

10/25/18

## DRAFT Sustainable Energy Resolution for Keene

WHEREAS, The City of Keene has formally recognized the challenges of Climate Change since the year 2000 when it became a participant in the Cities for Climate Protection Program and

WHEREAS, The City of Keene then developed and implemented a Climate Action Plan in 2004 and a Climate Adaptation Plan in 2007 and incorporated the Climate Action and Adaptation Plans into its 2010 Comprehensive Master Plan after extensive community stakeholder engagement and

WHEREAS, The State of New Hampshire 2009 Climate Plan set a goal of reducing Greenhouse Gas Emissions by 80% from 1990 to 2050 and

WHEREAS, the challenges presented by Climate Change have become increasingly apparent in the intervening years, as reported in the Congressionally-mandated National Climate Assessments (see reference below) and

WHEREAS, the combustion of fossil fuels accounts for as much as 76% of US Greenhouse Gas Emissions (see US EIA citation below) and

WHEREAS, energy efficiency measures that drive down energy demand are the most cost-effective means to reduce fossil fuel consumption, and clean energy sources such as solar, wind, and small hydro may now be cost-competitive with fossil fuel sources and

WHEREAS, local, distributed generation of energy can provide resilience to weather-related interruptions of energy supply and economic disruptions of energy pricing while reducing air pollution and associated public health risks, and

WHEREAS, clean, renewable energy is one of the nation's fastest-growing employment sectors and represents an enormous economic opportunity for Keene to create jobs in the emerging industry, fulfilling the vision of a vibrant economy outlined in the Comprehensive Master Plan and the Economic Development Action Plan and

WHEREAS, economically disadvantaged residents, older people and children, people who are homeless, people with disabilities or health conditions, and members of other under-represented minorities experience the impacts of climate change disproportionately and

WHEREAS, cities across the nation have made commitments to transition to 100 percent clean energy and Keene strives to remain a leader among its peer cities,

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

1. It is the goal and policy of the City of Keene that all electricity consumed in the City will come from renewable energy sources by the year 2030 and that 100% of all thermal energy and energy used for transportation come from renewable energy sources by the year 2050. This goal will apply to the entire Keene community, not just municipal government operations.
2. The City of Keene develop a strategic plan by April, 2020 to meet this renewable energy goal through a transparent and inclusive stakeholder process.

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US National Climate Assessment 2017

(<https://science2017.globalchange.gov/chapter/executive-summary/>)

Percent greenhouse gas emissions from fossil fuel combustion

([https://www.eia.gov/energyexplained/index.php?page=environment\\_where\\_ghg\\_come\\_from](https://www.eia.gov/energyexplained/index.php?page=environment_where_ghg_come_from))