Intro. Res. No. 1950-2012 Laid on Table 10/9/2012
Introduced by Legislators Horsley, Hahn and Calarco

RESOLUTION NO. 960 -2012, ADOPTING CLIMATE SMART COMMUNITY GOALS IN THE COUNTY OF SUFFOLK

WHEREAS, climate change poses a real and increasing threat to the environments of Suffolk County, New York State and the world, and is primarily caused by the burning of fossil fuels; and

WHEREAS, the effects of climate change will have a major impact in all communities: endangering infrastructure, economies and livelihoods; harming local agriculture and ecology, including native fish and wildlife populations; encouraging the spread of invasive species and exotic diseases; reducing drinking water supplies and recreational opportunities; and posing health threats to our citizens; and

WHEREAS, even if emissions are drastically reduced today, communities throughout the world will have to adapt to the effects of climate change for decades to come; and

WHEREAS, the scale of GreenHouse Gas (GHG) emissions reductions required for climate stabilization will require sustained and substantial efforts; and

WHEREAS, the State of New York has established a Climate Smart Communities program to encourage local governments to develop successful, sustainable local climate initiatives; and

WHEREAS, local governments can respond to the challenge of climate change by creating livable, energy-independent and secure communities, developing vibrant innovative economies, promoting healthy and safe schools and build resilient infrastructure; and

WHEREAS, local governments that become part of the State's Climate Smart Communities program will have access to grants and other assistance to further encourage the adoption of policies and practices that address issues associated with climate change; and

WHEREAS, the County of Suffolk should establish itself as a Climate Smart Community (CSC) and take the necessary steps to become a more efficient, successful and sustainable County government; now, therefore be it

1st **RESOLVED**, that the County of Suffolk, in the interest of reducing greenhouse gas emissions and adapting to a changing climate, shall engage in the following activities:

1. Pledge to Combat Climate Change by Becoming a Climate Smart Community (CSC): Set goals to reduce GHG emissions and adapt to predicted climate change, work with other local CSCs to develop complementary and compounding climate based policies, and sign on to a widespread climate campaign to show commitment and obtain technical resources to aid in accomplishing these goals.

2. Set Goals, Inventory Emissions, Move to Action: Gather data, inventory County GHG emissions, and establish baselines for County government

operations; develop interim GHG targets consistent with emission reduction goals and propose a schedule and financing strategy to meet same; develop an emissions action plan; report emissions to The Climate Registry and use related tools to track and evaluate the County's progress.

3. Decrease Energy Demand for County Government Operations: Adopt a goal of reducing electricity use by 15% from projected levels by 2015; inventory electricity usage at existing County facilities and consider opportunities to increase energy efficiency and conservation; achieve LEED standards for new facility construction; incorporate energy efficient technology, operations and maintenance practices for County infrastructure; and improve fuel efficiency and sustainability of County fleet vehicles.

4. Encourage Renewable Energy for County Government Operations: Supply as much of the County government's power requirements as possible through renewable energy sources, either by purchase or direct generation.

5. Realize the Benefits of Recycling and Other Climate Smart Solid Waste Management Practices at the County Level: Reduce solid waste generation by County government; promote the reuse of items when possible; provide recycling containers in County government buildings; and promote expanded "Reduce, Reuse, and Recycle" initiatives to the public.

6. Promote Climate Protection Through County Planning: Combat climate change through County planning, when possible, and preserve and protect open space, biodiversity and water supplies.

7. Plan for Adaptation to Unavoidable Climate Change: Evaluate risks for unavoidable climate change and set adaptation goals and a plan for adaptation; identify climate change impacts that could affect Suffolk County, including critical impact areas such as water supply or sewer infrastructure that may at risk due to rising sea-levels or other changes; factor climate risks into long-term investments and decision making; execute adaptation plan and preparedness measures through County planning, development and operations, prioritizing the highest risk areas.

8. Support a Green Innovation Economy in Suffolk County: Identify opportunities to incorporate climate protection, sustainability and environmental goods and services industries to the County's economic development plans; encourage workforce development training and school curricular that support the green collar job sector, including renewable energy, energy efficiency and climate smart solid waste management practices; obtain climate smart goods and services for County government operations and support modernization of local and national electricity grids.

9. Inform and Inspire the Public on Climate Smart Communities: Lead by example; highlight County commitments to reducing energy use, saving tax dollars and adapting to changing conditions; demonstrate the benefits of energy savings, energy efficiency and renewable energy projects increasing community awareness, working with school districts, colleges and universities

to develop climate change curricula and programs, and regularly communicate County climate protection goals and progress to constituents.

10. Commit to an Evolving Process: Acknowledge that research and policy on climate protection are constantly improving and evolving; be willing to consider new ideas and commit to update plans and polices as needed; compare successes, cooperate and collaborate with neighboring communities to redirect less-effective actions and amplify positive results.;

and be it further

2nd **RESOLVED**, that, in the furtherance of the activities set forth in this Resolution, the County shall establish a Climate Smart Community Standing Committee ("Committee") comprised of County officials and community members to examine climate change issues and propose a plan of action; and be it further

3rd **RESOLVED**, that the Committee shall be comprised of the following nine (9) members:

1) The Chairperson of the County Legislature's Committee on Economic Development and Energy, or his or her designee, who shall serve as Chair of the Committee;
2) The Presiding Officer of the County Legislature, or his or her designee;
3) The Minority Leader of the County Legislature, or his or her designee;
4) The Chairperson of the County Legislature's Environment, Planning and Agriculture Committee, or his or her designee;
5) The Commissioner of the County Department of Public Works, or his or her designee;
6) The Director of the Division of Planning in the Department of Economic Development and Planning, or his or her designee;
7) The Director of the Office of Legislative Budget Review, or his or her designee;
8) A community member, to be selected by the County Legislature; and
9) A community member, to be selected by the County Executive;

and be it further

4th **RESOLVED**, that the Committee shall be charged with examining the issues of climate change and greenhouse gas emissions as they relate to County government, propose a plan of action and update same as necessary; and be it further

5th **RESOLVED**, that the members of this Committee shall serve without compensation and shall serve at the pleasure of their appointing authority; and be it further

6th **RESOLVED**, that the Committee shall hold its first meeting no later than thirty (30) days after the oaths of office of all members have been filed, which meeting shall be convened by the Chairman of the Committee, for the purpose of organization and the appointment of a vice chairperson and a secretary; and be it further

7th **RESOLVED**, that the Committee shall hold regular meetings, keep a record of all its proceedings, and determine the rules of its own proceedings with special meetings to be called by the chairperson upon his or her own initiative or upon receipt of a written request

therefor signed by at least three (3) members of the Committee. Written notice of the time and place of such special meetings shall be given by the secretary to each member at least four (4) days before the date fixed by the notice for such special meeting; and be it further

8th **RESOLVED**, that five (5) members of the Committee shall constitute a quorum to transact the business of the Committee at both regular and special meetings; and be it further

9th **RESOLVED**, that clerical services involving the month-to-month operation of this Committee, as well as supplies and postage as necessary, will be provided by the staff of the County Legislature; and be it further

10th **RESOLVED**, that the Committee may conduct such informal hearings and meetings at any place or places within the County of Suffolk for the purpose of obtaining necessary information or other data to assist it in the proper performance of its duties and functions as it deems necessary; and be it further

11th **RESOLVED**, that the Committee may delegate to any member of the Committee the power and authority to conduct such hearings and meetings; and be it further

12th **RESOLVED**, that the Committee shall cooperate with the Legislative Committees of the County Legislature and make available to each Committee's use, upon request, any records and other data it may accumulate or obtain; and be it further

13th **RESOLVED**, that the Committee shall submit a written report annually to the County Executive, each member of the County Legislature and the Clerk of the County Legislature which will detail the Committee's work over the previous year and the Committee's findings and recommendations to implement climate smart initiatives in County government; and be it further

14th **RESOLVED**, that this Legislature, being the State Environmental Quality Review Act (SEQRA) lead agency, hereby finds and determines that this resolution constitutes a Type II action pursuant to Section 617.5(c)(20), (21) and (27) of Title 6 of the NEW YORK CODE OF RULES AND REGULATIONS (6 NYCRR) and within the meaning of Section 8-0109(2) of the NEW YORK ENVIRONMENTAL CONSERVATION LAW as a promulgation of regulations, rules, policies, procedures, and legislative decisions in connection with continuing agency administration, management and information collection, and the Suffolk County Council on Environmental Quality (CEQ) is hereby directed to circulate any appropriate SEQRA notices of determination of non-applicability or non-significance in accordance with this resolution.

DATED: November 20, 2012

APPROVED BY:

County Executive of Suffolk County

Date: 12-3-2012

SUFFOLK COUNTY
County Legislature
RIVERHEAD, NY

This is to Certify That I, TIM LAUBE, Clerk of the County Legislature of the County of Suffolk, have compared the foregoing copy of resolution with the original resolution now on file in this office, and which was duly adopted by the County Legislature of said County on November 20, 2012 and that the same is a true and correct transcript of said resolution and of the whole thereof.

In Witness Whereof, I have hereunto set my hand and the official seal of the County Legislature of the County of Suffolk.

Tim Laube

Clerk of the Legislature

Intro. Res. 1950 Res. No. 960 November 20, 2012

Motion:
Romaine, Schneiderman, Browning, Muratore, Anker
Calarco, Montano, Cilmi, Lindsay, Hahn, Barraga,
Kennedy, Nowick, Horsley, Gregory, Stern, D'Amaro, Spencer

Co-Sponsors:
Romaine, Schneiderman, Browning, Muratore, Anker
Calarco, Montano, Cilmi, Lindsay, Hahn, Barraga,
Kennedy, Nowick, Horsley, Gregory, Stern, D'Amaro, Spencer

Second:
Romaine, Schneiderman, Browning, Muratore, Anker
Calarco, Montano, Cilmi, Lindsay, Hahn, Barraga,
Kennedy, Nowick, Horsley, Gregory, Stern, D'Amaro, Spencer

LD	Legislator	Yes	No	Abs	NP	R
1	Edward P. ROMAINE	✓				
2	Jay H. SCHNEIDERMAN	✓				
3	Kate M. BROWNING	✓				
4	Thomas MURATORE	✓				
5	Kara HAHN	✓				
6	Sarah S. ANKER	✓				
7	Rob CALARCO	✓				
9	Ricardo MONTANO	✓				
10	Thomas CILMI	✓				
11	Thomas F. BARRAGA	✓				
12	John M. KENNEDY, JR.				✓	
13	Lynne C. NOWICK	✓				
15	DuWayne GREGORY				✓	
16	Steven H. STERN	✓				
17	Lou D'AMARO	✓				
18	William SPENCER	✓				
14	Wayne R. HORSLEY, D.P.O.	✓				
8	William J. LINDSAY, P.O.	✓				
	Totals	16	—		2	—

MOTION

X Approve
___ Table: _____
___ Send To Committee
___ Table Subject To Call
___ Lay On The Table
___ Discharge
___ Take Out of Order
___ Reconsider
___ Waive Rule ___
___ Override Veto
___ Close
___ Recess

APPROVED X FAILED ___
No Motion ___ No Second ___

RESOLUTION DECLARED

___ ADOPTED
___ NOT ADOPTED

Roll Call ___ Voice Vote ___

Tim Laube

Tim Laube, Clerk of the Legislature