

Resolve 14- 08/09

Passage: 4/6/09 8-0 (Coyne Out)

JILL C. DUSON (MAYOR)  
KEVIN J. DONOGHUE (1)  
DAVID A. MARSHALL (2)  
DANIEL S. SKOLNIK (3)  
CHERYL A. LEEMAN (4)

**CITY OF PORTLAND**  
IN THE CITY COUNCIL

JOHN R. COYNE (5)  
JOHN M. ANTON (A/L)  
DORY RICHARDS WAXMAN (A/L)  
NICHOLAS M. MAVODONES (A/L)

**RESOLUTION SUPPORTING GREEN BUILDINGS**

**WHEREAS**, the City wishes to encourage new construction and redevelopment projects to include sustainable design and building practices; and

**WHEREAS**, the City supports standards for construction that result in buildings that are environmentally responsible, energy efficient, and healthy places to work; and

**WHEREAS**, it is in the City's best interest to curb building energy consumption and emissions;

**WHEREAS**, Scientists have confirmed that polar ice caps are melting at rates that exceed our expectations due to global climate change, the leading cause of which is carbon emission; and

**WHEREAS**, The U.S. largely depends on oil and other fossil fuels for energy sources; and

**WHEREAS**, Oil and fossil fuels are the largest causes of carbon emissions; and

**WHEREAS**, In the summer of 2001 the City of Portland's elected officials signed a resolution pledging to participate in the Cities for Climate Protection (CCP) Campaign sponsored by ICLEI; and

**WHEREAS**, In 2003, Governor Baldacci signed into law P.L. 2003 Chapter 237 "An Act to Provide Leadership in Addressing the Threat of Climate Change" that set into law the proposed targets of reducing CO2 emissions to 1990 levels by 2010 and to 10% below 1990 levels by 2020; and

**WHEREAS**, In 2005 Mayor Jill Duson led Portland to become the first city in Maine to sign the Governor's Carbon Challenge and by doing so, the City committed to reduce its CO2 emissions to 1990 levels by 2010 and to 10% below 1990 levels by 2020; and

**WHEREAS**, In 2006 Mayor Jim Cohen became the first Mayor in Maine to sign onto the Climate Action Plan of the U.S. Conference of Mayors, which plan calls on the city to meet the requirements of the Kyoto Protocol; and

**WHEREAS**, Buildings are responsible for 40% of energy use and 40% of greenhouse gas emissions, and buildings therefore represent the greatest short term opportunity for considerable reduction in CO2 emissions; and

**WHEREAS,** In 2005 the American Institute of Architects issued the 2030 challenge, which sets forth a target of 50% fossil fuel reduction and a schedule to achieve carbon neutral buildings by 2030 by reducing fossil fuel consumption in new buildings by 60% by 2010, 70% by 2015, 80% by 2020, and 90% in 2025; and

**WHEREAS,** The 2030 challenge is recognized as both sufficiently aggressive and economically and technically feasible for achieving the CO2 reductions needed to limit greenhouse gas emissions from the building sector; and

**WHEREAS,** To face our challenges and to live up to the policy commitments the city has made in the past, we need to rebuild our economy on a sound foundation – one that ends our dependence on oil, puts people back to work, contributes to long-term prosperity, rebuilds our communities, and addresses global warming;

**NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED,** that the City of Portland recommends that all new buildings and renovations undertaken by private entities meet LEED standards and achieve the minimum LEED Optimize Energy Performance points necessary to meet the targets of the 2030 challenge as published by Architecture 2030 or, at a minimum, the Maine State Housing Authority Green Building Standards.