

CHAMPAIGN CLIMATE INHERITANCE RESOLUTION

WHEREAS, we are already witnessing the deadly effects of climate change around the world, notably through recent tropical storms, raging wildfires, dangerous heat waves, unprecedented droughts and flooding, and resulting famine,

WHEREAS, the global scientific community warns that immediate action is necessary to prevent the increasingly disastrous repercussions of climate change and the impending humanitarian crisis,

WHEREAS, young people and future generations will be forced to shoulder the burden of an inadequate response to this crisis for the entirety of their lives, threatening their inalienable right to life, liberty, and the pursuit of happiness,

WHEREAS, Mayor Feinen signed the USCM Mayors Climate Protection Agreement, calling for local action to achieve the targets in the Paris Agreement,

WHEREAS, the recent Future Energy Jobs Act (SB 2814) has made renewable energy in Illinois more economically efficient than ever before and demonstrated the powerful potential of a just transition to a green energy economy in terms of jobs and economic growth,

WHEREAS, the City of Urbana has passed a resolution committing to similar goals, other cities across the nation have taken bold, effective action to address this issue, and Champaign has established itself as a leader in sustainability and a community dedicated to fostering a safe, equitable, and prosperous future for all people,

WHEREAS, youth of Champaign have brought this Council a Youth Climate Report Card highlighting the gap between what we are doing today and actions that would be necessary to protect their future;

WHEREAS, youth of Champaign have indicated a willingness to work with this Council on such actions, we, therefore, declare it:

BE IT RESOLVED, that Champaign City Council commits to working constructively, using ingenuity, innovation, and courageous determination to create a Champaign Climate Action Plan for consideration that aims to achieve net carbon neutrality by 2040 and 100 percent renewable electricity by 2030;

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the implementation of these goals be equitable by ensuring that all people, regardless of race, gender, or income can experience the benefits of cleaner and more affordable energy alternatives;

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that City Council commits to start the Champaign Climate Action Plan creation process within 30 days and to complete it as soon as possible;

BE IT FINALLY RESOLVED, that a mechanism will be created for the ongoing inclusion of young people in the process of creating and executing climate-related policies and actions.