

**Borough of Carlisle**

**RESOLUTION NO. 07-09-2020-01**

**A RESOLUTION OF THE BOROUGH COUNCIL OF THE BOROUGH OF CARLISLE, CUMBERLAND COUNTY, PENNSYLVANIA, TO DEVELOP AND IMPLEMENT A STRATEGY TO REDUCE GREENHOUSE GAS (GHG) EMISSIONS CONSISTENT WITH U.S. INTERNATIONAL PARIS ACCORD COMMITMENTS**

**WHEREAS**, Over the past century, the Earth's climate has warmed by approximately 1 degree Celsius; and

**WHEREAS**, Global warming has devastated the planet by accelerating the collapse of the West Antarctic Ice Sheet and thawing the Arctic permafrost while also increasing the prevalence of droughts, heatwaves, forest fires, super storms, flash flooding, insect-borne diseases, the melting of glaciers, coral bleaching, the mass extinction of species, ocean oxygen loss, and sea level rise, and human migration; and

**WHEREAS**, In 2015, the Pennsylvania Climate Impacts Assessment Update found that Pennsylvania's climate warmed more than 1.8 degrees Fahrenheit in the past 110 years and predicted that current warming trends will increase at an accelerated rate with average temperatures projected to rise an additional 5.4 degrees Fahrenheit by 2050; and

**WHEREAS**, Every year, Pennsylvania experiences the negative effects of these trends; and

**WHEREAS**, Because of global warming, 2018 was the wettest year on record in Pennsylvania with increased rainfall and flooding costing residents an estimated \$144 million in reported damages and costing the state at least \$125 million in damages to state-maintained infrastructure; and

**WHEREAS**, In January 2019, Governor Wolf signed an executive order, consistent with the International Paris Climate Accord, to set Pennsylvania's first statewide climate goals, aiming to reduce greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions 26 percent by 2025 and 80 percent by 2050, compared to 2005 levels; and

**WHEREAS**, At the request of the Carlisle Borough Council, Dickinson College prepared a GHG Inventory to quantify carbon emissions in the Borough of Carlisle and inform activities to address the impact of global warming; and

**WHEREAS**, One of the 19 strategies in the 2018 Pennsylvania Climate Action Plan is "lead by example in commonwealth and local government practices and assets;"

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED,** That the Borough of Carlisle commit to reducing its GHG emissions 26 percent by 2025 and 80 percent by 2050, compared to 2005 levels.

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED,** That the Borough of Carlisle commit to meeting or exceeding any future state, federal, or international governmental commitments on GHG emissions.

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED,** That the Carlisle Borough Council form a Carlisle Climate Action Commission to provide alternative pathways for reaching, and equitably implementing, the borough's climate goals.

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED,** That the Carlisle Borough Council, in coordination with the Borough Manager, appoint members to the Carlisle Climate Action Commission that shall include individuals from borough staff, borough council, the business community, the academic community, and any other individuals as the council deems appropriate.

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED,** That the public have opportunity to discuss and debate any alternative pathways or recommendations made by the Carlisle Climate Action Commission.

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED,** That the Carlisle Borough Council approve an alternative pathway as the basis for a climate action plan through a separate resolution no later than one year from convening of the Carlisle Climate Action Commission.

**I HEREBY CERTIFY** that this Resolution was adopted as amended by the Borough Council of the Borough of Carlisle at its public meeting on July 9, 2020.

**BOROUGH OF CARLISLE**

By \_\_\_\_\_  
Timothy A. Scott, Mayor

**ATTEST:**

\_\_\_\_\_  
Borough Secretary

(BOROUGH SEAL)