a goal of 100% carbon-free electricity by 2050, and local governments are important actors to help implement the State's goal and Clean Energy Plan; and

WHEREAS, The Wisconsin Local Government Climate Coalition (WLGCC) is comprised of local governments that work together to seek low-carbon and clean energy solutions, and members recognize that climate change poses severe risks to communities and that the worst effects of climate change cannot be avoided without effective State policy; and

WHEREAS, WLGCC supports the following:

1. Increased State and Federal funding for energy efficiency, renewable energy, electrification of transportation and buildings, and advanced technology and research development solutions.

2. State policies and laws that enable local governments and others to implement such actions to grow the clean energy workforce.

3. A State plan to retire coal plants no later than 2040.

4. Choices and universal access to clean energy to reduce cost and participation barriers.

5. Smart growth development policies and funding to reduce vehicle miles traveled and to preserve natural resources, including agricultural, forestry, and recreational lands.

WHEREAS, The Cities of Eau Claire, Green Bay, La Crosse, Madison, and Milwaukee, and Dane and Milwaukee Counties have joined WLGCC; and

WHEREAS, There is no cost to becoming a WLGCC member; and

WHEREAS, The City of Racine shares the goals of the WLGCC, as demonstrated by Res.0122-18 passed on April 16th, 2018, when the City of Racine Common Council declared its commitment to reducing its carbon footprint and supporting the goals of the Paris Climate Accord;

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT:

The City of Racine officially joins the Wisconsin Local Government Climate Coalition and will contribute to sustaining its advocacy efforts.

Fiscal Note: N/A