

1 **..Title**

2 **United Nations Paris Climate Agreement** - For the purpose of adopting, honoring, and
3 upholding the commitments to the goals enshrined in the United Nations Paris Climate
4 Agreement as they apply in the City of Annapolis.

5 **..Body**

6 **CITY COUNCIL OF THE**
7 **City of Annapolis**

8
9 **Resolution 22-17**

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11 **Introduced by: Alderman Littmann, Alderman Pfeiffer and Alderman Arnett**

12
13 **Referred to**

14 **Environmental Matters Committee**

15
16
17 **A RESOLUTION** concerning

18
19 **United Nations Paris Climate Agreement**

20
21 **FOR** the purpose of adopting, honoring, and upholding the commitments to the goals enshrined
22 in the United Nations Paris Climate Agreement as they apply in the City of Annapolis.

23
24 **WHEREAS**, the City of Annapolis desires to protect and enhance the quality of life for all
25 those who live, work, learn and play in our community, as well as for our children
26 and grandchildren; and

27
28 **WHEREAS**, there is scientific consensus regarding the reality of climate change and the
29 recognition that human activity, especially the combustion of fossil fuels that
30 create greenhouse gases, is an important driver of climate change; and

31
32 **WHEREAS**, climate change has been widely recognized by government, business and
33 academic leaders as a worldwide threat with the potential to harm our economy,
34 safety, public health, and quality of life; and

35
36 **WHEREAS**, members of our community and others are already feeling the effects of climate
37 change through increased temperatures, more extreme weather events, and other
38 disruptions that affect our residents, economy, and way of life. In the City of
39 Annapolis this has been demonstrated with the storm surge from Hurricane Isabel
40 in 2003; the derecho during a massive heatwave in the summer of 2012; frequent
41 flooding downtown; and other natural disaster events; and

42
43 **WHEREAS**, climate change affects all residents and businesses, but communities that already
44 face socioeconomic and health inequities will be most severely impacted,
45 including youth, elders, people of color, and low-income communities, and such

1 communities therefore require an investment in resilience that is proportionate to
2 these more severe risks; and

3
4 **WHEREAS**, many local, regional, and global economies are prioritizing efficiency and
5 transitioning to low-carbon energy sources; and

6
7 **WHEREAS**, actions that reduce climate pollution also have potential to improve air quality,
8 public health, energy security, social equity, our local natural environment, and
9 quality of life for our residents; and

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11 **WHEREAS**, taking steps to increase energy efficiency and resilience can attract jobs and
12 economic development opportunities to our community and increase our long-
13 term economic competitiveness and wealth; and

14
15 **WHEREAS**, the City of Annapolis has demonstrated a legacy of leadership against the threat
16 of climate change; and

17
18 **WHEREAS**, the City of Annapolis remains committed to reducing greenhouse gas emissions
19 and proactively taking action to adapt to climate impacts; and

20
21 **WHEREAS**, several drivers of climate pollution such as the production and use of energy in
22 buildings and transportation can be influenced by local governments and the
23 collective action of communities around the world; and

24
25 **WHEREAS**, the City of Annapolis adopted a Sustainable Annapolis Community Action Plan
26 (2010); Emergency Operations Plan (2011) including a Flood Response Plan; and
27 a Natural Hazard Mitigation Plan (2012), outlining steps the City has committed
28 to taking in partnership with others to achieve our climate-related goals; and

29
30 **WHEREAS**, the City of Annapolis has already taken a variety of important actions to reduce
31 greenhouse gas emissions and enhance quality of life in our community that
32 include constructing the Annapolis Renewable Energy Park; entering into a
33 performance based contract to reduce energy use by City-owned buildings;
34 developing a Watershed Improvement Plan; and adopting higher floodplain
35 management standards; and

36
37 **WHEREAS**, the City of Annapolis is in the process of developing flood mitigation concept
38 designs to address flooding downtown; developing a Cultural Resource Hazard
39 Adaptation and Mitigation Plan; and identifying other large actions that will help
40 the city both mitigate and adapt to climate change; and

41
42 **WHEREAS**, we are joined in taking action on climate change by a global coalition of cities,
43 state and national governments and community and private sector leaders who
44 recognize the importance and potential of these actions to protect and enhance the
45 well-being of current and future generations; and

46

1 **WHEREAS**, hundreds of mayors representing millions of Americans have recently re-affirmed
2 their cities' commitments to climate action; and
3

4 **WHEREAS**, the City of Annapolis actively collaborates with other local governments
5 throughout our region, state, nation, and the world to learn from each other and
6 identify win-win opportunities to take action on climate change while creating
7 measurable benefits in our communities; and
8

9 **WHEREAS**, countries world-wide vowed to address climate change in agreements reached in
10 Paris in December 2015 (the "Paris Climate Agreement").
11

12 **NOW, THEREFORE**,

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14 **BE IT RESOLVED BY THE ANNAPOLIS CITY COUNCIL** that the City of Annapolis re-
15 affirms its commitment to taking action to reduce climate pollution in alignment with reducing
16 our greenhouse gas emissions and proactively working on adaptation.
17

18 **AND BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED BY THE ANNAPOLIS CITY COUNCIL** that the
19 City of Annapolis continues to support the principles of the Paris Climate Agreement as they
20 apply in the City of Annapolis.
21

22 **AND BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED BY THE ANNAPOLIS CITY COUNCIL** that the
23 City of Annapolis will continue to stand with cities and other public and private sector partners
24 throughout the world to advance action in accordance with the goals outlined in the Paris
25 Climate Agreement
26

27 **AND BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED BY THE ANNAPOLIS CITY COUNCIL** that the
28 City of Annapolis will take new steps to protect and enhance the resiliency of the City, its
29 residents and businesses; strengthen the City's zoning, floodplain and construction codes to
30 integrate current and anticipated changes in climate; create an interconnected network of green
31 spaces that support biodiversity and water quality management; integrate solar with battery
32 backup into new development projects; integrate climate change and natural hazards planning
33 into all City plans and capital improvement processes; and continue to pursue a goal of a 50%
34 tree canopy by 2036.
35

36 **AND BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED BY THE ANNAPOLIS CITY COUNCIL** that this
37 resolution shall take effect from the date of its passage.
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39

40 **EXPLANATION**

41 CAPITAL LETTERS indicate matter added to existing law.

42 ~~Strikethrough~~ indicates matter stricken from existing law.

43 Underlining indicates amendments.
44