

CITY OF CONCORD

In the year of our Lord two thousand eighteen

RESOLUTION: ADOPTING A GOAL OF 100% RENEWABLE ENERGY FOR THE CITY OF CONCORD

The City of Concord resolves as follows:

WHEREAS, it is in the best interest of the City of Concord to reduce its greenhouse gas emissions in order to combat the threat of global climate change, and to undertake a large-scale, community-wide transition to renewable energy and clean transportation in order to achieve that objective; and

WHEREAS, renewable energy also represents a significant opportunity for the City of Concord to attract and create jobs in an emerging industry, stabilize energy costs, increase energy security, mitigate public health risks associated with air pollution, reduce health care costs, and reduce the strain on water resources; and

WHEREAS, “renewable energy” includes energy derived from wind, solar, geothermal, and wave and tidal technology sources; and low-impact, small hydro and some forms of biomass may be considered “renewable energy” after being evaluated for sustainability and community impact; and “renewable energy” specifically excludes energy derived from fossil fuels, nuclear, incineration of municipal and medical waste, and future large-scale hydroelectric development.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, by the City Council of the City of Concord that:

1. It is the goal and policy of the City of Concord that 100% of all electricity consumed in the City of Concord will come from renewable energy sources by the year 2030, and that 100% of all thermal energy (heating and cooling) and energy used for transportation will come from renewable energy sources by the year 2050. This goal will apply to the entire Concord community, not just municipal government operations.
2. This goal will be achieved in cooperation with the state government, other local governments, local institutions, the business community and residents of the City of Concord.
3. The City Council directs the City administration to begin the development of plans, working with the Concord Energy and Environment Committee (CEEC), to achieve the goal of 100% renewable energy upon approval of this resolution.
4. The City of Concord commits to developing a strategic plan for achieving a city-wide transition to 100% renewable electricity by 2030 and 100% renewable thermal energy and transportation by 2050.

5. This strategic plan will include interim milestones, budget estimates, estimated financial impacts, financing mechanisms, and a target goal for the percentage of renewable energy that shall be generated locally.
6. The initial draft of the strategic plan will be presented to the City Council within one year following approval of this resolution. The City Council will receive annual updates about progress on this initiative and ongoing implementation efforts.
7. The City administration will collaborate with the CEEC, a Stakeholder Committee, Concord residents, and an energy consultant to draft the strategic plan.
8. The City will work with the CEEC in order to implement a city-wide transition to 100% renewable energy. The City Council will commit to supporting the CEEC with staff time to help draft a strategic plan for reaching a goal of 100% renewable energy.
9. The CEEC will collaborate with the city administration to create a “Stakeholder Committee” made up of organizations representing labor, faith, social justice, environmental justice, frontline communities and those most impacted by our current energy systems, public health, economic development, the utility sector, the regional planning commission, surrounding communities, the clean energy sector, academic institutions, business, housing, employment services, low income advocates, and any other interested groups.
10. The Stakeholder Committee will meet quarterly to review the progress of Concord’s transition to 100% renewable energy and offer support. The Stakeholder Committee will also play a key role in advising the CEEC and City staff members who are involved in writing Concord’s 100% renewable energy plan. The CEEC will be the driver and facilitator of the Stakeholder Committee.
11. The City will facilitate an inclusive public input process after this resolution has been approved. The City and the CEEC will seek input from Concord residents about their vision, concerns, and advice regarding the community-wide transition to 100% renewable energy. There will be at least one public input session held in each voting ward.
12. The City will seek to partner with energy utilities and community-based organizations to measure energy cost-burden, adopt policies that reduce the cost-burden for low-income customers, and establish metrics in the City’s strategic plan to assess progress toward these goals.
13. The City will participate in State and Federal regulatory proceedings and legislation as needed to advocate for rules and policies that support Concord’s energy goals.
14. This resolution shall take effect immediately upon approval.

Introduced on [DATE] by:

Adopted on [DATE] as attested by: