

City of Providence

STATE OF RHODE ISLAND AND PROVIDENCE PLANTATIONS

CHAPTER 2007-51

No. 504

AN ORDINANCE AMENDING CH. 2005-42, No. 355 RELATING TO CLEAN RENEWABLE ENERGY RESOURCES AND ADDING A SECTION RELATIVE RELATING TO CLIMATE PROTECTION

Approved NOVEMBER 26, 2007

Be it ordained by the City of Providence:

WHEREAS, Scientific consensus has developed that the earth is warming as the result of increasing levels of Carbon Dioxide (CO₂) and other greenhouse gases in the atmosphere, and that the main cause of this warming is human activity that releases greenhouse gases into the atmosphere; and

WHEREAS, Energy consumption, specifically the burning of fossil fuels, accounts for the majority of U.S. greenhouse gas emissions; and

WHEREAS, Local government actions taken to reduce greenhouse gas emissions and increase energy efficient provide multiple local benefits by decreasing air pollution, reducing energy expenditures, and saving money for the local government, its business, and its residents; and

WHEREAS, The City of Providence has endorsed the U.S. Mayors' Climate Protection Agreement, and

WHEREAS, ICLEI (Local Governments for Sustainability) has invited the City of Providence to join ICLEI and become a partner in the Cities for Climate Protection Campaign, and

WHEREAS, The City of Providence has previously established an Energy Task Force with a mission to make recommendations and reporting with regard to the implementation regarding the city's renewal energy purchases.

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT ORDAINED BY THE CITY OF PROVIDENCE:

Section 1. Chapter 2005-42, Ord. No. 355 (adopted July 29, 2005) of the Code of Ordinances of the City of Providence is hereby amended as follows:

Section 1. Renewable Energy Purchasing Goal: the City of Providence shall, starting in the fiscal year 2010, purchase at least 20% of the energy it consumes annually from clean, renewable sources. The City shall begin to make renewable energy purchases in the fiscal year 2006, increasing its renewable purchases over time so as to achieve the 20% goal.

Section 2. Satisfaction of the 20% Goal: The City shall achieve the 20% requirement by using renewable energy as defined in Section 39-26-5 of the Rhode Island General Laws. The City need not produce such energy itself, but may satisfy the 20% goal by purchasing Renewable Energy Credits.

Section 3. Establishment of ~~Energy~~ Environmental Sustainability Task Force:

1. The City shall establish an ~~Energy~~ Environmental Sustainability Task Force to study the scenarios by which the City could meet the 20% by 2010 goal, including the investigation of funding opportunities and the creation of clean energy installations.

2. The ~~Energy~~ Environmental Sustainability Task force membership shall consist of 7 9 individuals, ~~three~~ four of whom shall be appointed by and serve at the pleasure of the City Council, ~~three~~ four of whom shall be appointed and serve at the pleasure of the Mayor, and one of whom shall be chosen by and represent the Environment Council of Rhode Island.

3. The ~~Energy~~ Environmental Sustainability Task Force shall meet as often as necessary, but shall meet once within 90 days of the passage of this ordinance, and at least once each quarter until the implementation plan for the 20% by 2010 goal is completed.

4. Six months after passage of this ordinance and every six months thereafter the ~~Clean~~ Energy Environmental Sustainability Task Force will file a final report detailing its recommendations made towards the 20% by 2010 goal to the City Council for consideration. The ~~Energy~~ Environmental Sustainability Task Force shall continue to meet and file reports as described above until it is discontinued by ordinance.

5. City departments, agencies and their staff shall cooperate with the ~~Energy~~ Environmental Sustainability Task Force by providing them with all relevant documents and information as requested in a timely manner.

Section 2. The Code of Ordinances of the City of Providence is hereby amended to add the following section:

Section 1. The City of Providence will participate in the Cities for Climate Protection Campaign and, as a participant, pledges to take a leadership role in promoting public awareness about the causes and impacts of climate change.

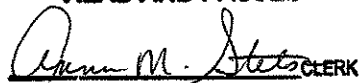
Section 2. The City of Providence will undertake the Cities for Climate Protection Campaign's five milestones to reduce both greenhouse gas and air pollution emissions throughout the community, and specifically:

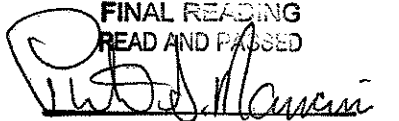
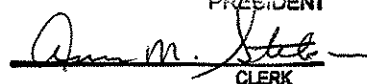
- Conduct a greenhouse gas emissions inventory and forecast to determine the source and quantity of greenhouse gas emissions in the jurisdiction;
- Establish a greenhouse gas emissions reduction target;
- Develop an action plan with both existing and future actions which when implemented will meet the local greenhouse gas reduction target;
- Implement the action plan; and
- Monitor and report progress.

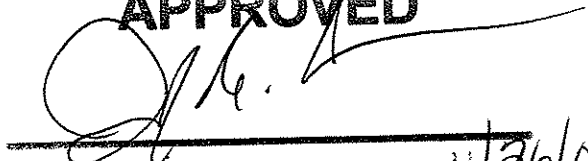
Section 3. The Environmental Sustainability Task Force shall study scenarios by which the City shall participate and implement the Cities for Climate Protection Campaign, and shall file written reports to the City Council detailing its finding.

Section 4. The City of Providence shall, as the need arises, request assistance from ICLEI's Cities for Climate Protection Campaign as it progresses through the milestones.

Section 3. This Ordinance shall take effect upon passage.

IN CITY COUNCIL
NOV 1 2007
FIRST READING
READ AND PASSED
 CLERK

IN CITY
COUNCIL
NOV 15 2007
FINAL READING
READ AND PASSED
 PRESIDENT
 CLERK

APPROVED

11/26/07
MAYOR