

Proclamation



Jane Castor, Mayor

WHEREAS, it is critical to bring awareness to the citizens of Tampa about the current and projected impacts of climate change on our communities and promote actions to become a part of the solution to ensure a sustainable planet for future generations; and

WHEREAS, the Tampa Bay Climate Science Advisory Panel (CSAP) projects that the Tampa Bay region can expect approximately 1 to 2.5 feet of Sea Level Rise by 2050 and between 2 to 8.5 feet by 2100, and the Union of Concerned Scientists warns without climate action, Tampa may experience 127 days of extreme heat over 105 degrees by 2100, and Florida's hurricanes are projected to be more frequent and severe; and

WHEREAS, in July 2019, the United States House of Representatives House Select Committee on the Climate Crisis, chaired by Representative Kathy Castor who represents the 14th District of Florida that includes Tampa, released a report entitled "*Solving the Climate Crisis: The Congressional Action Plan for a Clean Energy Economy and a Healthy, Resilient, and Just America*," which provides recommendations to reduce the country's net greenhouse gas emissions to zero by 2050, support economic recovery through clean energy investment and job creation, and address environmental justice issues; and

WHEREAS, responding to the climate crises requires that frontline and marginalized communities participate actively in the planning and implementation of this mobilization effort and that they benefit from the transition to a climate-safe economy, and Florida can become a national leader in generating renewable energy and laboratory for resiliency adaptation projects; and

WHEREAS, the City of Tampa established its first Sustainability and Resiliency Officer, who is charged with carrying out activities related to developing a climate action and equity plan, facilitating a transition to a clean energy future, promoting the creation of green jobs, ensuring environmental justice through the climate planning process, and advising that infrastructure and land development patterns take climate impacts into consideration, and the City of Tampa recently earned Gold certification through the **USGBC LEED for Cities** accreditation process, which recognizes the environmental, social, and economic success achieved by the city; and

WHEREAS, it is critical that communities join together to solve the climate crisis, and the **Florida Race To Zero** carbon emissions campaign provides a platform to bring attention to climate risks and necessary actions with businesses, industry, citizens, and frontline communities, and in its inaugural year, **Florida Climate Week** is hosting events to raise awareness of the climate crisis alongside internationally recognized Earth Day; and

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Jane Castor, Mayor of the city of Tampa, do hereby commit the City of Tampa to the Florida Race to Zero pledge, and by virtue of the authority vested in me as Mayor of the city of Tampa, Florida do hereby proclaim April 19 – 23, 2021 as

"FLORIDA CLIMATE WEEK"

in the city of Tampa, Florida and urge all residents to join me in recognizing the impact climate change has on our community and in doing what we can as individuals and collectively to solve and mitigate its effects.

Dated in Tampa, Florida, this 22nd day of April, 2021.



Mayor

