

RESOLUTION NO. \_\_\_\_\_

A RESOLUTION OF THE COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF SANTA BARBARA TO JOIN WITH THE CITIES OF BERKELEY, LOS ANGELES, PASADENA, SACRAMENTO, SAN DIEGO, SAN FRANCISCO, SAN JOSE, SANTA MONICA AND THE COUNTY OF MARIN TO CREATE GREEN CITIES CALIFORNIA, TO COOPERATIVELY AND COLLECTIVELY TAKE ACTION TO ACCELERATE LOCAL, REGIONAL, NATIONAL AND INTERNATIONAL EFFORTS TO ACHIEVE SUSTAINABILITY.

Whereas, the cities of Berkeley, Los Angeles, Pasadena, Sacramento, San Diego, San Francisco, San Jose, Santa Barbara, Santa Monica and the County of Marin represent over 8 million residents of the State of California, along with their associated environmental impacts and responsibilities;

Whereas, we recognize that for the first time in history the majority of the planet's population now lives in cities, and that continued urbanization creates a new set of environmental challenges and opportunities;

Whereas, we recognize that local environmental problems including air pollution, water pollution, solid waste, traffic congestion, and the ubiquity of toxic chemicals in the environment contribute to significant public health impacts in our cities;

Whereas, we recognize that current global environmental challenges related to the over-consumption of natural resources, climate change, peak oil, availability of clean fresh water, food security, and environmental justice put our cities and our residents at serious risk and require immediate action at all levels;

Whereas, we have individually expressed our commitments through local sustainability plans and the U.S. Conference of Mayors Climate Protection Agreement;

Whereas, we have individually developed visions for a sustainable future and have demonstrated leadership in achieving effective solutions to these environmental challenges; and

Whereas, through our actions the City of Santa Barbara has:

- Diverted solid waste from the Tajiguas landfill.
- Reduced the amounts of hazardous and toxic materials entering the environment.
- Reduced potable water use through water conservation programs.
- Improved creek and ocean water quality.
- Increased the use of renewable energy for City facilities.
- Reduced single occupant vehicle trips and improved air quality.
- Improved quality of life for our residents.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF SANTA BARBARA AS FOLLOWS:

SECTION 1. The City of Santa Barbara joins with the Cities of Berkeley, Los Angeles, Pasadena, Sacramento, San Diego, San Francisco, San Jose, Santa Monica and the County of Marin to create Green Cities California, to cooperatively and collectively take action to accelerate local, regional, national and international efforts to achieve sustainability.

SECTION 2. By adopting this Resolution the City of Santa Barbara commits to:

1. Work together with other Green Cities California members to influence State and National policy to promote:
  - Reductions in greenhouse gas emissions.
  - Extended Producer Responsibility.
  - Sustainable land use, building and development.
  - Waste reduction.
  - Water conservation.
  - Energy efficiency and renewable energy.
  - Reduction in vehicle miles traveled and single occupancy vehicles.
  - Equitable distribution of environmental benefits and burdens and to secure State and Federal funding to enhance the ability of local governments to accomplish these goals.
2. Assist other local governments throughout the state and the nation to adopt and implement sustainable policies and practices.
3. Work to achieve the initial actions listed below for municipal operations:
  - Purchase of “100% post-consumer recycled” paper for all government operations.
  - Elimination of the purchase of bottled water for government operations and government sponsored events.
  - Develop and adopt:
    - A campaign for the municipal purchase of local California foods.
    - An emissions offset plan for municipal air travel.
    - Fuel efficiency standards for municipal vehicle fleets.