

Proposed: 8/21/2023

RESOLUTION NO. 130-2023(MSES),
First Reading

Introduced by Mayor Seren

A Resolution authorizing the Mayor to execute a contract with Nutter Consulting for professional services for the preparation of a Climate Action and Resiliency Plan; and declaring the necessity that this legislation become immediately effective as an emergency measure.

WHEREAS, the City of Cleveland Heights (the “City”) has identified taking action and building resiliency to climate change and its impacts as important for the future of the City and its residents; and

WHEREAS, there is a consensus among leading climate scientists that the emissions of greenhouse gases generated from human activities causes global warming, which has led to a changing climate and its negative impacts to human health and resources; and

WHEREAS, global climate change has led to an increased incidence of extreme weather events and its negative impacts on socio-economic activities; and

WHEREAS, the City recognizes that embarking on efforts aimed at reducing greenhouse gases will have several co-benefits such as improved air quality and public health, energy security, social equity, vibrant natural environment, and enhanced quality of life; and

WHEREAS, developing a well-thought-out response to climate change positions the City to be a leader in a green economy; developing goods and services required to transition to a climate-resilient future; and

WHEREAS, the City is committed to enhancing quality of life and meeting the needs of the present generation without compromising the ability of future generations to meet their needs; and

WHEREAS, the City will review and analyze the City’s existing climate-related policies, plans, programs, and governance structure, as well as any regional planning documents and resources, that will provide the foundation for the climate action and resiliency planning; and

WHEREAS, the City will analyze the emissions of greenhouse gases in the City and develop an emissions reduction pathway and specific science-based targets; and

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WHEREAS, the City will analyze its vehicle fleet, develop specific recommendations and determine a method for conducting periodic updates to the analysis; and

WHEREAS, the City will conduct an assessment to determine how vulnerable its residents, infrastructure, and resources are to the impacts of a changing climate; and

WHEREAS, the City will analyze how local demographic groups have been underrepresented in building resilience to climate change and its impacts and pursue strategies to ensure environmental justice; and

WHEREAS, the City will conduct a visioning and goal-setting process with stakeholders to establish clear objectives the City seeks to achieve by preparing a climate action and resilience plan and define commitments; and

WHEREAS, the City will engage a broad array of stakeholders and the entire community to frame the issues, identify the challenges, develop ideas for solutions, present the draft findings, refine ideas and present final recommendations, launching the plan, and identify roles and responsibilities; and

WHEREAS, the City will focus on Materials and Waste, Energy Use, Natural Areas/Land Use, Food Systems, Water and Wastewater, Transportation, Air Quality, and Public Health and Climate Equity but may also provide other co-benefits, as core areas for strategy development based on carbon mitigation recommendations; and

WHEREAS, the City will prepare a draft Climate Action and Resilience Plan which will be reviewed by stakeholders and staff, posted on the city's website for public comments, and presented at a public forum; and

WHEREAS, the City will revise the plan to reflect public, stakeholder and staff comments, and make it ready to publish and present it at a public meeting or at a City Council meeting; and

WHEREAS, the City will craft a "climate-focused" annual and long-term capital plan and budget which addresses recommendations to facilitate the implementation of priority projects, identification of key metrics and tools to track progress on carbon mitigation and adaptation to climate impacts, and funding opportunities and partnerships to aid in implementation; and

WHEREAS, the City solicited bids for the preparation of climate action and resilience services through an RFP process; and

WHEREAS, the City received seven (9) responses, which were all deemed complete; and

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WHEREAS, each of the responses were first reviewed by the Department of Planning and Development; and

WHEREAS, after evaluating responses, Planning & Development staff recommended to the Mayor that Nutter Consulting, with offices located at 3145 Geary Blvd, #464, San Francisco, CA 94118, would provide the best service to the City; and

WHEREAS, the cost of the services to be provided by Nutter Consulting is not to exceed Ninety-nine Thousand, One Hundred Dollars (\$99,100.00) and is already budgeted for this fiscal year through the City's Management Consultant Contracts line; and

WHEREAS, the Mayor has recommended that the services offered by Nutter Consulting best meet the City's needs; and

WHEREAS, this Council wishes to authorize a contract with Nutter Consulting, for the preparation of a Climate Action and Resiliency Plan.

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

SECTION 1. The Mayor shall be and is hereby authorized to execute a contract with Nutter Consulting to prepare a Climate Action and Resiliency Plan. The contract shall be in accordance with the terms and conditions set forth in the proposed agreement for professional services submitted by Nutter Consulting, a copy of which is on file with the Clerk of Council and Finance Department. Compensation for the services detailed therein shall not exceed the sum of Ninety-nine Thousand, One Hundred Dollars (\$99,100.00). All agreements hereunder shall be approved as to form by the Director of Law.

SECTION 2. Notice of the passage of this Resolution shall be given by publishing the title and abstract of contents, prepared by the Director of Law, once in one newspaper of general circulation in the City of Cleveland Heights.

SECTION 3. It is necessary that this Resolution become immediately effective as an emergency measure necessary for the inhabitants of the City of Cleveland Heights, such emergency being the need to prepare the Climate Action and Resilience Plan at the earliest possible time. Wherefore, provided it receives the affirmative vote of five (5) or more of the members elected or appointed to this Council, this Resolution shall take effect and be in force immediately upon its passage; otherwise, it shall take effect and be in force from and after the earliest time allowed by law.

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MELODY JOY HART
President of the Council

ADDIE BALESTER
Clerk of Council

PASSED:

Presented to Mayor: _____ Approved by Mayor: _____

KAHLIL SEREN
Mayor