



BOARD OF SUPERVISORS AGENDA ITEM REPORT

Requested Board Meeting Date: 5/3/2022

*= Mandatory, information must be provided

Click or tap the boxes to enter text. If not applicable, indicate "N/A".

***Title:**

RESOLUTION 2022 - ____

RESOLUTION OF THE PIMA COUNTY BOARD OF SUPERVISORS

TO FURTHER PIMA COUNTY'S COMMITMENTS TO ADDRESS THE RISKS OF CLIMATE CHANGE BY ADOPTING A CLIMATE ACTION PLAN THAT ALIGNS WITH CURRENT NATIONAL AND INTERNATIONAL EFFORTS IN SUPPORT OF THE PARIS CLIMATE AGREEMENT

***Introduction/Background:**

In a memo to the Board of April 18, 2022, conveying the "SAPCO Update Report (FY2021) and Audit of Strategies and Challenges," it was indicated that Pima County is making slow progress to achieving its carbon reduction targets set in 2017, to reduce emissions by 26-28% below 2005 levels.

***Discussion:**

This report serves as guidance for next steps to keep Pima County in its position of leadership by conforming SAPCO to climate-action best practices based on the latest scientific findings on climate change impacts. The recommendations for next steps included in the report were developed by County Administration and department leadership from the Office of Sustainability and Conservation, Facilities Management, and Regional Wastewater Reclamation Department.

***Conclusion:**

Pima County remains a top tier local government in making progress toward its sustainability and adaptation goals including its efforts to reduce carbon emissions; however, more progress is needed to achieve these goals.

***Recommendation:**

It is recommended that the Board consider this Resolution for discussion/ direction/ action.

***Fiscal Impact:**

None

***Board of Supervisor District:**

☐ 1 ☐ 2 ☐ 3 ☐ 4 ☐ 5 ☒ All

Department: Office of Sustainability & Conservation Telephone: 520-724-6451

Contact: Linda Mayro Telephone: 520-724-6451

Department Director Signature:

Linda Mayro

Date:

4/28/2022

Deputy County Administrator Signature:

[Signature]

Date:

4/28/2022

County Administrator Signature:

[Signature]

Date:

4/20/2022

RESOLUTION 2022 - __

**RESOLUTION OF THE PIMA COUNTY BOARD OF SUPERVISORS
TO FURTHER PIMA COUNTY'S COMMITMENTS TO ADDRESS THE RISKS
OF CLIMATE CHANGE BY ADOPTING A CLIMATE ACTION PLAN THAT
ALIGNS WITH CURRENT NATIONAL AND INTERNATIONAL EFFORTS IN
SUPPORT OF THE PARIS CLIMATE AGREEMENT**

The Board of Supervisors of Pima County, Arizona finds:

1. Consensus exists among the world's leading climate scientists, and the recently released United Nations International Panel on Climate Change (IPCC) Assessment Report No.6 (AR6) agrees that we face a major global climate crisis caused by greenhouse gas emissions, and calls on governing bodies to prepare for, reduce the risk of, and increase resilience to climate impacts; and
2. Documented impacts of global warming include but are not limited to rising sea levels, melting ice sheets, and increased occurrences of extreme weather events, resulting in the destruction of ecosystems and infrastructure, increased costs, and reduced economic productivity, as well as unpredictable and unhealthy living environment that will have significant impacts to human health and safety; and
3. Pima County's geographic location makes it particularly vulnerable to the devastating impacts of climate change including extreme drought, fires, flooding, and the concomitant adverse impacts on human health and the environment; and
4. In 2007, the Pima County Board of Supervisors adopted Resolution 2007-84, which was the basis for the 2008 and 2014 *Sustainable Action Plan for County Operations* (SAPCO), setting targets for reduced greenhouse gas emissions; and
5. In 2015, nearly 200 nations adopted the voluntary United Nations Paris Climate Agreement (Paris Agreement) aimed at reducing carbon emissions, slowing rising global temperatures, and helping countries deal with the effects of climate change; and
6. The United States ratified the Paris Agreement on September 3, 2016, and committed to its own Nationally Determined Contribution (NDC) or United States target of reducing carbon emissions by 26 to 28 percent by 2025; and
7. On June 6, 2017, the Pima County Board of Supervisors passed Resolution 2017-39 affirming its commitment to the Paris Agreement; and
8. In July 2017, the County adopted Climate Resolution 2017-51, which resulted in the current *2018-2025 Sustainable Action Plan for County Operations* that addresses Carbon, Water, Landscapes, Materials, and Workforce, and aligned County carbon emissions targets to the United States target of reducing carbon emissions by 26 to 28 percent by 2025; and
9. To address the recent findings of the IPCC AR6, the National Climate Advisor and the White House Office of Domestic Climate Policy adjusted the United States NDC by setting a new economy-wide target of reducing its greenhouse gas emissions by 50 to 52 percent below 2005 levels by 2030; and

10. Approximately 80 percent of the County's current total carbon emissions is derived from electricity generated from fossil fuels, and
11. Pima County continues to make progress in combating climate change by installing 13MW of solar energy infrastructure at county facilities, constructing a biogas facility to make beneficial use of methane from wastewater treatment, transitioning its fleet to electric and energy saving vehicles, installing green infrastructure, and maintaining natural carbon sequestration in riparian areas and other natural areas, but greater efforts are needed.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Pima County Board of Supervisors:

1. Authorizes and directs the County Administrator and staff to prioritize and align efforts with the United States new NDC to the Paris Agreement, and to identify, implement, and advocate for those climate actions that are determined to be the highest operational priorities to reduce carbon emissions to 50 to 52 percent below 2005 levels by 2030 through:
 - a. Revising the current SAPCO into a multi-year *Climate Action Plan for County Operations* (CAPCO) that extends the plan to 2030, and increases carbon reduction targets to 50 percent below 2005 levels to conform with United States NDC to achieve its commitment to the Paris Agreement.
 - b. Identifying high priority strategies for Carbon, Water, Landscapes, Materials, and Workforce to reduce risk from climate change and promote resilience.
 - c. Conducting cost-benefit analyses for implementation of high priority strategies and identify available funding.
 - d. Adopting annual targets and assigning strategies to be included in annual departmental work plans to reach stated targets.
 - e. Aligning the County Climate Action Plan to the International Council for Local Environmental Initiatives - Local Government Operations Protocol (ICLEI LGOP), which provides a consistent set of methodologies for accounting for carbon emissions associated with local government operated buildings, vehicles, and other operations in the United States.
 - f. Working with County contracted utilities to maximize the benefit that the County receives from utilities' conversion to renewable energy resources.
 - g. Initiating Pima County's employee Green Team – "Green Stewards."
 - h. Publishing "THRIVE," a self-paced climate 101 training for the benefit of the County workforce.

SIGNATURES ON FOLLOWING PAGE

Passed, adopted and approved, this ____ day of _____, 2022.

Sharon Bronson, Chair
Pima County Board of Supervisors

ATTEST:

Melissa Manriquez, Clerk of the Board

APPROVED AS TO FORM:

 April 28, 2022

County Attorney