

Initiative to Enforce Urbana City Council Resolution No. 2018-02-005R

Goal

Have the City of Urbana fully commit to enforce **Resolution No. 2018-02-005R**, signed by the Urbana City Council February 19th, 2018 and approved by Mayor Marlin on February 20th, 2018.

Commitments, from Resolution No. 2018-02-005R:

- *Section 1: The Urbana City Council commits to working constructively, using ingenuity, innovation, and courageous determination to achieve **net carbon neutrality community-wide by 2040.***

*Section 2: The City of Urbana will actively work toward generating **100 percent of the community's electricity from renewable sources by 2025.***

Section 3: The City of Urbana will actively seek partnerships with researchers to provide real-life application testing as needed and will continue to help promote healthy, sustainable community living that fosters creativity and encourages collaboration in order to incubate the human capital aspect of addressing the world's energy challenges.

Section 4: A mechanism will be created for the ongoing inclusion of young people in the process of creating and executing climate-related policies and actions.

Method

1. Speak with individual Urbana Council Members/committees to gain support and to create a dialogue
 - a. See what different council members' feelings are about initiative
 - b. Learn from Council Members what the City of Urbana is capable of doing to respond to initiative and commit to enforce Resolution No. 2018-02-005R
 - c. Speak with former Alderman/current Champaign County Clerk Aaron Ammons to learn about the capabilities of Urbana to enforce Resolution No. 2018-02-005R
2. Make this initiative clear and public so that the Urbana City Council expects feedback
 - a. Write and introduce an Illinois Student Government Resolution outlining the history of this issue and calling on Urbana do enforce Resolution No. 2018-02-005R
 - b. Have many members of ISG sponsor the resolution
 - c. Get other organizations to endorse resolution
 - i. Organizations include:
 1. Young Democrats of Champaign County

2. Illini Democrats
 3. Champaign County Democrats
 4. Students for Environmental Concerns
 5. Sierra Club
 6. Food and Water Watch
 7. Smile Politely
 8. University YMCA
 9. [Others]
- ii. Get organizations who endorse resolution to post on social media and create general awareness of resolution
3. Create methods/solutions for the City of Urbana to enforce Resolution No. 2018-02-005R and provide the council with ideas on how to move forward once the initiative is formally presented to the council
 4. Come up with an incentive for Urbana to enforce Resolution No. 2018-02-005R so that they follow through, as they haven't done so previously
 - a. Ask local political allies for advice and explore various options
 5. Formally present the initiative/ISG resolution to the Urbana City Council
 - a. Have leaders of the supporting organizations present
 - b. Discuss history of Resolution No. 2018-02-005R and outline the measures Urbana has taken/has not taken to enforce it
 - c. Present ways Urbana can enforce Resolution No. 2018-02-005R
 - d. Ask the council if the people of Urbana and the students of UIUC have their full commitment to enforce Resolution No. 2018-02-005R

Research Needed

- Research how much energy Urbana currently gets from renewable resources
- Research how other cities of similar demographics have enforced green climate plans
- Gain contact information for local organizations who would support this initiative

Research Updates

- After reviewing Urbana's [2017 Environmental Sustainability Annual Report](#), it is apparent that Urbana is actually on track to becoming carbon neutral by 2040
 - However, it is not clear whether or not Urbana is on track to getting 100% of the community's energy from renewable sources by 2025
 - Urbana encourages renewable energy consumption through its [Electric Aggregation Program](#)
- From Scott Tess (Environmental Sustainability Manager, Urbana):

- “City-owned facilities buy electricity from the MISO grid, which is only as renewable as the Illinois Renewable Portfolio Standard requires, 13% last year. Most Urbana residences are on municipal electric aggregation supply which is 100% green power through the purchase of renewable energy certificates.”