



Takoma Park City Council Meeting – March 4, 2020

Agenda Item 1

Voting Session

2020 Climate Change Emergency Response Resolution

Recommended Council Action

Consider and vote on the resolution.

Context with Key Issues

On January 22, Sustainability Manager Gina Mathias presented information on a proposed resolution focused on reducing fossil fuels in Takoma Park, particularly in buildings. On February 5, there was a public hearing and continued Council discussion. At the public hearing, 32 people spoke and there were 13 emails submitted for consideration before the public hearing. Based on public comment and Councilmember discussion, several Councilmembers prepared proposed modifications to the resolution and another work session was held on February 19. A revised draft resolution was prepared after that work session and is attached here.

Council Priority

Environmentally Sustainable Community

Environmental Considerations

Greenhouse gas emissions, sustainability, energy efficiency

Fiscal Considerations

Fiscal impacts of climate change include declining economic resiliency; short and long term budget impacts of more frequent and more severe weather events; increased health costs due to climate change; lost economic productivity and tax revenue.

Direct and indirect budget implications are being estimated; many estimates are in the Strategy Matrix from the February 5 Council Work Session.

Racial Equity Considerations

Communities most vulnerable to climate impacts tend to be the least prepared to manage and recover from the physical, economic, mental, and social devastation climate change can cause. Children, the elderly, indigenous peoples, and those with preexisting health conditions are especially vulnerable to climate disruptions such as flooding, dangerous heat, drought, and poor air quality. This is particularly true if they live in low-income communities, which often are exposed to multiple environmental hazards, yet are least likely to have resources or connections to address the cumulative impacts of environmental exposures that are worsened by climate change. (*American Journal of Public Health*)

Attachments and Links

- Revised Resolution
- Takoma Park Youth Council Statement in Support of the City's Climate Emergency Response (February 26, 2020)

- Takoma Park Committee on the Environment Statement in Support of the Proposed Climate Emergency Response Framework Resolution (February 3, 2020)
- [Strategy Matrix February 5, 2020](#)
- [Agenda Item 5 from January 22, 2020 Work Session](#)
- [Presentation from January 22, 2020 Work Session](#)