

**Resolution Relating to**

**Climate Action Plan**

Sponsors:

In the year Two Thousand Thirteen.....  
Resolved by the City Council of the City of Burlington, as follows:

WHEREAS, Burlington has a long history of climate planning and a commitment to sustainability as illustrated in the Legacy Action Plan, the Municipal Development Plan, and Plan BTV, among others, and;

WHEREAS, Burlington’s first Climate Action Plan was written in 2000 and ratified by the City Council, and;

WHEREAS, the updated draft involved extensive emissions data collection and analysis using the International Local Government Greenhouse Gas (GHG) Emissions Analysis Protocol developed by the Climate Registry and ICLEI (Local Governments for Sustainability), and;

WHEREAS, this inventory illustrated that Burlington’s overall greenhouse gas emissions increased 7% from 2007 to 2010, and;

WHEREAS, with the input of dozens of stakeholders representing the public and private sectors, and with extensive analysis conducted by SpringHill Solutions and other energy and carbon management specialists, 36 top greenhouse gas reduction strategies were identified and included in the draft Plan, and;

WHEREAS, implementing the strategies outlined in the Plan will help Burlington achieve it’s emissions reduction goals including: goal 1) to stop the increase of emissions and bring 2016 levels down to 2010 levels in municipal government operations, airport operations, and community-wide operations respectively; and goal 2) to reduce municipal operations by 20%, airport operations by 10% and community-wide emissions by 10% by 2025 respectively, and;

WHEREAS, the draft Climate Action Plan went to the City Council for the first of two public hearings in July 2012, and following that hearing, the Plan was re-organized with an emphasis on the 36 greenhouse gas emissions organized around 7 over-arching greenhouse reduction goals that consider energy use, transportation, urban forestry, food, and waste, and;

WHEREAS, if implemented, the strategies outlined in the updated Climate Action Plan will not only reduce Burlington’s greenhouse gas emissions, but potentially save stakeholders money through reduced energy and transportation costs at the municipal and community level, positively impact air quality, spur the local economy, and improve the quality of life for all who live, work and play in Burlington; and

WHEREAS, the City Council, in collaboration with CityGreen (a city team representing Burlington's city departments charged with providing recommendations on how to reduce the environmental impacts of city operations while saving financial resources) can begin to prioritize strategies for near term implementation;

WHEREAS, the *Burlington 2012 Climate Action Plan* is intended to be adopted into the energy element for the City's municipal development plan pursuant to the requirements of 24 V.S.A. §4382, §4384 and §4387, fulfilling the requirements of 24 V.S.A. §4384 and §4385 regarding the process for adoption; and,

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Burlington City Council hereby amends and re-adopts the *Burlington Municipal Development Plan* with the adoption and incorporation of the *Burlington 2012 Climate Action Plan* as recommended by the Burlington Planning Commission subject to technical corrections, formatting, graphics and other minor non-substantive editing that change neither the concept, meaning or extent of the Plan as presented; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the City Council hereby also approves the adoption of the updated Climate Action Plan.