



PS/66

**City of Kingston  
Climate Smart Kingston Commission  
420 Broadway Kingston, NY 12401  
(845) 481-7339**

July 28, 2022

Honorable Andrea Shaut  
President/Alderman-at-Large  
Kingston Common Council  
420 Broadway  
Kingston, NY 12401

Re: Climate Action Council Scoping Plan Resolution of Support

Dear President Shaut,

The Climate Smart Kingston Commission would like to request the Kingston Common Council consider adoption of a resolution in support of the Climate Action Council's Scoping Plan and the support of the Climate Leadership and Community Protection Act (CLCPA).

Per New York Renews (a coalition of over 300 environmental, justice, faith, labor, and community groups that helped pass the CLCPA), "The CLCPA, passed in 2019, is the nation's most aggressive climate law. Not only does it set legally binding emissions reductions standards to get New York completely off of fossil fuels by 2050, it also mandates that 40% of state climate and energy funding be invested in environmental justice communities."

The Climate Action Council (CAC) was created in order to draft a Scoping Plan. Many people showed up to hearings in communities across NYS to speak out in support of a strong plan that includes 100% renewable energy, building electrification, transportation electrification, energy efficiency, as well as an equitable, just and affordable transition.

According to the Disadvantaged Communities Criteria much of the City of Kingston's Environmental Burden is higher than 68% of Census Tracts statewide. A strong Draft Scoping plan will directly benefit these historically disadvantaged communities in our city. In addition the Scoping Plan will benefit clean air, clean transportation and clean jobs for all of the City of Kingston residents.

We call upon the City of Kingston Common Council to pass the attached resolution in support of a strong scoping plan which is in line with the CLCPA and truly centers environmental justice as we meet our ambitious climate goals.

Please see a DRAFT Resolution, attached, for your consideration.

Sincerely,

Julie L. Noble, Chair

Members: Betta Broad, Melissa Iachetta, Kevin McEvoy, Roberto Rivera, Dan Smith, Karen Sullivan, Cal Trumann



**Resolution No. \_\_\_\_**

**Declaring Support for the New York State Climate Action Council Scoping Plan**

**WHEREAS**, the Sixth Assessment of the International Panel on Climate Change (IPCC) finds that climate change is causing dangerous and widespread disruption in nature and affecting the lives of billions of people around the world; and

**WHEREAS**, the IPCC Assessment concludes that rapid, deep and sustained reductions in global greenhouse gas emissions (GHG) are necessary, including accelerated action in this critical decade, to limit global warming to within 1.5°C and 2°C in this century; and

**WHEREAS**, New York State recognizes the urgent need to reduce and eliminate GHG emissions in the atmosphere, passing the 2019 Climate Leadership and Community Protection Act ("Climate Act") committing the State to:

- reduce GHG emissions by 40 percent by 2030 below 1990 levels, and achieve net-zero emissions by 2050;
- meet 70 percent of electricity needs from renewable resources by 2030, and 100 percent of electricity needs from zero-emissions resources by 2040;
- ensure a just and equitable transition that leaves no one behind, and dedicate up to 40 percent of the benefits of clean energy investments to Disadvantaged Communities; and

**WHEREAS**, the New York State Climate Action Council has approved for public comment a Draft Scoping Plan to meet New York's climate and equity goals; and

**WHEREAS**, the Scoping Plan calls for shifting to energy-efficient electrification in buildings and transportation as the primary solution to replace fossil-fuel combustion in these sectors, which together account for 60 percent of the state's carbon emissions; and

**WHEREAS**, the Scoping Plan calls for a phase-down of emissions from fossil fuel-fired electricity generation, while ensuring support and protections for impacted workers as they transition to clean energy jobs;

**WHEREAS**, the 2021 Jobs Study by the Just Transition Working Group for the NYS Climate Action Council estimates that meeting New York's climate goals will result in a net gain of 189,000 jobs across the state by 2030, alone, with a ratio of jobs gained to jobs displaced of 10 to 1; and

**WHEREAS**, the Scoping Plan includes measures that would expand the development of renewable resources and battery storage, encourage "agrivoltaics," or the co-location of agricultural activities with solar and wind, and provide resources to communities to assist with renewable siting and land-use planning;

**WHEREAS**, the Scoping Plan recognizes the critical role that rural landscapes play, both natural and working lands, in sequestering carbon emissions and enabling the state to achieve net-zero emissions, and the importance of agricultural land preservation, open space protection, support for farmers to improve soil health, and policies that expand afforestation and reforestation and incentivize and assist private landowners in implementing sustainable forest management practices;

**WHEREAS**, the Integration Analysis for the Scoping Plan finds that meeting emissions reduction goals of the Climate Act is technically feasible and will have the additional and significant benefit of improving public health by eliminating co-pollutants from fossil fuel combustion, resulting in an estimated \$50 to \$120 billion in health-related savings by 2050; and

**WHEREAS**, according to NYSERDA, over half of what New Yorkers currently spend on energy leaves New York, mostly for fossil fuels; and

**WHEREAS**, our communities would be better served by keeping energy spending primarily within the local economy; now, therefore be it

**RESOLVED**, the Common Council of the City of Kingston affirms the critical importance of meeting the emissions and equity goals of the Climate Act, which will help mitigate dangerous warming while delivering the additional benefits of improving public health, economic opportunities, agricultural land open space protection, and quality of life for the people Ulster County; and, be it further

**RESOLVED**, the Common Council of the City of Kingston declares its support for prohibiting an expansion of fossil fuel infrastructure, which contradicts the goals of the Climate Act, and for transitioning to efficient electricity-based solutions for buildings and transportation; and be it further

**RESOLVED**, the Common Council of the City of Kingston supports a planning process for a managed transition of the utility gas system that maintains affordable, safe, and reliable utility service and protects low- and moderate-income households from an undue burden in the transition; and be it further

**RESOLVED**, the Common Council of the City of Kingston supports the recommendations of the Scoping Plan for advanced building codes that will improve the energy efficiency of new buildings, creating healthier living and work environments while reducing monthly energy costs; and be it further

**RESOLVED**, the Common Council of the City of Kingston supports the recommendations of the Scoping Plan to phase in code requirements prohibiting on-site combustion of fossil fuels in new buildings over a 2024-2027 period; and, be it further

**RESOLVED**, the Common Council of the City of Kingston calls on the Climate Action Council to include in the Scoping Plan the necessary policies and support to help owners of existing buildings improve energy efficiency and transition to zero-emissions equipment, ensuring cost parity with fossil systems, with incentives and financing assistance as necessary; and, be it further

**RESOLVED**, the Common Council of the City of Kingston supports Scoping Plan recommendations that make electric vehicles more affordable relative to gas-powered vehicles, and expand fast-charging infrastructure; and, be it further

**RESOLVED**, the Common Council of the City of Kingston urges the Climate Action Council to include in the Scoping Plan recommendations to expand assistance for all-electric upstate municipal transit systems; and, be it further

**RESOLVED**, the Common Council of the City of Kingston further urges the New York State Department of Environmental Conservation and NYSERDA to immediately launch a sustained statewide public education and information campaign on the benefits of a clean energy economy and climate-friendly choices by consumers of heating and cooling systems, transportation, and products and appliances; and, be it further

**RESOLVED**, the Common Council of the City of Kingston shall forward copies of this resolution to the Commissioner of the NYS Department of Environmental Conservation, President of NYSERDA, Chair of the NYS Public Service Commission, the NYS Climate Action Council, and Members of the State Senate and Assembly representing the City of Kingston



PS/GG

**Tinti, Elisa**

---

**From:** Shaut, Andrea  
**Sent:** Wednesday, July 20, 2022 5:01 PM  
**To:** Tinti, Elisa  
**Cc:** Davis, Tony  
**Subject:** PILOT - Crosswalk Flags

**Follow Up Flag:** Follow up  
**Flag Status:** Flagged

Good afternoon Elisa,

We expect the survey to close at the end of the month for the Crosswalk Flag PILOT program on North Front Street. When this idea was brought to the Public Safety committee, it was determined that the committee would discuss the future of the idea after receiving constituent comments. I would like to bring this back to the agenda of the committee for the August meeting. This will allow more time for responses.

Can you please include this email to my communication folder so that I can properly assign it to August's meeting?

Thank you,

Andrea Shaut

Council President, City of Kingston

