

BEFORE THE BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS
FOR MULTNOMAH COUNTY, OREGON

RESOLUTION NO. 09-133

Adopting the 2009 Climate Action Plan in Partnership with the City of Portland

The Multnomah County Board of Commissioners Finds:

- a. There is a consensus among the world's leading scientists that climate change caused by human emission of greenhouse gases is among the most significant problems facing the world today and potentially poses the greatest economic, environmental, and social challenge of the 21st century.
- b. Documented impacts of global warming include but are not limited to increased occurrences of extreme weather events (i.e., droughts and floods), adverse impacts on plants and wildlife habitats, threats to global food and water supplies – all of which have an economic and health impact on communities and their local governments.
- c. The United Nations Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change estimates that global greenhouse gas emissions must decline 50 to 85 percent from 2000 levels by 2050 to avoid catastrophic climate disruption.
- d. Currently the United States is responsible for producing approximately 25 percent of the world's greenhouse gas emissions.
- e. The State of Oregon has mandated statewide reduction of greenhouse gas emissions to 75 percent below 1990 levels by 2050.
- f. Counties have a unique role to play in reducing greenhouse gas emissions and preparing for the impacts of climate change through their regional jurisdiction over policy areas such as land use planning,

transportation, zoning, forest preservation, water conservation, solid waste management, emergency preparedness, and public health.

- g. The immediate economic benefits of climate solutions are significant including energy efficiency savings and green job creation while long-term climate stabilization can prevent irreparable harm from catastrophic climate change impacts.
- h. The American Public Health Association, of which the Multnomah County Health Department is a member, states that there is a direct connection between climate change and public health.
- i. In April 2001, by Resolution No. 01-052, Multnomah County adopted a joint Global Warming Action Plan with the City of Portland to establish a goal of reducing community-wide greenhouse gas emissions 10% below 1990 levels.
- j. In November 2007, by Resolution No. 07-173, Multnomah County authorized an update of the joint 2001 Global Warming Action Plan and worked alongside the City of Portland and a citizen-advisory steering committee to draft a new plan.
- k. In April 2008, by Resolution No. 08-035, Multnomah County signed the Cool Counties Climate Stabilization Declaration with Clackamas County and adopted the 2050 goal of reducing community-wide greenhouse gas emissions 80% below current levels.
- l. Bucking the national trend, Multnomah County greenhouse gas emissions levels have dropped to approximately 1% below 1990 levels, and on a per capita basis, Multnomah County emissions have fallen 17% since 1993.
- m. The 2009 Climate Action Plan establishes objectives for 2030 and actions to be completed by 2012 to put local greenhouse gas emissions on a path to reduce community-wide emissions to 80 percent below 1990 levels by 2050.

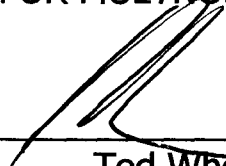
The Multnomah County Board of Commissioners Resolves:

1. The Board adopts the attached 2009 Climate Action Plan and will partner with the City of Portland to promote a sustainable future by reducing total Multnomah County emissions of greenhouse gases 80% below 1990 levels by 2050.
2. The Sustainability Program is directed to work with affected county departments to implement the 2009 Climate Action Plan and report to the Board by June 30, 2012, on its progress in implementing the 2009 Climate Action Plan and recommendations to improve implementation.
3. The Sustainability Program, on behalf of the County, will partner with the City of Portland, the Portland Development Commission, Metro, the Portland Sustainability Institute, and private-sector organizations, to establish a business leadership council to catalyze the business community to create a prosperous low-carbon economy.

ADOPTED this 29th day of October 2009.



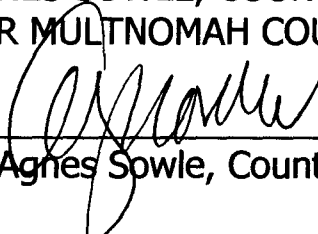
BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS
FOR MULTNOMAH COUNTY, OREGON



Ted Wheeler, Chair

REVIEWED:

AGNES SOWLE, COUNTY ATTORNEY
FOR MULTNOMAH COUNTY, OREGON

By 
Agnes Sowle, County Attorney

SUBMITTED BY:
Commissioner Jeff Cogen