

**CITY OF EAST LANSING, MICHIGAN**

**EAST LANSING CITY COUNCIL**

**Policy Resolution 2020-1**

RESOLUTION IN SUPPORT OF East Lansing becoming a 100% Clean Energy City

WHEREAS, the City of East Lansing adopted a Climate Sustainability Plan in 2012 that prioritizes Energy Efficiency in City Buildings and increasing renewable energy throughout the City;

WHEREAS, the City strives to lead by example in reducing energy use and greenhouse gas emissions, and to integrate sustainability efforts with opportunities to improve the health of our citizens and livability of our community;

WHEREAS, renewable energy makes communities healthier, boosts local economies, creates jobs, saves money; and makes communities more climate resilient;

WHEREAS, it is estimated by the Michigan Climate Action Network that Michigan families would save over \$150 in energy costs and \$2,000 in health care costs every year if our state moves to 100% renewable energy;

WHEREAS, the City believes building renewable energy infrastructure creates sustainable, clean systems and promotes the development of more renewable energy;

WHEREAS, according to the Public Service Commission, renewable energy is the lowest-cost source of new electricity generation in our state;

WHEREAS, more than 100 cities in the United States have set 100% renewable energy goals for the electricity use for municipal operations, including Grand Rapids, Michigan, and some of these cities have already met their 100% target;

WHEREAS, the Michigan Public Service Commission's 2016 annual renewable energy report found that combining renewable energy and energy efficiency costs less than any new generation, including new natural gas combined cycle plants;

WHEREAS, we are already feeling climate change impacts in Michigan and around the world, with extreme weather events in the U.S. alone, costing the U.S. over \$300 billion in 2017, according to the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA);

WHEREAS, the Fourth National Climate Assessment Report found climate impacts in the U.S are worsening, including impacts to the Great Lakes and region, and action to significantly cut greenhouse gas emissions can substantially reduce future impacts;

WHEREAS, the City of East Lansing acknowledges that to achieve the energy goals established in this resolution, it may need to implement or update existing policies and programs and will have to provide funding mechanisms for energy conservation, carbon reduction, and renewable energy generation;

WHEREAS, The City of East Lansing acknowledges it is committed to the continuous protection of our Community, building climate resiliency, and reducing our carbon footprint:

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the East Lansing City Council, at the recommendation of the Commission on the Environment, hereby supports the City of East Lansing's commitment to derive 100% of the City's electric energy through renewable resources and associated technologies by 2030

- The City of East Lansing will reduce energy consumption by at least 5% annually across all Government facilities by ensuring energy audits have been completed in each facility in a coordinated effort and that funding of energy efficiency projects indicated for those facilities are prioritized and completed
- The City of East Lansing will further consider renewable energy opportunities and efficiency upgrades in the course of capital repairs and maintenance on facilities as opportunities present
- The City of East Lansing will reinvest money saved through energy efficiency projects in renewable energy infrastructure and incremental purchases of additional clean energy through utility providers
- The City of East Lansing will encourage our utility providers to accelerate their own 100% Clean Energy goals to align more closely with the City's goal
- The City of East Lansing will work to increase the development of renewable energy infrastructure in private development in this community through a combination of incentives, policies, and collaborations
- The City of East Lansing will increase solar energy generation for use by City government when possible and prudent
- The City of East Lansing recognizes the importance of energy benchmarking to the success of the City's energy reduction goals and will continue benchmarking energy usage of City owned utility accounts, including but not limited to facilities, streetlighting, and traffic control devices
- The City will encourage local businesses, schools, neighborhoods, and households to adopt energy efficient practices and to invest in renewable energy infrastructure by promoting opportunities to participate through local utilities, community solar projects and other regional initiatives
- The City will encourage the reporting of energy usage by commercial properties through benchmarking and will offer a pilot program to assist with such reporting

- Staff will engage the Community to share information, provide annual reporting and progress, and celebrate accomplishments while increasing energy efficiency and transitioning the City of East Lansing to 100% renewable electric energy consumption

Moved by Council member:

Supported by Council member:

ADOPTED: Yeas:

Nays:

Absent:

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Aaron Stevens, Mayor

Adopted:

CLERKS CERTIFICATION: I hereby certify that the foregoing is a true and complete copy of a Resolution adopted by the East Lansing City Council at a public meeting held on September 15<sup>th</sup>, 2020, the original of which is part of the Council's minutes.

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Jennifer Shuster, City Clerk

City of East Lansing

Ingham and Clinton Counties, Michigan