

# OAKLAND CITY COUNCIL

RESOLUTION NO. \_\_\_\_\_ C.M.S.

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## RESOLUTION ADOPTING THE 2030 OAKLAND EQUITABLE CLIMATE ACTION PLAN

**WHEREAS**, on September 27, 2006, California Governor Arnold Schwarzenegger signed into law Assembly Bill 32 (AB 32), or the Global Warming Solutions Act of 2006, committing California to reducing statewide greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions to 2000 levels by 2010, to 1990 levels by 2020, and to a level 80 percent below 1990 levels by 2050; and

**WHEREAS**, in 2012, the City Council approved Resolution No. 84126 C.M.S., adopting the City's 2020 Energy and Climate Action Plan, which provided a strategy for the City to reach the goal of reducing greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions 36 percent by 2020; and

**WHEREAS**, the latest report of the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC), a body of the world's most authoritative climate scientists, suggests that industrialized countries must reduce GHG emissions to levels 25-40% below 1990 levels by 2020 and 80-95% below 1990 levels by 2050 to achieve a level of climate stabilization that includes relatively minor consequences; and

**WHEREAS**, Oakland's GHG emissions must be reduced by 83% below 2005 levels by 2050 to align with the IPCC recommendations and previous direction from City Council; and

**WHEREAS**, in May 2018, the City Council approved Resolution No. 87133 C.M.S., adopting the GHG emissions reduction target of 56 percent below 2005 emissions by 2030, and directing staff to explicitly engage the most climate-impacted neighborhoods in a community-driven process in developing the strategy to meet the target; and

**WHEREAS**, in July 2018, the City Council approved Resolution No. 87292 C.M.S., establishing the 13-member ECAP ad hoc Community Advisory Committee

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to provide expert and community-based insight in development of the 2030 Equitable Climate Action Plan (2030 ECAP) and to advise staff on the community engagement processes to create the new plan; and

**WHEREAS**, in November 2018, the City Council approved Resolution No. 87397 C.M.S., declaring a climate emergency and calling for regional collaboration and an immediate just transition and emergency mobilization effort to reverse global warming and accelerate adaptation and resilience strategies in preparation for intensifying climate impacts; and

**WHEREAS**, on January 22, 2019, the Oakland City Council unanimously adopted Resolution 87511 C.M.S., supporting a Green New Deal and directing the City Administrator to incorporate principles of the Green New Deal into the City's new climate strategy; and

**WHEREAS**, current global warming has contributed to the increasing frequency and intensity of wildfires, floods, droughts, heat waves, and hurricanes; and

**WHEREAS**, the current pace of sea-level rise is already impacting California's coastline, increasing the extent and frequency of flooding in Oakland, with the possibility of as much as 66 inches of total sea-level rise by 2100; and

**WHEREAS**, restoring a safe and stable climate requires mobilization at all levels of government and society on a scale, scope, and speed not seen since World War Two; and

**WHEREAS**, marginalized communities worldwide—including African Americans and people of color, immigrants, indigenous communities, low-income people, those with disabilities, and the unsheltered—are already disproportionately affected by climate change and must benefit first and foremost from a just transition to a sustainable and equitable economy; and

**WHEREAS**, efforts to reverse climate change, when rooted in equity and a just transition, have broad benefits including cleaner air and water, robust job pathways and employment closer to home, cost savings for households and the City, and the priceless creation of community; and

**WHEREAS**, the City of Oakland must do everything in its power to swiftly convert to an ecologically, socially, and economically sustainable economy; and

**WHEREAS**, a viable strategy to build climate resilience and accomplish a just transition to a low-carbon economy can only be accomplished through an equity- and community-driven approach; and

**WHEREAS**, the City of Oakland pioneered the Equity Facilitator (EF) model to work with community partners in ensuring process equity in developing Oakland's

ten- year strategy to achieve Council's adopted 2030 GHG reduction target and achieve climate equity and climate resilience, conducting an extensive one-and-a-half-year-long community engagement process, designed to particularly engage frontline community members; and

**WHEREAS**, the EF recruited a Neighborhood Leadership Cohort (NLC) of two residents from each City Council District who received training on City government processes, equity principles, basics of climate science, and the goals of the ECAP, and were provided an hourly stipend to co-lead outreach and co-facilitate engagement; and

**WHEREAS**, more than 2,100 Oakland residents, as well as technical experts, directly weighed in on and influenced the content of the final 2030 ECAP through (1) seven district-based community workshops and one citywide workshop; (2) an online survey provided in three languages; (3) an interactive online draft published to collect public comments; (4) two citywide Town Halls; (5) youth engagement; and (6) other pop-up engagement events designed to meet people where they were and engage them in hands-on activities to make climate action relevant and accessible; and

**WHEREAS**, through the extensive community engagement process, under the advisement of the ECAP ad hoc Community Advisory Committee, and with rigorous GHG modeling and analysis that began in 2016, the 2030 ECAP includes 40 Actions that span the primary sectors of GHG emissions reduction and climate resilience in Oakland, specifically: (1) Transportation and Land Use; (2) Buildings; (3) Material Waste and Consumption; (4) Adaptation; (5) Carbon Removal; (6) City Leadership; and (7) the Port of Oakland; and

**WHEREAS**, the 2030 ECAP establishes the City's ten-year plan to: (1) achieve the GHG emissions reduction target of 56% by 2030; (2) alleviate racial disparities and the disproportionate impacts of the climate crisis and its root causes on frontline communities in Oakland, by ensuring their full representation in the development and consequent implementation of the 2030 ECAP; (3) ensure that the benefits of equitable climate action flow first and foremost to the communities that have been impacted first and worst by the impacts of climate change; (4) improve Oakland's resilience to the impacts of climate change; and (5) remove carbon from the atmosphere through local projects that support community health and jobs; and

**WHEREAS**, the EF developed a Preliminary Equity Screen to assess the likelihood that the final 2030 ECAP would maximize equity benefits across Oakland, and following iterative reviews, determined that all final 2030 ECAP Actions sufficiently pass this assessment tool; and

**WHEREAS**, the EF developed a Racial Equity Impact Assessment and Implementation Guide, intended to serve as a companion document to the 2030 ECAP to advise City staff in equitably implementing the ECAP's 40 Actions, and which was reviewed and approved by the City's Department of Race and Equity;

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and

**WHEREAS**, benefits of ECAP implementation will include creation of good, green job pathways, particularly for those that have traditionally faced employment barriers; cleaner air, particularly along the I-880 and other heavily congested corridors; improved housing security; healthier indoor air; improved mobility; enhanced nature access; improved tree canopy coverage in East and West Oakland; and a stronger voice in policy and program development and implementation for historically marginalized communities; and

**WHEREAS**, the 2030 ECAP directs staff to partner with community leaders in developing the Oakland Climate Action Network, a transformative structure to build capacity of Oakland's grassroots organizations to co-lead equitable climate action with the City, enhance trust between the City and frontline communities, ensure that frontline communities' members have a meaningful seat at the table in designing and implementing climate projects that impact their communities, and building the capacity of the City to meaningfully and equitably engage and partner with organizations and community members from historically underserved and underrepresented groups; and

**WHEREAS**, the City has reviewed the adoption of the 2030 ECAP for compliance under the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA), and finds that the adoption of the 2030 ECAP, as supported by substantial evidence in the record including the analysis supporting the 2030 ECAP and the materials attached to the City Administrator's agenda report, is exempt from CEQA review pursuant to 14 California Code of Regulations section 15308 (actions by regulatory agencies for the protection of the environment), because the actions in the 2030 ECAP ensure compliance with AB 32 and the City of Oakland's GHG reduction target, include procedures to assure the protection of the environment, do not authorize construction activities or relaxation of standards allowing environmental degradation, and none of the exceptions to the categorical exemption apply; now therefore be it

**RESOLVED:** That the foregoing recitals are integral to this Resolution and are incorporated herein; and be it

**FURTHER RESOLVED:** That the City Council hereby finds and determines, on the basis of substantial evidence in the record, that the adoption of the 2030 ECAP is exempt from CEQA pursuant to CEQA Guidelines section 15308 (actions by regulatory agencies for the protection of the environment); and be it

**FURTHER RESOLVED:** That the City of Oakland is committed to continuing its leadership in reducing the City's GHG emissions by its 2030 target to mitigate the future effects of climate change both locally and globally, and improve the climate equity outcomes of the City's frontline communities [by following the recommendations and best practices outlined in the Racial Equity Impact Assessment and Implementation Guide](#); and be it

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**FURTHER RESOLVED:** That the City of Oakland hereby adopts the 2030 Equitable Climate Action Plan; and be it

**FURTHER RESOLVED:** That the City Administrator or designee is authorized to file a Notice of Exemption with the appropriate agencies.

IN COUNCIL, OAKLAND, CALIFORNIA,

PASSED BY THE FOLLOWING VOTE:

AYES - FORTUNATO BAS, GALLO, GIBSON MCELHANEY, KALB, REID, TAYLOR, THAO AND PRESIDENT KAPLAN

NOES –

ABSENT –

ABSTENTION –

ATTEST: \_\_\_\_\_  
ASHA REED  
Acting City Clerk and Clerk of the  
Council of the City of Oakland, California