

**Montgomery Township Ready for 100 Renewable Energy Resolution
A Vision for a 100% Clean Renewable Energy Future**

WHEREAS, Climate change is a global long-term threat to civilization and Earth's living ecosystems;

WHEREAS, More frequent and extreme weather events will become commonplace;

WHEREAS, A major contributor to climate change is the continued use of fossil fuels by individuals, businesses and government agencies;

WHEREAS, The impacts of Climate Change will stress our infrastructure, emergency and social services; threaten our access to food, water and energy supplies; heighten the disruption of services and commerce; and negatively affect the quality of life and human health;

WHEREAS, The 2015 United Nations Climate Change Conference in Paris resulted in a consensus among all 195 countries to limit the increase in global average temperatures to well below 2 degrees celsius, ensure that greenhouse gas emissions will not exceed sinks (total carbon capture) by the second half of this century, and become carbon neutral between 2050 and 2100;

WHEREAS, In January 2019, Governor Tom Wolf has issued an executive order stating, "the Commonwealth will work to achieve a 26 percent reduction of greenhouse gas emissions by 2025 and an 80 percent reduction by 2050".

WHEREAS, The municipalities of Abington, Springfield, Cheltenham, Plymouth, Upper Merion, West Norriton and Whitemarsh Townships, Ambler, Bridgeport, Conshohocken, Hatboro, Narberth and Norristown Boroughs in Montgomery County and Phoenixville, West Chester, Downingtown and others in Bucks County, Chester County and Delaware County have stepped up as regional leaders in setting goals for the transition to renewable energy in their communities;

WHEREAS, Montgomery Township has demonstrated a commitment to reducing its energy usage by implementing energy efficiency improvements in multiple areas, including:

- LED streetlight upgrade throughout the Township, reducing energy usage and energy costs;
- Execution of five-year agreement with electricity supplier for 100% green energy
- Installation of low flow water fixtures in all municipal buildings, reducing water usage
- Installation of touchless water refill station in Township building, eliminating plastic bottles

WHEREAS, Montgomery Township is committed to be a community characterized by equality, health, safety, livability, prosperity and equity;

WHEREAS, Montgomery Township recognizes that it has a responsibility to future generations to take an active stance to reduce the emission of greenhouse gases within the Township;

WHEREAS, The best strategy for achieving a cost effective, even cost saving, energy source transition is through collaboration with other Montgomery County energy leaders and participation in acquiring aggregated procurement contracts – Power Purchase Agreements (PPAs) for regional wind and solar energy; to this end, Montgomery Township also recognizes the importance of developing a close working relationship with its electric energy supplier(s) to create the most advantageous and mutually beneficial plan for integrating locally generated and renewable power;

WHEREAS, A renewable energy initiative can produce energy cost savings for residents and local

businesses while stimulating new economic activity and local jobs, all while simultaneously mitigating the risks from climate change for everyone;

AND WHEREAS, clean energy addresses not only climate change but also air quality and other public health impacts from our fossil fuel history. Like extreme weather events, recessions, and pandemics., these disproportionately burden poor people and especially low-income people of color in our communities.

BE IT RESOLVED THAT:

- Montgomery Township will join other leading towns and cities in the national Ready for 100 movement, to work towards 100% clean, renewable energy for all, and complete this transition, community-wide, to
 - 100% clean renewable electricity by 2035;
 - 100% clean renewable energy when replacing heating system and transportation equipment by 2050;
 - As vehicles are replaced, priority will also be given to transitioning the Montgomery Township vehicle fleet to 100% renewable energy sources by 2030 where feasible;
- The Montgomery Township Board of Supervisors will provide guidance for commissioning a committee, task force, and/or consultant to draft an energy transition plan for achieving these goals by May, 2022 or sooner, to include interim milestones, financial impacts, equity metrics, potential financing mechanisms and the percentage of renewable energy that is locally produced;
- Renewable energy will be defined as carbon-free and pollution-free energy generated sustainably from renewable sources such as wind, solar, small hydro, tidal, fuel cells and geothermal;
- Locally produced and distributed energy is prioritized whenever feasible for the many advantages it provides to the community;
- Montgomery Township will continue to strategically decrease energy usage by implementing energy efficiency improvements;
- All Montgomery Township stakeholders will have the opportunity and will be encouraged to participate in the planning and implementation process;
- That Montgomery Township sets a goal to generate at least 20% of community-wide electricity from local renewable/solar sources by 2025 and maintain at least this apportion throughout the electrification process. We call on the local electric utility company (PECO) to work with our community as a partner to achieve this local generation goal and set its own similar goals for the region;
- Montgomery Township will call on the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania to set a goal to use 100% renewable energy for all purposes no later than 2050;
- Montgomery Township Board of Supervisors will call on the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania to adopt codes and standards to increase the efficiency of buildings and appliances;
- Montgomery Township will call on the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania to increase the Alternative Energy Portfolio Standards to levels that put us on track to meet 100% renewable energy goals;

- *Montgomery Township will seek to work with other Montgomery County Municipalities and the Montgomery County Planning Commission and/or Delaware Valley Regional Planning Commission to create an energy planner/advocate position. The energy planner/advocate will develop and implement renewable energy strategies for Montgomery County municipalities, residents, businesses, and institutions. Alternatively, an energy planning firm may be contracted to create the energy transition plan or supplement an energy transition plan outlined by a volunteer and staff task force.*

RESOLVED, at the duly convened meeting of the Board of Supervisors of Montgomery Township conducted on this 10th day of May 2021.



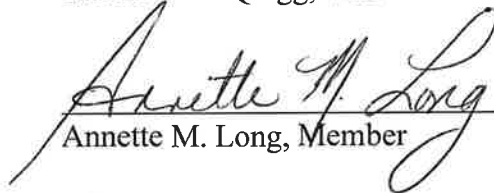
Tanya C. Bamford, Chair



Matthew W. Quigg, Vice-Chair



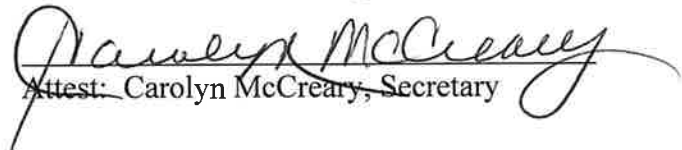
Candyce Fluehr Chimera, Member



Annette M. Long, Member



Beth A. Staab, Member



Attest: Carolyn McCreary, Secretary