

WHEREAS, climate change is a global issue with severe local impacts, and as a result of our changing climate, Pittsburgh has experienced record rainfall and snowfall, hotter than normal summer months, and landslides that have devastated our neighborhoods and strained our municipal budget; and,

WHEREAS, climate change has had a disproportionate impact on communities of color and low-to-moderate income residents throughout the world, and it is imperative that the City of Pittsburgh and our partners continue to implement an equity lens when addressing this global threat that impacts the quality of life of our residents; and,

WHEREAS, addressing climate change is critical to the future health of our planet, our people, and our economy, and government agencies, corporations, nonprofit organizations, and individual residents all share an integral role in combatting climate change; and,

WHEREAS, once a bastion of heavy industry, the City of Pittsburgh has recently emerged as a nationally and internationally recognized leader for our efforts to address climate change; and,

WHEREAS, since the adoption of the Climate Action Plan 3.0, the City of Pittsburgh has achieved two of its 2030 goals: divestment of pension funds from fossil fuels and achieving 100% renewable electricity consumption for municipal operations, and the City has made substantial progress toward achieving several other goals, including reducing energy usage by 50%, becoming a Zero Waste city, building a fossil fuel free fleet, and reducing transportation emissions by 50% citywide; and,

WHEREAS, the City of Pittsburgh has successfully begun to divest its pension fund from companies that do not adhere to Environmental, Social and Governance guidelines and focus investment in companies “that engage in development and implementation of environmentally friendly products and services, that preserve the planet’s ecological heritage and creating environmentally sensitive and innovative technologies, and that undertake energy conservation initiatives and develop alternative renewable and clean energy resources”; and,

WHEREAS, the City worked with regional partners in the Western Pennsylvania Energy Consortium (WPEC) to purchase 100% renewable electricity for major facilities in City government and throughout Pittsburgh, which will save taxpayer dollars, and this accomplishment represents a significant step toward achieving a key goal in the Climate Action Plan 3.0 and earned the City a first-place award for innovative leadership from the U.S. Conference of Mayors; and,

WHEREAS, the City passed a Net Zero Ready Building Ordinance to commit to constructing highly energy efficient municipal buildings, broke ground on the Net Zero Ready Fourth Division Public Works Campus, and has plans to construct several Net Zero Ready buildings in the coming years, and additionally, the City amended the Zoning Code to offer bonuses for the development of buildings along the riverfronts and in the Uptown Eco-Innovation District that achieve climate targets; and,

WHEREAS, the City is in the process of distributing blue recycling bins to residents of all single-family homes and apartment buildings with five or fewer units to discourage the use of blue bags and encourage Pittsburghers to “recycle right,” which is helping to achieve our Zero Waste goals; and,

WHEREAS, the City currently deploys 26 electric vehicles and 10 compressed natural gas vehicles and has installed several charging stations at municipal facilities with plans to invest in additional vehicles as part of a sustainable and cleaner municipal fleet; and,

WHEREAS, the City’s ambitious Bike+ Plan, investments in pedestrian infrastructure, and partnership with the Port Authority of Allegheny to construct a Bus Rapid Transit system between Pittsburgh’s largest centers of commerce all represent actions that are enabling our City to move toward achieving the goal of a 50% reduction in transportation emissions; and,

WHEREAS, the Peduto Administration has publicly opposed state and federal legislation and actions that would reverse years of progress toward building a more sustainable and resilient city; and,

WHEREAS, according to the American Council for an Energy-Efficient Economy (ACEEE), on average, low-income households pay 7.2% of household income on utilities or more twice the 3% median of mid to high-income households, and the City of Pittsburgh is taking action to address this disparity, which grows even wider in minority households; and,

WHEREAS, the global COVID-19 pandemic exacerbated many of the inequities in our society, including the food insecurity that many residents of our city face on a daily basis, and the City of Pittsburgh and its partner organizations worked together to distribute over 500,000 meals to our residents at trusted locations within the community, which highlights the critical need to increase access to nutritious foods within close proximity to our neighbors; and,

WHEREAS, as a signatory of the Milan Urban Food Policy Pact and as a member of the Natural Resources Defense Council’s Food Matters Coalition, the City of Pittsburgh understands the connection between food insecurity and our climate, and as the 2020 Feed PGH reports indicates, we must continue to take action to ensure that all Pittsburgh residents can enjoy safe access to healthy and culturally appropriate foods, regardless of whether they own a personal vehicle; and,

WHEREAS, food waste represents one of the highest sources of greenhouse gas emissions globally and takes up space in our overburdened landfills, and the City will continue to work closely with key partners to reduce food waste citywide and increase access to composting in order to achieve one of our key climate action targets; and,

WHEREAS, as only the second city in the United States to formally integrate the United Nations Sustainable Development Goals into municipal operations, the City keenly recognizes that advancing equity and environmental justice in our climate actions is imperative to improving the health of communities of color and low-to-moderate income neighborhoods; and,

WHEREAS, ForgingPGH, which is Pittsburgh's first citywide comprehensive planning process, represents a transformational opportunity to advance a community-driven agenda, achieve our climate targets, inform the built environment and land use, and meaningfully address resiliency and climate readiness for future generations; and,

WHEREAS, joining 8 other Mayors from cities and towns in the Ohio River Valley and Upper Appalachia Regions, Mayor Peduto released the Marshall Plan for Middle America, which is a comprehensive strategy to lead a just transition from heavy industry to a more sustainable future, develop a strong workforce, and invest in the growing clean energy industries of tomorrow that will provide family-sustaining jobs for residents of our regions; and,

WHEREAS, with the climate-friendly Biden Administration in the White House, there is a remarkable opportunity to leverage and attract federal investment in building a more sustainable Pittsburgh; and

WHEREAS, in recognition of Earth Day, the City of Pittsburgh celebrates its success toward achieving its climate goals, acknowledges the important work ahead, and reaffirms its commitment to combat climate change and advance environmental and climate justice for current and future residents of our city.

NOW, THEREFORE, I, William Peduto, Mayor of the City of Pittsburgh, by the virtue of the authority vested in me by the City Charter and laws of the City of Pittsburgh do hereby direct the following actions:

1. In accordance with the ICLEI-Local Governments for Sustainability's ICLEI150 in the United Nations' Race to Zero campaign, the City of Pittsburgh does hereby commit to communitywide carbon neutrality by 2050.
2. All City Departments shall utilize available tools, including, but not limited to Priority Based Budgeting, to implement climate impact scoring when crafting budgets and conduct a climate risk assessment for infrastructure investments and municipal operations. The Division of Sustainability and Resilience shall serve as a resource to all City Departments in these efforts.
3. The following Directors or their designees shall work with the Division of Sustainability and Resilience to issue Requests for Proposals for the following initiatives:
  - a. The Director of the Department of Public Works shall issue a Request for Proposals to develop a comprehensive strategy to improve energy efficiency in all City facilities.
  - b. The Director of the Department of Mobility and Infrastructure shall issue a Request for Proposals to transition the City's streetlights to LED and take into account Equity Indicators throughout the conversion project.
4. The Directors of the Departments of Public Works and Mobility and Infrastructure and the Office of Management and Budget or their designees shall take necessary steps in collaboration with the Public Parking Authority of Pittsburgh and the Interdepartmental Electric Vehicle Task Force to leverage public assets to provide additional electric vehicle charging stations and

infrastructure that can be utilized by residents and visitors. Actions shall be taken in accordance with the City's Pittsburgh Public Facility EV Charging Strategic Plan.

5. The following Delivery Units shall advise and guide City Departments and Authorities on achieving the following climate goals:
  - a. The Net Zero Building Implementation Unit shall advise and guide Departments on building Net Zero municipal facilities and adhering to the City's Net Zero Ready Building Ordinance.
  - b. The Interdepartmental Electric Vehicle Task Force shall advise and guide the City's efforts to expand fossil fuel free fleet and increase access to public charging stations citywide.
  
6. The Directors of the Departments of Mobility and Infrastructure and City Planning or their designees shall continue to rapidly implement the Bike+ Plan, promote Transit-Oriented Development and Transportation Demand Management Strategies, and improve and expand mobility and transit options in a manner that takes into consideration climate adaptation of and climate migration to the Pittsburgh region and that prioritizes safe access to healthy and culturally appropriate foods for all Pittsburghers.
  
7. The Director of the Office of Management and Budget or their designees shall:
  - a. Take necessary actions to, whenever possible, replace retiring municipal vehicles with electric or other alternative fuel equivalents and procure renewable sources of fuels, in collaboration with the Equipment Leasing Authority and the Interdepartmental Electric Vehicle Task Force.
  - b. Explore the development of a publicly accessible dashboard to measure the City's progress on sustainable and equitable procurement in accordance with climate and equity goals.
  - c. Study the creation of a revolving energy efficiency fund through which the City's utility bill savings resulting from energy efficiency improvements are directed to capital spending for additional efficiency projects.
  
8. The Director of the Department of City Planning or their designees shall:
  - a. Establish an Energy Planning Delivery Unit to create and publicize guidelines for developers and builders to advance equity-focused greenhouse gas reduction and climate preparedness strategies in their projects.
  - b. Integrate climate resilience and climate risk mitigation strategies in all neighborhood and comprehensive planning efforts.
  - c. Convene a committee comprised of members of the Urban Redevelopment Authority, Housing Authority of the City of Pittsburgh, and Pittsburgh Water and Sewer Authority to create policies and programs that help low-to-moderate income residents reduce their utility burdens, perform home energy audits, finance energy efficiency improvements, and electrify and decarbonize their homes.
  
10. The City of Pittsburgh does hereby call on the Housing Authority of the City of Pittsburgh, the Urban Redevelopment Authority of Pittsburgh, the Public Parking Authority of Pittsburgh, the Sports and Exhibition Authority, and the Pittsburgh Water and Sewer Authority to join the

City in adopting Net Zero Ready Building Policies and climate-ready urban design guidelines. The Division of Sustainability and Resilience's Net Zero Building Implementation Unit shall serve as a resource to all City authorities in this effort.