

RESOLUTION NO.: 2020-15

A RESOLUTION OF THE VILLAGE COUNCIL OF EL PORTAL, FLORIDA, ESTABLISHING A SUSTAINABILITY AND RESILIENCY TASK FORCE; DESCRIBING ITS COMPOSITION, AND STATING ITS GOALS, DUTIES, AND FUNCTIONS AND SETTING AN EFFECTIVE DATE. (INTRODUCED BY MAYOR CLAUDIA V. CUBILLOS)

WHEREAS, there is a consensus among the world's leading scientists that global climate change is among the most significant problems facing the world today; and

WHEREAS, the extraction and combustion of fossil fuels are significant sources of greenhouse gas emissions and major contributors to climate change and pollution; and;

WHEREAS, local, regional, and global economies are transitioning to low-carbon energy sources, and businesses are leaders in providing energy efficiency and renewable energy technologies and services; and

WHEREAS, the future of the fossil fuel industry is questionable given global action to reduce greenhouse gas emissions; and

WHEREAS, scientists have found that climate change poses a significant threat to the economy and impacts that are likely to include longer and more intense wildfire seasons, diminished fish and wildlife habitat, changes in precipitation patterns that will affect agriculture and hydro-electric energy generation, and increased disease vectors and invasive species; and

WHEREAS, local and regional tide data show a trend of rising sea levels and more recent data and factors suggest this trend may accelerate in the future; and

WHEREAS, Southeast Florida is considered one of the most vulnerable areas in the country with respect to the consequences of climate change and sea level rise; and

WHEREAS, Miami-Dade, Broward, Palm Beach and Monroe Counties all share in common a quality of life rooted in the region’s rich cultural heritage, a vigorous economy, and environmental resources of global significance; and

WHEREAS, rising sea levels could limit the effectiveness of critical drainage infrastructure, endanger beaches and coastal natural resources and increase incidents of saltwater intrusion putting at risk the drinking water supply for the Southeast Florida population; and

WHEREAS, local governments, and the region, must give significant consideration to adaptation strategies designed to protect public infrastructure, property, water resources, natural areas and native species, and basic quality of life.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE VILLAGE COUNCIL OF EL PORTAL, FLORIDA, AS FOLLOWS:

Section 1. Recitals. The above Recitals are true and correct and incorporated herein by reference.

Section 2. Sustainability and Resiliency Task Force; Purpose.

There is hereby created and established a committee to be known as the Village of El Portal Sustainability and Resiliency Task Force (hereinafter referred to as the “Task Force”) for the purpose of providing technical assistance and advise to the Village Council as mitigation and adaption measures to respond to global warming climate change.

Section 3. Duties and Functions. The primary responsibility of the Task Force is to advise the Village Council as to strategies and policies with respect to the continued implementation of the adopted plan and its updates, as well as adaptation measures to be taken in response to the challenge of global warming climate change. The Task Force shall have the following duties and functions:

1. develop a Village of El Portal Florida Sustainability Action Plan (“Plan”) and update the Plan at least every five years; and

2. conduct an audit of Village operations to identify immediate, mid-term and long-term steps and recommendations for climate change mitigation and to become a carbon neutral municipality; and
3. develop a plan to assure genuine consideration of climate change, sea-level rise and carbon emissions in the execution of village tasks and decisions taken in core areas such as budgeting, planning and zoning, and strategic planning; and
4. identify and, through the Mayor and the Council, engage local, state, national and international resources and partner organizations in support of the plan; and
5. develop, as part of the Plan, an action plan to achieve the Village's strategic goal of 100% renewable energy for the Village's community electricity supply by no later than 2030, while identifying any economic, regulatory or technological challenges involved in attaining that objective; and
6. develop, as part of the Plan, a climate action plan to mandate greenhouse gas emission reduction targets and secure climate stability (mitigation) and plan for climate resilience (adaptation); and
7. consult with Village Departments to recommend to the Mayor and Council code or policy changes for Council consideration that advance the policies set forth in the Plan; and
8. identify ways in which the Village can assist energy utilities to help advance the Village's renewable energy goals; and
9. identify ways the Village can expand green infrastructure strategies to reduce energy demand; and
10. identify opportunities and advocate for the development of community-based renewable energy infrastructure to achieve a goal of meeting at least 25 percent (25%) of overall community-wide energy needs (including transportation, heating, and electricity) via such infrastructure by 2023.

11. recommend to the Mayor and Council ways in which the Village can assist local colleges, labor groups and workforce development agencies in the creation and development of training and retraining programs to assist workers displaced by implementation of the Plan; and

12. identify strategies to limit the impacts of climate and recommend to the Mayor and Council policies to reduce the cost-burden to low-income citizens as a result of implementing the Plan; and

13. work with the Mayor and Council to advocate and submit appropriate written comments to appropriate bodies in support of the Village's sustainability goals, including the Florida Legislature, local and Federal agencies, and other regional climate change task forces, committees and advisory boards.

Section 4. Membership, appointment, staggered terms and removal.

(a) The Task Force shall consist of a minimum of five (5) members appointed by the Council, including a member of the Village Council who shall serve as a liaison to the Council. Task Force members shall serve without compensation. The membership, as a whole, shall reflect a broad range of opinion, experience, socio-economic levels races, ages, and expertise with the objective of implementing the Plan. Members should have reputations for integrity and community service and have demonstrated an interest in a field or activity related to global warming climate change.

(b) Task Force members shall be nominated by the Mayor and Council and appointed by the Village Council. The Task members shall be appointed for an initial term of one (1) year. Upon the expiration of the initial term, a member may receive subsequent one (1) year appointment(s).

(c) At the initial meeting, The Task Force Chairperson and Vice Chairperson shall be elected by a majority vote of the Task Force members in attendance. The Chairperson of the Task Force and any of its subcommittees shall be a resident of the Village.

(d) Task Force members appointed by the Council shall not be removed from office by the Council before the expiration of their terms except for

cause based upon a determination of incapacity, incompetence, the presence of irreconcilable conflicts of interest, neglect of duty, or malfeasance, an act of moral turpitude and upon the affirmative vote of three (3) Council members. No Task Force member shall be removed without written notice of the intent to remove and an opportunity to provide a written response to the notice.

(e) The Task Force shall hold no less than six (6) regular meetings each year.

Section 5. Fiscal Impact.

(a) The Task Force shall undertake financial impact analyses to determine potential economic impact associated with implementing and not-implementing the Plan, including negative externalities. The Task Force shall undertake analyses to determine potential economic and fiscal impacts associated with implementing and not-implementing Task Force recommendations, including negative externalities.

(b) The Task Force shall publish a fiscal impact statement for any proposed code or administrative policy change which will have an impact on Village's operations.

(c) Any fiscal impact statements or analyses prepared as required by this section shall be published on the Village's website.

Section 6. Limitation of Authority.

The Task Force shall have no authority to commit the Village of El Portal to any policies, to incur any financial obligations or to create any liability on the party of the Village. The actions and recommendations of the Task force are advisory only and shall not be binding upon the Village.

Section 7. Physical facilities, staff and supplies.

(a) The Village shall provide the Task Force with appropriate meeting facilities, together with necessary supplies and equipment.

(b) The Village Manager shall provide necessary staffing assistance to the Task Force.

(c) The Task Force may request the Council to provide such other specialized consulting expertise as it may determine are necessary from time to time.

Section 8. Severability. If any section, subsection, sentence, clause or provision of this Resolution is held invalid, the remainder of this Resolution shall not be affected by such invalidity.

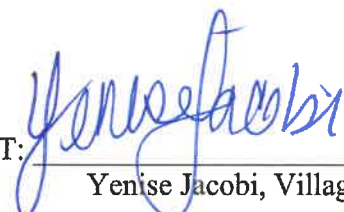
Section 9. Effective Date. This Resolution shall take effect immediately upon adoption.

PASSED AND ADOPTED by the Village Council of the Village of El Portal Florida, this 26th day of May, 2020.



Claudia V. Cubillos, Mayor

ATTEST:



Yenise Jacobi, Village Clerk

Approved as to form and legal sufficiency:
Interim Village Attorney

By: 

Norman C. Powell, Esq.

Vote:

Councilperson Pirela: / (Yes) (No)
Councilperson Urbom: / (Yes) (No)
Councilperson Roman: / (Yes) (No)
Vice Mayor Nickerson.: / (Yes) (No)
Mayor Cubillos: (Yes) (No) **ABSENT**

I, Yenise Jacobi, Village Clerk of the Village of El Portal, Miami-Dade County, Florida, do hereby certify that this is a true and correct copy of Resolution No.: 2020 - 15 adopted on this 26 day of May, 2020, as shown in the Official Records of the Village of El Portal, Miami-Dade County, Florida. Given under my hand and seal, this 26 day of May 2020.



Yenise Jacobi
Village Clerk