

RESOLUTION NO. _____

A RESOLUTION OF THE COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF SANTA BARBARA ADOPTING A GOAL OF CARBON NEUTRALITY FOR THE SANTA BARBARA COMMUNITY BY 2035.

WHEREAS, there is scientific consensus regarding the reality of climate change and the connection between greenhouse gas emissions and warming of the planet; and

WHEREAS, greenhouse gas emissions and resulting climate change impacts pose a direct threat to human and environmental health globally through increased air and water pollution, potential sea level rise, climate-driven drought and extreme weather events, and accelerated loss of species and habitats; and

WHEREAS, the City recently released a draft Sea Level Rise Adaptation Plan that outlines forecasted implications of sea level rise related to climate change; and

WHEREAS, the City is already experiencing the effects of more extreme weather events including wildfires, drought, debris flows, and extreme heat days often attributed to climate change; and

WHEREAS, the State of California is increasingly encouraging the reduction of greenhouse gas emissions and promoting carbon neutrality through legislation and policy implementations; and

WHEREAS, in 2012, the City adopted a Climate Action Plan that established a community-wide carbon emission-reduction target for 2020 and a per capita vehicle carbon emission-reduction target for 2030, and these targets have already been met;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF SANTA BARBARA AS FOLLOWS:

SECTION 1. The City establishes a goal of carbon neutrality for the entire City of Santa Barbara community by 2035.

SECTION 2. By December 31, 2021, the City's interdepartmental Climate Action Plan Team will present to Council a Climate Action Plan, including strategies, implementation pathways, financial resources needed, and associated timeline and milestones to achieve the goal.