

RESOLUTION NO. _____

BOARD OF SUPERVISORS, COUNTY OF SAN MATEO, STATE OF CALIFORNIA

* * * * *

RESOLUTION ADOPTING THE 2022 DRAFT SAN MATEO COUNTY GENERAL PLAN CLIMATE ELEMENT, REPLACING THE EXISTING GENERAL PLAN ENERGY AND CLIMATE CHANGE ELEMENT, AND ADOPTING THE 2022 DRAFT COMMUNITY CLIMATE ACTION PLAN

RESOLVED, by the Board of Supervisors of the County of San Mateo, State of California, that

WHEREAS, climate change is already affecting San Mateo County, and impacts such as more frequent heat waves, wildfire, drought, and flooding are felt most acutely by our communities' most vulnerable members, children, older adults, and historically underserved neighborhoods; and

WHEREAS, in June 2013, the San Mateo County Board of Supervisors amended the General Plan by adding Chapter 17, the Energy and Climate Change Element, adopted the Energy Efficiency Climate Action Plan, and certified the Environmental Impact Report; and

WHEREAS, the 2013 Energy Efficiency Climate Action Plan established a greenhouse (GHG) emissions reduction goal that was consistent with California Assembly Bill 32, passed in 2018, to achieve 1990 GHG emissions levels by 2020, which the County reached three years early through the establishment of Peninsula Clean Energy and implementation of other climate actions; and

WHEREAS, in June 2017, the San Mateo County Board of Supervisors adopted Resolution No. 20170627 affirming the Paris Climate Accords and committed to the necessary GHG emissions reductions necessary to slow global climate change in 2016; and

WHEREAS, in September 2019, the San Mateo County Board of Supervisors adopted Resolution No. 20190917 declaring a climate emergency in San Mateo County that demanded accelerated and regionally coordinated climate action; and

WHEREAS, current state policy establishes a framework for local jurisdictions to advance local emissions reduction efforts, California State Senate Bill 32, passed in 2016, establishes a statewide goal to reduce GHG emissions by 40% below 1990 levels by 2030, and Executive Order 55-18, issued in 2018, calls for carbon neutrality by 2045; and

WHEREAS, to avoid the detrimental effect of climate change, staff have prepared an update to the 2013 Energy and Climate Change Element and the 2013 Energy Efficiency Climate Action Plan to bring these documents into compliance with State law and to provide a strategic roadmap to reduce GHG emissions in unincorporated San Mateo County; and

WHEREAS, the updated 2022 Draft San Mateo County General Plan Climate Element and 2022 Draft Community Climate Action Plan (CCAP) are founded on the best available science and propose innovative actions to address climate change;

WHEREAS, adopting the CCAP will establish emission reduction targets of 45% below 1990 levels by 2030 and carbon neutrality by 2040 by making investments in the transportation, building energy, waste reduction, and working lands sectors; and

WHEREAS, the CCAP is certified under California Environmental Quality Act guidelines, and, therefore, must demonstrate substantial evidence that links proposed actions to specific emissions reduction contributions per action. In meeting this standard, the CCAP has set forth goals with a clear and validated policy pathway for reaching those goals; and

WHEREAS, meeting the CCAP's goals will bring numerous communitywide benefits including, but not limited to: improved public health, resilience to power shutoffs, reduced energy and transportation costs, improved access to livable wage career opportunities, and a vibrant agricultural community; and

WHEREAS, climate change threatens many of the populations who are least responsible for causing climate change, as well as those who are already experiencing disproportionate environmental, economic, and social hardships; and

WHEREAS, the County recognizes the inextricable link between racial equity and climate change. County staff prioritized racial equity throughout the planning process through inclusive community engagement, targeted stakeholder consultation, and an iterative evaluation of the equity implications of each proposed action.

WHEREAS, on June 22, 2022, the San Mateo County Planning Commission recommended that the Board adopt the 2022 CCAP and the 2022 Draft San Mateo County General Plan Climate Element; and

NOW, THEREFORE, IT IS HEREBY DETERMINED AND ORDERED that the Board of Supervisors of San Mateo County repeals the 2013 Energy and Climate Change Element of the San Mateo County General Plan and replaces that element with the 2022 Draft San Mateo County General Plan Climate Element.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Board of Supervisors of San Mateo County adopts the 2022 Draft Community Climate Action Plan and directs the Office of Sustainability to coordinate with partner agencies to further implementation of the plan.

* * * * *