

**Alexandria Democratic Committee Resolution for 100% renewable City electricity by 2020
and renewable energy by the Alexandria community by 2030**

A **RESOLUTION** requesting that the City of Alexandria obtain 100% of the electricity it uses from renewable energy by 2020 and 100% of the energy consumed in the City from clean, renewable energy by 2030.

WHEREAS, 100% renewable electricity means that the City of Alexandria would either produce renewable energy or purchase Renewable Energy Credits (RECs) to offset the equivalent of 100% of the greenhouse gas emissions associated with the City's current electricity consumption;

WHEREAS, a commitment to 100% renewable energy means that the amount of energy generated from renewable energy sources in the community (or brought to it) equals or exceeds 100% of the annual energy consumed within the community;

WHEREAS, the climate is changing and its cause is the burning of fossil fuels, but the current federal administration is doing little to reduce the effects of climate change, it is incumbent upon states and cities to lead the effort to move toward renewable energy;

WHEREAS, Virginia is ranked 33 out of the 50 states in producing electricity from renewable energy ranking it lower than the national average (13.3%) with less than 2% of Virginia's electricity coming from wind or solar energy;

WHEREAS, the City of Alexandria must lead by example and demonstrate its commitment to renewable energy by not only advocating for changes at the state government level, but by taking specific, concrete actions to increase its use of renewable energy thereby reducing the usage of greenhouse gases rather than just setting aspirational goals;

WHEREAS, no other city or locality within Virginia has committed to obtaining 100% of its electricity from renewable sources, thus the City of Alexandria would be the **FIRST** to be publicly recognized for its 100% renewable commitment by the Climate Reality Project, the Sierra Club and other environmental organizations;

WHEREAS, it is in Alexandria's financial best interest to invest in renewable energy and to move forward now and reduce climate effects on our children and their environment as well as improve public health by reducing air pollution;

WHEREAS, the ADC is proud of the City's 2007 Eco-City designation and meeting many of the goals of its Environmental Action Plan of 2009 and commends the Mayor for her commitment to meet the Paris Climate Agreement as well as her commitment to the Mayors for 100% Clean Energy initiative;

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, the Alexandria Democratic Committee (ADC) fully endorses the budget letter of the Alexandria's Environmental Policy Commission dated February 2, 2018 which asks the City to include sufficient funds to increase the City's purchase of

Renewable Energy Credits (RECs) such that they offset the equivalent of 100% of the greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions associated with the City's current electric consumption no later than January, 2020. To make this request in effect budget neutral, the EPC recommends accelerating energy efficiency projects planned for City facilities (e.g. LED replacements) such that the first year expected savings in the form of lower energy bills is equal to the incremental cost of purchasing the additional RECs.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the EPC indicates that the City currently offsets only 19% of its electricity consumption by purchasing RECs, however with the investment of an additional \$80,000-\$100,000 Alexandria could be one of the first localities in this region (and first in Virginia) to offset its electricity consumption with 100% renewable electricity.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the ADC strongly recommends that the Mayor, City Council members, Environmental Policy Commission members and City Staff work with its citizens and other interested stakeholders to revise the City's Environmental Action Plan to set specific, measurable, achievable policies and programs to transition the City to 100% renewable energy by 2030.

PASSED and APPROVED this RESOLUTION on the ____ day of _____, 2018.