RESOLUTION NO. 69,852-N.S.

COMMITTING THE CITY OF BERKELEY TO THE RACE TO ZERO CAMPAIGN

WHEREAS, on June 2, 2009, the Berkeley City Council adopted the Berkeley Climate Action Plan to reduce greenhouse gas emissions by 80% of Berkeley's 2000 emissions level; and

WHEREAS, on April 1, 2016, the City of Berkeley released its Resilience Strategy; and

WHEREAS, on November 1, 2016, the Berkeley City Council approved Berkeley's participation in the East Bay Community Energy (EBCE) Authority and authorized implementation of EBCE in Berkeley; and

WHEREAS, on June 12, 2018, the Berkeley City Council declared a Climate Emergency and resolved to become a "Fossil Fuel-Free City"; and

WHEREAS, on July 23, 2019, Berkeley City Council adopted a Prohibition of Natural Gas Infrastructure in New Buildings (BMC Chapter 12.80); and

WHEREAS, on December 3, 2019, Berkeley City Council held a public hearing and adopted an electric-favored reach code to complement the Natural Gas Prohibition; and

WHEREAS, on July 21, 2020, Berkeley City Council adopted the first Berkeley Electric Mobility Roadmap; and

WHEREAS, this demonstrable leadership on climate action has made Berkeley a regional and national model that can be leveraged by joining national campaigns and coalitions for climate actions; and

WHEREAS, the Race to Zero Campaign is a global campaign run by the COP26 Presidency and High-Level Climate Champions to rally leadership and support from businesses, cities, regions and investors for a healthy, resilient, zero carbon transition that prevents future threats, creates decent jobs, and unlocks inclusive, sustainable growth; and

WHEREAS, the objective of this campaign is to build momentum around the shift to a decarbonized economy ahead of COP26, where governments must strengthen their contributions to the Paris Agreement; and

WHEREAS, there are five requirements to join the Race to Zero:

1. Endorse the four principles
2. Pledge to reach net zero in the 2040s or by mid-century at the latest and limit warming to 1.5°C.

3. Plan to set an interim 2030 target consistent with a fair share of 50% global emission reductions
4. Begin at least one inclusive and equitable climate action.[1]
5. Publish your target and action to a reporting platform and report progress annually; and

WHEREAS, the City of Berkeley has already taken partial or complete action on the requirements.

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Berkeley City Council pledges to join the Race to Zero Campaign and commits itself to the following principles:

1. We recognize the global climate emergency.
2. We are committed to keeping global heating below the 1.5°C goal of the Paris Agreement.
3. We are committed to putting inclusive climate action at the center of all urban decision- making, to create thriving and equitable communities for everyone.
4. We invite our partners – political leaders, CEOs, trade unions, investors, and civil society – to join us in recognizing the global climate emergency and help us deliver on science-based action to overcome it; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Berkeley City Council commits to reaching net-zero in 2045 or sooner and limit warming to 1.5°C; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Berkeley City Council will plan to set an interim 2030 target consistent with a fair share of 50% global emission reductions; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Berkeley City Council will continue to pursue inclusive and equitable climate actions and publish the results of the progress.

[1] https://www.c40knowledgehub.org/s/race-to-zero-thank-you?language=en_US

The foregoing Resolution was adopted by the Berkeley City Council on May 11, 2021 by the following vote:

Ayes: Bartlett, Droste, Hahn, Harrison, Kesarwani, Robinson, Taplin, Wengraf, and Arreguin.

Noes: None.

Absent: None.

Jesse Arreguin, Mayor

Attest:
Mark Numainville, City Clerk