Whereas, The United States Congress acting as the voice of the people, is well positioned to address Climate Change and its associated causes through the establishment of laws that protect future generations. We believe our congress must consider and explore a Carbon Fee and Dividend Policy; and

Whereas, Locally the City of Rochester, New York is committed to fighting climate change and air pollution that pose a serious threat to Rochesterians and the City of Rochester’s economy, public health, and environment; and

Whereas, As a result of climate change the Northeast is experiencing warming temperatures and increased rainfall during heavy precipitation events, which threaten flooding, aging infrastructure and agriculture; and

Whereas, The frequency and intensity of heat waves are expected to increase as are the severity of droughts which will negatively impact resources management and hydroelectric generation which in turn increases the risk of long term power outages; and

Whereas, As temperatures rise, agricultural growing seasons shift which leads to potentially reduced yields and product availability. The changing climate increases invasive species in the region damaging the livelihoods of food growers and the regional economy; and

Whereas, The proposed Carbon Fee and Dividend mitigates and protects all Americans from the effects of climate change, and is a catalyst to creating a sustainable clean energy economy.

Now, Therefore, we, Council President Loreta C. Scott, Vice President Dana K. Miller, and Councilmembers Adam C. McFadden, Carolee A. Conklin, Elaine M. Spaull, Matt Haag, Jacklyn Ortiz, Michael A. Patterson and Molly Clifford of the City of Rochester do hereby proclaim March 20, 2017 to be a call to action for:

A COMPREHENSIVE CLIMATE CHANGE POLICY INCLUDING ENACTING A CARBON FEE AND DIVIDEND