

## **CITY OF BOSTON • MASSACHUSETTS**

## OFFICE OF THE MAYOR THOMAS M. MENINO

## EXECUTIVE ORDER OF MAYOR THOMAS M. MENINO

An Order Relative to Climate Action in Boston

Whereas, the City of Boston has been a leader in recognizing the threat of climate change by signing the U.S. Mayors Climate Protection Agreement and joining the ICLEI—Cities for Climate Protection campaign;

Whereas, the United Nations' Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change has concluded that "Warming of the climate system is unequivocal" and that "Most of the observed increase in globally averaged temperatures since the mid-20th century is *very likely* due to the observed increase in anthropogenic greenhouse gas concentrations";

Whereas, climate change poses risks to Boston residents, visitors, businesses, institutions, and infrastructure, including risks associated with heat waves, changing disease patterns, sea-level rise, changing precipitation patterns, increased severity of storms and flooding, and stress on water and energy systems;

Whereas, the City of Boston has instituted measures to increase energy efficiency, ensure the use of green-building practices, increase the development and use of renewable energy, increase the fuel economy of the City fleet and the purchase of domestically produced biofuels, improve upon the size and health of the urban forest, as well as many other measures;

Whereas, additional actions that the City of Boston takes to reduce the threat of climate change will further improve energy efficiency, reduce the emission of air pollutants, create a cleaner and greener city, improve transportation and other infrastructure, expand business and educational opportunities, strengthen the economy, and save money; and

Whereas, the City of Boston has developed a Climate Action Plan, which describes the greenhouse gas emissions of municipal operations and actions that the City is taking to reduce such emissions;

**NOW**, **THEREFORE**, pursuant to the authority vested in me as chief executive officer of the City of Boston by St. 1948, c. 452, § 11, and every other power hereto enabling, I hereby order and direct as follows:

- 1. The City of Boston, consistent with its commitment under the U.S. Mayors Climate Protection Agreement, shall strive to meet or exceed the goal of reducing its annual greenhouse gas emissions seven percent below 1990 levels by 2012, and shall further reduce its annual greenhouse gas emissions by 80 percent below 1990 levels by 2050.
- 2. The City shall establish the Mayor's Community Climate Action Task Force. Upon appointment, the Mayor's Community Climate Action Task Force shall, within one year:
  - a. Review the City's Climate Action Plan and make any appropriate recommendations;
  - b. Complete a community-wide greenhouse gas emissions inventory and set goals for community-wide reductions;
  - Make recommendations to the Mayor and the community concerning actions necessary to meet climate action goals and to take advantage of associated opportunities;
  - d. Prepare educational materials for households and businesses in Boston describing global climate change and climate actions that they can take; and
  - e. Identify economic and workforce development opportunities associated with climate action and the clean technology sector.
- 3. Every three years, the City shall update its Climate Action Plan, including recommendations for further actions to meet its energy and greenhouse gas reduction goals.
- 4. The City shall prepare an integrated plan that outlines actions to reduce the risks from the likely effects of climate change, and coordinates those actions with the City's plans for emergency response, homeland security, natural hazard mitigation, neighborhood planning and economic development.
- 5. Planning for all new municipal construction and major renovation of City-owned facilities and other major municipal projects shall include an estimate of annual energy use and greenhouse gas emissions. Such planning shall also include an evaluation of the risks posed by the likely effects of climate change through 2050 to the project itself and related infrastructure and a description of potential steps to avoid, minimize or mitigate those risks.
- 6. All existing municipal properties shall be evaluated for the feasibility of installing solar, wind, bio-energy, combined heat and power, and green roof installations. Projects with substantial reductions in greenhouse gas emissions and a high return on investment shall receive priority consideration in the City's capital planning process.
- 7. All new construction and major renovation of City facilities shall obtain Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design (LEED) Green Building Rating System Silver level certification from the U.S. Green Building Council. As part of meeting the LEED standards, all new projects shall exceed the basic standard for energy performance by at least 14 percent and all major renovations shall exceed the basic standard by 7 percent.

- 8. The City of Boston, with the assistance of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts and the Kendall Foundation, shall work to develop the Boston Energy Alliance, a not-for-profit corporation, to implement a large-scale, cross-sector conservation initiative involving citywide energy efficiency, renewable energy, and demand-response implementation.
- 9. Electricity used by municipal departments shall include a minimum of 11 percent of power generated from renewable resources. By 2012, at least 15 percent of electricity purchased by municipal departments shall come from renewable sources.
- 10. All purchases of motor vehicles shall be alternative fuel, flexible fuel, or hybrid vehicles, unless they are not available for the needed function. New motor vehicles shall be the most fuel-efficient within their vehicle class. Diesel fuel used by municipal vehicles shall be at least five percent biodiesel. Total fuel consumption for municipal transportation purposes shall be reduced by a minimum of five percent by 2012.
- 11. The City shall increase recycling of all materials by 10 percent by 2012.
- 12. The City shall report annually on all energy consumption and greenhouse gas emissions, where applicable, through the Boston About Results performance measurement system.
- 13. The City of Boston Climate Action Initiative shall be implemented in conformity with any and all federal and state laws.
- 14. The provisions of this Order are severable, and if any provision, or portion thereof, should be held to be unconstitutional or otherwise invalid by any court of competent jurisdiction, such unconstitutionality or invalidity will not affect the remaining provisions, which will remain in full force and effect.
- 15. The provisions of this Order shall take immediate effect.

I further direct all Cabinet Officers, Department Heads, and City Employees to render such aid and assistance as is required for the implementation of the foregoing policy.

Thomas M. Menino Mayor of Boston

Dated:

April - 13.07