

1 RESOLUTION NO. 2021-

2 A RESOLUTION OF THE BOARD OF COUNTY  
3 COMMISSIONERS OF BROWARD COUNTY, FLORIDA  
4 JOINING THE ICLEI - LOCAL GOVERNMENTS FOR  
5 SUSTAINABILITY USA'S ("ILCEI USA'S") ICLEI150 RACE  
6 TO ZERO; COMMITTING TO PARTICIPATE IN THE  
7 REQUIRED RACE TO ZERO ACTIVITIES; AUTHORIZING  
8 THE MAYOR TO SIGN THE ICLEI150 COMMITMENT  
9 FORM; AUTHORIZING THE COUNTY ADMINISTRATOR  
10 TO COMMIT SUFFICIENT STAFF TIME AND RESOURCES  
11 TO CARRY OUT RACE TO ZERO ACTIVITIES; AND  
12 PROVIDING FOR SEVERABILITY AND AN EFFECTIVE  
13 DATE.

14 (Sponsored by Senator Nan H. Rich,  
15 and Cosponsored by Commissioner Beam Furr)

16 WHEREAS, on August 9, 2021, the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change  
17 published the Working Group I contribution to the Sixth Assessment Report - *Climate*  
18 *Change 2021: The Physical Science Basis* ("AR6 Report");

19 WHEREAS, the AR6 Report outlined the dramatic climatic changes already  
20 underway, pointed to the rapid acceleration of climate change processes, and warned  
21 that the window to limit global warming to 1.5 degrees Celsius was rapidly closing,  
22 concluding that without drastic action, limiting global warming to 2 degrees Celsius might  
23 be impossible;

24 WHEREAS, global warming of 1.5 or 2 degrees Celsius will cause untold damage  
to human societies, physical infrastructure, and the plants, animals, and ecosystems with  
which we share the planet, as this year's dramatic floods, droughts, heatwaves, and  
wildfires with only 1.1 degrees Celsius warming over late-19th-century levels have amply  
demonstrated;

1 WHEREAS, humanity must take immediate, drastic action to reduce greenhouse  
2 gas ("GHG") emissions to the atmosphere consistent with the findings of the AR6 Report,  
3 which United Nations Secretary-General António Guterres described as "code red for  
4 humanity";

5 WHEREAS, upon taking office, President Joseph R. Biden, Jr., rejoined the Paris  
6 Agreement on behalf of the United States of America, under which the nations of the  
7 world agreed to take action to limit global warming to 2 degrees Celsius and to make  
8 every effort to limit warming to 1.5 degrees, and pledged to reach net-zero economy-wide  
9 emissions in the United States by 2050;

10 WHEREAS, in April 2021, the Biden Administration announced a revised  
11 Nationally Determined Contribution for the United States under the Paris Agreement of  
12 fifty to fifty-two percent (50-52%) reduction in greenhouse gas emissions below 2005  
13 levels by 2030;

14 WHEREAS, Broward County has been a leader in local climate change efforts for  
15 over a decade, including co-founding and co-leading the Southeast Florida Regional  
16 Climate Change Compact, pledging through the Under2 Coalition Zero Emissions Vehicle  
17 Challenge to purchase only zero-emissions vehicles for its fleet and transit system by  
18 2030, installing solar photovoltaic systems on County buildings and parking lots, and  
19 subscribing to Florida Power and Light Company's SolarTogether subscription service to  
20 source electricity for County operations from solar installations;

21 WHEREAS, the County's existing greenhouse gas emissions reduction goal of  
22 eighty percent (80%) below 2007 levels by 2050 no longer accurately reflects the ambition  
23 necessary to prevent the worst effects of global warming, nor aligns with the federal  
24 government's goals;

1           WHEREAS, the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change  
2 ("UNFCCC") and many other partners have established the Race to Zero to rally  
3 local and regional governments, companies, and educational institutions, to cut GHG  
4 emissions in half by 2030 and to net zero by 2050 or sooner;

5           WHEREAS, the Race to Zero partners include the Under2 Coalition, an alliance of  
6 subnational governments across the globe committed to climate action, which the County  
7 joined in 2018;

8           WHEREAS, in the United States, the Race to Zero effort is led by ICLEI USA, of  
9 which Broward County has been a member for over a decade, through its ICLEI150  
10 movement seeking to engage one hundred fifty (150) local governments in making net-  
11 zero commitments prior to the UNFCCC Conference of Parties in Glasgow, Scotland, in  
12 December 2021;

13           WHEREAS, ICLEI150 provides technical assistance to participating governments  
14 in developing a science-based target for 2030 emissions reductions and  
15 community-specific high-impact actions, along with additional technical assistance,  
16 networking opportunities with like-minded governments, and recognition of their net-zero  
17 pledges and actions, at no cost to participating governments; and

18           WHEREAS, many of Broward County's local government peers around the United  
19 States and in the state of Florida have joined the Race to Zero, including: the counties of  
20 Miami-Dade, Montgomery (MD), and Travis (TX); the cities of Hallandale Beach, West  
21 Palm Beach, Miami, Miami Beach, Boynton Beach, St. Petersburg, Tampa, Orlando,  
22 Cape Canaveral, New York City, Los Angeles, Chicago, Philadelphia, San Francisco, San  
23 Jose, Seattle, San Antonio, Houston, Boston, Honolulu, and New Orleans; and the District  
24 of Columbia, NOW, THEREFORE,

1 BE IT RESOLVED BY THE BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS OF  
2 BROWARD COUNTY, FLORIDA:

3  
4 Section 1. Broward County hereby joins the ICLEI150 on the Race to Zero.

5 Section 2. Consistent with the terms of the ICLEI150 Commitment Form  
6 (Exhibit 1), the County will:

- 7 • Pledge to get to zero GHG emissions as soon as possible and by 2050, at  
8 the latest, and to set a 2030 interim target reflecting a maximum fair share  
9 effort to reach fifty percent (50%) global CO<sub>2</sub> reductions.
- 10 • Plan the actions necessary to achieve both the 2030 and 2050 targets within  
11 twelve (12) months after joining.
- 12 • Proceed with high-impact action to achieve the targets during 2021.
- 13 • Publish Race to Zero actions by 2022.

14 Section 3. The Mayor is authorized to sign the ICLEI150 Commitment Form on  
15 behalf of Broward County and to arrange its transmittal to ICLEI USA.

16 Section 4. The County Administrator is authorized and directed to commit  
17 sufficient staff time and resources, including any necessary administrative and budgetary  
18 actions, to carry out the tasks outlined in Section 2.

19 Section 5. Severability.

20 If any portion of this Resolution is determined by any court to be invalid, the invalid  
21 portion will be stricken, and such striking will not affect the validity of the remainder of this  
22 Resolution. If any court determines that this Resolution, in whole or in part, cannot be  
23 legally applied to any individual, group, entity, property, or circumstance, such  
24

