

## **A RESOLUTION ENDORSING THE GOALS OF ACHIEVING CLEAN ENERGY BY 2050**

**WHEREAS**, The Wake County Board of Commissioners have a long standing, proactive position toward the conservation of energy and the protection of natural resources for the betterment of the residents of Wake County and community; and

**WHEREAS**, climate change is expected to increasingly impact North Carolina's temperatures, precipitation and sea level with harmful consequences in coming years; and

**WHEREAS**, the Wake County Board of Commissioners signed a resolution on October 15, 2018 which endorses the goal of 100% Clean Energy by 2050 for County operations; and

**WHEREAS**, Wake County Government has invested and will continue to invest in cost effective strategies for County facilities and fleet to meet climate and energy efficiency goals where reasonable and favorable paybacks exist and where continuity of County operations are not adversely impacted; and

**WHEREAS**, both existing County operations and new County facilities must be adequately funded to provide a path toward the goals set forth; and

**WHEREAS**, climate goals are common to private and public entities as renewable, clean energy and carbon targets; and

**WHEREAS**, the North Carolina General Assembly ratified House Bill 951 (Energy Solutions for North Carolina) on October 13, 2021 which requires the NC Utilities Commission to take all reasonable steps to achieve a seventy percent (70%) reduction in emissions of carbon dioxide (CO<sub>2</sub>) emitted in the State from electric generating facilities from 2005 levels by the year 2030 and carbon neutrality by the year 2050; and

**WHEREAS**, meeting climate goals requires multiple strategies and includes existing and new utility generation, commercially available building and fleet technologies, and any environmental attributes needed to offset the County's operations; and

**WHEREAS**, clean energy includes both renewable and carbon-free energy sources which provide an alternative to fossil fuel-based energy which include but are not limited to solar, solar plus battery storage, wind, tidal and wave, hydroelectric, geothermal, nuclear, landfill gas, waste-to-energy; renewable natural gas, and other carbon-free or carbon-neutral technologies; and

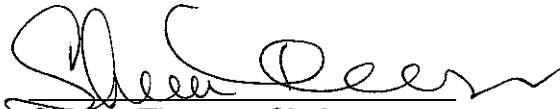
**WHEREAS**, Wake County, Wake County Public School System, and Wake Technical Community College staff have created common guidelines with distinct

requirements that meet the needs of their respective governing bodies and shall endeavor to share energy efforts at least annually to the County's Energy Advisory Commission; and

**WHEREAS**, the Wake County Board of Commissioners believes that achieving clean energy by 2050 requires also having a goal of transitioning to 80% clean energy consumed by County operations by 2035; and

**NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED** that the Wake County Board of Commissioners continues to endorse the goal of 100% clean energy by 2050 where such action results in reasonable and favorable economic payback and is subject to budget availability and joins its fellow state and local governments in advocating for the use of clean energy; that Wake County will commit itself in its own operations, policies, and guidelines to continuing its efforts towards clean energy, sustainability, reduction of greenhouse gas emissions, and the reduction of fossil fuel use; and that the Board of Commissioners does hereby authorize the County Manager to support efforts toward the clean energy by 2050 goal through fiscally responsible budget expenditures, and encourages private and public entities of Wake County to adopt similar goals in their own operations.

Adopted the 16th of January 2024.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Shrinica Thomas', with a horizontal line drawn underneath the signature.

Shrinica Thomas, Chair  
Wake County Board of Commissioners