

**RESOLUTION OF COMMITMENT TO ADDRESS CLIMATE CHANGE,
RESILIENCY AND SUSTAINABILITY AS A CENTRAL MANAGEMENT PRINCIPLE
FOR ALL ACTIONS OF THE TOWN GOVERNMENT OF STONINGTON**

WHEREAS, the occurrence of powerful hurricanes, major forest fires, extreme heat waves, and extreme cold in non-traditional locations both nationally and internationally has heightened our awareness of climate change and the necessity of taking bold steps to combat it; and

WHEREAS, in Stonington, we have experienced a steady rise in sea level, increasingly powerful precipitation events, and higher temperatures; and

WHEREAS, the Town recognizes that the changing climate has the potential to negatively affect our population, environment and economy; and

WHEREAS, climate change poses a growing threat to the health and safety of Stonington residents; and

WHEREAS, human activity contributes to these threats, and humans must take action now to mitigate the impacts of, as well as adapting to these threats; and

WHEREAS, by acting now we will lessen the cost and severity of anticipated climate change impacts on future generations; and

WHEREAS, the Board of Selectmen is committed to leadership in combating climate change and supporting a more sustainable community, balancing economic development with protecting our natural resources; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED, that together, as elected community leaders, we commit to actively promoting and employing resiliency and sustainability principles as we seek solutions that effectively address climate risks, including protecting land, air and water quality, lowering our carbon footprint; combating the devastating impacts of climate change, reducing injury and illness, and maintaining and improving our quality of life; and be it further

RESOLVED, that the Board of Selectmen directs all agencies and other parts of town government to explore ways in which their work can positively contribute to a resilient and sustainable future, seek reductions in energy consumption as a step toward a low carbon future; making climate impact assessment a part of all significant decisions; and be it further

RESOLVED, that the Board of Selectmen will consider these guiding principles to be central to all aspects of town governance and operations.

Approved by the Board of Selectman on September 28, 2022