

Resolution declaring a climate emergency, committing to policies that reduce greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions and accelerating the clean energy transition, and supporting intergovernmental cooperation to reduced GHG emissions.

RESOLUTION

WHEREAS, the city of La Crosse is impacted by the health and safety risks of greenhouse gases (GHGs) emissions, and particularly citizens who face socioeconomic and health inequities, including youth, elders, Indigenous people, people of color, low-income people, those experiencing mental and physical disabilities, those experiencing homelessness, and people with health conditions; and

WHEREAS, the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change's Sixth Assessment Report warns that "Global warming, reaching 1.5°C in the near-term, would cause unavoidable increases in multiple climate hazards and present multiple risks to ecosystems and humans."; and

WHEREAS, GHG emissions expose communities to untenable risks to the public's health and safety at the local and global levels; and

WHEREAS, the economic opportunities presented by a clean energy transition far outweigh the opportunities presented by an economy supported by GHG emissions; and

WHEREAS, our community is committed to a just energy transition and to appropriate investments that offset the impacts of evolving industries and employment as well as ambitious investments in the green infrastructure and industries that will create jobs, decarbonize our economy, and reduce future climate change.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the City of La Crosse Common Council declares that a climate and ecological emergency threatens our city, citizens, and environs.

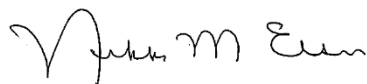
BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the City of La Crosse Common Council opposes the rollback of climate policy and affirms its ongoing commitment to carbon neutrality by 2050 outlined in Resolution 19-0471.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the City of La Crosse Common Council supports intergovernmental cooperation to reduced GHG emissions because the City of La Crosse cannot mitigate the worst impacts of climate change on its own.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED the City of La Crosse Common Council intends to implement policies reducing GHG emissions and promoting electrification because of the inherent dangers to the public's health and safety.

BE IT FUTHER RESOLVED that the Environmental Planner in collaboration with other City staff is requested to explore and develop policy recommendations in keeping with our local law-making power that reduce greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions and promote electrification and a clean energy future in order to protect public health and safety.

I, Nikki M. Elsen, certify that this resolution was duly and officially adopted by the Common Council of the City of La Crosse September 8, 2022.



*Nikki M. Elsen, WCMC, City Clerk
City of La Crosse, Wisconsin*