

Resolution No. 06-09
Introduced: 5/8/06
Adopted: 5/8/06
Effective Date: 5/8/06

**RESOLUTION OF
TOWN OF CHEVY CHASE**

SUBJECT: A RESOLUTION OF THE TOWN COUNCIL OF THE TOWN OF CHEVY CHASE MARYLAND, TO PARTICIPATE IN THE CITIES FOR CLIMATE PROTECTION CAMPAIGN OF COMMUNITIES 21 PROGRAM.

WHEREAS, the Town of Chevy Chase's natural resources, cultural amenities, institutions and the diversity of its people make it a unique and special place; and

WHEREAS, the Town of Chevy Chase is committed to maintaining and continuously improving the livability and sustainability of our community, including promoting social equality and opportunity, and protecting natural resources; and

WHEREAS, the Town of Chevy Chase recognizes that community livability and sustainability require that needs be met in a way that acknowledges the long-term impacts of collective choices and the responsibility to ensure a healthy and resource rich society for future generations, here in the community and elsewhere; and

WHEREAS, the importance of fostering local and global sustainable development has been increasingly acknowledged through international meetings and agreements such as the:

- 1992 Rio Earth Summit (UNCED),
- 1996 Istanbul Conference on Human Settlements,
- 2000 Millennium Development Goals,
- 2002 Johannesburg World Summit on Sustainable Development, and
- 2005 Urban Environmental Accords; and

WHEREAS, the Town of Chevy Chase recognizes that livability and sustainability are dependent on the conscientious and prudent management of ecological systems (e.g., water, air, natural resources) through our human-driven systems (e.g., governance, economy, relationships, transportation); and

WHEREAS, the Town of Chevy Chase has a responsibility to promote community livability and sustainability by identifying critical issues and fostering positive progress; and

WHEREAS, climate change is widely recognized as one of the primary potential threats to the livability and sustainability of local communities across the globe; and

WHEREAS, scientific consensus has developed that Carbon Dioxide (CO₂) and other greenhouse gases released into the atmosphere have a profound effect on the Earth's climate, as noted in the:

- 2001 National Academy of Sciences (NAS) review declaring global warming a real problem caused in part by the actions of humankind,
- 2001 Third Assessment Report from the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC) indicating that global warming has begun, and
- 2003 American Geophysical Union Statement noting that human activities are increasingly altering the Earth's climate and that natural influences cannot explain the rapid increase in near-surface temperatures observed during the second half of the 20th century;
- 2006 National Center for Atmospheric Research conclusion that 2005 hurricanes were a direct result of climate change; and

WHEREAS, energy consumption, specifically the burning of fossil fuels, accounts for more than 80% of U.S. greenhouse gas emissions; and

WHEREAS, 162 countries including the U.S. pledged under the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change to reduce their greenhouse gas emissions; and

WHEREAS, a growing movement of local governments has begun to provide leadership on climate protection, as evidenced by the US Conference of Mayors endorsement of the 2005 US Mayors Climate Protection Agreement signed by over 200 mayors in the USA; and

WHEREAS, local government actions taken to reduce greenhouse gas emissions and increase energy efficiency provide multiple local benefits that address community sustainability by decreasing air pollution, reducing energy expenditures, addressing social equity, and saving money for the local government, and its residents; and

WHEREAS, ICLEI – Local Governments for Sustainability has developed a proven methodology for advancing community livability and sustainability issues through its Campaigns including the Communities 21 campaign and Cities for Climate Protection campaign, following a common 5-Milestone framework; and

WHEREAS, the cumulative actions of local governments participating in ICLEI's campaigns are creating significant collective emissions reductions and offer powerful leadership examples for other communities as well as other levels of government; and

WHEREAS, ICLEI has invited the Town of Chevy Chase to become an ICLEI member, affording the opportunity to capitalize on ICLEI's established campaigns and network of local governments to advance issues of livability and sustainability in our community;

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Town of Chevy Chase commits to joining ICLEI as a Full Member.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Town of Chevy Chase commits to participate in and progress through the five milestones of the **Communities 21** campaign as a means of identifying and acting on opportunities to improve community livability and sustainability. Specifically, the Town of Chevy Chase will:

1. Develop a community vision; and
2. Examine community performance; and
3. Develop an action strategy; and
4. Implement improvements; and
5. Monitor progress and refine efforts.

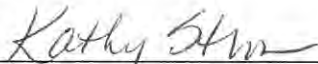
BE IT FINALLY RESOLVED, that the Town of Chevy Chase requests assistance from ICLEI as it progresses through the milestone framework of each of the above campaigns.

Introduced and adopted by the Town Council on May 8, 2006.


This resolution is effective on May 8, 2006.

ATTEST:

By:


Kathy Strom, Secretary

TOWN OF CHEVY CHASE


Linna Barnes, Mayor