

RESOLUTION NO. 2019-14

A RESOLUTION of the City of Bainbridge Island, Washington, supporting Rep. Ocasio-Cortez and Sen. Markey's resolution to recognize the responsibility of the Federal Government to create a Green New Deal and to recognize that local environmental and social organizations such as Climate Action Bainbridge and Indivisible Bainbridge urge its passage.

WHEREAS, an Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change report, dated October 2018, and the National Climate Assessment, dated November 2018, found that climate change is causing extreme weather events that threaten lives and infrastructure, climate change at or above two degrees Celsius will cause trillions of dollars in economic losses from wildfire, severe storm and sea level rise, and damage to national infrastructure, and that climate change will lead to mass migrations and threaten our national security; and

WHEREAS, human activity in the United States has been a leading cause of climate change, and the United States has the ability and obligation to lead in reversing the cataclysmic impacts of climate change; and

WHEREAS, presently the environmental, health, and social costs of carbon emissions are not included in prices for fossil fuels, but rather these externalized costs are borne directly and indirectly by all Americans and global citizens, and in passing Resolution 2017-04, the Council affirmed its support for the U.S. Congress to craft legislation to price carbon since a rising price on carbon will be an important element of addressing climate change; and

WHEREAS, people in the United States, especially women and people of color, are experiencing shorter lives because of lifetime exposure to polluted water, air, and soil; and

WHEREAS, stagnating wages and severe income inequality cannot be overcome because of increasingly expensive education, housing, and transportation; and

WHEREAS, the New Deal policies during the Great Depression contributed to the emergence of a strong middle class after the massive investment of taxpayer dollars and federal borrowing that were needed to mobilize our country's economy.

NOW, THEREFORE, THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF BAINBRIDGE ISLAND DOES RESOLVE AS FOLLOWS:

Section 1. That the Federal Government should take immediate action to prevent the worst effects of climate change by adopting a ten-year mobilization effort to:

- a) Encourage investment in renewable energy sources to generate electricity and discourage investment in fossil fuels for energy production, with the goal of achieving net-zero greenhouse gas emissions by 2030; and
- b) Improve public transportation infrastructure to encourage sustainable transportation efforts, thereby reducing pollution; and
- c) Encourage research and investment in battery technology for electric cars, in new technologies to remove and sequester CO₂ and other greenhouse gases from the atmosphere, in recycling, in solar, wind, and tidal energy production, and in new energy technologies.

Section 2. That, with the intent to close the income inequality gap and to prepare U.S. citizens for living wage jobs enabling them to live in affordable and safe housing, the Federal Government efforts to prevent the worst effects of climate change shall:

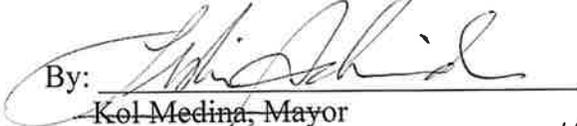
- a) Be developed with the publicly transparent cooperation and consent of the affected communities; and
- b) Focus on rural and urban communities that have been historically underserved and marginalized; and
- c) Create sustainable and living wage jobs with family and medical leave, universal health care, paid time off, and retirement security; and
- d) Hire from within the affected polluted and carbon dependent communities to restore ecosystems, clean up hazardous waste, upgrade existing buildings for energy efficiency, and build the green infrastructure required to power the U.S. economy for the next century.

Section 3. The City Council publicly endorses the Green New Deal and H.R. 763, the Energy Innovation and Carbon Dividend Act. The Energy Innovation and Carbon Dividend Act of 2019, H.R. 763, specifies that, in order to protect low and middle income citizens from the economic impact of rising prices due to a price on carbon, equal monthly per-person dividend payments shall be made to all American households (½ payment per child under 19 years old) each month from the fossil fuel fees collected. The total value of all monthly dividend payments shall represent 100% of the net carbon fees collected per month. The Council encourages the Washington State Congressional Delegation to respectively co-sponsor and publicly support H.R. 763 and the Green New Deal.

Section 4. The City Council urges all voters on Bainbridge Island and throughout Washington State to encourage their federal elected officials to support H.R. 763 and the Green New Deal.

PASSED by the City Council this 9th day of April, 2019.

APPROVED by the Mayor this 9th day of April, 2019.

By: 
~~Kol Medina, Mayor~~
Leslie Schneider, Deputy Mayor

ATTEST/AUTHENTICATE:

By: 
Christine Brown, CMC, City Clerk

FILED WITH THE CITY CLERK:
PASSED BY THE CITY COUNCIL:
RESOLUTION NO.

March 15, 2019
April 9, 2019
2019-14