

MOTION

Los Angeles has a goal of reducing greenhouse gas emissions from municipal operations 55% by 2025; 65% by 2035; and achieving carbon neutrality by 2045. Numerous initiatives approved by this Council, including the LA100 (CF 21-0352), Electric Vehicle (CF 21-0890), Municipal Building Decarbonization (CF 21-1039), and Zero Waste Master Plans (CF 21-0064) set targets towards achieving these goals. To date, the City has not adequately resourced these strategies to a level that would ensure the annual investment necessary to achieve carbon neutrality in city operations by 2045 or earlier. Los Angeles needs direct alignment between the budget and greenhouse gas emissions reductions goals – it needs a climate budget.

In order to reach carbon neutral city operations, the city needs reliable data regarding its greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions. The City measures its progress towards its climate goals by calculating a GHG inventory, which recently has been compiled by the Bureau of Sanitation. The Bureau annually prepares and publishes a GHG inventory that measures citywide or “community” emissions as well as a municipal inventory that measures emissions from government operations. Both inventories show steady progress in the city’s push to decarbonize: municipal emissions in 2020 decreased by 54% from the base year of 2008, while community emissions decreased 35.5% from the community base year of 1990. CF 21-0450 established further reporting instructions departments to departments on this topic.

In order for the city to achieve its carbon neutrality goal, it must sync its carbon budgeting process to the financial and capital planning processes. Several global cities, including Barcelona, Montreal, and most notably Oslo, have already developed some form of climate budget. These cities track emissions through annual municipal and community wide inventories, while setting specific, shrinking emissions budgets for high-emitting city departments annually. New York City has a team of more than a dozen budget analysts focused specifically on tracking expenditures of its goals and roughly \$400 million annual investment in municipal decarbonization. Some of Los Angeles’ high profile policy areas, such as homelessness, are specifically accounted for in the budget with a dedicated team at the CAO and the publication of the Homelessness Non-Departmental Schedule that tracks these expenditures. Our city must similarly organize and invest to meet the needs of the climate crisis and institutionalize its decarbonization goals into the administration of the city budget.

I THEREFORE MOVE that the Bureau of Sanitation and the Environment (LASAN) present to the Council a Community and a Municipal Greenhouse Gas Emissions Inventory to inform progress towards meeting LA’s climate change goals. The Municipal and Community inventories should be developed and reported by sector, based upon established Local Government Operations Protocol and Global Protocol for Community-Scale Greenhouse Gas Inventories. Departments, including proprietary departments, must share requested activity data for the previous year with LASAN by October 31 of each year. The inventory should be finalized and presented to the Council by January 15 of each year and used to inform the subsequent year’s budget process.

I FURTHER MOVE that the City Administrative Officer (CAO) establish a Climate Impact team, which shall support departments in the preparation of investment plans that achieve the City’s goal of carbon neutrality and perform other climate-related activities referred to them. This team shall be responsible for setting annual, decreasing caps on emissions for each high-emitting department in order to reduce

PMK

emissions levels to each Council-established goal. Departments included in this cap should at minimum include LASAN, General Services Department, Police Department, Fire Department, Department of Recreation and Parks, and LA Zoo. Proprietary departments should also report on these metrics in the format identified by the CAO.

I FURTHER MOVE that the City Administrative Officer, with the assistance of the LASAN, report to the Council by April 15 of each year on departments' progress towards meeting their annual carbon reduction goals.

I FURTHER MOVE that the City Administrative Officer, in consultation with both city and proprietary departments, compile a list of all programs currently active in the city that are intended to reduce emissions, along with their total expected cost, cost per year, and scheduled time of completion; and that this list be included in the Budget. The CAO should further elaborate meaningful reporting standards (e.g. size and type of project) for departments to follow to meet this reporting requirement.


I FURTHER MOVE that the City amend the Capital and Technology Improvement and Expenditure Program (CTIEP) policy by incorporating climate change mitigation projects and specifically, carbon reduction projects as Primary Criteria within the CTIEP Project Prioritization Criteria section, and establish climate change mitigation projects as elements within the existing Element Descriptions for municipal facilities, physical plant, and major information technology infrastructure and systems.

I FURTHER MOVE that the City Administrative Officer, identify the CTIEP projects with climate change mitigation goals included in 2020-21, 2021-22, and 2022-23 budgets that were counted towards the General Fund annual minimum investment target of 1.5 percent, and recommend an investment target for General Fund supported climate change mitigation projects for 2023-24 utilizing available metrics, including the rate of return on the City's investment. This target should represent a meaningful increase in the annual level of investment.

I FURTHER MOVE that the City Administrative Officer, with the assistance of all departments and proprietary departments, prepare a study using an expert consultant, that identifies the feasibility of and investments needed to achieve carbon neutrality in municipal operations by 2035. The study should identify costs and projects needed to achieve the city's existing goal of carbon neutrality by 2045 to compare costs of both timelines. The study should identify intermediate percentage reduction targets and associated costs based on the 2021 baseline in order to guide the preparation of a carbon budget. This study should rely upon the analysis in the LA100 study, the Municipal Solar and Building Decarb workbooks, and assume that LA will reach 100% clean electricity by 2035.

I FURTHER MOVE that the City Administrative Officer report on the staffing and budget resources needed to create a Climate Impact team capable of managing the tasks described in this motion.

Presented by:


PAUL KREKORIAN
Councilmember, 2nd District

Seconded by:



NOV 03 2022

ORIGINAL