

RESOLUTION NO. 2006-157
2006 JUL 12 AM 10:24

**RESOLUTION OF THE BOARD OF COUNTY
COMMISSIONERS OF SARASOTA COUNTY, FLORIDA**
CLERK OF CIRCUIT COURT
SARASOTA COUNTY, FL

RE: A resolution pledging Sarasota County's commitment to extending its leadership in clean energy standards by developing building standards that require fossil fuel reduction for meeting energy needs. By the year 2030, new construction projects undertaken by the County would use no fossil fuel greenhouse gas-emitting energy to operate under this resolution.

WHEREAS, Sarasota County has already demonstrated its commitment to become a leader in clean energy technology that reduce greenhouse gas emissions; and

WHEREAS Sarasota County has established policies and programs that promote sustainability and conserve energy through Sustainability Resolution No. 01-119, Green Building Resolution No. 05-048, and Plug-in Hybrid Electric Vehicle Resolution No.05-278; and

WHEREAS, the Inter-Governmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC), the international community's most respected assemblage of scientists, has found that climate disruption is a reality and that human activities are largely responsible for increasing concentrations of global warming pollution; and

WHEREAS, the U.S. building sector has been shown to be the major consumer of fossil fuel and producer of global warming causing greenhouse gases; and

WHEREAS, the U.S. Department of Energy estimates, as a whole, U.S. buildings use 36% of U.S. energy demand, 68% of the country's electricity, and nearly 40% of the U.S. natural gas consumption, and as a result, are responsible for 48% of the nation's SO₂ emissions, 20% of the nation's NO_x emissions, and 36% of the nation's CO₂ emissions ; and

WHEREAS, the federal government through programs fostered within many of its key agencies and numerous state governments as well as municipalities across the U.S. have adopted high performance green building principles; and

WHEREAS, a recent study completed by Lawrence Berkeley National Laboratory, the most definitive cost-benefit analysis of green buildings ever conducted, concluded that the financial benefits of green building are more than 10 times the additional 2% cost associated with building green; and

WHEREAS, the large positive impact on employee productivity and health gains suggests that green building has a cost-effective impact beyond just the utility bill savings; and

WHEREAS, studies have indicated that student attendance and performance is higher in high-performance school buildings; and

WHEREAS, recognizing that a building's initial construction costs represent only 20-30 percent of the building's entire costs over its 30 to 40 year life, emphasis should be placed on the "life cycle costs" of a public building rather than solely on its initial capital costs; and

WHEREAS, the construction industry in the U.S. represents a significant portion of the economy and a significant portion of the building industry is represented by small business and an increase in sustainable building practices will encourage and promote new and innovative small business development throughout the nation; and

WHEREAS, the American Institute of Architects (AIA), the national professional organization representing architects has adopted a position statement calling for the immediate energy reduction of all new and renovated buildings to one-half the national average for that building type, with increased reductions of 10% every five years so that by the year 2030 all buildings designed will be carbon-neutral, meaning they will use no fossil fuel energy.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS OF SARASOTA COUNTY, FLORIDA, to adopt the following "2030 Challenge" for building performance targets:

- New construction of County buildings shall be designed to achieve a minimum delivered fossil-fuel energy consumption performance standard of one-half the U.S. average for that building type as defined by the U.S. Department of Energy.
- Renovation projects of County buildings shall be designed to achieve a minimum delivered fossil-fuel energy consumption performance standard of one-half the U.S. average for that building type as defined by the U.S. Department of Energy.
- All other new construction, renovations, repairs and replacements of County buildings shall employ cost-effective, energy-efficient, green building practices to the maximum extent possible.
- Policies will be implemented to reduce fossil fuel used to power buildings, outdoor lighting, transportation, etc., utilizing energy conservation and energy generated from clean, renewable sources such as solar, wind, hydropower, geothermal, biofuels, methane recovery and the integration of new clean energy technologies, including hydrogen for a diversified, clean and secure energy future.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that Sarasota County will work to increase the fossil-fuel reduction standard for all new buildings to carbon-neutral by 2030, in the following increments:

- 60% in 2010
- 70% in 2015
- 80% in 2020
- 90% in 2025

And ultimately, carbon-neutral by 2030, with the result that new buildings will use no fossil fuel greenhouse gas-emitting energy to operate; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that Sarasota County will urge local governments around the nation to join this effort by developing plans to fully implement the above mentioned targets as part of their procurement process and by establishing policies to ensure compliance and measure results; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that Sarasota County will urge local governments from around the nation to develop plans to fully implement the above mentioned targets for all new and renovated buildings within their jurisdictions; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that Sarasota County will work in conjunction with ICLEI (International Council for Local Environmental Initiatives) Local Governments for Sustainability and other appropriate organizations to join this effort to develop plans to fully implement similar targets as mentioned above.

PASSED AND DULY ADOPTED BY THE BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS OF SARASOTA COUNTY, FLORIDA, this 11th day of JULY, 2006.

**BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS
OF SARASOTA COUNTY, FLORIDA**

By: 
Chairman

ATTEST:
**KAREN E. RUSHING, Clerk of the
Circuit Court and Ex-Officio Clerk
of the Board of County Commissioners
of Sarasota County, Florida**

BY: 
Deputy Clerk