RESOLUTION NO. 2017-04


WHEREAS, the City of Bainbridge Island City Council has established policies in its Comprehensive Plan to anticipate and deal with climate change because the City Council recognizes that people and governments need to act to mitigate climate change; and

WHEREAS, the City of Bainbridge Island City Council understands that Bainbridge Island, acting as a single community by itself, cannot alter the current course of climate change, but acting as one community of thousands, Bainbridge Island residents can have an impact far beyond our community’s borders; and

WHEREAS, the City of Bainbridge Island City Council is compelled by the scientific consensus that carbon dioxide emissions from human activities are the primary cause of global climate change, which means that human actions can mitigate climate change; and

WHEREAS, the City of Bainbridge Island City Council finds that climate change is already having an impact in Washington and threatens public health, natural resources, national security, food security, and business supply chains into the future; and

WHEREAS, the City of Bainbridge Island City Council understands that the costs of climate change to society are currently passed onto our community instead of being borne by the emitters of carbon dioxide; and

WHEREAS, the City of Bainbridge Island City Council believes that requiring fossil fuel producers and consumers to pay for the costs of their carbon emissions will provide disincentives to consumption of fossil fuels and provide incentives to develop and implement sustainable energy alternatives; and

WHEREAS, the City of Bainbridge Island City Council appreciates that a price on carbon either in the form of a carbon tax or cap and traded permits by itself would likely be regressive, and as a result, would want a price on carbon to be coupled with a provision to alleviate the burden on low-income households and to minimize negative impacts on total state employment; now therefore,

THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF BAINBRIDGE ISLAND DOES RESOLVE AS FOLLOWS:

Section 1. The City Council will encourage the Washington Legislature and the United States Congress to craft legislation to price carbon, whether in the form of a carbon tax or a cap and traded permitting system, using the best available research to ensure a policy that significantly reduces emissions while mitigating impacts on low-income people.
Section 2. The City Council encourages other communities to join them in this request for Washington and the United States to recognize and address the global problems of carbon dioxide emissions.

Section 3. The City Council will send this Resolution to the Washington Legislature and to Washington’s Congressional representatives.

PASSED by the City Council this [date] day of [month], 2017.

APPROVED by the Mayor this [date] day of [month], 2017.

ATTEST/AUTHENTICATE:

Christine Brown, City Clerk

FILED WITH THE CITY CLERK: January 6, 2017
PASSED BY THE CITY COUNCIL: January 24, 2017
RESOLUTION NO.: 2017-04