

MOTION

October 27, 2021

To: Mayor Masters and City Councillors

Re: Race to Zero

WHEREAS the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change's (IPCC) most recent report indicates that global warming and the melting of the arctic ice caps are happening at a faster rate than previously anticipated;

WHEREAS the IPCC report also calls upon global nations to reduce greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions in order to limit global warming to 1.5 degrees Celsius, a goal set forth in the Paris Agreement;

WHEREAS science-based targets indicate that cities globally need to achieve carbon neutrality by 2050 and halve global emissions by 2030;

WHEREAS The [Race to Zero](#) is a global campaign - [led by the UN High-Level Climate Champions for Climate Action, Nigel Topping and Gonzalo Muñoz](#) - to rally leadership and support from businesses, cities, regions, and investors for a healthy, resilient, zero carbon recovery that prevents future threats, creates decent jobs, and unlocks inclusive, sustainable growth ahead of COP26 in November 2021.

WHEREAS Cities Race to Zero is a campaign for cities by cities to inspire commitments and action from their peers around the world and channel the best available tools and expertise to help them stay on track with the 1.5°C goal of the Paris Agreement. The objective of Cities Race to Zero is to recruit 1,000 cities to the Race to Zero by COP26;

WHEREAS cities are facing tremendous financial losses in the billions of dollars due to the increased intensity of storms, flooding, drought, wildfires and coastal flooding, linked to rising global temperatures;

WHEREAS billions of dollars of commercial real estate and business property are at risk due to current and projected rising sea levels and the intensity of storms, droughts, floods and wildfires,

WHEREAS the objective of Cities Race to Zero is to build momentum around the shift to a decarbonized economy ahead of COP26, where governments must strengthen their contributions to the Paris Agreement. Showing strong city leadership in reaching net zero

emissions by 2050 will send governments a resounding signal that cities are united in meeting the goals of the Paris Agreement and creating a more inclusive and resilient economy; and

WHEREAS the City of Regina is in the process of creating an Energy and Sustainability Framework that will finalize our plans, process and steps (short, medium and long-term) to become net-zero by 2050, at the latest. This will include interim targets to achieve in the next decade, which reflect a fair share of the 50% global reduction in CO₂ by 2030 identified in the IPCC Special Report on Global Warming of 1.5°Celsius. It will also include a mechanism for regularly reporting progress;

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the City of Regina:

1. Declare support for the Cities Race to Zero as part of the United Nation's Race to Zero campaign by joining hundreds of others cities in fighting climate change through the Cities Race to Zero campaign; and
2. Pledges to the following commitments that publicly endorse the following principles:
 - We recognise the global climate emergency.
 - We are committed to keeping global heating below the 1.5°Celsius goal of the Paris Agreement.
 - We are committed to putting inclusive climate action at the center of all urban decision-making, to create thriving and equitable communities for everyone.
 - We invite our partners – political leaders, CEOs, trade unions, investors, and civil society – to join us in recognising the global climate emergency and help us deliver on science-based action to overcome it.

Respectfully submitted,



Shanon Zachidniak
Councillor – Ward 8



Bob Hawkins
Councillor – Ward 2



Andrew Stevens
Councillor – Ward 3