

CITY OF HEALDSBURG

RESOLUTION NO. 138-2023

A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF
HEALDSBURG ADOPTING THE CLIMATE MOBILIZATION
STRATEGY

WHEREAS, per the United Nations Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC), the understanding of anthropogenic warming and cooling influences on climate has led to a high confidence (95 percent or greater chance) that the global average net effect of human activities has been the dominant cause of warming since the mid-20th century; and

WHEREAS, in California, the impacts of climate change are already being felt, and will continue to become more severe throughout the twenty-first 21st century, such as higher temperatures, more extreme heat events and wildfires, and rising sea levels; and

WHEREAS, in 2016, SB 32 set a target for achieving a 40 percent reduction in GHG emissions below 1990 levels by 2030, and in 2018, EO B-55-18 established a goal of achieving carbon neutrality by 2045 and was codified by AB 1279; and

WHEREAS, in March 2021, the Sonoma County Regional Climate Protection Authority (RCPA) adopted the Sonoma Climate Mobilization Strategy (SCMS) which establishes goals and strategies for Sonoma County to achieve carbon neutrality by 2030, defined as achieving an 80% reduction in emissions from 1990 levels coupled with carbon sequestration to meet the remaining 20% of emissions removal; and

WHEREAS, during the City Council Strategic Goal Setting Meeting on March 7th, 2022, Council adopted a strategic goal to develop a Climate Mobilization Strategy (CMS); and

WHEREAS, staff worked with Rincon Consultants, Inc. following authorization of the professional services agreement during the November 21, 2022 Council meeting to develop a CMS for Healdsburg in support of State and Regional greenhouse gas (GHG) reduction goals; and

WHEREAS, activities completed include, but are not limited to, review of existing policies/plans and inventory of existing projects, development of GHG forecast and scenario planning, cost analysis of key actions, 3 community workshops and a booth at the Climate Fest, 3 online surveys, 6 stakeholder group meetings, and 5 Council presentations; and

WHEREAS, the CMS includes 18 measures and 85 actions, of which 57 are included in the Implementation Plan for the next one to three years, focusing on Building Energy, Transportation, Solid Waste, Water and Wastewater, Carbon Sequestration, and Administration; and

WHEREAS, the CMS identifies key measures and actions that will be most impactful in reducing GHG emissions, are equitable, feasible, and community driven; and

WHEREAS, the CMS is expected to achieve a 24,224 MT CO₂e reduction if fully implemented by 2030, which translates to a reduction of approximately 1.9 MT CO₂e per capita, or 48% below 1990 per capita levels, exceeding the State's 2030 efficiency target goal by 8%; and

WHEREAS, although adoption of the Climate Mobilization Strategy is considered a discretionary action that could therefore be a "project" under the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA), adoption of the Climate Mobilization Strategy is exempt under the "common sense" exemption in CEQA Guidelines Section 15061(b)(3), which establishes the general rule for projects concerning which it can be seen with certainty that there is no possibility that the activity in question may have a significant effect on the environment, and such activities are not subject to CEQA; and

WHEREAS, adoption of the Climate Mobilization Strategy itself does not result in any City commitments to definite programs or projects that may have a significant environmental impact, and Implementation Plan items and initiatives that the City Council selects for implementation based on the Climate Mobilization Strategy will be evaluated under all applicable environmental laws and regulations to address potential environmental impacts when the initiative is considered.

NOW, THEREFORE, THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF HEALDSBURG HEREBY FINDS, DETERMINES, AND RESOLVES AS FOLLOWS:

Section 1. The above recitals are true and correct and are adopted by reference as substantive findings in this Resolution.

Section 2. The City Council of the City of Healdsburg hereby adopts the Climate Mobilization Strategy, subject to the action edits and removals recited during the Council meeting.

Section 3. This Resolution has been reviewed with respect to the applicability of the California Environmental Quality Act (Public Resources Code Section 2100 *et seq.*) (the "Guidelines"), the City Council has determined that the adoption of the Climate Mobilization Strategy is exempt from CEQA under the "common sense" exemption found in CEQA Guidelines Section 15061(b)(3) because it can be seen with certainty that there is no possibility that adoption of the Climate Mobilization Strategy may have a significant effect on the environment, and is therefore not subject to CEQA. Staff of the Planning Department is hereby directed to prepare and post a notice of exemption pursuant to Guidelines Section 15062.

PASSED, APPROVED AND ADOPTED, this 16th day of October 2023, by the following vote:

AYES: Councilmembers: (5) Ewards, Hagele, Herrod, Mitchell and Mayor Kelley

NOES: Councilmembers: (0) None

ABSENT: Councilmembers: (0) None

ABSTAINING: Councilmembers: (0) None

SO ORDERED:

ATTEST:


Ariel Kelley, Mayor


Raina Allan, City Clerk

I, RAINA ALLAN, City Clerk of the City of Healdsburg, do hereby certify that the foregoing is a full, true, and correct copy of Resolution No. 138-2023 adopted by the City Council of the City of Healdsburg on the 16th day of October, 2023.


Raina Allan, City Clerk

