

RESOLUTION #19-08-05-C

A RESOLUTION OF THE COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF FERNDAL, WASHINGTON, ESTABLISHING A GREENHOUSE GAS REDUCTION POLICY

WHEREAS, the City of Ferndale recognizes the need to observe environmentally sustainable practices and procedures in order to provide a high quality of life for future generations, and;

WHEREAS, pursuant to RCW 70.235, Washington State has mandated that all state agencies reduce the production of greenhouse gases, through programs that provide economic and quality of life benefits intended to reduce energy bills, preserve green space, improve air quality, promote transportation choices and sponsor economic development through energy conservation and the creation of new energy sources, and;

WHEREAS, the City Council finds that the citizens of Ferndale and surrounding areas will gain from reasonable policies and procedures that conserve and protect the environment, that reduce greenhouse gas emissions, and which will better-ensure the resilience of the community to climate change; and

WHEREAS, the various funding sources have made it a requirement to memorialize the City's efforts to reduce greenhouse gases as a prerequisite to application submittal for grant, loan and other financial assistance programs;

NOW THEREFORE, THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF FERNDAL DO RESOLVE THAT THE FOLLOWING POLICIES AND PROCEDURES ARE ADOPTED AND ARE HEREBY MEMORIALIZED AS THE CITY OF FERNDAL GREENHOUSE GAS REDUCTION POLICY:

Citizen-Oriented Policies

- Enforcement of mandatory summer watering restrictions (existing – est. 2018. Res 18-07-30-A)
- Seasonal multimedia conservation-related citizen outreach (ongoing)
- Maintain partnership with waste disposal companies to update and maintain solid waste collection policies, increased citizen outreach on conservation measures (2019. Ferndale Municipal Code § 8.04)

- Installation of rooftop solar panels now exempt from building permits (2017. Ferndale Municipal Code § 15.04.140 A (1))

Capital Improvement Policies

- The Transportation Element of the Ferndale Comprehensive Plan places an emphasis on multi-modal transportation options (2016 Comprehensive Plan, Transportation Element, Goal 2 Policy D, E, F; Goal 5; Goal 5, Policies A-N)
- The City, in partnership with Puget Sound Energy and the Transportation Improvement Board, has converted to 100% high efficiency street lights. (Complete 2019)
- The City requires all future developments to include high efficiency streetlights (2017, Ferndale Municipal Code § 19.35.080 A (2)).
- Consideration of roundabouts (where applicable) in transportation network (2016 Transportation Element, Goal 1, Policy K.)
- City water source no longer draws water directly from the Nooksack River (City conversion to well water- 2015)
- Ferndale Comprehensive Plan requires consideration of integration with intelligent traffic control devices where applicable (2016 Comprehensive Plan, Transportation Element – “Intelligent Transportation Systems.”)
- Received Washington State Complete Streets grant award. The adoption and implementation of complete streets policies allows the City to focus on integrating both motorized and non-motorized transportation options, allowing visitors and residents to safely and effectively travel within the City without relying exclusively on single occupancy vehicles. (2018)

City Best Practices

- Adoption and implementation of software-based vehicle asset management and tracking, for the purpose of improving overall fleet efficiency, emissions, monitoring, and best practices (2019).
- Six-year fleet asset management plans adopted, for the purpose of removing less-efficient vehicles from the fleet and developing processes and procedures for the identification of such vehicles (2019).

- Employee education of workplace energy use best management practices (recycling, turn off lights, re-use or reduction of paper) (2019).
- Audit of City facility energy use (Puget Sound Energy, 2017)
- Audit of City facility waste practices (SSC 2019. Implementation in process)
- Conversion to electronic permit tracking system (2018)
- The City has established an informal but consistent practice of re-using existing buildings for City facilities (including re-use of a skating rink for a Boys and Girls Club and currently a community center; re-use of a former fire station as a City Hall and now Council Chambers/Court; re-use of a bank for current City Hall; re-use of a library for current police station. The City is actively considering the re-use of a school facility for future City Hall, court, and Council Chambers).
- With the exception of newly-planted landscaping and natural turf associated with ballfields, no City watering during summer months (2019)
- All new publicly funded buildings must include energy efficient design (2010. Ferndale Municipal Code § 18.94.050 (C)).

Land Use Policies

- Encourage high density mixed-use development in urban core (2016 Comprehensive Plan, Land Use Element. Goal I B, Policy i., ii. Goal III, Policies C, D. Housing Element. Goal 3, Goal 12, Policies A, B, C.)
- Provide incentives for high density mixed-used development in areas that promote walkability and non-motorized transportation (MFTE, 2018. Catalyst, 2019)
- Practice: promotion of infill development; the City has not expanded its boundaries for ten years)

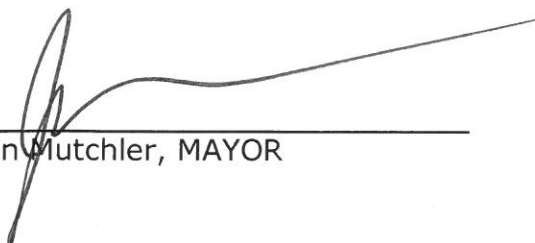
- One of first jurisdictions to establish an annexation blueprint/ phasing plan to guide annexations based on extension of services, capital plans (Annexation Blueprint, 2011)
- Participant in FEMA Community Ratings System (CRS), enhanced floodplain protection and flood awareness policies (2015-present)
- Promotion of native plants in all private development (2016. Ferndale Municipal Code § 18.74.050).

Future Initiatives

- The City shall seek to establish a comprehensive urban forestry plan, promoting the retention of existing vegetation and the development of a sustainable street tree and street vegetation system
- The City shall work with public and private partners to replace existing athletic field lighting with high efficiency fixtures.

APPROVED AND ADOPTED by the City Council of the City of Ferndale in regular session this 5TH day of August, 2019

ATTEST:



Jon Mutchler, MAYOR



Susan Duncan, CMC, CITY CLERK