RESOLUTION: ADOPTING A GOAL OF 100% RENEWABLE ENERGY FOR THE CITY OF CONCORD

The City of Concord resolves as follows:

WHEREAS, the City has demonstrated leadership on sustainability by implementing energy efficiency projects in municipal operations, saving costs for taxpayers and reducing the City’s greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions; and

WHEREAS, it is in the City's best interest to continue reducing its GHG emissions to combat the threat of global climate change, and to make a community-wide transition to renewable energy and clean transportation to achieve that objective;

WHEREAS, renewable energy and clean transportation present an opportunity to create local jobs in emerging industries, stabilize energy costs, increase energy security, improve public health and reduce health care costs, and avoid climate change mitigation costs; and

WHEREAS, the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency defines renewable energy as resources that rely on fuel sources that restore themselves over short periods of time and do not diminish, including the sun, wind, moving water, organic plant and waste material (eligible biomass), and the earth’s heat (geothermal).

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, by the City Council of the City of Concord that:

1. It is the goal of the City of Concord that 100% of electricity consumed in the City will come from renewable energy sources by 2030, 100% of thermal energy (heating and cooling) consumed in the City will come from renewable energy sources by 2050, and 100% of transportation used in the City will be clean transportation by 2050. This goal will apply to the entire Concord community, not just municipal government operations.

2. This goal is aspirational in nature and shall not be construed to either impose any mandate on the City or its residents or businesses.

3. The City Council directs the Concord Energy and Environment Committee (CEEC) to lead the preparation of a strategic plan to achieve this goal, working with the City administration and a Stakeholder Committee, with input from the broader Concord community.

4. The CEEC will present a draft strategic plan to the City Council for its review and approval within one year of the Council’s adoption of this resolution. The strategic plan will be revised and updated from time to time.

5. The City Council anticipates that adoption and implementation of the goal will result in energy cost savings and other economic and societal benefits over time. The strategic plan will be prepared with the objective of achieving such savings and benefits.

6. This resolution shall take effect immediately upon approval.