

RESOLUTION NO. 081-2025(MSES), *Second Reading*

By Mayor Seren

A Resolution adopting the City of Cleveland Heights' Climate Forward: An Action and Resilience Plan.

WHEREAS, taking action and building resilience to climate change and its impacts is important to the City and its residents; and

WHEREAS, on December 7, 2020, the Council of the City of Cleveland Heights unanimously passed Resolution No. 138-2020, to encourage effective plans to address climate change, a pressing problem already affecting Cleveland Heights; and

WHEREAS, in May of 2021, the City of Cleveland Heights adopted Resolution 62-2021, authorizing the City of Cleveland Heights to adopt a goal to reduce greenhouse gas emissions by 30% by 2030 in the city; and

WHEREAS, the City recognizes that efforts to reduce greenhouse gases produce benefits such as improved air quality and public health, energy security, social equity, vibrant natural environment, and enhanced quality of life; and

WHEREAS, pursuant to the above referenced designation, the City reviewed and analyzed the City's existing climate-related policies, plans, programs, as well as regional planning documents and resources that provided a foundation for the climate action and resiliency planning; and

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

WHEREAS, the City has analyzed 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 has conducted 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 has engaged 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 identify roles and responsibilities, and present final recommendations, in order to launch the CARP plan; and

WHEREAS, the plan focused on Buildings and Energy, Transportation, Materials and Waste, Air Quality and Public Health, Food System and Natural Areas/Land Use, as

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core areas for strategy development based on carbon mitigation and resilience recommendations and also provided other co-benefits; and

WHEREAS, the creation of the Cleveland Heights' Climate Forward: An Action and Resilience Plan occurred through working with its consultant, Nutter Consulting, and included extensive city and public engagement with a diverse and engaged stakeholder group, targeted focus groups, pop-up tables, community events, surveys, and social media, leading to participation from more than 300 participants; and

WHEREAS, the City desires to adopt the Cleveland Heights' Climate Forward: An Action and Resilience Plan as a guiding document for future decisions related to reducing carbon emissions and building resilience to climate change.

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

SECTION 1. Cleveland Heights' Climate Forward: An Action and Resilience Plan, attached hereto as Exhibit A, is hereby adopted.

SECTION 2. It is found and determined that all formal actions of the Council relating to the adoption of this Resolution were taken 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 3. Notice of the passage of this Resolution shall be given by publishing the title and abstract of its contents, prepared by the Director of Law, once in one newspaper of general circulation in the City of Cleveland Heights, or by posting the full text of this Resolution to the City of Cleveland Heights website.

SECTION 4. This Resolution shall take effect and be in force at the earliest time permitted by law.



TONY CUDA
President of Council

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ADDIE BALESTER
Clerk of Council

PASSED: May 19, 2025

Presented to Mayor: 05/20/2025 Effective date: 05/30/2025*

KAHLIL SEREN
Mayor

*Effective date per Article IV, Section 5 of the Codified Ordinances of the City of Cleveland Heights