

Proposed Ordinance No. ____

BEFORE THE CITY COUNCIL OF CORVALLIS, OREGON AN ORDINANCE ESTABLISHING A CLIMATE ACTION ADVISORY BOARD.

WHEREAS, the City of Corvallis has adopted a Climate Action Plan (CAP) with measurable greenhouse gas reduction targets, action areas, and strategies; and

WHEREAS, future work to implement this plan and achieve climate recovery goals will require guided and systematic actions, strategic prioritization, and attention to best practices; and

WHEREAS, The City can benefit greatly in this process from the knowledge of professionals with training in CAP action areas, and the perspective of diverse citizens and underrepresented communities; therefore,

THE CITY OF CORVALLIS ORDAINS AS FOLLOWS:

Section 1 – Climate Action Advisory Board

A Climate Action Advisory Board (“Board”) is hereby created.

The Board will consist of 9 members, appointed by the Mayor in accordance with Section 1.16.030 of the Corvallis Municipal Code. In appointing members of this board, the Mayor shall strive to select individuals representing a diverse range of backgrounds, ages, and cultural affiliations, and demonstrating knowledge of climate change and its relationship to the CAP Action Areas (Buildings & Energy, Land Use & Transportation, Consumption & Waste, Food & Agriculture, Urban Natural Resources, or Health, Social Services & Community Well-Being), including at least one member professionally trained as a climate scientist. Among the members, there should be representation from the Corvallis Sustainability Coalition, Benton County, Oregon State University, a local climate advocacy group, and a community group advocating for underrepresented populations.

The Board exists to act as an advisory body to the City Council, City Manager, and City staff in the development or initiation of programs or actions that will help achieve Corvallis’ emissions reductions targets. This work includes the following:

1. Make recommendations to the Council and City Manager for policy, programs, or actions designed to:
 - a. Meet overall GHG reduction targets; and
 - b. Aid the community in meeting CAP Community Mitigation actions; and
 - c. Implement the Municipal Operations actions contained in the CAP; and
2. Advise climate recovery-related initiatives in the City’s Comprehensive Plan, future drafts of the Corvallis Strategic Plan, and Sustainability Work Plan; and
3. Assist City Staff in conducting a biennial greenhouse gas inventory of municipal and community emissions, using tools consistent with former years; and
4. Assist City Staff in completing five-year reviews of the CAP, in response to the most recent greenhouse gas inventory, ensuring that updates to the Plan:
 - a. Conform to the most up-to-date science; and
 - b. Focus on achieving the 2050 emissions reductions targets; and

- c. Prescribe the annual CO₂ emission reductions necessary to achieve the 2050 target; and
 - d. Define mechanisms for meeting the carbon budget and emission reductions by sector; and
5. Contribute to and review the Climate Action Annual Report produced by City Staff to ensure that it details:
 - a. Progress on programs or actions designed to aid the Community in meeting CAP Community Mitigation actions; and
 - b. Progress made on Municipal Operations Actions outlined in the CAP; and
 - c. The results of the annual greenhouse gas emissions inventories; and
 - d. Progress towards greenhouse gas emissions reductions targets; and
 - e. The annual CO₂ emission reductions necessary to achieve the 2050 target; and
6. Identify and pursue funding opportunities for Corvallis climate recovery initiatives.

Section 2 – Interpretations and Definitions

1. “Carbon Budget” means the total amount of CO₂ emissions that can be released by a particular body or community over a specific time frame while ensuring a return to the maximum safe atmospheric limit of no more than 350 ppm CO₂ by the year 2100.
2. “Climate Change” means the negative impacts of GHG-related global climatological change, including surface warming, ocean warming, and ocean acidification.
3. “Greenhouse Gas” or “GHG” means any gas that has contributed to anthropogenic global warming, including but not limited to carbon dioxide, methane, nitrous oxide, hydrofluorocarbons, perfluorocarbons, and sulfur hexafluoride.
4. “Local” means the geophysical area within the City of Corvallis’ jurisdiction.
5. “Most Up-to-date Climate Science” means:
 - a. the most current scientific knowledge and understanding from qualified climate system scientists on safe levels of CO₂ and other greenhouse gases and their near-term and long-term impacts; and
 - b. the most current scientific knowledge and understanding from qualified climate system scientists as to the greenhouse gas emissions reductions required to stabilize the climate system and preserve a habitable and safe climate system for future generations.
6. “Verifiable Carbon Offsets” are purchasable credits, generated by discrete carbon reduction projects, and authenticated to prove that real, permanent, verifiable, additional and enforceable emissions reductions have occurred.

Section 3 – Severability

If any section, subsection, paragraph, sentence, clause, or phrase of this ordinance shall be declared invalid for any reason whatsoever, such decision shall not affect the remaining portions of this ordinance which shall continue in full force and effect, and to this end the provisions of this ordinance are hereby declared to be severable.

ENACTED AND ORDAINED this ____ day of _____, 2017, by the City of Corvallis, in Benton County, Oregon.

Passed by the City Council this
____ day of _____, 2017.

Approved by the City Manager this
____ day of _____, 2017.
