

TO: Chair Johnson, Vice-Chair Taylor and Members, Milwaukee County Finance Committee

DATE: July 23, 2024

RE: Milwaukee County Climate Action Goals, File No. 24-652

Based on its member adopted position on Climate Change, the League of Women Voters of Milwaukee County has supported and continues to support local efforts to address climate change - and the multiple, untoward consequences of climate change. The League enthusiastically supported adoption of the City's Climate and Economic Equity Plan (CEP) in 2023 as well as the Common Council's June, 2024 approval of Big Idea 4, Commercial Building Benchmarking and Energy Performance Standards.

The League now urges the Finance Committee of the Milwaukee County Board of Supervisors to pass the Resolution, File No. 24-652 requesting the Department of Administrative Services to move forward with the County's earlier commitment to 2050 Climate Action (CA50) goals and approve efforts to collaborate with other local governments and entities to achieve those goals.

Milwaukee County File No. 21-770 of September 2021 offers a "Climate Action 2050" framework of guiding principles, a roadmap for Milwaukee County to achieve carbon neutral facilities and operations by 2050.

With resolution File 24-652 now before you, we urge your approval of the file. In its efforts to achieve carbon neutrality of County facilities and operations by 2050, the County must facilitate collaboration by its several departments and offices with the City of Milwaukee and SEWRPC, entities already applying for federal grants to effectively achieve the 2050 Climate Action Goals.

Given recent and increasingly erratic weather in Milwaukee County and around the globe it is imperative that Milwaukee County and its 19 municipalities work cooperatively to address climate change. Recent, currently available Inflation Reduction Act dollars can help move the County forward to achieving its April 2021 commitment to become carbon neutral by 2050.

Time is short! Please actively move now to affirm and effectuate the County's "Climate Action 2050" goals. Pass Resolution, File No. 24-652.

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