

From: [Don Wallace](#)
To: [Public Testimony](#); [Public Engagement](#)
Cc: [Loar, Teresa](#); [Robinson, Melissa](#); [Bunch, Eric](#); [Shields, Katheryn](#); [O' Neill, Kevin](#)
Subject: Resolution No.200005
Date: Monday, March 30, 2020 9:07:51 AM

Councilwoman Loar and TIO Committee members:

As a resident of Kansas City, Missouri concerned about the future of all on this planet and particularly all in my community, I am thankful that the City Council is taking necessary steps to update the City's Climate Protection Plan. This Resolution No.200005 must ensure that Kansas City takes the necessary bold actions to address the climate crisis, protect the health and welfare of all in our community, and help facilitate a just transition to a renewable energy economy where we all can prosper.

There is a need for the resolution to ensure that the City Manager not only consults, which suggests merely seeking information or advice, but works collaboratively with stakeholders regarding all aspects of the resolution in a joint effort to create a climate action and resiliency plan that develops specific strategies to achieve the Resolution's new targets. It is important to recognize that measures enacted to reduce greenhouse gas emissions and enhance resiliency but fail to build in equity safeguards, will likely push more low-income ratepayers into greater economic distress or even out of the city

<https://www.citylab.com/perspective/2018/09/dont-overlook-equity-issues-in-city-climate-action-plans/569965/>.

I am concerned that a reference in the preambular paragraphs of the Resolution mischaracterizes as targets of the Paris Climate Agreement what was the nationally determined contribution that had been made by the U.S. when it signed on to the Paris Agreement. This erroneous view of the requirements of the Paris Agreement suggests that its demands are met by targets far less stringent than what is stated in Resolution 200005. The Paris Agreement requires only that member states provide nationally determined contributions (without specifying them) in order to pursue efforts to limit the increase to 1.5 °C.

The important context for decision action should be based on the UN Environment Programme's latest Emissions Gap Report, from November 2019 (<https://www.unenvironment.org/resources/emissions-gap-report-2019>), which estimated that global emissions must decrease by 7.6% every year from 2020 to 2030 for even a 66% chance to keep warming below 1.5 °C. Thus, there is an imperative for immediate and significant action.

I look forward to seeing the development of the update to the Climate being carried out in the most expeditious manner.

Don Wallace,
Co-chair, Legislative Committee of the Missouri Sierra THB Group