

CITY OF GRAND MARAIS, MINNESOTA  
CITY COUNCIL RESOLUTION 2017-04

A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF GRAND MARAIS,  
MINNESOTA EXPRESSING A COMMITMENT TO PROTECT THE CHILDREN AND  
GRANDCHILDREN OF THIS COMMUNITY FROM THE RISKS OF CLIMATE  
DESTRUCTION

WHEREAS, 195 countries, including the United States and every country that is a member of the United Nations, reached an agreement in Paris, France on December 12, 2015, that recognizes the risk to our children's and grandchildren's future from climate change;

WHEREAS, the greatest burden resulting from an inadequate response to the climate crisis will be carried by the youngest generation, and all who follow;

WHEREAS, the risks from an inadequate response are potentially devastating, and include economic and environmental disruptions many of which are already being felt such as more severe storms, longer and hotter heat waves, worsening flood and drought cycles, growing invasive species and insect problems, accelerated species extinction rates, rising sea levels, increased wildfires, a dramatic increase in refugees from climate impacted lands. These effects are felt globally but will also impact us at the local level with a changing boreal forest;

WHEREAS, leading climate scientists<sup>1</sup> have indicated that further delay in significantly reducing greenhouse gas emissions will rapidly push humanity past the point where disastrous consequences can be avoided;

WHEREAS, numerous governmental and non-governmental bodies across the nation and the world have already adopted climate action plans to immediately and rapidly reduce greenhouse gas emissions while also stopping them entirely within 25 years;

WHEREAS, youth of Grand Marais have brought this Council a Youth Climate Report Card highlighting the gap between what we are doing today and actions that would be necessary to protect their future;

WHEREAS, youth of Grand Marais have indicated a willingness to work with this Council on such actions.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF GRAND MARAIS, MINNESOTA, that Grand Marais City Council commits to working constructively, using ingenuity, innovation, and courageous determination to complete a Climate Action Plan for Grand Marais that significantly reduces Grand Marais's greenhouse gas emissions to levels that would protect our community's children and grandchildren from the risk of climate destruction;

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that Grand Marais City Council commits to start the Grand Marais Climate Action Plan creation process with the Nordic Nature Group within 3 months, and to complete it as soon as possible;

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<sup>1</sup> Hansen J, Kharecha P, Sato M, Masson-Delmotte V, Ackerman F, Beerling DJ, et al. (2013) Assessing "Dangerous Climate Change": Required Reduction of Carbon Emissions to Protect Young People, Future Generations and Nature. PLoS ONE 8(12): e81648. doi:10.1371/journal.pone.0081648

RESOLUTION 2017-04

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that a mechanism will be created for the ongoing inclusion of young people in the process of creating and executing climate related policies and actions.

Passed by the City Council of the City of Grand Marais, Minnesota this 22<sup>nd</sup> day of February, 2017.

(SEAL)

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Mayor Jay Arrowsmith DeCoux

ATTEST:

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Michael J. Roth  
City Administrator