

BEFORE THE METRO COUNCIL

FOR THE PURPOSE OF PROCLAIMING) RESOLUTION NO. 11-4285
SEPTEMBER 24, 2011 AS A GLOBAL DAY OF)
CLIMATE ACTION AND RECOGNIZING THE) Introduced by Councilor Rex Burkholder
NUMBER 350 AS A MESSAGE TO SUPPORT)
EFFORTS TO REDUCE CLIMATE CHANGE)

WHEREAS, the Metro Council is working to address the threat of global climate change by reducing carbon emissions from transportation, land use, solid waste and other factors; and

WHEREAS, despite significant effort on the part of Metro and its regional partners, efforts to date have at best only stabilized emissions; and

WHEREAS, the State of Oregon has established preliminary goals that call for reducing emissions by 75 percent from 1990 levels; and

WHEREAS, achieving those goals will require significantly greater public awareness, education, involvement and action; and

WHEREAS, September 24th has been declared a Global Day of Climate Action, to bring attention to the number 350 because many scientists suggest that 350 parts per million of carbon in the atmosphere should be an international goal; and

WHEREAS, public education and action events, known as Moving Planet Day, are planned by groups of people in nations all over the world, in the United States, and throughout the state of Oregon; and

WHEREAS, in the Portland region, the list of events scheduled for the Global Day of Climate Action, known as 'Moving Planet Portland: A Climate Action Fest,' include: public speakers, keynote speaker Senator Jeff Merkley, interactive, educational booths, information on how to take action to reduce reliance on fossil fuels, activities to encourage an environmentally sustainable lifestyle, a parade, flash mobs, visual representation of transportation used to arrive at the event; and

WHEREAS, Metro's efforts to plan for a region that supports appropriate land use, waste reduction, walking, biking, and public transport are in accordance with 350.org's mission of prompting public education and awareness and of reducing global carbon emissions; and

WHEREAS, A Global Day of Climate Action will help raise awareness of the significance of global climate change and encourage residents to take action.

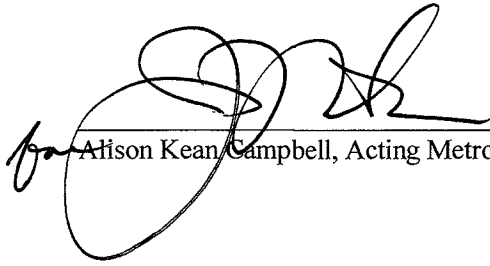
BE IT RESOLVED, that in recognition of the need for action on climate change, the Metro Council proclaims the day of September 24, 2011 as a Global Day of Climate Action and encourages citizens to send a message to their fellow Portland-metro residents of THE NEED TO REDUCE carbon in the Earth's atmosphere.

ADOPTED by the Metro Council this [fifteenth] day of [September] 2011.

Tom Hughes
for Tom Hughes, Council President



Approved as to Form:



Alison Kean Campbell, Acting Metro Attorney

STAFF REPORT

IN CONSIDERATION OF RESOLUTION NO. 11-4285, FOR THE PURPOSE OF PROCLAIMING SEPTEMBER 24, 2011 AS A GLOBAL DAY OF CLIMATE ACTION AND RECOGNIZING THE NUMBER 350 AS A MESSAGE TO SUPPORT EFFORTS TO REDUCE CLIMATE CHANGE.

Date: 9/6/11

Prepared by: [Jessica Atwater, x1853,
jessica.atwater@oregonmetro.gov]

BACKGROUND

The organization 350.org works to raise public awareness on the issue of high levels of carbon in the Earth's atmosphere. 350.org annually orchestrates an international Climate Action Day. Volunteer-coordinated events will take place all over the world on September 24, 2011. This year, the Portland event, 'Moving Planet Portland: A Climate Action Fest', will take place at the Memorial Coliseum, from noon to 3pm. The event will focus on encouraging freedom from fossil fuels as a main method of atmospheric carbon reduction. Event participants are encouraged to arrive on foot, by bicycle, public transit, or any other form of transit that is not a car. The day's events include public speakers, keynote speaker Senator Jeff Merkley, interactive, educational booths, information on how to take action to reduce reliance on fossil fuels, activities to encourage an environmentally sustainable lifestyle, visual representation of transportation used to arrive at the event, and a parade. In addition to creating awareness about climate change and the need to reduce reliance on fossil fuels, event organizers will encourage participants will make pledges to take various actions to reduce their carbon footprint.

ANALYSIS/INFORMATION

1. **Known Opposition:** unknown
2. **Legal Antecedents:** Resolution No. 09-4080A 'For the purpose of proclaiming October 24, 2009 as a global day of climate action and recognizing the number 350 as a message to the Copenhagen Conference on Climate Change.'
3. **Anticipated Effects:** citizens will be made aware of the opportunity to participate in 'Moving Planet Portland: A Climate Action Fest,' and subsequently made aware of how to reduce their personal use of fossil fuels and carbon footprint. This supports Metro's efforts plan for a region that supports appropriate land use, waste reduction, walking, biking, and public transport.
4. **Budget Impacts:** none

RECOMMENDED ACTION

I recommend that the Council pass this resolution for the purpose of recognizing and endorsing the local 350.org Moving Planet Day event, 'Moving Planet Portland: A Climate Action Fest.'