

Municipal Clerk's Office
Amended and Approved
Date: **September 25, 2018**

Submitted by: Assembly Chair Dunbar,
Assembly Vice-Chair Croft,
Assembly Members Constant,
Quinn-Davidson, Rivera, and
Petersen, and Mayor Berkowitz
Prepared by: Office of the Mayor
For reading: September 25, 2018

ANCHORAGE, ALASKA
AR No. 2018-286, As Amended

1 **A RESOLUTION OF THE ANCHORAGE MUNICIPAL ASSEMBLY SUPPORTING**
2 **THE DEVELOPMENT OF A CLIMATE ACTION PLAN**
3

4 **WHEREAS**, the changing climate impacts the health and wellbeing of Municipality of
5 Anchorage (MOA) residents and poses economic and safety challenges including
6 increased wildfire risk and increased costs to maintain and operate critical Municipal
7 infrastructure; and
8

9 **WHEREAS**, the MOA strives to reduce greenhouse gas emissions and improve the
10 ability of Anchorage residents to respond to the impacts of the changing climate; and
11

12 **WHEREAS**, a climate action plan is the best platform to outline a comprehensive
13 strategy to address a changing climate; and
14

15 **WHEREAS**, the MOA endeavors to lead by example through implementing practices
16 that improve building energy efficiency, transportation choices, solid waste reduction,
17 protect natural resources, sustainable economic development, and promote human
18 health and wellbeing; and
19

20 **WHEREAS**, Municipal efforts to reduce carbon emissions and adapt to climate
21 change impacts will have additional benefits for residents, including cost savings,
22 improved air quality, better public health outcomes, and job creation; and
23

24 **WHEREAS**, a Climate Action Plan (CAP) supports the ongoing work of the MOA to
25 improve climate preparedness, including hiring an Energy and Sustainability Manager
26 within the Department of Solid Waste Services, piloting electric vehicle and
27 alternative fuel projects, and implementing the LED Street Light Retrofit Project,
28 actions that reduce the Municipality's greenhouse gas emissions while saving money
29 and energy; and
30

31 **WHEREAS**, the MOA signed a Memorandum of Understanding with the University of
32 Alaska Anchorage (UAA) supporting collaboration on community opportunities and
33 challenges, and UAA has committed to assisting in the development of a CAP
34 through this partnership; now, therefore,
35

36
37 **THE ANCHORAGE ASSEMBLY RESOLVES:**
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39 **Section 1.** Municipal employees and departments will work with University of
40 Alaska scientists and technical experts on an assessment that explores the current

1 and future impacts of climate change on the MOA. Municipal employee
2 involvement in this project will not in any way depreciate the providing of
3 services to Anchorage citizens nor delay the completion of the Comprehensive
4 Plan or the issuing of permits or licenses.

5
6 **Section 2.** Municipal employees and departments will work with University of
7 Alaska scientists and technical experts to establish feasible goals for the CAP and
8 identify actions to achieve those goals.

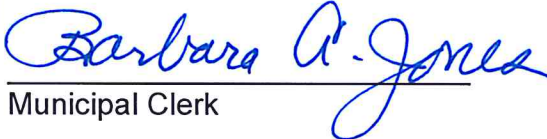
9
10 Upon completion, the Assembly shall review the draft CAP for consideration and
11 adoption.

12
13 **Section 3.** This resolution shall be effective immediately upon passage and
14 approval by the Assembly.

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17 PASSED AND APPROVED by the Anchorage Assembly this 25th day of September,
18 2018.

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22 
23 _____
24 Chair

25 ATTEST:

26 
27 _____
28 Municipal Clerk



MUNICIPALITY OF ANCHORAGE
Assembly Memorandum

No. AM 588-2018

Meeting Date: September 25, 2018

1 **From: MAYOR**

2 **Subject: A RESOLUTION OF THE ANCHORAGE MUNICIPAL ASSEMBLY**
3 **SUPPORTING THE DEVELOPMENT OF A CLIMATE ACTION PLAN**
4

5 This resolution is intended to support the development of a Municipal Climate Action
6 Plan (CAP) that will outline a comprehensive strategy to reduce greenhouse gas
7 emissions and adapt to the impacts of climate change.
8

9 The changing climate negatively impacts ecosystems, public health, the economy, and
10 quality of life. In Anchorage, average annual temperatures are expected to rise by at
11 least 4°F to 6°F, threatening the Municipality's drinking water supply and increasing the
12 risk of wildfire. Changes in freeze-thaw cycles have implications for street maintenance
13 and other critical infrastructure.
14

15 Many other cities and states have adopted climate action plans, and have seen benefits
16 ranging from energy and cost savings to new jobs. Other cities have successfully
17 leveraged their climate action plans to attract grant funding for projects that improve
18 community wellbeing and decrease cost of living. Actions undertaken as a part of the
19 CAP will result in substantial community and environmental benefits, such as improving
20 equity, economic prosperity, job creation, environmental quality, and health.
21

22 The University of Alaska (UA) will be a key partner with the Municipality in the
23 development of the CAP, in accordance with the December 2017 MOU signed by the
24 Municipality and UAA. The CAP steering committee composed of Municipal
25 representatives and University faculty was recently awarded an \$80,000 grant from the
26 University of Alaska Faculty Initiative Fund to fund this project.
27

28 Recognizing the importance of broad engagement, UA faculty, non-profit, governmental,
29 and community-based organizations, Anchorage residents, and Municipal staff will
30 participate in the working groups that will develop these recommendations. The plan will
31 focus on actions that the Municipality can take to reduce emissions within Municipal
32 operations and beyond, and actions that prepare the entire community for future climate
33 impacts. The CAP steering committee will facilitate community engagement throughout
34 the development of the plan to ensure that it reflects the goals and values of Anchorage
35 residents.
36

37 **THE ADMINISTRATION RECOMMENDS APPROVAL.**
38

39 Prepared by: Catherine J. Kemp, Office of the Mayor

40 Approved by: Ona R. Brause, Chief of Staff

41 Concur: Lance Wilber, Director, Office of Management and
42 Budget

43 Concur: Alexander Slivka, CFO

44 Concur: William D. Falsey, Municipal Manager

45 Respectfully submitted: Ethan A. Berkowitz, Mayor