

RESOLUTION 2015 - 15

A RESOLUTION SUPPORTING A CARBON PRICING POLICY FOR THE STATE OF OREGON AND THE UNITED STATES.

Minutes of the May 4, 2015, Corvallis City Council meeting, continued.

A resolution submitted by Councilor Joel Hirsch.

WHEREAS, the Corvallis City Council has adopted a goal to develop and implement a local climate action plan because the City Council recognizes that people and governments need to act to mitigate climate change; and

WHEREAS, the Corvallis City Council understands that Corvallis, acting as a single community by itself, cannot alter the current course of climate change, but acting as one community of thousands, Corvallis residents can have an impact far beyond our community's borders; and

WHEREAS, the Corvallis City Council is compelled by the scientific consensus that carbon dioxide emissions from human activities are the primary cause of global climate change which means that human actions can mitigate climate change; and

WHEREAS, the Corvallis City Council finds that climate change is already having an impact in Oregon and threatens public health, natural resources, national security, food security, and business supply chains into the future; and

WHEREAS, the Corvallis City Council understands that the costs of climate change to society are currently passed onto our community instead of being borne by the emitters of carbon dioxide; and

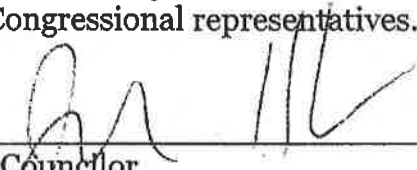
WHEREAS, the Corvallis City Council believes that requiring fossil fuel producers and consumers to pay for the costs of their carbon emissions will provide disincentives to consumption of fossil fuels and provide incentives to develop and implement sustainable energy alternatives; and

WHEREAS, the Corvallis City Council appreciates that a price on carbon – either in the form of a carbon tax or cap and traded permits – by itself would likely be regressive, and as a result, would want a price on carbon to be coupled with a provision to alleviate the burden on low-income households and to minimize negative impacts on total state employment.

NOW, THEREFORE, THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF CORVALLIS RESOLVES TO encourage the Oregon Legislature and the United States Congress to craft legislation to price carbon – whether in the form of a carbon tax or a cap and traded permitting system – using the best available research to ensure a policy that significantly reduces emissions while mitigating impacts on low-income people; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Corvallis City Council encourages other communities to join them in this request for Oregon and the United States to recognize and address the global problems of carbon dioxide emissions; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Corvallis City Council will send this resolution to the Oregon Legislature and to Oregon's Congressional representatives.



Councilor

Upon motion duly made and seconded, the foregoing resolution was adopted, and the Mayor thereupon declared said resolution to be adopted.