

# **Resolution to Improve the Transparency of City of Ann Arbor Climate, Energy and A<sup>2</sup>ZERO-related Performance**

## **Revised Version for the Second Reading at the March 14, 2023, Energy Commission Meeting**

Whereas, the Preamble of the Charter of the City of Ann Arbor states the defined municipal structure exists to “secure the benefits of efficient self-government and otherwise to promote our common welfare” and Section 18.2 specifies “All records of the City shall be public;”

Whereas, effective government performance is typically judged by the achievement of important policy objectives;

Whereas, progress towards policy objectives and strategic goals can be tracked by a variety of Key Performance Indicators (KPIs) that are Specific, Measurable, (ambitious but) Attainable, Relevant and Time-bound or SMART;

Whereas, in the case of municipal government, policy objectives and strategic goals are established by City Council and deployed to City departments and staff by administrative leadership, whereupon a balanced scorecard of leading and lagging metrics<sup>1</sup> or KPIs are established for them;

Whereas the development and public distribution of trend charts showing actual and projected KPI performance vs. targets and, when appropriate, peer city performance, together with regular rigorous reviews of those KPIs, will drive continuous improvement, problem solving, prioritization, and efficient and effective resource allocation;

Whereas, complete, transparent, easily accessible information about government operations and performance is essential to city staff, administrative leadership, city council policy makers, boards and commissions, citizen oversight and democratic processes more generally;

Whereas, in November 2022 City of Ann Arbor voters approved a 20-year, 1-mill Climate Millage that will generate over \$140 million in revenue for spending on energy-, climate-, and A<sup>2</sup>ZERO Carbon Neutrality Plan-related projects and programs, where their performance outcomes should be transparent and public-facing;

Whereas, a number of municipalities have exemplary public service dashboards, including Kent County, MI, the City of Seattle, WA, the City of Boulder, CO, the City of Durham, NC, the City of Irving, TX, and the City of Scottsdale, AZ;

Be it therefore resolved, that the Energy Commission recommends that the City Council engage the City Administrator to ensure that all current energy-, climate-, and A<sup>2</sup>ZERO-related\*\* City policy objectives and strategic goals and KPIs be published on the City’s Performance Measures webpage by June 30, 2023;

Be it therefore resolved, that the Energy Commission recommends that the City Council and the City Administrator will review, using input from City boards and commissions when appropriate, the completeness, adequacy, and format of all the above-mentioned KPIs to ensure that they correlate well with the City’s energy-, climate-, and A<sup>2</sup>ZERO policy objectives and strategic goals as defined in the Comprehensive Plan and approved resolutions, and will update the Performance Measures webpage with any necessary changes by December 31, 2023;

Be it therefore resolved, that the Energy Commission recommends that the City Council engage the City Administrator to provide a workplan, including a timeline with intermediate due dates for the above actions, and the completion of the workplan will be incorporated into the Administrator's objectives; and

Be it therefore resolved, that the Energy Commission recommends that the City Council engage the City Administrator to ensure that they will jointly conduct on an ongoing basis at least an annual public review of the City's climate-, energy-, and A<sup>2</sup>ZERO-related performance based on its policy objectives, strategic goals, and KPIs.

\*\* The A<sup>2</sup>ZERO Plan defines a wide range of climate- and energy-related performance measures. They include current GHG emissions reporting as well as all of "Indicators of Success" described under each Strategy and Action.