

CITY OF HIGHLAND, KANSAS

RESOLUTION NUMBER 2024-04

A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF HIGHLAND, KANSAS, ESTABLISHING A CLIMATE CHANGE RESILIENCY PLAN TO ENHANCE COMMUNITY SUSTAINABILITY AND SAFETY.

WHEREAS, the City of Highland recognizes the increasing impacts of climate change, including more frequent and severe weather events, rising temperatures, and other environmental challenges; and

WHEREAS, the health, safety, and well-being of the residents of Highland are of utmost importance; and

WHEREAS, it is essential to proactively plan and implement strategies to enhance the city's resilience to climate change and ensure sustainable development for future generations;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the city council of Highland, Kansas, as follows:

Section 1. Purpose:

The purpose of this resolution is to establish a comprehensive Climate Change Resiliency Plan for the City of Highland to mitigate the impacts of climate change, protect public health and safety, and promote sustainable practices.

Section 2. Climate Risk Assessment

The City of Highland will conduct a comprehensive climate risk assessment to identify vulnerabilities and potential impacts of climate change, including increased flooding, extreme temperatures, and drought.

Section 3. Community Engagement

The City will actively involve local residents, businesses, and stakeholders in the planning and implementation of climate resilience strategies to ensure that the plan reflects the needs and priorities of the community.

Section 4. Infrastructure Improvements

The City commits to enhancing stormwater management systems, building or reinforcing levees and flood barriers, and creating green infrastructure such as rain gardens and permeable pavements to reduce flood risks. Efforts will also be made to increase tree canopy cover, promote cool roofs, and upgrade water infrastructure.

Section 5. Emergency Preparedness

The City will develop and maintain early warning systems for extreme weather events, establish clear evacuation routes and plans, and train local emergency response teams to ensure community readiness.

Section 6. Sustainable Practices

The City will promote energy-efficient buildings, renewable energy sources, and sustainable agricultural practices. Efforts will be made to enhance recycling programs and reduce waste generation.

Section 7. Health and Social Services

The City will ensure that local healthcare facilities are equipped to handle climate-related health issues and strengthen community networks to support vulnerable populations.

Section 8. Policy and Regulation

The City will update building codes and zoning regulations to incorporate climate resilience measures and provide incentives for residents and businesses to adopt such measures.

Section 9. Education and Awareness

The City will conduct public awareness campaigns to educate the community about climate risks and resilience strategies and integrate climate change education into school curricula.

Section 10. Funding and Implementation

The City will seek funding opportunities from state and federal programs to support the implementation of the Climate Change Resiliency Plan and provide necessary resources for its success.

Section 11. Review and Updates

The Climate Change Resiliency Plan will be reviewed and updated regularly to ensure its effectiveness in addressing evolving climate challenges and to incorporate new knowledge and best practices.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, the governing body of the City of Highland is devoted to enhancing the quality of life for the residence of the Highland community and recognizes the importance of being proactive to mitigate environmental conditions and impacts.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that this resolution shall take effect immediately upon its adoption.

ADOPTED by the governing body of the City of Highland, Kansas, this 14th day of August, 2024.



Charles N. Batchelder, Mayor

ATTEST:



Joann Karn, City Clerk