

RESOLUTION 2022-45

INTRODUCED BY: COUNCILPERSON KING

A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE CITY OF UNIVERSITY HEIGHTS TO BECOME A POWER A CLEAN FUTURE OHIO COMMUNITY, AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY.

WHEREAS, Power a Clean Future Ohio is an expansive, diverse, and nonpartisan coalition engaging with cities and local governments across the state of Ohio to build a clean future for our communities; and

WHEREAS, Power a Clean Future Ohio empowers local leaders with tools and resources to create carbon reduction plans and implement them in ways that are achievable, measurable, equitable, and economical; and

WHEREAS, steps taken toward carbon emissions also aim to improve community quality of life, building community capital and increasing government efficiency, accountability, and transparency; and

WHEREAS, local governments have the unique opportunity to achieve reductions in both energy use and carbon emissions, along with cost savings through building and facilities management, land use and transportation planning, and through economic and community development; and

WHEREAS, efforts to address energy and climate issues provide an opportunity to move toward energy self-reliance and greater community resiliency and quality of life, and further provide environmentally healthy and cheaper-to-operate public buildings, encourage new economic development and local jobs, and support local renewable energy production; and

WHEREAS, uncertainty in energy prices and the transition away from fossil fuel energy sources present new challenges and opportunities to both the City of University Heights and to the economic health of its citizens and businesses; and

WHEREAS, climate changes have been observed in Ohio and have the potential to negatively impact local, regional and state economies, infrastructure development, drinking water supplies and recreational opportunities; and

WHEREAS, climate changes further have the potential to negatively impact habitat and ecological communities, including native fish and wildlife populations, to increase the spread of invasive species and exotic diseases, and pose flooding, drought, and health threats to our citizens; and

WHEREAS, the City administration signed the PCFO “30 by 30 pledge” on Earth Day 2021 to commit to reduction of carbon emissions in the City by 30% by 2030 below 2010 levels; and

WHEREAS, the City has embarked upon a planning process for replacement of all municipal buildings and stands to benefit from technical assistance for the design of efficient, renewable energy ready facilities; and

WHEREAS, Power a Clean Future Ohio assists in facilitating technical assistance for the implementation of these carbon reduction policies; and

WHEREAS, the Infrastructure Grant Assistance Program (“IGAP”) is available to all PCFO communities and supports Ohio local governments pursuing federal funding for clean energy and clean transportation projects; and

WHEREAS, the Power a Clean Future Ohio provides cost-effective sustainable development policies in the following four categories: (1) Renewable Energy; (2) Energy Efficiency; (3) Transportation Electrification; and (4) Land Use.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Council of the City of University Heights, Ohio, that:

Section 1. The Council of the City of University Heights does hereby authorize the City of University Heights (“the City”) to participate in Power a Clean Future Ohio (“PCFO”) that offers a free, voluntary continuous improvement framework. Passage of this participation resolution allows the City to be recognized as a Power a Clean Future Community.

Section 2. The City hereby announces its goal of reducing greenhouse gas emissions in the City of University Heights by 30% by 2030, relative to 2010 levels.

Section 3. The City will develop a plan that lays out a roadmap for the City to achieve this goal and to proactively seek input from the community in developing this plan.

Section 4. The City will, whenever feasible in the sole discretion of the City, prioritize low cost measures identified in the plan to meet energy needs to be mindful of the use of taxpayer dollars and any impact of consumers’ personal expenses.

Section 5. The Mayor or their designee shall serve as the City’s PCFO coordinator for implementation.

Section 6. The City will, whenever feasible in the sole discretion of the City, facilitate the involvement of community members in an equitable way and other units of government as appropriate in the planning, promoting, and/or implementing of PCFO policies.

Section 7. The City will provide public feedback once per year on how well PCFO is serving the City and on City needs from the PCFO program.

Section 8. The City will work toward implementing any policies from at least two of the PCFO policy categories (i.e. Renewable Energy; Energy Efficiency; Transportation Electrification; and Land Use) that will result in carbon emission reductions, cost savings, and quality of life improvement.

Section 9. It is hereby found and determined that all formal actions of this Council concerning and relating to the passage of this ordinance were adopted in an open meeting of this Council, and that all deliberations of this Council and any of its committees that resulted in such formal action, were in meetings open to the public, in compliance with all legal requirements.

Section 10. This resolution is hereby declared to be an emergency measure necessary for the immediate preservation of the public peace, health and safety of the City, the emergency being for the reason that the City wishes to identify its preferred areas of policy implementation as soon as possible in order to achieve the goals announced herein; wherefore, this resolution shall be in full force and effect from and immediately after its adoption and approval by the Mayor.

CITY OF UNIVERSITY HEIGHTS, OHIO


MICHAEL DYLAN BRENNAN, MAYOR

FIRST READING: June 21, 2022

PASSED: June 21, 2022

ATTEST:


KELLY M. THOMAS, CLERK OF COUNCIL

APPROVED AS TO FORM:

Luke F. McConville /s/
LUKE F. MCCONVILLE, LAW DIRECTOR