

RESOLUTION R- 4659

A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF KIRKLAND  
ADOPTING GREENHOUSE GAS REDUCTION TARGETS.

WHEREAS, the City Council adopted the Natural Resource Management Plan on August 5, 2003 which contains the following Guiding Principles:

Natural resources are considered to be community assets that significantly affect the quality of life in Kirkland. In fact, human survival is dependent upon healthy natural systems.

Natural resources exist in complex, interrelated systems that need to be managed comprehensively in order to maintain the viability of each.

WHEREAS, scientific consensus has developed that carbon dioxide and other greenhouse gases released into the atmosphere have a profound effect on the Earth's climate; and

WHEREAS, in 2006 the U.S. National Climatic Data Center confirmed clear evidence of human influences on climate due to changes in greenhouse gases; and

WHEREAS, the U.S. Conference of Mayors endorsed the 2005 U.S. Mayors' Climate Protection Agreement initiated by Seattle Mayor Nickels and signed by 540 mayors in the United States as of June 2007 including the City of Kirkland's Mayor committing the City of Kirkland to its three main parts:

- a. We urge the federal government and state governments to enact policies and programs to meet or beat the target of reducing global warming pollution levels to 7 percent below 1990 levels by 2012, including efforts to: reduce the United States' dependence on fossil fuels and accelerate the development of clean, economical energy resources and fuel-efficient technologies such as conservation, methane recovery for energy generation, waste to energy, wind and solar energy, fuel cells, efficient motor vehicles, and biofuels;
- b. We urge the U.S. Congress to pass bipartisan greenhouse gas reduction legislation that includes 1) clear timetables and emissions limits and 2) a flexible, market-based system of tradable allowances among emitting industries; and

- c. We will strive to meet or exceed Kyoto Protocol targets for reducing global warming pollution (reduce greenhouse gases to 7% below 1990 levels) by taking actions in our own operations and communities.

WHEREAS, the City Council authorized staff to join International Council for Local Environmental Initiatives (ICLEI), on behalf of the City of Kirkland, as a Full Member and participate in the Cities for Climate Protection Campaign. As a participant, the City of Kirkland pledged to take a leadership role in promoting public awareness about the causes and impacts of climate change by undertaking the Cities for Climate Protection Campaign's five milestones to reduce both greenhouse gas and air pollution emissions throughout the community, specifically:

- Conduct a greenhouse gas emissions inventory and forecast to determine the source and quantity of greenhouse gas emissions in the City;
- Establish a greenhouse gas emissions reduction target;
- Develop an action plan with both existing and future actions which when implemented will meet the local greenhouse gas reduction target;
- Implement the action plan; and
- Monitor and report progress.

WHEREAS, local government actions taken to reduce greenhouse gas emissions and increase energy efficiency provide multiple local benefits by decreasing air pollution, creating jobs, reducing energy expenditures, and saving money for the local government, its businesses, and its residents;

NOW, THEREFORE, be it resolved by the City Council of the City of Kirkland as follows:

Section 1. The City of Kirkland hereby adopts the following Greenhouse Gas Reduction Targets:

- a. Emissions 20% below 2005 levels by 2020 for both the Kirkland community and municipal operations with an interim goal of 10% below 2005 levels by 2012; and
- b. Emissions 80% below 2005 levels by 2050.

Section 2. The Kirkland City Council directs staff to provide reports, at least biennially, outlining the greenhouse gas emission performance compared to set targets.

Section 3. The Kirkland City Council directs staff to develop a long term action plan that will lead to the targeted reductions in greenhouse gas emissions for municipal operations and the community through capital investment, operational changes, program development and public outreach.

Passed by majority vote of the Kirkland City Council in open meeting  
this 7th day of August, 2007.

Signed in authentication thereof this 7th day of August, 2007.

  
MAYOR

Attest:

  
City Clerk