

1 RESOLUTION NO. 2018-

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3 A RESOLUTION OF THE BOARD OF COUNTY  
4 COMMISSIONERS OF BROWARD COUNTY, FLORIDA  
5 ("BOARD"), ACCEPTING AND ENDORSING THE RECENT  
6 SPECIAL REPORT ON GLOBAL WARMING OF 1.5°C BY  
7 THE INTERGOVERNMENTAL PANEL ON CLIMATE  
8 CHANGE; RECOMMITTING TO COUNTYWIDE AND  
9 REGIONAL CLIMATE ACTION; COMMITTING TO EVEN  
10 MORE AMBITIOUS CLIMATE ACTION; DIRECTING STAFF  
11 TO EXPLORE ADDITIONAL CLIMATE ACTIONS AT LOCAL  
12 AND REGIONAL LEVELS AND SEEK ALL  
13 OPPORTUNITIES FOR DEEPENING CLEAN,  
14 RENEWABLE, AND EFFICIENT ENERGY PRACTICES AS  
15 PART OF ALL COUNTY OPERATIONS, PROGRAMS,  
16 PARTNERSHIPS, AND SERVICES; AND PROVIDING FOR  
17 AN EFFECTIVE DATE.

18 (Sponsored by Commissioner Nan H. Rich)

19 WHEREAS, Broward County is particularly vulnerable to the effects of global  
20 climate change given our low elevation, porous geology, and exposure to tropical storms;

21 WHEREAS, the Earth has already warmed approximately 1.0 degree Celsius (°C)  
22 above pre-industrial levels;

23 WHEREAS, at this level of warming, the planet is already experiencing the effects  
24 of climate change, including greater frequency of extreme heat waves, extreme  
precipitation events, and coastal flooding; more intense tropical storms; greater frequency  
and severity of coral bleaching events; higher average land and ocean temperatures; and  
increased ocean acidity;

WHEREAS, the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change ("IPCC"),  
established by the United Nations Environment Programme and the World Meteorological  
Organization to carry out internationally coordinated scientific assessments of the  
magnitude, timing, and potential impact of climate change, released its Special Report on

1 Global Warming of 1.5°C in October 2018 detailing how the Earth's weather, health, and  
2 ecosystems could be improved if human-caused warming could be limited to no more  
3 than 1.5°C, instead of the globally agreed-upon goal of 2.0°C;

4 WHEREAS, the IPCC Special Report forecasts that the difference between a total  
5 temperature increase of 1.5°C and 2.0°C above pre-industrial levels means:

- 6 • An extra degree of temperature for extreme hot days in mid-latitudes, from 3°C  
7 to 4°C more;
- 8 • Higher risk of drought and precipitation deficits in some regions;
- 9 • Higher amounts of heavy precipitation associated with tropical cyclones;
- 10 • Four (4) inches of additional sea level rise by 2100;
- 11 • Extinction or extreme threats to plant and animal species; specifically, double  
12 or triple the number of insects, plants, and vertebrates who will lose over half  
13 of their geographical range;
- 14 • Transformation of fifty percent (50%) more global terrestrial land area from  
15 one (1) ecosystem to another and higher risk of invasive species;
- 16 • Virtual loss of coral reefs at ninety-nine (99%) due to higher ocean temperature  
17 and ocean acidity, with increased risks to marine biodiversity, fisheries,  
18 ecosystems, and their functions and services to humans; and
- 19 • Increased risk of lower economic growth;

20 WHEREAS, one of the IPCC Special Report's lead authors stated that limiting  
21 warming to no more than 1.5°C will at least preserve a semblance of the ecosystems we  
22 have while warming above 2°C means a different and more challenging Earth for people  
23 and species;

24

1           WHEREAS, the climate model scenarios discussed in the IPCC Special Report  
2 require human-caused net carbon dioxide emissions to decline by about  
3 forty-five percent (45%) from 2010 by 2030 and to reach net zero around 2050 to limit  
4 warming to 1.5°C or to only briefly overshoot it;

5           WHEREAS, the IPCC Special Report states that "current nationally stated  
6 mitigation ambitions as submitted under the Paris Agreement...would not limit global  
7 warming to 1.5°C, even if supplemented by very challenging increases in the scale and  
8 ambition of emissions reductions after 2030";

9           WHEREAS, according to the United Nations Environment Emissions Gap Report  
10 2017, current national mitigation efforts are on course for a level of warming of 3°C by  
11 2100, with warming continuing afterwards;

12           WHEREAS, the lower the overall global temperature increase, the lower the losses  
13 to and stresses on human and natural systems and the lower the costs of adaptation;

14           WHEREAS, the IPCC Special Report recognizes that "[a] slower rate of sea level  
15 rise enables greater opportunities for adaptation in the human and ecological systems of  
16 small islands, low-lying coastal areas and deltas," opportunities that low-lying coastal  
17 areas such as southeast Florida urgently need to pursue;

18           WHEREAS, the IPCC processes and products, like the IPCC Special Report,  
19 represent a consensus viewpoint of dozens of national governments, tending to be  
20 conservative in its conclusions, thereby lending special weight to the urgent and  
21 far-reaching messages of the IPCC Special Report; and

22           WHEREAS, it is thus incumbent upon all of us to take more aggressive and  
23 coordinated action on energy choices and consumption practices as these decisions  
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1 collectively determine the scenario we deliver to the next generation, NOW,  
2 THEREFORE,

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4 BE IT RESOLVED BY THE BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS OF  
5 BROWARD COUNTY, FLORIDA:

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7 Section 1. The Board accepts and endorses the IPCC Special Report.

8 Section 2. The Board recommits to implementation of the 2015 Broward County  
9 Climate Change Action Plan, the Under2 Coalition Zero Emission Vehicle Targeted  
10 Challenge, active leadership in the Southeast Florida Regional Climate Change Compact  
11 ("Compact"), and other national and international climate coalitions.

12 Section 3. The Board commits to even more ambitious climate action equal to  
13 the challenge confronting us, including higher energy reduction and renewable energy  
14 goals, accelerated implementation of projects, stronger community-facing goals and  
15 programs, and even stronger engagement with its Compact partners and state, national,  
16 and international coalitions combating climate change, and directs staff to undertake  
17 these efforts.

18 Section 4. The Board directs staff to devote particular attention to the integration  
19 of solar technology to meet or substantially offset building-specific energy demands at all  
20 viable County facilities and to accelerate replacement of all County fleet vehicles with  
21 electric vehicles ("EV") or low emission alternative fuel vehicles, where appropriate.

22 Section 5. The Board directs staff to coordinate internally, Countywide, and  
23 regionally to expand EV charging infrastructure, including investments at County facilities  
24 for fleet vehicles, employees, and the general public.

1 Section 6. The Board directs staff to augment efforts to reduce the urban heat  
2 island effect, and the energy demand it drives, through increased tree canopy and  
3 Countywide cool roof policy recommendations, programs, and projects.

4 Section 7. The Board directs staff to bolster efforts focused on energy efficiency  
5 programs, projects, and practices to address energy consumption at County facilities, in  
6 the residential sector, and at commercial facilities.

7 Section 8. Effective Date.

8 This Resolution is effective upon adoption.

9

10 ADOPTED this day of , 2018.

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12 Approved as to form and legal sufficiency:  
13 Andrew J. Meyers, County Attorney

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14 By /s/ Michael C. Owens 12/04/18  
15 Michael C. Owens (date)  
16 Senior Assistant County Attorney

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17 By /s/ Maite Azcoitia 12/04/18  
18 Maite Azcoitia (date)  
19 Deputy County Attorney

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