

PROCLAMATION

WHEREAS, the residents and business of Alexandria rely on energy in nearly every aspect of their daily lives, and are encouraged to monitor their energy usage and habits, to take steps to reduce their energy usage through energy efficiency and to participate in and support the advancement and use of renewable energy resources; and

WHEREAS, the City recognizes the urgent need for community-wide energy and climate action as a changing climate is indicated by increasing carbon dioxide in the atmosphere, greater frequency and intensity of extreme weather events, rising coastal waters, and record-breaking rainfall and high temperatures; and

WHEREAS, on June 22, 2019 the Alexandria City Council adopted the 2019 Green Building Policy to implement practices that bring environmental and economic benefits to present and future generations through the design and construction processes to lessen the impacts of the building on the local and global environment, including targets aimed to reduce energy use and mitigating greenhouse gas emissions, as well as increase water efficiency and improve indoor environmental quality in both new private and public buildings; and

WHEREAS, on July 9, 2019, the Alexandria City Council approved the Environmental Action Plan 2040 to take action on Alexandria's environmental sustainability priorities with increased focus on the City's preparedness to respond to the impacts of climate change and environmental emergencies, as well as reduce greenhouse gas emissions associated with community energy consumption in support of the City's global greenhouse emissions reduction goals; and

WHEREAS, the Environmental Action Plan 2040 sets a target of reducing community-wide greenhouse gas emissions by 50 percent by Fiscal Year 2030 and 80–100 percent by Fiscal Year 2050, with a baseline year of 2005, with the support and significant contributions at the state and federal level towards renewable energy and energy efficiency mandates as well individual actions by members of the Alexandria community, including households and businesses; and

WHEREAS, the City of Alexandria supports individual actions by members of the Alexandria community, including households and businesses, through energy efficiency and renewable energy opportunities made available through partnerships, programs, and education events, to reduce greenhouse gas emissions associated with the community's energy consumption in support of the City's global greenhouse emissions reduction goals; and

WHEREAS, the City of Alexandria government has goals to accelerate implementation of all feasible energy efficiency and emission reduction measures for City-owned buildings and infrastructure, and City-affiliated transportation, as well as transition all applicable City-owned facilities to 100 percent renewable energy for all energy-use needs to mitigate Alexandria's contribution to climate change; and

WHEREAS, the Alexandria City Council and the City of Alexandria acknowledges the global climate emergency and reaffirm its commitment to local climate action, as set forth in the City's Environmental Action Plan 2040.

NOW, THEREFORE, I JUSTIN M. WILSON, the Alexandria City Council and the City of Alexandria, as Eco-City Alexandria, and on behalf of the citizens of our community, takes great pride in recognizing October 2019 as:

“ENERGY AWARENESS MONTH”

In the City of Alexandria and I call this observance to the attention of all our citizens, encouraging the Alexandria community to sustainably manage their energy use in order to reduce greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions to take action in response to the global climate emergency, and for members of the Alexandria community to reduce environmental pollution and save money.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have here unto set my hand and caused the Seal of the City of Alexandria to be affixed this 2nd day of October, 2019.

MAYOR JUSTIN M. WILSON
On behalf of the City Council
of Alexandria, Virginia

ATTEST:

Gloria A. Sitton, CMC City Clerk