

**TOWN OF LYONS, COLORADO
RESOLUTION 2021-105**

**A RESOLUTION OF THE TOWN OF LYONS, COLORADO DECLARING A CLIMATE
EMERGENCY AND ESTABLISHING LYONS' COMMITMENT TO TAKING IMMEDIATE
ACTION TO ADDRESS THIS CLIMATE CRISIS WHICH IS ALREADY IMPACTING OUR
COMMUNITY AND WILL CONTINUE TO DO SO AT AN ACCELERATED PACE UNLESS
THE TOWN ACTS NOW**

WHEREAS, in April 2016 world leaders from 175 Countries came together in Paris, France and, supported with conclusive scientific data forecasting that every region of the world will be adversely impacted by human induced climate change unless global temperatures can be held to no more than 2°C (3.6°F) above pre-industrial levels; pledged in unity to pursue efforts to limit temperature increases to 1.5°C (2.7°F); and

WHEREAS, in August 2021 the U.N. Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (“IPCC”) noted that the rising global temperatures were accelerating at a pace even greater than previous forecasts, and that unless bold action is adopted to limit greenhouse gas emissions (“GHG”), that the climate related destructive forces assailing the eco-system will be irreversible within a few short decades; and

WHEREAS, the Town of Lyons, its residents and businesses have first-hand experienced the health, economic and home-loss impacts of human-induced climate change as demonstrated by the September 2013 flood and October 2020 Cal-Wood and Lefthand Canyon wildfires; and

WHEREAS, the summer of 2021 has brought adverse air quality conditions from wildfires both regionally and cross-state; and

WHEREAS, the Town of Lyons recognizes that its most vulnerable and financially-pressed residents will and, have suffered the impacts of climate change more acutely and more immediately than the general population; and

WHEREAS, the Town of Lyons and all of Colorado are now burdened by a persistent drought, frequent extreme heat events, catastrophic wildfires, species stress, increased levels of air pollution, and temperature and pollution related health consequences; and

WHEREAS, the Town of Lyons attracts residents and visitors alike with its natural amenities and scenic splendor, and which are currently being degraded by the changing climate; and

WHEREAS, the Town of Lyons 2021 Comprehensive Plan, 2015 Environmental Sustainability Action Plan (updated in 2019), and other public facing pledges by the town commits to an environmentally sustainable path forward; and

WHEREAS, the General Assembly of the State of Colorado in 2019 passed House Bill 19-261, the Climate Action Plan to Reduce Pollution (“Climate Action Plan”), which set science-based statewide GHG reduction goals of 26% by 2025, 50% by 2030, and 90% by 2050 from 2005 levels; and

WHEREAS, to stay within 1.5°C (2.7° F), per the IPCC, communities, towns, cities, states and nations throughout the world will need to significantly reduce their per capita GHG emissions by 2030 or earlier; and

WHEREAS, the Town of Lyons shall join other communities in Boulder County, the State of Colorado, the United States, and industrialized nations world-wide in setting goals, developing strategies, and implementing actions that will significantly reduce its per capita GHG emissions by 2030.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES OF THE TOWN OF LYONS, COLORADO, THAT:

Section 1. The above recitals are hereby incorporated by reference.

Section 2. The Lyons Board of Trustees hereby:

- a. Proclaims that a climate emergency exists and has posed a serious and urgent threat to the well being of the Town and its residents, businesses, economy, and environment.
- b. Further proclaims that it is the intent of the Town to do everything in its power to swiftly and decisively address this climate emergency and to reach or exceed the state of Colorado carbon emission reduction goals.
- c. Acknowledges that through the immediate actions that must take place to address this climate emergency there may be short-term unintended consequences to its citizens and business, but that the near and long-term benefits of a just and equitable transition to a clean energy and sustainable society will persist and is critical to the continuation of this planet and its living organisms.

Section 3. This resolution shall take effect immediately upon adoption.

ADOPTED THIS 4th DAY OF OCTOBER 2021.

TOWN OF LYONS, COLORADO

By: _____
Nicholas Angelo, Mayor

ATTEST:

Dolores M. Vasquez, CMC - Town Clerk