

LYN L. CRESWELL
CHIEF ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICER
DEPUTY MAYOR

SALT LAKE CITY CORPORATION

RALPH BECKER
MAYOR

CITY COUNCIL TRANSMITTAL



David Everitt, Chief of Staff



Date Received: _____
Date sent to Council: 08/08/08

TO: Salt Lake City Council
Jill Remington-Love, Chair

DATE: August 5, 2008

FROM: Vicki Bennett, Sustainability Director



SUBJECT: Carbon Footprint Reduction Resolution

STAFF CONTACT: Vicki Bennett 535-6540

DOCUMENT TYPE: Resolution

RECOMMENDATION: The City Council is being asked to approve a joint resolution with the Mayor setting a goal for the City to reduce its carbon emissions. The goal is a 20% reduction below the 2005 level by 2020; 50% below the 2005 level by 2040; and 80% below the 2005 level by 2050. (Specific data is in Exhibit A.)

BUDGET IMPACT: There is no immediate budget impact. In the future, energy savings may reduce costs; desired efficiency projects may create additional costs so that they may be implemented. Each proposed project will be evaluated independently as a part of the City's annual budgeting process.

BACKGROUND/DISCUSSION: Many states and localities have set carbon emission reduction goals to mitigate the risk of climate change, reduce energy use, and reduce emissions that impact our air quality. The State of Utah has joined the Western Climate Initiative, a consortium of states and Canadian provinces, to set regional emission reduction goals.

Simultaneously, Salt Lake City has completed a detailed Carbon Emissions Inventory, allowing us to see not only what we have accomplished, but also where our future efforts should be concentrated for additional emission reductions. As we want to support the WCI and State of Utah to meet their reduction goals, we are setting a goal for Salt Lake City operations.

PUBLIC PROCESS: Not applicable – affects City operations only.

**A JOINT RESOLUTION OF THE SALT LAKE CITY COUNCIL AND MAYOR
TO SET A GOAL TO REDUCE CARBON EMISSIONS OF SALT LAKE
CITY CORPORATION**

WHEREAS, Salt Lake City Corporation (“City”) is a leader, both locally and nationally, in efforts to reduce carbon emissions that lead to climate change; and

WHEREAS, the State of Utah (“State”), of which the City is a subdivision, is a member of the Western Climate Initiative (WCI), a collaboration by the Governors of Arizona, California, Montana, New Mexico, Oregon, Utah, and Washington, and the Premiers of British Columbia, Manitoba, and Quebec; and

WHEREAS, the WCI was formed to develop regional strategies to address climate change by identifying, evaluating, and implementing collective and cooperative ways to reduce greenhouse gases; and

WHEREAS, the City Council and Mayor both support the efforts of the State and WCI to reduce greenhouse gases; and

WHEREAS, scientific studies show that climate change will likely have a significant effect on the Wasatch Front region; and

WHEREAS, the City has established a baseline carbon footprint of all its municipal activities by department; and

WHEREAS, reducing the City’s carbon footprint will reduce energy and fuel use, and save taxpayer money; and

WHEREAS, the City has already made considerable efforts to reduce its carbon footprint, resulting in a 33% reduction from 2000 to 2005; and

WHEREAS, the City Council and Mayor both support further reducing the City’s carbon footprint; and

WHEREAS, the goal of the City Council and Mayor is to reach an additional 20% reduction below the 2005 level by 2020; 50% below the 2005 level by 2040; and 80% below the 2005 level by 2050; and

WHEREAS, a detailed intermediate plan for achieving the City Council and Mayor’s common goal of reducing the City’s carbon footprint is attached hereto as Exhibit “A.”

THEREFORE, BE IT JOINTLY RESOLVED by the Salt Lake City Council and Mayor as follows:

1. **The City's Goal to Reduce its Carbon Footprint.** Salt Lake City Corporation will work to reduce its carbon footprint to 20% below the 2005 level by 2020; 50% below the 2005 level by 2040; and 80% below the 2005 level by 2050.
2. **Achieving the City's Goal.** A detailed intermediate plan for achieving the City's goal to reduce its carbon footprint is outlined in the attached Exhibit "A."

Passed and Adopted this _____ day of _____, 2008.

SALT LAKE CITY COUNCIL

By: _____
CHAIRPERSON

ATTEST AND COUNTERSIGN:

CHIEF DEPUTY CITY RECORDER

SALT LAKE CITY MAYOR

By: _____

ATTEST:

APPROVED AS TO FORM:

CHIEF DEPUTY CITY RECORDER

Melanie Rief Aug 11, 2008

SALT LAKE CITY ATTORNEY

Exhibit A Salt Lake City Corporation Carbon Footprint

- Between 2000 – 2005, Salt Lake City municipal government reduced its carbon emissions by 33% by implementing two major projects:
 - Collection of methane gas at the landfill; and
 - Capture of digester gas at the reclamation plant and converting it to electricity.

Ongoing conservation efforts during that time reduced City emissions by another 2½%.

- Since 2005, additional energy conservation projects have been implemented, reducing our carbon emissions another 1%, while accommodating the growth of our population and services.
- Continual reductions are needed to minimize our carbon emissions, and reduce the cost of energy we use. **Because Utah is a member of the Western Climate Initiative¹ (WCI), Salt Lake City is setting a goal to exceed the WCI 15% reduction goal by reducing the City carbon emissions by 20% below 2005 levels by 2020.** Intermediate and long term goals have also been set, with the intention of ensuring that Salt Lake City is positioned to meet future challenges posed by rising energy costs and mounting environmental pressures.

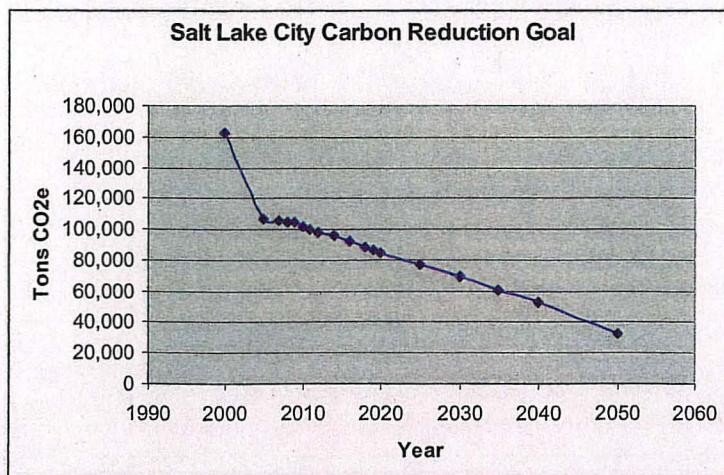
City Emissions Data and Goals:

Year	Description	Carbon Dioxide Emissions (tons)*	% Reduction from estimated 2000 levels
2000	estimated	163,000	
2005	estimated	106,600	34.6%
2007	measured	105,500	35.3%
2008	intermediate goal	105,000	35.6%
2010	intermediate goal	102,000	37.4%
2012	intermediate goal	98,000	39.9%
2014	intermediate goal	95,000	41.7%
2116	intermediate goal	92,000	43.6%
2018	intermediate goal	88,500	45.7%
2020	Goal: 20% below 2005**	85,000	47.9%
2030	Intermediate goal	69,000	57.7%
2040	Goal: 50% < 2005	53,300	67.3%
2050	Goal: 80% < 2000***	32,600	80.0%

* Equivalent CO₂ (CO₂e)

** City reduction goal exceeds WCI goal of 15% below 2005 levels

*** 2050 Goal meets G8 goal of an 80% reduction by 2050



¹ The Western Climate Initiative is a collaboration by the Governors of Arizona, California, New Mexico, Oregon, Washington, Utah, and Montana, and the Premiers of British Columbia, Manitoba, and Quebec, to develop regional strategies to address climate change. WCI is identifying, evaluating and implementing collective and cooperative ways to reduce greenhouse gases in the region. Details at www.westernclimateinitiative.org

Current Source of City Emissions:

