

**Resolution on Global Climate Change and the Town's Commitment to Mitigate  
and Prepare for its Consequences**

**Whereas** the Town of James Island seeks to protect, conserve, and be good stewards of our environment, responsibly plan and base our policy decisions on science and quantifiable facts;

**Whereas** prudent, fact-based stewardship our environment is a critical responsibility for all James Islanders in order to ensure that we preserve our Island for future generations;

**Whereas** there has been a marked increase in extreme weather events across the world which have had noticeable, negative impacts such as longer and hotter heat waves, more severe storms, worsening flood and drought cycles, growing invasive species and insect problems, threatened native plant and wildlife populations, rising sea levels, and increased wildfire risk which are expected to worsen in every region of the world, including James Island;

**Whereas** increased pollutants and other factors contribute to local, regional, and national environmental and human health impacts, including increased mercury in the fish we eat, elevated asthma attacks in our children, acid rain, smog, degraded water quality, urban heat islands, and rapid storm water runoff that leads to costly infrastructure projects;

**Whereas**, if left unaddressed, the consequences of a changing climate have the potential to adversely impact all James Islanders, leaving future generations with costly economic and environmental burdens;

**Whereas** there is increased recognition that we can and must take meaningful and responsible action now to address this issue:

**Now It Is Therefore Resolved**, the Council of the Town of James Island supports economically viable and broadly supported private and public solutions to address the causes and effects of measured changes to our global and regional climates, including needed changes in human activities that have been found to have a negative impact, and;

**Be it Further Resolved**, the Council of the Town of James Island encourages all James Islanders to conserve and protect our natural environment by increasing their use of solar and other renewable energy, planting trees and other carbon absorbing vegetation, bio-retention of stormwater, and so reduce our carbon footprint and commits to providing appropriate educational resources to aid the efforts of our citizens, and;

**Be it Further Resolved** that the Council of the Town of James Island will seek reasonable and cost effective means to begin reducing the carbon footprint of each our municipal departments during the budget process for the 2021-22 fiscal year and subsequent years, and;

**Be it Further Resolved** that the Town will continue its forward-looking flood plain and storm water regulations, the provision of sidewalks and bikeways, protection of greenspace through parks, the planting of street trees, as well as emergency planning to mitigate and prepare for the consequences of global climate change including likely increases in sea level and increased intensity of tropical storms.

  
Bill Woolsey  
Mayor

ATTEST  
  
Frances Simmons  
Town Clerk

Dated: December 17, 2020