

August 12, 2006

Dear Mayor and members of City Council:

The Air Quality Advisory Board voted unanimously on June 27, 2006 to recommend that we approve a resolution brought forward by the Fort Collins Sustainability Group.

The resolution is in three sections, the first and most important of which would convene a task force to recommend ways to meet our City's climate protection goals.

As you know, Fort Collins has been a leader in addressing the challenges of climate change with our first resolution in 1997. Our second resolution, passed in 1999, convened a task force which worked with city staff to create a multi-faceted approach to address the issue. Our program mandates that we find cost-effective approaches while at the same time doing our part in addressing this global problem. Fort Collins has already won national awards and recognition, while also saving taxpayers money with initiatives such as purchasing LED traffic signals and initiating energy efficiency.

Unfortunately, recent data shows Fort Collins falling further and further behind in achieving its climate protection target, which is a 30% reduction below a worst case estimate. In fact the data suggests that unless we can get back on track, we will not only fail to meet our goals but will come very close to our worst-case estimate.

The task force would be charged to develop some midcourse corrections for Council to consider.

The second section mandates that measures encourage and promote local business and other partners in the area of renewables and energy efficient technologies. The third section says the City will sponsor some public forums to discuss ways we might move forward towards climate neutrality after our program ends in 2010.

Please do not hesitate to call or write if you have any comments or questions regarding the Board's recommendation.

Respectfully submitted,



Eric Levine, Chair, Air Quality Advisory Board
eric.levine@juno.com 493 6341