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A resolution by Supervisors Cullen, Dimitrijevic, Haas, Sartori, Nicholson, and Johnson, Jr., establishing Milwaukee County’s policy of commitment to the principles and goals of the Paris Agreement for climate change awareness, by recommending adoption of the following:

AN AMENDED RESOLUTION

WHEREAS, on November 4, 2016, the Paris Agreement was entered into force, to strengthen the global response to the threat of climate change by limiting a global temperature rise this century to well below 2 degrees Celsius above pre-industrial levels, and to pursue efforts to limit the temperature increase even further to 1.5 degrees Celsius; and

WHEREAS, the Paris Agreement language was negotiated by 197 global parties, including the United States of America (U.S.), as part of the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change; and

WHEREAS, President Donald Trump's decision on June 1, 2017, to pull out of the Paris Agreement puts millions of Americans at risk for being excluded from participating in a global effort to reduce greenhouse gas emissions, and local governmental bodies like Milwaukee County (the County) must step up to stop climate change; and

WHEREAS, we all have a moral, economic, public health, and security imperative to act to protect our planet, fellow human beings, and future generations; and

WHEREAS, we must act, and act together at every level, as individuals, as counties, and as a global community; and

WHEREAS, according to the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change, climate action taken by partners in the U.S. and around the world can result in the pollution reduction needed globally to limit warming to only 1.5 degrees Celsius; and

WHEREAS, part of the County’s commitment to supporting the reduction of greenhouse gas emissions that contribute to the global warming crisis is to ensure that our public spaces and parklands remain vibrant and clean, and all efforts to reduce waste and refuse in those spaces remain a top priority for both residents and wildlife that occupy the County’s Parks System; and

WHEREAS, the many benefits of climate action by local governments also address issues of inequality including the expanding wealth gap, the lack of housing, the accessibility of public transit, aging infrastructure, and other major urban challenges; and

47 WHEREAS, the Committee on Intergovernmental Relations, at its meeting of
48 September 22, 2017, recommended adoption of File No. 17-506 as amended (vote 3-1);
49 now, therefore,

50
51 BE IT RESOLVED, the Milwaukee County Board of Supervisors (County Board)
52 hereby commits Milwaukee County (the County) to continue its current efforts and
53 practices that support the spirit of the principles and targets outlined in the Paris
54 Agreement, including any practices that assist in reducing greenhouse gas emissions
55 and limit global warming; and

56
57 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, the County establishes its allegiance with other
58 states and global partners that continue to adhere to the principles and goals of the
59 Paris Agreement; and

60
61 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, the Director, Department of Parks, Recreation,
62 and Culture (DPRC) shall work with the Director, Department of Administrative
63 Services-Sustainability, to develop a plan to formalize a comprehensive recycling
64 program to be implemented in the County's park system, and shall include information
65 on existing infrastructure, identification of parks that demonstrate the greatest need, and
66 current practices, with a long-term goal of developing a system-wide recycling program;
67 and

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69 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, the DPRC shall submit the proposed recycling
70 program plan to the County Board for approval by the December 2017 cycle; and

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72 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, the County Board authorizes and directs staff of
73 the Office of Government Affairs to send a copy of this resolution to State of Wisconsin
74 Legislators and to the Governor.

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77 jmj
78 09/22/17
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