

**BEFORE THE BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS  
FOR MULTNOMAH COUNTY, OREGON**

**RESOLUTION NO. 2015-076**

Adopting the Joint Multnomah County and City of Portland 2015 Climate Action Plan.

**The Multnomah County Board of Commissioners Finds:**

- a. The scientific consensus is clear that human activities are the primary cause of the accelerating changes in the global climate.
- b. The American Public Health Association states that "climate change is threatening our health today, and if left unchecked, will lead to increases in disease and death. Immediate action can and must be taken to slow climate change and prepare the public health system to protect our communities from negative health impacts."
- c. Climate change is an environmental justice issue because the impacts of climate change will disproportionately impact vulnerable populations, including communities of color, the elderly, unsheltered, and low income individuals and families; and investments made to reduce carbon emissions are an opportunity to address community health and socio-economic inequities.
- d. Climate change poses a significant threat to Oregon's forests, fisheries, water supplies, and coastal resources; impacts are likely to include winter flooding, summer droughts, loss of shoreline, forest fires, diminished fish and wildlife habitat, retreating glaciers, decreased snow pack, and increased disease vectors and invasive species.
- e. For over a decade Multnomah County has taken action to reduce greenhouse gases, including the adoption of the 2009 Climate Action Plan.
- f. Multnomah County, working together with the City of Portland and many private and public-sector partners, has achieved a significant accomplishment in reducing greenhouse gas emissions to 14% below 1990 levels in 2013, which represents a per capita decrease of 35%.
- g. The communities of Multnomah County have shown that economic prosperity and population growth do not preclude the ability to significantly reduce greenhouse gas emissions.

**The Multnomah County Board of Commissioners Resolves:**

1. The Joint Multnomah County and City of Portland 2015 Climate Action Plan is approved.

2. Multnomah County affirms the goal of reducing communitywide greenhouse gas emissions 40% below 1990 levels by 2030, and 80% below 1990 levels by 2050.
3. County Departments shall implement assigned actions contained within the 2015 Climate Action Plan by 2020.
4. All County programs shall support reducing carbon emissions from County operations and help the community prepare for and respond to the impacts of climate change.
5. The Multnomah County Office of Sustainability shall coordinate the implementation of the 2015 Climate Action Plan, including providing annual reports to the County Board on carbon emission trends, progress in implementing identified five year actions, and how climate equity objectives have been put into practice.
6. Multnomah County joins the cities of Portland, Milwaukie, Corvallis, Hood River, and Eugene in urging the state of Oregon to establish a price on carbon that drives down statewide greenhouse gas emissions while prioritizing the needs of environmental justice communities.

**ADOPTED this 25th day of June, 2015.**

BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS  
FOR MULTNOMAH COUNTY, OREGON



*Deborah Kafoury*

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Deborah Kafoury, Chair

REVIEWED:  
JENNY M. MADKOUR, COUNTY ATTORNEY  
FOR MULTNOMAH COUNTY, OREGON

By *BD*  
Bernadette D. Nunley, County Attorney