



Toni N. Harp
Mayor

ENGINEERING DEPARTMENT

City of New Haven
200 Orange Street, Rm 503
New Haven, CT 06510
www.cityofnewhaven.com



Giovanni Zinn, P.E.
City Engineer

February 20, 2018

The Honorable Tyisha Walker, President
New Haven Board of Alders
165 Church Street
New Haven, CT 06510

Re: Resolution Adopting the New Haven Climate and Sustainability Framework as the Plan of the City to Confront Climate Change and Promote New Haven's Sustainability

Dear President Walker:

In January of 2016 the Mayor was approached by a coalition of community groups and activists to update the 2004 Climate Action Plan of the City of New Haven. Out of that effort grew the New Haven Climate and Sustainability Framework which is presented before you today. The Framework is a guidance document for the entire New Haven community (not just City operations) to confront the myriad challenges of global climate change here in New Haven, and sets a goal of reducing New Haven's carbon footprint by 55% by 2030. Climate change is a very real and concerning problem today, and UCONN CIRCA just published estimates that by 2050 water levels in Long Island Sound could rise as much as 20 inches.

The Climate and Sustainability Framework is the result of work from many in New Haven. The overall plan was guided by a steering committee representing a cross-section of interested parties in New Haven, and over 100 residents and stakeholders provided feedback during our public input sessions. The resulting document proposes 97 actions in 6 areas:

- Electric Power
- Buildings
- Transportation
- Materials Management
- Land + Infrastructure
- Food

The document is before you for adoption as the City's official guidance document for the response to Climate Change. The actions range from changes in municipal operations all the way to advocacy at the Federal level. The adoption of the plan is the first step towards assessing and implementing each of these goals, many of which will involve the Board's participation and input in the future as we work towards our goal of 55% in carbon emissions by 2030. In addition, addressing climate change has many other co-benefits that improve our community and are considered in the Framework.

Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

Giovanni Zinn, P.E.
City Engineer

