

**PLANNING AND DEVELOPMENT DEPARTMENT MEMORANDUM**  
**#27-2020**

**DATE:** July 13, 2020

**TO:** Honorable Mayor Meredith Leighty and City Council Members

**THROUGH:** Heather Geyer, City Manager 

**FROM:** Brook Svoboda, Director of Planning and Development   
Becky Smith, Planning Manager

**SUBJECT:** CR-106 – Colorado Communities for Climate Action 2020-2021 Policy Statement

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**PURPOSE**

City Council is considering a resolution in support of the Colorado Communities for Climate Action (CC4CA) 2020-2021 Policy Statement. CC4CA is a coalition of local governments across the state of Colorado that advocates for state and federal policies to protect Colorado's climate for current and future generations.

**BACKGROUND**

The City of Northglenn became a member of CC4CA in 2018. As a member, the City has had the opportunity to weigh-in on the development of the CC4CA Policy Statement, which is updated on an annual basis to adjust the policy positions of the organization. CC4CA's 2020-2021 Policy Statement update reflects unanimous agreement among the coalition members on steps that should be taken at the state and federal level, often in partnership with local governments, to enable Colorado and its communities to lead in protecting the climate.

The proposed statements were developed through CC4CA committees, which solicited input from every member jurisdiction and then prepared updates to reflect that input.

CC4CA held its all-member annual retreat to review and finalize the Policy Statement on June 19, 2020. The retreat, and the many months of work by CC4CA's Policy Committee and Board of Directors (on which every member jurisdiction is represented) before the retreat, provided the opportunity for all members to share input on each of the policy positions and the statements were modified accordingly. CC4CA members did a significant amount of work to finalize the proposed statement based on the input of all member Councils and Boards and to gain the approval of all members present at the retreat. At this time, all members of CC4CA are asked to ratify the updated Policy Statement formally.

Most of the updates are non-substantive, and none of the substantive updates significantly alter any positions. The updates include:

1. The updated Policy Statement eliminates the "explanatory text" that has been part of the format in previous years. These were the paragraphs accompanying each specific policy position that provided additional details and examples. The result is a much more concise and manageable Policy Statement.

2. The most significant substantive changes compared to the 2019-2020 Policy Statement are all still only minor changes:
  - "Resilience" is more clearly called out in the first General Policy Principle and in policy positions #5 (calling to remove barriers allowing local governments to implement resilience-oriented strategies) and #26 (encouraging post-disaster recovery efforts to improve resilience to future disasters).
  - Position #7, which supports a public process for evaluating retail energy choice options for local jurisdictions, now supports such a process for evaluating both retail and wholesale energy choice options for local jurisdictions.
  - Position #24 adds "reuse" to "recycling and composting."
  - There is a new position #25, which encourages the adoption of climate-positive innovations drawing from the lessons learned during the pandemic.
3. All of the other proposed changes are for grammatical purposes, to improve clarity, or maintain clarity when removing the explanatory text.

#### **BUDGET/TIME IMPLICATIONS**

CC4CA seeks membership approval on the Policy Statement annually. There are no direct budget impacts from this item.

#### **STAFF RECOMMENDATION**

Staff recommends approval of CR-106.

#### **STAFF REFERENCE**

If Council members have any comments or questions, they may contact Brook Svoboda, Director of Planning and Development, at 303.450.8937 or [bsvoboda@northglenn.org](mailto:bsvoboda@northglenn.org).

#### **ATTACHMENTS**

1. CC4CA 2020-2021 Policy Statement with tracked changes from the June 1, 2020 review of the draft policy statement

## CC4CA 2020-2021 Policy Statement

**Adopted by the Board of Directors on June 19, 2020  
For Ratification By Each CC4CA Member Jurisdiction  
(Substantive Changes from the 2019-2020 Policy Statement are Displayed)**

Colorado Communities for Climate Action is a coalition of local governments advocating for stronger state and federal climate policy. CC4CA's policy priorities for 2020-2021 reflect unanimous agreement among the coalition members on steps that should be taken at the state and federal level, often in partnership with local governments, to enable Colorado and its communities to lead in protecting the climate.

CC4CA generally focuses on legislative, regulatory, and administrative action, supporting efforts that advance the general policy principles and the detailed policy positions described below, and opposing efforts that would weaken or undermine these principles and positions.

### General Policy Principles

The following general principles guide the specific policies that Colorado Communities for Climate Action supports:

Collaboration between state and federal government agencies and Colorado's local governments to advance local climate protection and resilience.

State and federal programs to reduce carbon pollution, including adequate and ongoing funding of those programs.

Analyses, financial incentives, infrastructure, and enabling policies for the development and deployment of clean energy technologies.

Locally driven and designed programs to support communities impacted by the clean energy transformation.

Prioritizing policies that put people at the center of decision-making, minimizing disparities in growing the clean economy, especially for historically marginalized communities, and enhancing equitable outcomes for all.

## Policy Positions

Colorado Communities for Climate Action supports the following policy positions:

### *Statewide Climate Strategies*

1. Reduce statewide carbon emissions consistent with or greater than the State of Colorado's 2019 codified goals.
2. Secure accurate, frequent state greenhouse gas inventories and forecasts for Colorado which are made accessible to local governments and designed to be useful for stakeholders.
3. Adopt a comprehensive market-based approach to reduce Colorado's greenhouse gas emissions that ensures the benefits accrue justly and equitably to impacted communities.
4. Expand consideration of the environmental and health costs associated with the use of fossil fuels in making and implementing climate-related policy.

### *Local Climate Strategies*

5. Remove barriers and promote opportunities that allow counties and municipalities to maximize the deployment of local clean energy and climate-related strategies, including resilience-oriented strategies, while promoting affordable, accessible, and equitable delivery of reliable clean energy.
6. Enable local governments to obtain the energy use and other data from utilities and state agencies that they need to effectively administer climate and clean energy programs.
7. Support a comprehensive public process for evaluating retail and wholesale energy choice options for communities, informed by a broad variety of stakeholders.
8. Support policies that promote the efficient use of energy in buildings.
9. Provide for cost-effective and equitable policies, strategies, and practices that enable and accelerate beneficial electrification, reduce GHG emissions, improve quality of life, and make the electric grid more robust and resilient.

Deleted: 7. Support a public process for evaluating retail and wholesale energy choice options for local jurisdictions that is led by the state and informed by a broad variety of stakeholders.¶

*Energy Generation*

- 10. Accelerate retirement of existing fossil fuel generation facilities and their replacement with cost-effective and reliable clean energy supplies, through means that protect both utilities and consumers.
- 11. Expand the ability of electric cooperatives to independently purchase local renewable electricity and take other steps to reduce carbon pollution.
- 12. **Modernize energy infrastructure to enhance community-based resilience and integrate distributed energy resources.**

Deleted: Expanding distributed generation, energy storage, high levels of renewable energy generation (distributed and utility-scale), and appropriate technologies through grid modernization.

*Energy Efficiency*

- 13. Expand demand side savings from efficiency and conservation for all energy types.
- 14. Support ongoing and sustainable funding for weatherization and renewable energy assistance to low-income households, **including those from coal-dominated economies**, so that all Coloradans have access to comfortable and affordable homes.
- 15. **Support ongoing and sustainable funding for programs that assist communities in transition from coal-dominated economies.**
- 16. Provide counties and statutory cities and towns with the same authority held by home rule cities to implement local energy conservation policies and programs.

*Transportation*

- 17. Ensure effective implementation of Colorado's vehicle emissions standards and other regulatory and programmatic activities designed to reduce carbon emissions from vehicles.
- 18. Implement the 2020 Colorado Electric Vehicle Plan and other efforts to increase electrification of all motor vehicles.
- 19. Increase funding and policy incentives for multimodal transportation and multimodal-friendly development statewide.

20. Incentivize and select mobility alternatives, including movement of both people and goods, based on energy efficiency and environmental costs and benefits.

*Fossil Fuel Extraction Activities*

21. Expand monitoring and reduction of the full life cycle emissions from fossil fuel extractive industry activities.

*Solid Waste Reduction*

22. Grant CDPHE the authority to implement a plan for meeting Colorado's statewide and regional solid waste diversion goals.

23. Reduce the use of disposable/single-use products and promote the reuse of materials, **including construction and demolition waste.**

24. Foster infrastructure, policies, incentives, and programs for **reuse**, recycling, and composting.

*General*

**25. Encourage the widespread adoption of telecommuting options and other climate-positive innovations, drawing from the lessons learned during the coronavirus pandemic, to substantially reduce transportation-related air and carbon pollution.**

26. Promote proactive programs and efforts that improve the resilience and adaptability of Colorado communities in the face of natural disasters and other major challenges associated with climate change, **including ensuring that disaster stabilization and recovery efforts result in reduced carbon pollution and improved resilience to future disasters.**

27. Optimize the potential for carbon sequestration through regenerative agriculture, improved soil health, and forest management.

28. Incorporate equity, accessibility, and just transition considerations into climate policies and actions.

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29. Encourage investments that achieve climate-positive solutions, including policies that encourage entities investing public dollars to consider partial or full divestment as part of their investment strategies.

30. Maintain protections and authorities currently provided under environmental laws like the National Environmental Policy Act, the Clean Air Act, and the Clean Water Act.

SPONSORED BY: MAYOR LEIGHTY

COUNCILMAN'S RESOLUTION

RESOLUTION NO.

No. CR-106  
Series of 2020

\_\_\_\_\_  
Series of 2020

A RESOLUTION SUPPORTING THE UPDATED COLORADO COMMUNITIES FOR CLIMATE ACTION 2020-2021 POLICY STATEMENT

WHEREAS, the Northglenn City Council adopted a Sustainability Plan on September 24, 2018 to promote environmental quality, economic vitality, and social equity for all residents and businesses of Northglenn;

WHEREAS, the Northglenn City Council recognizes that local policies and local action, while critical, will not alone be sufficient to meet our own climate, energy, and sustainability goals, nor will they alone be sufficient to reduce the severity of climate change and its impacts to our community;

WHEREAS, the City of Northglenn, along with 33 other municipalities and counties in Colorado, have joined Colorado Communities for Climate Action (“CC4CA”), a coalition of local governments across the state which advocates for state and federal policies which support clean air, clean water, reduction of fossil fuel consumption and other contributors associated with greenhouse gas emissions;

WHEREAS, an integral part of this system is the adoption of updates to CC4CA’s Policy Statement, which guides the coalition’s work; and

WHEREAS, the City of Northglenn desires to have an effective voice in the development of statewide energy and greenhouse gas reduction policies.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF NORTHGLENN, COLORADO, THAT:

Section 1. The City of Northglenn supports the attached 2020-2021 update to the Colorado Communities for Climate Action Policy Statement.

DATED at Northglenn, Colorado, this \_\_\_\_ day of \_\_\_\_\_, 2020.

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MEREDITH LEIGHTY  
Mayor

ATTEST:

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JOHANNA SMALL, CMC  
City Clerk

APPROVED AS TO FORM:

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COREY Y. HOFFMANN  
City Attorney



## **CC4CA 2020-2021 Policy Statement**

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Aspen · Avon · Basalt · Boulder · Boulder County · Breckenridge · Broomfield · Carbondale  
Clear Creek County · Crested Butte · Dillon · Eagle County · Erie · Fort Collins · Fraser · Frisco · Gilpin County  
Glenwood Springs · Golden · Lafayette · Longmont · Louisville · Lyons · Mountain Village · Nederland · Northglenn  
Pitkin County · Ridgway · Salida · San Miguel County · Summit County · Telluride · Vail · Westminster

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