

City of Cambridge

MASSACHUSETTS

In City Council May 24, 1999

Mgr's Agenda ~~and~~ Consent Items

YEA	NAY	ABSENT	PRESENT	
② ✓		① ✓		Ms. Kathleen L. Born
✓				Ms. Henrietta Davis
✓				V. Mayor Anthony Galluccio
✓				Mr. Kenneth E. Reeves
②		① ✓		Ms. Sheila T. Russell
✓				Mr. Michael A. Sullivan
② ✓		① ✓		Mr. Timothy J. Toomey, Jr.
✓				Ms. Katherine Triantafillou
✓				Mayor Francis H. Duehay

8 0 1



City of Cambridge

Consent Agenda #1

IN CITY COUNCIL

May 24, 1999

WHEREAS: Based on scientific evidence that carbon dioxide (CO₂) and other greenhouse gases (ghg) released into the atmosphere are having a profound effect on the Earth's climate, the United States joined with 160 countries and signed the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change which calls on nations to reduce greenhouse gas emissions; and

WHEREAS: Energy consumption, specifically the burning of fossil fuels, e.g. coal, oil and gas, accounts for more than 85% of U.S. greenhouse gas emissions; and

WHEREAS: Local governments greatly influence their community's energy usage by exercising key powers over land use, transportation, building construction, waste management, and, in many cases, energy supply and management; and

WHEREAS: Local government actions taken to reduce greenhouse gas emissions and increase energy efficiency provide multiple local benefits by decreasing air pollution, creating jobs, reducing energy expenditures, and saving money for the City government, its businesses and its citizens; and

WHEREAS: The Cities for Climate Protection Campaign, sponsored by the International Council for Local Environmental Initiatives and the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, has invited the City of Cambridge to become a partner in the Campaign;

RESOLVED: That the Cambridge City Council hereby resolves that the City of Cambridge pledges to join with jurisdictions from all over the world in the Cities for Climate Protection Campaign and, as a participant in the Cities for Climate Protection Campaign, Cambridge pledges to:

1. Take a leadership role in increasing energy efficiency and reducing greenhouse gas emissions from municipal operations;

2. Develop and implement a local action plan which describes steps Cambridge will take to reduce both greenhouse gas and air pollution emissions; the plan will include:

- a greenhouse gas emissions analysis and forecast to determine the source and quantity of ghg emissions within the City;
- A CO₂ or green house gas emission reduction target;
- The strategy for meeting the City's ghg reduction target.

In City Council May 24, 1999.

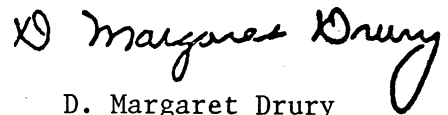
Adopted by a yea and nay vote:-

Yeas 8; Nays 0; Absent 1.

Attest:- D. Margaret Drury, City Clerk.

A true copy;

ATTEST:-



D. Margaret Drury
City Clerk

WHEREAS: Based on scientific evidence that carbon dioxide (CO₂) and other greenhouse gases (ghg) released into the atmosphere are having a profound effect on the Earth's climate, the United States joined with 160 countries and signed the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change which calls on nations to reduce greenhouse gas emissions; and

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CITY OF CAMBRIDGE
COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT DEPARTMENT

BETH RUBENSTEIN

Acting Assistant City
Manager for Community
Development

TO: Robert Healy, City Manager
FROM: Beth Rubenstein, ^{YSK} Acting Assistant City Manager
for Community Development
DATE: May 12, 1999
RE: Cities for Climate Protection

Cambridge has been invited to join the Cities for Climate Protection Campaign by the International Council for Local Environmental Initiatives (ICLEI). The campaign aims to reduce the emission of greenhouse gases, particularly carbon dioxide, and thereby protect against the impacts of global warming. To join, the City Council must pass a resolution in support of the campaign and the City staff must inventory greenhouse gas emissions and develop a plan to reduce them. We propose to bring this recommendation and resolution to the Council at its May 24 meeting.

ICLEI, founded and directed by Jeb Brugmann formerly of the Cambridge Peace Commission, is an international organization that is working with over 300 cities worldwide. In the U.S., 59 cities have joined the climate protection campaign, including Atlanta, Berkeley, Chicago, Minneapolis, Salt Lake City, and Santa Monica. In New England, Burlington and Chittenden County, Vermont are participating. The City of Lynn has just joined and other communities that may join include Arlington, Brookline, and Newton. The climate protection campaign is being conducted jointly with the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency.

If Cambridge joins, ICLEI will provide a paid intern (at \$15/hour) for ten weeks. The City would have to purchase specialized software for the inventory (\$475) and provide workspace, a computer, and supervision for the intern. The Department has determined that the software is the only necessary expenditure. John Bolduc and Rosalie Anders would supervise the intern and work product.

The inventory would focus on greenhouse gas emissions related to energy use and transportation. Based on the inventory, the City would establish a target for emission reductions, probably in the range of 15 to 20 percent, by the year 2010. A strategy would be developed to reduce emissions, which would include many of the measures the City is already implementing such as the PTDM ordinance, bicycle and pedestrian planning, and recycling. There is no penalty for not achieving the target. The City would also be eligible for grants administered by ICLEI, including the EPA Climate Wise program which provides grants of up to \$55,000.



CITY OF CAMBRIDGE
CAMBRIDGE, MASSACHUSETTS 02139

TEL 349-4300
FAX 349-4307



EXECUTIVE DEPARTMENT
ROBERT W. HEALY
City Manager

RICHARD C. ROSSI
Deputy City Manager

May 24, 1999

To The Honorable, The City Council:

Please find attached a draft resolution regarding Cambridge's participation in the Cities for Climate Protection Campaign, which I am requesting the City Council to adopt. I have also attached an explanation of the resolution received from Acting Assistant City Manager for Community Development Beth Rubenstein.

Very truly yours,

Robert W. Healy
City Manager

RWH/mec
Attachment

Consent Agenda #1

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Relative to a draft resolution
regarding Cambridge's participation
in the Cities for Climate Protection
Campaign.

In City Council May 24, 1999

ORDER ADOPTED

8-0-1.