

..Title

Resolution in Support of Establishing A New Chapter in the Ann Arbor Building Code Entitled Which Will Establish an Energy and Water Benchmarking, Reporting, and Transparency Requirement for Certain Buildings Within Ann Arbor

..Memorandum

One of the actions identified in the A²ZERO plan is the creation of a commercial and multi-family benchmarking ordinance. Over the last several months, Office of Sustainability and Innovations staff have been working with community stakeholders to develop an ordinance that would support the annual disclosure of energy usage at commercial and most multi-family housing sites. This new ordinance has undergone public review and is being presented to Council for consideration in the summer of 2021. When fully implemented, this ordinance will help the City identify high-performing buildings as well as buildings that are strong candidates for energy and water saving improvements. Benchmarking is an integral part of improving building performance and comfort, especially given that buildings are the largest source of greenhouse gas emissions in Ann Arbor.

..Body

WHEREAS, The City intends to raise awareness of energy and water performance through data information and transparency, with the goal of unlocking energy and cost savings opportunities, increased comfort, and health benefits for businesses and residents; and

WHEREAS, Improvements to energy efficiency will spur economic investment through reduced operating costs, increased asset values, and improved worker productivity; and

WHEREAS, Buildings are the single largest source of greenhouse gas emissions in Ann Arbor and energy efficient buildings will consume less energy, resulting in fewer greenhouse gas emissions and improved air quality; and

WHEREAS, Reduced energy costs will create an efficient building stock and maintain affordability for tenants and businesses;

WHEREAS, Disclosing energy usage in commercial and multi-family establishments was an action identified in the unanimously adopted A²ZERO plan;

RESOLVED, The Ann Arbor Energy Commission supports the 2021 Energy Benchmarking Ordinance;

RESOLVED, The Energy Commission encourages City Council to adopt the 2021 Energy Benchmarking Ordinance and begin implementation as soon as possible.